



NCLB Making a Difference in New Mexico

- President Bush's 2005 budget proposal increases federal education funding for New Mexico to more than \$777.6 million – 47% more than when the President took office.
- President Bush's 2005 budget proposal increases Title I funding to \$124.1 million – \$53.8 million over 2001 levels – to help New Mexico's neediest children.
- New Mexico has received \$29.6 million in reading grants to help schools and districts improve children's reading achievement through scientifically proven methods of instruction since 2002. President Bush's proposed budget includes an additional \$11.5 million for New Mexico. In total, over six years, New Mexico is set to receive approximately \$55 million in Reading First funds.
- "Albuquerque Public Schools and the U.S. Department of Education kicked off on April 23 the *No Child Left Behind* Summer Reading Program. The program encourages students in kindergarten through eighth-grade to read 10 age-appropriate books during the summer to avoid losing reading skills. Albuquerque was one of 11 sites selected to participate in the program, which is in its second year." (*Albuquerque Journal*, 4/24/04)
- "The New Mexico Public Education Department awarded a \$237,696 Reading First Grant in what Trina Valdez, director of Federal Programs for Portales schools, said will go to implement a new method to teach children to read in James Elementary, Steiner Elementary and Brown Early Childhood Center. 'It's cutting edge strategies for learning how to read,' Valdez said. 'It will help develop the best reading practices.' The NMPED sent out a press release on May 7 announcing that 44 public schools in 17 school districts will receive \$8.29 million in New Mexico Reading First Awards to improve student achievement in reading through the application of scientifically based research." (*Portales News-Tribune*, 5/11/04)
- "New Mexico will receive a \$5.7 million charter school grant to help create more successful examples of these independent, innovative public schools and share information on how they work." (U.S. Department of Education Press Release, 8/27/03)
- "New Mexico's fourth- and eighth-graders improved their test scores on math and reading tests in the past year, and ethnic groups that have lagged behind, including Hispanics and American Indians, also made gains, narrowing the so-called 'achievement gap.' 'The test results show substantial increases in student performance, across the board,' Secretary of Education Veronica Garcia said. 'I am encouraged by the growth we saw this year.' In several instances, percentage gains made by Hispanics and American Indians were greater than those made by the student population as a whole." (*Santa Fe New Mexican*, 8/20/04)