



THE ACHIEVER

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U.S. Secretary of Education Rod Paige (center right) and Washington Redskins' All-Pro Cornerback Darrell Green (center left) met with students and teachers at the Darrell Green Youth Life Learning Center in Washington, DC on May 28th.

GREAT TEACHERS MAKE AMERICA GREAT

by Darrell Green

Secretary Rod Paige has said, “We can give students as many computers and cafeterias and curriculum administrators as we want, but none of that will make any difference without the one thing that makes a classroom work—a dedicated and well-trained teacher.” He’s right! Education has been so important to me. Growing up in Houston, Texas, I had great teachers who cared and reached out to me. I am where I am today because of the knowledge, direction, and understanding they gave me.

The teacher who had the biggest impact on me was my 6th grade teacher at Bastian Elementary School in Houston, Texas. He was my first male teacher, and he became another positive male role model in my life. He was so encouraging to all of us. I think that’s what meant the most to me. He made me believe that I could accomplish anything I set my mind to.

In 1993, I created the Darrell Green Youth Life Learning Center to give all students, regardless of race or family income, an opportunity to participate in a program that enhances their academic development. We have quality instructors who monitor the students’ schoolwork, often tutoring one-on-one to supplement what a child is learning in school. The exposure to quality instructors has had an overwhelming impact on our students. Many have become academic scholars, confident public speakers, and well-rounded young people rising to face life’s challenges.

A great teacher is like a great coach. A great coach takes you from just playing the game to playing your absolute best, while a great teacher takes you beyond the classroom and prepares you for lifelong learning and future success.

You can order a free copy of “What to Know & Where to Go: Parents’ Guide to No Child Left Behind,” by calling 1-877-4-ED-PUBS or e-mailing your request to edpubs@inet.ed.gov

PAIGE NAMES 172 BLUE RIBBON SCHOOLS

Secretary Paige recently named 172 public and private secondary schools as Blue Ribbon Schools. This is the 19th year of the program, which honors excellence in leadership, teaching, curriculum, student achievement and parental involvement. “In education, like every other enterprise, we must aspire to highlight and reward our successes,” Paige said. “These schools strive everyday to be their very best, and exemplify what American education can look like when we work as a team to create the best teaching and learning environments for our students.”

For more information about this award and the list of this year’s winners, please visit: <http://www.ed.gov/PressReleases/05-2002/05242002.html>

QUICK TIP

If you are like most parents or grandparents, then you spend quite a lot of time in the car or on the bus or subway with your children. This is a great time to practice spelling words, memorizing multiplication tables or reading.

Take children’s books and writing materials with you whenever you leave home. This gives your children fun activities to entertain and occupy them while you are stuck in traffic or waiting at the doctor’s office or bus stop.

TOUR ACROSS AMERICA

Secretary Paige continued his Tour Across America late last month with visits to **Pittsburgh, PA, and Albany, NY**. The purpose of the tour is to make sure that parents and community leaders all across the country are informed about *No Child Left Behind* and the difference it will make for their children. The Secretary will make many more stops throughout the summer, so look for him in a city near you. He has also attended events in **Albuquerque, NM; Atlanta, GA; Washington, DC; Las Vegas, NV; Southfield, MI; Milwaukee and LaCrosse, WI**.

SNACKS FOR GROWING BRAINS

What is energy?

Energy is the capacity to do work. Our energy comes from food, which contains stored chemical energy. Our bodies take the stored energy and convert it to mechanical energy, heat energy or other forms of energy. Light, sound, heat and electricity are all forms of energy.

Who delivered the Gettysburg address?*

- A. President Richard Nixon
- B. President George Washington
- C. President Abraham Lincoln

* Visit the Parents' Tool Box on www.NoChildLeftBehind.gov for the answer.

We hope you find the No Child Left Behind e-newsletter of interest. We will be sending these out regularly. You can also check out our website, which is updated regularly, and serves as a one-stop shop for parents and families, teachers and principals, local and state officials, and members of the business and civic communities. If you have any questions or suggestions about topics you would like to know more about, please e-mail nochildleftbehind@ed.gov. If you would like to unsubscribe to this newsletter, please e-mail listproc@inet.ed.gov, and write this message: unsubscribe NoChildLeftBehind.