

# NCLB Making a Difference in Indiana



- Between 2002 and 2004 (latest data available):
  - Third-grade reading proficiency increased by three percentage points
  - Third-grade mathematics proficiency increased by six percentage points
  - The black-white achievement gap in third-grade reading narrowed by five percentage points  
(*Education Trust*)
- “The latest statewide testing results for grades 4, 5 and 7 are encouraging, especially with those scores counting for the first time toward federal No Child Left Behind standards of progress, the state schools superintendent said Wednesday.... The results were divided into categories of pass, indicating strong academic performance; pass-plus, showing exemplary performance; and did not pass. In fourth grade, 73 percent of almost 77,000 students who were tested achieved pass or pass-plus scores in both math and English/Language Arts. In grade 5, in which science also was tested, 72 percent passed both English and math and 62 percent passed science. Among seventh-graders, 73 percent passed math and 68 percent passed English. ‘The test results show strong academic performance for the majority of students,’ [schools chief Suellen] Reed said. ‘The results can be used to identify those students who need extra instructional assistance to reach the standard.’” (*Associated Press*, 2/16/05)
- “Educators in East Allen County Schools greeted news from the state Wednesday that Meadowbrook Elementary was no longer on ‘School Improvement Status....’ Meadowbrook...landed on the state’s list three years ago after failing to meet state targets in reading and math for two consecutive years. During that time, the school restructured its staff, increased professional development, changed its curriculum, offered tutoring to students and allowed them to transfer to higher-performing schools in the district. Because it’s a Title I school, Meadowbrook received about an additional \$200,000 per year to put some of those ‘corrective actions’ into place.... Teacher and student performance were monitored more closely. The school tested students throughout the year and required those failing to meet targets to attend summer school. Central administrators doubled their time evaluating teachers in the classroom. Their efforts paid off when the school met state targets for the first time last year. Meadowbrook third-graders scored above the state average in math, with 83 percent passing. That is about a 20 percent increase from four years ago. In English/Language Arts, 61 percent of students this year met targets, which is up 14 percent from five years ago.” (*Fort Wayne News Sentinel*, 6/9/05)
- “Stephen Foster School in Indianapolis is about 85 percent low-income and nearly 65 percent minority. The school watched its sixth-graders improve from 53 percent passing both [reading and math] tests in 2000 to all of them passing last year. Third-graders also improved from 61 percent passing in 2000 to 69 percent last year. ‘It’s just continual work, work, work,’ Principal Sharon Heathcock said. ... ‘You simply can’t make excuses. When they come here, they know we’re about business.’” (*Indianapolis Star*, 7/5/05)