

No Child Left Behind (NCLB)

- **SWEEPING** federal law passed on January 8, 2002 (more than 1,200 pages long!)
- goal of NCLB is to have EVERY student in our country achieve proficiency in reading and math by 2014
- involves the federal government in local education in a way it never has before
- all of the Title programs fall under the NCLB umbrella

NCLB is built on four pillars:

1. accountability for results *
2. emphasis on doing what works based on scientific research
3. expanded options for parents
4. expanded local control and flexibility with federal funds (Title programs)

** major pillar is accountability*

Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)

States are required to assess annual progress of districts as a whole plus every school within the district. This is done with annual tests developed by each state, which must be aligned with the state's standards. Our

state calls them Minnesota Comprehensive II Assessments (MCA II's). They are given in April of each year to all public school students throughout the state in grades 3 - 8 (reading and math), grade 10 (reading) and grade 11 (math). Results are made public in late August, at the opening of the State Fair.

Test results are disaggregated using the following nine subgroups:

1. All students
2. White students
3. Black students
4. Asian/Pacific Islander students
5. American Indian/Alaskan Native students
6. Hispanic students
7. LEP students
8. Special Ed. Students
9. Free & Reduced Lunch students

Within each of the nine subgroups, results are reported in the categories of proficiency, participation, attendance and graduation. Those results are further broken down into the core academic areas of reading and math. There must be a minimum of 20 students tested in a school in any one of the nine subgroups in order for the results to count toward Adequate Yearly Progress.

Each student's MCA II score falls into one of four levels:

- ~ exceeds standards (1 index point)
- ~ meets standards (1 index point)
- ~ partially meets standards (.5 index point)
- ~ does not meet standards (0 index points)