

## **AMERICA 2000**

Update for December

In the November Update, the four part strategy was outlined. This update addresses the first strategy - **For Today's Students: Better and More Accountable Schools**. Through a 15-point accountability package, parents, teachers, schools and communities will be encouraged to measure results, compare results and insist on change when the results are not what they should be.

### **Some of the Specifics:**

*World Class Standards:* Standards will be developed, in conjunction with the National Education Goals Panel. these World Class Standards - for each of the five core subjects - will represent what young Americans need to know and be able to do if they are to live and work successfully in today's world. These standards will ensure that young Americans are prepared for further study and the work force.

*America Achievement Tests:* In conjunction with the National Education Goals Panel, a new voluntary nationwide examination system will be developed, based on the five core subjects, tied to the World Class Standards. these tests will be designed to foster good teaching and learning as well as to monitor student progress.

*Encouragement to Use the Tests:* Colleges will be urged to use the American Achievement Tests in admissions; employers will be urged to address them in hiring.

*Presidential Citations for Educational Excellence:* Citations will be awarded to high school students who do well on American Achievement Tests. Until those tests become available, Presidential Citations for Educational Excellence will be awarded based on Advanced Placement Tests.

*Presidential Achievement Scholarships:* Once enacted by Congress, these scholarships will reward academic excellence among needy college students.

*Report Cards on Results:* More than reports to parents on how their children are doing, these report cards will also provide clear (and comparable) public information on how schools, school districts and states are doing, as well as the entire nation. The national and state report cards will be prepared in conjunction with the National Education Goals Panel.

*Report Card Data Collection:* Congress will be asked to authorize the National Assessment of Educational Progress regularly to collect state-level data in grades four, eight and twelve in all five core subjects, beginning in 1994. Congress will also be asked to permit the use of National Assessment tests at district and school levels by states that wish to do so.

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