

NCLB Making a Difference in North Dakota



- “The Napoleon School District, in south central North Dakota, was one of 36 nationwide that was cited as a case study for the [Center for Education Policy] report released Wednesday. The report also includes surveys of education officials from 49 states and 314 school districts.... [Napoleon Superintendent Jon] Starkey said the district has made some changes to its curriculum under the No Child Left Behind law, with some positive results. ‘The reality is that we’ve had to deal with it. I’d say for the teachers in Napoleon, it’s made them better,’ he said. ‘And it’s raised student achievement.’” (*Associated Press*, 3/24/05)
- “Minot State [University]’s Diagnostic and Remediation Center was started last October to give schools a closer [supplemental education services] option, said Joyce Hoadley, the center’s director. During the fall semester, about 20 tutors, mostly junior- and senior-year elementary education majors, helped 50 New Town students with reading and math. Besides giving school children a closer tutoring center, it lets university students practice what they learned in their education classes. Tutors develop lesson plans tailored to a student’s weaknesses, and teach one-on-one or in small groups, Hoadley said. Working in the center is not required, and tutors don’t get college credit, but the jobs are paid. The program is already using substitute teachers to augment its student tutors. ... The [Selfridge] school district is spending its supplemental services money on its own three-week summer program. About 15 students will spend their mornings working on reading and math, along with an occasional field trip.” (*Associated Press*, 6/6/05)
- “Bismarck State College is hosting the first of three summer institutes to help physics teachers in rural communities upgrade qualifications to meet mandates of the No Child Left Behind Act. The training provides hands-on instruction in new technological and pedagogical approaches for middle or high school teachers to teach physics. BSC is one of 30 regional sites in the United States funded by the National Science Foundation to host the Physics Teaching Resource Agents Summer Institute. Instruction includes use of a calculator and computer software for data acquisition and analysis, video analysis and simulation.... The NSF grant allows each teacher a stipend, free room and board, travel reimbursement and supplies used in the classroom. Participants can earn two graduate credits each year from Minot State University for a \$100 fee and attendance at a one- to two-day follow-up session during the school year.” (*Bismarck Tribune*, 6/3/05)