No Child Left Behind

A New Era in Education
“When it comes to the education of our children...failure is not an option.”

President George W. Bush
August 1, 2001
Is spending the problem?
Even when accounting for inflation, funding has doubled since 1985.
Percentage of Fourth Graders Reading Proficiently

The graph shows the percentage of fourth graders reading proficiently from 1992 to 2000. The percentage remains relatively stable during this period with a slight increase by 2000 compared to 1992.
Reading Scores and Funding

Spending has increased but test scores have not.
“Insanity: the belief that one can get different results by doing the same thing.”

-Albert Einstein
Schools using proven teaching methods will measure success by one measure alone: *Is every child learning?*
This isn’t a Republican law.

This isn’t a Democratic law.

This is an American law.
“America’s children depend on us. We must not thrust that burden onto our posterity. It is ours to bear.”

-U.S. Secretary of Education
Rod Paige, January 9, 2002
Four Reform Principles

- **Accountability**: Guaranteeing Results
- **Flexibility**: Local Control for Local Challenges
- **Research-Based Reforms**: Proven Methods with Proven Results
- **Parental Options**: Choices for Parents, Hope for Kids
Accountability begins with informed parents, communities and elected leaders so we can work together to improve schools.
How will states measure progress for schools and students?

- Test every child in grades 3 through 8 in reading and math.
- States will implement fair and effective annual tests.
- Washington will provide funding to states to design and implement tests.
How will measuring progress every year help to improve schools?

Information is a powerful tool for change.

Annual testing tells us if students are making progress.

Annual tests show educators what is working and what areas need improvement.
Improving schools through accountability means setting annual goals for improvement.

According to a former school board member of a major urban school district:

“School systems and schools exist to educate students...It is almost inconceivable that a school system would not want to know the answer to the most fundamental of all questions: Are the children learning?”
What if schools do not improve?

Parents, voters, and taxpayers will know if schools are improving.

Schools that do not improve will receive extra help with planning and technical assistance.

After receiving extra help, schools that do not improve may be restructured.

*No Child Left Behind* provides new hope for students in schools that are dangerous or in need of improvement.
No Child Left Behind gives communities the freedom to find local solutions for local challenges.
Local control and flexibility means federal money can go to the classrooms where it is needed most.
For example... to provide more local control and flexibility, 50% of the formula funding from the following programs may be distributed among any of the programs:

- Teacher Quality
- Education Technology
- Safe and Drug-Free Schools
Local Control and flexibility means money goes to solve problems, not to subsidize bureaucracy.
No Child Left Behind encourages federal funds to be invested in educational practices that work.
Research-Based Improvements

The Problem: Some schools use unreliable and untested methods that can actually impede academic progress.

The Solution: Encourage schools to use evidence-based practices and materials.
Solid research equals solid results.

Doctors use solid research before treating patients. Teachers and schools must apply just as much care.
What is reliable research?

Scientific method:

- Hypothesis
- Controls are used
- Outcome proves or disproves the hypothesis
Replicated- Repeat studies find the same results.
Generalized- Study findings represent truth for the general population.
Meets Rigorous Standards - Methods and conclusions must be confirmed by peer review.
Convergent findings- Conclusions are in line with findings from other studies.
No Child Left Behind helps prepare and protect teachers.

- Protects teachers from frivolous lawsuits.
- Provides teachers the very best tools for teaching such as scientifically proven methods, lessons, materials, and professional development.
No Child Left Behind provides a lifeline to parents by giving them information regarding not only how their child is achieving academically, but also how their school and school district are performing as well.
No Child Left Behind: A lifeline for students trapped in schools that are dangerous or in need of improvement.

Parents can choose to make a change when their child’s school does not improve.
Under *No Child Left Behind*:

If a school does not meet its academic growth target for two consecutive years: parents have the right to transfer their child to a successful public school, including a charter school and...
The school district must pay for transportation.
If a school has failed for three consecutive years, parents of disadvantaged students have the right to supplemental educational services at the expense of the school district.
If a school is designated by the state as dangerous or unsafe, parents have the right to request a transfer to a safer public school.
Parents Must Be Our Partners

“Good education starts in the living rooms of the citizens of this country. It starts with a mom or a dad saying, ‘you turn off the TV and practice reading.’ It means, get rid of the tube and get into the books.”

-President George W. Bush, August 2001
A Call to Action for Parents:

Parents must be full partners in their child’s education.

Parents, teachers and school administrators hold the key to the success of our schools.

Parents need to instill values and discipline at home to help their children so they can be prepared to succeed in school.
Every American child can learn.

It is our duty as Americans to make sure...

No child is left behind!
"No Child Left Behind makes history in American education and builds futures for America’s students."

Rod Paige, U.S. Secretary of Education