



# No Child Left Behind Summer Reading Achievers



May 2004

Dear Principal:

Spring is here, and the end of the 2003-2004 school year is not far behind. As the summer vacation approaches, we invite your school to participate in a special program that can encourage students to practice reading during the summer months and help to avoid the loss of reading skills that often occurs during that time.

The U.S. Department of Education and the *School Board of Alachua County* are proud to announce that *Alachua County's* schools have been chosen as one of 11 pilot sites across the country for the 2004 No Child Left Behind Summer Reading Achievers program. The District's strong commitment to student success, effective leadership, and strong community and business partnerships combine to make *Alachua County* an excellent place to test a summer reading program that we hope will be available to schools across the country next year.

As the enclosed fact sheet explains, the features of the program are simple. Students will be asked to read 10 age-appropriate books over the summer months, and to write very brief statements regarding the books they read on a printed form. Students who successfully complete the program will be rewarded in the fall with a certificate, as well as free books and other prizes and incentives to be announced.

We are inviting your help. Over the next few weeks, you will receive a package of materials from the U.S. Department of Education for distribution throughout the school and student body. Such materials will include program brochures with printed book logs for students and parents, promotional posters, as well as instructions for ordering certificates at no cost and other information on how your school can participate. In addition to the awarding of certificates, our plan is to honor the highest participating schools and their students with additional incentives.

We hope you will join us in this effort to help *Alachua County's* students become Summer Reading Achievers. And we thank you for all you are doing to ensure that no *Alachua County* child is left behind.

Sincerely,

*Sandra Hollinger*  
Superintendent of Schools  
*School Board of Alachua County*

Rod Paige  
U.S. Secretary of Education

Enclosures

