

Draft 06/15/00 9:30am
Josh Gottheimer

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
REMARKS FOR U.S. DREAM ACADEMY
WASHINGTON, DC
June 14, 2000**

Ack: Rep. Eleanor Holmes-Norton; Councilman Kevin Chavous; Deputy Mayor Carolyn Graham; Wintley Phipps (President, U.S. Dream Academy).

I want to thank the U.S. Dream Academy for inviting me here today. I also want to thank all the students and teachers at Ferebee Hope Elementary School for giving a home to this important program. All of you are helping these wonderful students realize their full potential.

Eleanor Roosevelt once said, "The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams." We are here today because Wintley Phipps believed in his dream -- that all children, given the right tools and support, can realize their potential. That's something Wintley himself learned at an early age, when, through his mother's encouragement, he learned to express his faith through music. In discovering music, Wintley discovered his passion ... and later found his success as an award-winning vocalist and an accomplished minister.

Wintley Phipps realized his own dream. But he'll be the first one to admit that he didn't do it alone. His family and friends ... his teachers ... his church ... and his community helped him nurture his talents and find success, even in the most difficult of circumstances. That's why Wintley founded the Dream Academy -- to give all children the opportunity, tools, and support he had, so they too can realize their dreams.

That's what the Academy does every day, for nearly three-quarters of the students at Ferebee. It gives students the learning environment, the personal attention, and the academic tools they need to build on their experience in the classroom. This is the opportunity that every child deserves, but not every child receives. Many of the children in this school, and too many in our nation, are from disadvantaged families, where poverty and prison are the norm. It's a viscous cycle: more than two-thirds of the juveniles in the criminal justice system are the children or relatives of prisoners. And more than 80 percent of those in prison today were high school dropouts. In one sense, these are sobering and discouraging statistics. But in another, they point to the pool of untapped potential that exists in so many places, like Washington, DC.

The US Dream Academy is working to break the cycle, by empowering students with the education, mentoring, and the 21st Century skills they need to succeed. It gives students individual attention through small, interactive sessions; it teaches them about character building and the importance of maintaining good health; and its Internet-based curriculum, gives them the skills they'll need to take advantage of the new economy.

Most importantly, the program involves parents in the education and development of their children -- so that what students learn in the classroom can be reinforced in their homes.

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We must decide together how to apply these principles to the dazzling new discoveries of science. Here are four guideposts. First, science and its benefits must be directed toward making life better for all Americans, never just a privileged few. Their opportunities and benefits should be available to all. Science must not create a new line of separation between the haves and the have-nots, those with and those without the tools and understanding to learn and use **technology**. In the 21st century, a child in a **school** that does not have a link to the Internet or the **student** who does not have access to a computer will be like the 19th century child without **school** books. That is why we are ensuring that every child in every **school**, no matter how rich or poor, will have access to the same **technology** by connecting every **classroom** and library to the Internet by the year 2000.

Science must always respect the dignity of every American. Here at one of America's great black universities let me underscore something I said just a few days ago at the White House. We must never allow our citizens to be unwitting guinea pigs in scientific experiments that put them at risk without their consent and full knowledge. Whether it is withholding a syphilis treatment from the black men of Tuskegee or the cold war experiments that subjected some of our citizens to dangerous doses of radiation, we must never go back to those awful days in modern disguise. We have now apologized for the mistakes of the past; we must not repeat them, never again.

Second, none of our discoveries should be used to label or discriminate against any group or individual. Increasing knowledge about the great diversity within the human species must not change the basic belief upon which our ethics, our Government, our society are founded. All of us are created equal, entitled to equal treatment under the law. With stunning speed, scientists are now moving to unlock the secrets of our genetic code. Genetic testing has the potential to identify hidden inherited tendencies toward disease and spur early treatment. But that information could also be used, for example, by insurance companies and others to discriminate against and stigmatize people.

We know that in the 1970's, some African-Americans were denied health care coverage by insurers and jobs by employers because they were identified as sickle cell anemia carriers. We also know that one of the main reasons women refuse genetic testing for susceptibility to breast cancer is their fear that the insurance companies may either deny them coverage or raise their rates to unaffordable levels. No insurer should be able to use genetic data to underwrite or discriminate against any American seeking health insurance. This should not simply be a matter of principle but a matter of law. Period. To that end, I urge the Congress to pass bipartisan legislation to prohibit insurance companies from using genetic screening information to determine the premium rates or eligibility of Americans for health insurance.

Third, **technology** should not be used to break down the wall of privacy and autonomy free citizens are guaranteed in a free society. The right to privacy is one of our most cherished freedoms. As society has grown more complex and people have become more interconnected in every way, we have had to work even harder to respect the privacy, the dignity, the autonomy of each individual. Today, when marketers can follow every aspect of our lives, from the first phone call we make in the morning to the time our security system says we have left the house, to the video camera at the toll booth and the charge slip we have for lunch, we cannot afford to forget this most basic lesson.

As the Internet reaches to touch every business and every household and we face the frightening prospect that private information, even medical records, could be made instantly available to the world, we must develop new protections for privacy in the face of new technological reality.

Fourth, we must always remember that science is not God. Our deepest truths remain outside the realm of science. We must temper our euphoria over the recent break-through in animal cloning with sobering attention to our most cherished concepts of humanity and faith.

My own view is that each human life is unique, born of a miracle that reaches beyond laboratory science. I believe we should respect this profound gift. I believe we should resist the temptation to replicate ourselves. But this is a decision no President should make alone. No President is qualified to understand all of the implications. That is why I have asked our distinguished National Bioethics

Scheduling Proposal

Date 6/12/00

 ACCEPT

 REGRET

 PENDING

00 JUN 12 P12 : 54

TO: Stephanie Streett
Assistant to the President and
Director of Scheduling and Advance

FROM: Thurgood Marshall, Jr. *TM*
Bruce Reed *BR*
Beth Nolan *BN*
Bob Nash *BN Nash*

REQUEST: Video message from the President for the United States Attorneys' National Conference.

PURPOSE: This is the last United States Attorneys' National Conference of the Clinton Administration. The President has not met with the United States Attorneys as a group during this Administration. The purpose would be to acknowledge the achievements of the United States Attorneys and the Department of Justice and to encourage their continued aggressive pursuit of the criminal justice priorities of the country.

BACKGROUND: The United States Attorneys are the chief federal law enforcement officials of the country. There are 93 United States Attorneys who are appointed throughout the United States, Guam, the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico. They represent approximately 11,000 men and women who serve as Assistant United States Attorneys and support staff.

The group meets on a yearly basis to highlight the priorities of the Department of Justice.

DATE: Conference will take place in Colorado from June 20-June 22, 2000.

DURATION: Video message approximately 5 minutes.

PRESS : TBD

RECOMMENDED BY:  The Attorney General
Thurgood Marshall, Jr.
Bruce Reed
Beth Nolan
Bob Nash

CONTACT: Billy Glunz
456-2112

Keystone, CO

gear up mentoring program,
~~volunteer tutors and mentors through our Gear Up and America Reads programs. And, like the Dream Academy, we've worked to hard to open the doors of college to every American~~ *thru our*
~~with larger Pell Grants, more affordable student loans, education IRAs, and HOPE Scholarships. That's the largest expansion of college assistance since the GI Bill half a century ago.~~

We're also working to ensure that every child in America, no matter how rich or poor, has access to the technology needed to unlock the promises of the 21st Century. Programs like those at the Dream Academy are revolutionizing the use of technology in education, and creating a range of possibilities that were unthinkable only a few years ago. ~~In the next few years, every child in America will be able to stretch a hand across the keyboard and reach every book ever written ... every painting ever created ... every symphony ever composed.~~

~~I'm proud of the progress we've made to expand access to technology in our schools. In 1994, only three percent of our classrooms were connected to the Internet. Today, thanks in large part to Vice President Gore's E-rate program, more than half of our classrooms are wired, and 95 percent of our schools have at least one Internet connection.~~

~~Access is important, but it's only a means to an end. As the Dream Academy has shown, the ultimate purpose of computers is to boost student performance and help children learn. But that can only happen if teachers have the training to best use the technology. We're taking steps to do that. Earlier this month, I announced \$128 million in new three-year technology grants to help nearly 600,000 teachers prepare 21st Century students. My budget for the coming year doubles our investment in quality technology training to reach one million teachers by 2004. And it would fund up to 1,000 community technology centers to help young people and adults gain critical technology skills.~~

my help
Every child in every neighborhood should have access to the right tools to meet high standards. Unfortunately, the education budget making its way in Congress falls short. It invests too little in our schools and demands too little from them. Congress should pass a budget that puts education first - a budget that strengthens accountability and helps turn around low performing schools ... reduces class size and increases after-school opportunities ... closes the digital divide and opens the doors to help disadvantaged children gear up for college ... rebuilds crumbling schools and boosts teacher quality. In this time of unprecedented prosperity, there is no reason to shortchange our children and our schools. If Congress sends me a bill that fails that test - and sends me a bill written for the past, not the future -- I will veto it.

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At the dawn of the 21st Century, it's more important than ever to reach out to students at young age -- to give them the high hopes and high expectations to stay in school, go to college, and succeed in life. ~~Programs like the Dream Academy do just that -- they bolster responsibility among students, while boosting their academic performance. They teach our children not just to work hard in school ... but to respect one another outside the classroom. And they remind us that our diversity - whether it's our background, our faith, or the color of our skin - should be our greatest strength.~~

That's what the Dream Academy is all about.

Access is important, but it's only a means to an end. As the Dream Academy has shown, the ultimate purpose of computers is to boost student performance and help children learn. But that can only happen if teachers have the training to best use the technology. We're taking steps to do that. Earlier this month, I announced \$128 million in new three-year technology grants to help nearly 600,000 teachers prepare 21st Century students. My budget for the coming year doubles our investment in quality technology training to reach one million teachers by 2004. And it would fund up to 1,000 community technology centers to help young people and adults gain critical technology skills.

Every child in every neighborhood should have access to the right tools to meet high standards. Unfortunately, the progress we've made is being threatened by an education spending bill passed in the House yesterday. ~~It's a bill written for the past, not the future. It demands too little accountability from our schools, and invests too little in them, in everything from after-school to teacher training.~~ I'd veto the bill if it were sent to me in its present form. *the bill*

NO Congress should send me a bill that that puts education first – a bill that strengthens accountability and helps turn around low performing schools ... reduces class size and increases after-school opportunities ... closes the digital divide and opens the doors to help disadvantaged children gear up for college ... rebuilds crumbling schools and boosts teacher quality. In this time of unprecedented prosperity, there is no reason to shortchange our children and our schools. I hope we can work with Congress on a bipartisan education spending bill that will help our students continue to make academic gains.

At the dawn of the 21st Century, it's more important than ever to reach out to students at young age -- to give them the high hopes and high expectations to stay in school, go to college, and succeed in life. Programs like the Dream Academy do just that -- they bolster responsibility among students, while boosting their academic performance. They teach our children not just to work hard in school ... but to respect one another outside the classroom. And they remind us that our diversity – whether it's our background, our faith, or the color of our skin – should be our greatest strength.

Wintley Phipps is fond of saying, "A child without a dream is a child without a future." Because of your work, the children in this room have the opportunity to follow their dreams, and, in this time of unprecedented economic growth, we have the chance to fulfill them. Thank you again for all you have done, and continue to do every day. God bless you.

~~growing up in families plagued by poverty, by single parents with no one in the family - criminal justice system~~
too many in our nation, are from disadvantaged families, where poverty and prison are the norm. It's a viscous cycle: more than two-thirds of the juveniles in the criminal justice system are the children or relatives of prisoners. And more than 80 percent of those in prison today were high school dropouts. In one sense, these are sobering and discouraging statistics. But in another, they point to the pool of untapped potential that exists in so many places, like Washington, DC. *The U.S. Dream Academy is helping to break that cycle.* *all too common*

~~The US Dream Academy is working to break the cycle, by empowering students with the education, mentoring, and the 21st Century skills they need to succeed. It gives students individual attention through small, interactive sessions;~~ it teaches them about character building and the importance of maintaining good health; and its Internet-based curriculum, gives them the skills they'll need to take advantage of the new economy. *more to P. 1*

~~Most importantly, the program involves parents in the education and development of their children, so that what students learn in the classroom can be reinforced in their homes. The Dream Academy offers a formula for success, and it's one that's working:~~ In just the last year, math proficiency scores at Ferebee are up more than 300 percent – and reading proficiency scores have nearly doubled. Suspensions are down, class attendance is up, and fewer students are dropping out.

We should give every community in the country the tools they need to follow the Dream Academy's lead. For more than seven years now, our Administration has worked hard to do just that – to make sure that every child enters school ready to learn, and graduates ready to succeed.

I am happy to report that that

support, In an era of fiscal discipline, we've nearly doubled investment in education and training, making key investments that help children meet high standards. Investments like the Dream Academy program, which receives funding from a program out of the Department of Labor. ~~And that funding was just renewed for another two years. That funding, combined with grants from companies like Exxon and the NFL, are helping more and more children to reach for their dreams.~~ *In addition to federal*

taken Our Administration has also ~~steps~~ *the Dream Academy help* to reduce class size in the early grades, with our program to hire 100,000 new, highly-trained teachers. We've already hired nearly 30,000, and my budget would fund an additional 20,000. That would allow us to bring the kind of small environment that has worked so well here, to an additional three million children around the country.

We've also dramatically increased federal investment in after-school and summer school, from \$1 million a year in 1997 to nearly half a billion dollars a year today. My new budget calls for us to double our funding and triple the number of students with access to after-school. Every child, in every troubled neighborhood should be in a quality after-school program.

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We've also expanded Head Start and improved its quality. We've provided an army of volunteer tutors and mentors through our Gear Up and America Reads programs. And, like the Dream Academy, we've worked to hard to open the doors of college to every American -- with larger Pell Grants, more affordable student loans, education IRAs, and HOPE Scholarships. That's the largest expansion of college assistance since the GI Bill half a century ago.

We're also working to ensure that every child in America, no matter how rich or poor, has access to the technology needed to unlock the promises of the 21st Century. Programs like those at the Dream Academy are revolutionizing the use of technology in education, and creating a range of possibilities that were unthinkable only a few years ago. In the next few years, every child in America will be able to stretch a hand across the keyboard and reach every book ever written ... every painting ever created ... every symphony ever composed.

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Joshua S. Gottheimer
06/14/2000 11:39:26 PM

Record Type: Record

To: aedmonds1@home.com @ inet, Terry Edmonds/WHO/EOP@EOP, gottheim@aol.com @ inet

cc:

Subject: revised draft -- still needs further proofing

Draft 06/14/00 11:30pm

Josh Gottheimer

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
REMARKS FOR US DREAM ACADEMY
WASHINGTON, DC
June 14, 2000**

Ack: Rep. Eleanor Holmes-Norton; Councilman Kevin Chavous; Deputy Mayor Carolyn Graham; Wintley Phipps (President, U.S. Dream Academy).

I want to thank the U.S. Dream Academy for inviting me here today. I also want to thank all the students and teachers at Ferebee Hope Elementary School for giving a home to this important program. All of you are helping these wonderful students realize their full potential.

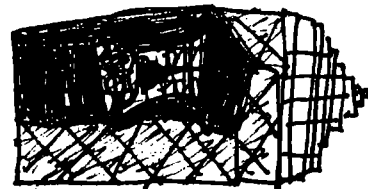
Eleanor Roosevelt once said, "The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams." We are here today because Wintley Phipps believed in his dream -- that all children, given the right tools and support, can realize their potential. That's something Wintley himself learned at an early age, when, through his mother's encouragement, he learned to express his faith through music. In discovering music, Wintley discovered his passion ... and later found his success as an award-winning vocalist and an accomplished minister.

overcame many of the same obstacles facing the young people here today.
~~Wintley Phipps realized his own dream. But he'll be the first one to admit that he didn't do it alone. His family and friends ... his teachers ... his church ... and his community helped him nurture his talents and find success, even in the most difficult of circumstances.~~
But he did not do it alone.
That's why Wintley founded the Dream Academy -- to give all children the opportunity, tools, and support he had, so they too can realize their dreams.

With strong parental involvement,
That's what the Academy does every day, for nearly three-quarters of the students at Ferebee. It gives students the learning environment, the personal attention, and the academic tools they need to build on their experience in the classroom. This is the opportunity that every child deserves, but not every child receives. Many of the children in this school, and

insert from P. 2

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
PHILADELPHIA GEAR-UP EVENT
PHILADELPHIA, PA
May 19, 2000**



Acknowledge: Toya Doe; Rep. Fattah champion of program, creator of the certificate you receive today; Rep. Klink; Pedro Ramos; Sulzberger Middle School Principal Kathleen Lacey; Shoemaker Middle School Principal James Slaughter; Frank Hollemon; Gene Sperling, worked on this for years, would have been here, giving a speech on China; the many partners, including businesses, community organizations, and mentors; Sulzberger is a shining example of a school and community working together to lift the lives of students.

I'd also like to recognize another Sulzberger success story. In his time, he was the Vice President of his class here [1958], today he's a teacher at Shoemaker—and he's teaching us all about the value of higher education. Last week he earned a dual Master's degree in Education Administration and Elementary Education--Congressman Fattah's father, David Fattah.

Philadelphia is a special place for all Americans. This is the birthplace of our democracy—where our founding fathers wrote the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, the Bill of Rights. Here in your hometown, our country set out on a course based on revolutionary ideas and common sense principles: Everyone counts. Everyone has a role to play. We all do better when we help each other. That's what America's about and that's really what we celebrate today.

In many ways, our nation's historic commitment to a quality education is reflected here, too. Philadelphia is the home of the first medical school in the country, the first scientific institution, the first law library. Today, you're making your own history. Because all of you are among the first students to receive the 21st Century Scholars Certificates. You represent almost half a million middle-school students who signed up for GEAR-UP in just one year. To all of you, congratulations.

Benjamin Franklin once said, "Genius without education is like silver in the mine." In other words, you can have all the smarts in the world. If you don't dig deep and make something of it, then it won't amount to much. I firmly believe that the talents of people are evenly distributed across racial and income lines. We need to make sure that all our children have the tools to mine that talent. Every child can learn.

More and more, a college degree is an essential tool for success. For the last seven years, we've worked hard to open the doors of college to every American.

First, by making sure that students graduate from high school ready to succeed in college. We've worked to raise standards and turn around failing schools, to hire 100,000 more teachers to reduce class size, to build modern classrooms.

Second, we've made college more affordable—with larger Pell Grants, more affordable student loans, education IRAs, Hope scholarships, the largest expansion of college assistance since the GI Bill half a century ago.

Third, by reaching out to our young people and helping them raise their sights for higher education—because opening the doors of college isn't always enough. Today, too many families rule out college early because they think they can't afford it, so they don't plan for it. In fact, high academic achievers from low-income families are five times less likely to go on to college as those from high-income families.

There's a reason I feel so strongly about this. I was the first person in my family to go to college. But I never had any doubts, because everyone in my life guided me to that goal. My family told me I was going to college. All my teachers told me I was going to college. All the people at my church told me I was going to college. It never occurred to me that I wouldn't go to college. I was in an environment which made it very difficult for me to fail. That's the environment I want for every child in America.

That's what ~~GEAR-UP~~ ^{Dear} is about. It's about reaching out to students at a young age and giving them the high hopes and high expectations that they're going to stay in school, go to college, and build a better life. ~~That's why we made sure GEAR-UP not only reached middle school students but also stayed with them until they went to college.~~

I want to thank all of you for being a part of it and for what you achieved. I thank the leaders from schools, universities, businesses, community organizations for being there as mentors for our young people, for taking them around college campuses, for giving them a sense of hope and possibility about the future.

I thank the teachers and administrators for engaging students and getting them excited about academic achievement, for honing their study skills, for strengthening the curriculum, for guiding our students to the courses, such as algebra, that will prepare them for college.

I thank the parents for getting informed about financial aid and encouraging your children to be a part of GEAR-UP. Nine out of ten parents say they want more information on how to pay for college. GEAR-UP helps families figure it out early on. In fact, as the certificate that you receive says: a high school senior today in a family earning less than \$25,000 could expect more than \$22,000 in federal college support over four years.

And, of course, I thank the GEAR-UP students for coming in on all the Saturdays and looking ahead to all your tomorrows. We're here today because of you—and you should be proud. But this isn't the end, it's just the beginning.

If you remember just one thing I say today, I hope you remember this: Believe in yourself. Stay in school, study hard, aim high, you can do it. You can go to college. College is for you.

You're a wonderful example for the rest of the country. I want more students to achieve like you. That's why my budget would double the number of students who can participate in GEAR-UP.

After-school programs are also critical for giving students the tools to meet high standards. You started yours here at Sulzberger last year. I understand that already more than 300 students are enrolled—and reading and math scores have gone up.

It's fitting that I announce here that we are going to help even more schools around the country build on your success. Today, I am awarding \$185 million in new after-school and summer school grants. These grants will support 21st Century Community Learning Centers in 48 states.

The good news is that we are going to help more kids stay safe and keep learning. The challenge is that over 1,000 high-quality applications could not be funded this year. We must do more. And that's why I have proposed \$1 billion increase so every child, in every troubled neighborhood can be in a quality after-school program.

I'm disappointed that the education budget making its way in Congress falls short. It invests too little in our schools and demands too little from them. It doesn't adequately address some of our schools' most pressing needs--from more well-trained teachers to more modern classrooms. It's doesn't fully fund my GEAR-UP plan—or the after-school program.

We can do better. I'm going to work with Congress to do better. We need to keep investing in what works and we need to work together. The students here are Exhibit A for why this is so important.

Once again, I thank you for what you have done. I know it isn't easy sometimes, but I believe that in this room—and around our country--we have young people with enormous ability who just need a spark to do great things. Students who may one day help us find the cure for AIDS...students who may design cars that get hundreds of miles to the gallon...students who will be business leaders and community leaders...and at least one student who will be a wonderful teacher and inspiration. *[please note: Toya Doe wants to be a teacher]*

I'd like to ask her to step forward. Toya Doe is representing all of you. It's my honor to present her with this 21st Century Scholars Certificate. I hope you keep it close. It's a ticket to the future. Remember: If you gear up and work hard, you'll get to college. You can count on it. And we are counting on you.

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34 Weekly Comp. Pres. Doc. 2297

Source: [All Sources](#) : / . . . / : [Presidential Documents](#)Terms: [headline \(afterschool or after school\)](#) and [date geq \(06/12/1995\)](#) ([Edit Search](#))*Public Papers of the Presidents*

Public Papers of the Presidents

November 12, 1998

**CITE:** 34 Weekly Comp. Pres. Doc. 2297**LENGTH:** 2069 words**HEADLINE:** Remarks Announcing Grants for **After-School** Programs**BODY:**

The President. Thank you very much, Rose, for giving us a wonderful example of what these endeavors are all about. Hillary and I are delighted to have all of you -- parents, administrators and teachers, child care advocates, grant recipients -- here in the White House today. We especially thank Congressman Castle, Congresswoman Lowey, Senator Robb, Senator Specter, Congressmen Hoyer and Cardin and King and Levin and Quinn.

I thank Olivia Golden, our HHS Administrator for Children and Families, for being here, along with Mike Smith and Kent McGuire from the Education Department. We welcome Mayor Davis, Mayor Ganim, Mayor Schundler, and all of you.

I have enjoyed this day very much already because Hillary and I are, I think it's fair to say, virtually obsessed with the idea of expanding after-school programs and affordable child care. And to see this reaching across party lines to support our children, our families, and our communities is a deeply moving thing to me. But I'd like to begin my remarks, since I essentially can't add much to what has already been said -- I want to ask you to think about a question that we have -- all of us who are parents, at least, who have ever taken our children on trips when they were young -- have heard them say, "Are we there, yet? Are we there yet?" [*Laughter*]

So in spite of what we come to celebrate today, the truth is that when it comes to raising our children in this new era, we are not there yet. But when I look at the people on this podium and the faces out in this crowd, I realize that this is clearly an area where we can put the progress of our people ahead of our partisan differences and that, if we continue to do that, we might be able to give a different answer to our children.

Even though our economy is the strongest in a generation, all of you know that one of the principle struggles faced by real people out there in America was the one that Rose Bolz told us about today. Even with the lowest unemployment rate in 28 years, even with the fastest rising wage rates in over 20 years, how are people doing at balancing the work of parenting and the work of working? How do people fulfill their obligation to their children and to their workplace?

Well, first of all, it's not easy. In spite of the program that the First Lady described, in spite of the marvelous experience that Rose, as a parent, with her child have had, on any given day in America as many as 15 million school-age children are left to fend for themselves on the streets or alone at home. Half of all juvenile crime occurs in the few hours just after school lets out. And for families with children between the ages of 3 and 5, child care is the second or third greatest household

expense.

Now, obviously, only parents can find the proper balance between work and child rearing, one that works for them or one that is imposed on them by their economic circumstances. What we have to do is to help them do the very best they can to meet their obligations at home and at work. That is the only responsible thing to do on the verge of this new century when the patterns of work and life are so very different.

As I have said many times, if you will indulge me I'd like to say once more, I know that all life is filled with choices and some of them are bound to be hard, but this is a choice we should not require our people to make, because if they have to choose, they lose, and we lose. If a person cannot function at work for worrying about the children at home, but economically they must work, then that weakens the fabric of the American economy. If in order to fulfill one's responsibility at work a parent has to neglect children, that is an even higher price, because in every society that is always the most important work that can be done.

That is why we have worked hard to help people reconcile these two obligations with the family and medical leave law, with policies designed to promote the idea that if people who work full-time and have children in the home should not be in poverty, the doubling of the earned-income tax credit, the \$ 500-per-child tax credit that was a part of the bipartisan balanced budget bill passed last year, the raise in the minimum wage, the dramatic increase in tax credits and scholarships and loan program options for college education, the welfare reform that I believe did a great deal. Mike Castle and I were talking about this, because we've been working on this subject for more than 10 years together now, and we believe it makes a very good start at striking the proper balance between work and family, protecting the health care and the nutrition of children as a national guarantee, providing many more resources for child care and for transportation, giving States the flexibility to design programs that are more likely to move people more quickly from welfare to work without sacrificing their parental responsibilities. And since we have the smallest percentage of our people on welfare in 29 years, I'd say we're off to a pretty good start.

Now, since those initiatives, we have focused on two other major priorities: First, the after-school programs; and second, child care for lower income, working families who may not have been on welfare and, therefore, are not eligible for the funds that were provided in welfare reform.

Last month, the bipartisan balanced budget bill, to which Senator Specter and others have referred, expanded Head Start and made new investments in improving the quality of child care. Thanks to that bill, and especially to the extra child care put in under the welfare reform law, I can tell you that there are nearly one and a quarter million low-income children now receiving child care under the child care block grant program. That is up from one million the year before. That's a 25-percent increase in one year. And to all these Members of Congress who are here who supported this across party lines, I want to say a special thank you for doing that.

Now, that is the good news. But if a child asks you, "are we there yet?" here is the rest of the story. We've gone from a million to one and a quarter million in one year, a 25-percent increase -- by income, under the law, another 8.75 million children in low-income working families are eligible for child care assistance, but cannot receive it because we have not put sufficient funds into the program.

So this should continue to be a priority in the next Congress. Even though we were successful -- and I appreciate what Senator Specter said about the nature of the budget process; Congress was very generous in the end in investing more money in education -- we did not pass the child care proposal. I hope we can do better next time because of the large number of people out there.

Now I'd like to say just a little word about the after-school programs because I, too, think they're so important. The budget I signed last month included a fivefold increase in the number of children who will receive after-school programs. This program, this increase, was funded under the 21st century community learning center initiative initially sponsored by Senator Jeffords of Vermont. It was strongly supported by Senator Boxer, Senator Kennedy, Congresswoman Lowey, and others.

I want to tell you how fast and how far Congress has moved on this after-school program, again, in a bipartisan fashion. In 1996 there was one million dollars in this program. In 1997 there was \$ 40 million in the program. In 1998, in this Congress -- thank you, Mr. Appropriator -- there was \$ 200 million in the program. That's why 183 communities in 44 States and the District of Columbia today can receive \$ 60 million to set up these academically enriched after-school programs. Roughly 75,000 more children will now have someplace to go other than the streets when school lets out. That's good news for America.

One of these recipients is Chicago's Lighthouse program, which the First Lady and I have both visited. Every day Lighthouse -- listen to this -- keeps 112,000 children in 248 Chicago schools off the street and out of trouble, while drilling them in math and reading, providing everything from computer instruction to supervised sports to a hot evening meal. Over 40,000 children in that school system now get 3 meals a day.

After-school programs like this honor our values and benefit our Nation. They offer opportunity and peace of mind to hard-working parents who can't always be at home when school lets out. They bolster responsibility and academic achievement among students. Math and reading scores have shot up in nearly every one of the 40 Chicago schools where the program began 2 years ago. And I might add, parenthetically -- I'll plug something I believe in -- I am all for the proposition that in our most troubled inner-city schools we must raise academic standards, raise learning levels, and end social promotion, but it is wrong to brand a child a failure when the system has failed the child. So there have to be after-school programs, and summer school programs.

So Chicago has ended social promotion. But they've got 112,000 kids in after-school programs, and the summer school program is now the sixth largest school district in America.

So if we want our children to do well and if we believe our children can do well across racial and income lines, no matter where they were born, where they grow up, whether they're on the most distant rural, Native American tribal reservation or in an absolutely abandoned inner-city neighborhood, and if we want to say, "Look, because we love you we're going to hold you to high standards," then we have to give them the tools they need to succeed.

So this is a terribly important thing to the strengthening of our community, to reducing juvenile crime, to doing the things that we all know we ought to do. Just think, in this huge budget of over \$ 1.5 trillion, what started with one million dollars, then went to \$ 40 million, then went to \$ 200 million, has the potential to have a bigger impact on more children's lives, more families, and more communities' futures than virtually anything else we're doing around here -- because it empowers people, like the people who work with Rose Bolz' daughter, to do more of that daily.

Now, again -- are we there yet? When it comes to the end of the speech, the answer is "nearly."
[Laughter] But back to the subject -- are we there yet?

Audience Members. No-o-o!

The President. A hundred and eighty-three new after-school grants -- that's the good news. The rest of the news is, for every community that received a grant today, there were seven more which applied. Actually, that's also good news if you think about it. Everybody gets this now. But because they get it, we have to try harder. Like child care, the need for after-school programs simply outstrips our investment.

So when children ask from the back of the car, "are we there yet?" it's always hard to give them a satisfactory answer. And how many of us as parents have explained how far we've come and that we've come further than we've still got to go? -- all the answers that satisfy adults and never make it with kids. [Laughter] On these issues, we should be as impatient as our children in the back seat of the car. We should be proud of what has been done. We should lift up the teachers, the community leaders, the parents, the child care workers who have done the right thing. But we should remember the impatience of our children.

In the new economy, we can no longer think of high-quality child care and after-school programs as luxury items. In every period of economic and social change, what once was a luxury item becomes quickly standard equipment.

So are we there yet? No. But we'll get there together. Thank you very much.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:54 p.m. in the East Room at the White House. In his remarks he referred to Rose Bolz, single working mother from Tucson, AZ, who introduced the President; Kent McGuire, Assistant Secretary, and Marshall S. Smith, Deputy Secretary, Department of Education; Mayor Ernest D. Davis of Mount Vernon, NY; Mayor Joseph P. Ganim of Bridgeport, CT; and Mayor Bret Schundler of Jersey City, NJ. A portion of these remarks could not be verified because the tape was incomplete.

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But there is another thing that we ought to look at, which is how we can use **technology** to help people who have children at home succeed at home and at work. When I became President -- and I think it's still true, we don't have any updated figures -- but when I became President, there was a study that came out that said that people were working harder in 1994, the second year I was in office, than they had been 25 years earlier in 1969. The average working person was actually spending more hours a week at work.

And yet, there were a higher percentage of parents in the workforce in 1994 than there were in 1969. That means that nearly every family, whether it's a family working for a very modest wage, a family with a solid, middle class existence, even a lot of upper middle class, better-off families are dealing with these competing pressures of trying to do a good job raising their children, which is our most important job, and trying to succeed in the workplace.

That's why the Vice President and I worked so hard for the Family and Medical Leave Act, why we believe it ought to be expanded, and why we think there ought to be more flextime in the workplace. But again, I think **technology**, if we keep working on it, will bring it back around to us, and a lot of people will be able to benefit from it. The number of Americans who are now working from their home at least part of the week and telecommuting has doubled over the last 5 years to 12.1 million.

The Small Business Job Protection Act that I signed this summer included an increase in the minimum wage for 10 million working Americans. But it also did something else: It completed a job the Vice President and I started in 1993. We have, since 1993, increased the amount of capital a small business can expense from \$ 10,000 a year now to \$ 25,000 a year. And I believe more and more companies should use this expense to buy computers and other equipment for their employees to use at home, especially if the employees have young children. We have to work harder to make our businesses work well, our employees succeed, and people be able to be good parents.

Finally, let me say the explosion of information has changed everyone's life, nowhere more than on the Internet. Now, think about the Internet, how rapidly it's become part of our lives. In 1969 the Government invested in a small computer network that eventually became the Internet. When I took office, only high energy physicists had ever heard of what is called the World Wide Web -- when I took office, January of '93, only high energy physicists had heard of it. Now even my cat has his own Web page. [Laughter]

The number of people on the Web has been doubling every 8 months. Think about that. The number of people on the Web has been doubling every 8 months. Today there are at least 25 million people on the Internet. By 1998 that number will reach 100 million. The day is coming when every home will be connected to it, and it will be just as normal a part of our life as a telephone and a television. It is becoming our new town square, changing the way we relate to one another, the way we send mail, the way we hear news, the way we play.

Every citizen can now read the *Congressional Record*. If you have insomnia, I recommend it. [Laughter] Every citizen can get the text of what's in a new law the very day it passes. Art lovers can go to the Louvre. Baseball fans can pay an on-line visit to Cooperstown. Everyone can find a passage in the Bible or in Shakespeare with the click of a mouse. Most of all the Internet will be the most profoundly revolutionary tool for educating our children in generations.

I want to see the day when computers are as much a part of a classroom as blackboards and we put the future at the fingertips of every American child. That sounds great, but think about the implications for our American democracy. If you want to go into the 21st century with the American dream alive and well for everyone, everybody has a chance to live up to the fullest of their abilities and, I might add, to be less shackled by whatever disabilities they have, if you believe we can create a community where everybody has a role to play, think about the implications for this.

What does this mean, hooking up every classroom? It means if you have the right computers and the right education equipment, software, the right educational software and properly trained teachers, and then all of these connections are made to the Internet and the World Wide Web and all of the



Lowell A. Weiss
06/14/2000 12:56:05 PM

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Draft 2/1/00 11:00pm
Lowell Weiss

**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON
REMARKS ON "DIGITAL DIVIDE"
BALLOU HIGH SCHOOL
February 2, 2000**

Acknowledge: introducer Darnell Curley; Co-principals Dr. Durham and Dr. Bridges; AOL Chairman and CEO Steve Case; Epic Learning Pres. David Sterling; Sen. Bennett; Reps. John Lewis, Eleanor Holmes-Norton, Xavier Becerra, Eddie Bernice Johnson, Stephanie Tubbs Jones, William Jefferson, Zoe Lofgren, Adam Smith, Ellen Tauscher, David Wu; Mayor Williams; Superintendent Ackerman; Harris Wofford [*whose AmeriCorps*VISTA members have made helping to bridge the digital divide a core mission*]; Gene Sperling; VP Gore [*who has been leading our nation's efforts for many years*]; Sec. Daley [*who is speaking on this issue in Harlem today*]; Special guest: Karen Siegrist [*who wrote you that very nice email on State of the Union night.*]

I just had a wonderful tour and got a chance to learn how technology is enhancing the educational mission of this school. I learned that every freshman is taking a computer literacy class. I learned that students are going online to get help on their homework, chat in foreign languages with students around the world, and work on projects with scientists from the Naval Research Lab.

I was particularly pleased to learn about Epic Learning's long-term commitment to helping students earn certificates toward high-tech careers and about the ways 3M, AT&T, and Cisco are combining forces with the AFL-CIO to provide you with additional hardware, software, and teacher training. [*From the students' point of view, there is one downside to all this new technology: I can already imagine the day when a big snow storm won't mean a day off but rather a day of teleconferencing from home.*]

The reason I am here today is to announce new ways we can team up to bring the benefits of new technologies into our schools, our homes, small businesses, and every other part of community life. Because I believe that computers and the Internet can be the greatest equalizing force our society

has ever known – breaking down mighty barriers of race and geography, disability and age. I’ve seen the beginnings of this here at Ballou. We’re seeing remarkable examples all over the country.

Victor Shen is a high school junior in Whittier, Alaska, who dreams of becoming a professional mathematician. Unfortunately, his school does not offer college-level calculus and his town is so remote that it is cut off from the rest of the world for several months each winter. But Victor will soon have the chance to take the classes he needs – just by getting online. Two years ago, Clinton Johnson lost his little bakery on 125th Street in Harlem and had no savings to support his wife and two kids. But he found a community technology center near his home, learned HTML code, and landed himself a good job as a web developer.

Dale O’Reilley, a grandmother of two from Medford, NJ, was diagnosed with Lou Gehrig’s Disease nine years ago. Although she cannot move or speak, a special laptop computer allows her to voice her thoughts and to continue writing articles for the Philadelphia Inquirer. This past Christmas, I bought several gifts on a web site that features the work of artists from the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. The Internet is giving Native Americans an opportunity to sell their crafts all over the world.

These small miracles are just the beginning. Just imagine when every child in America will be able to stretch a hand across the keyboard and reach every book ever written, every painting ever created, every symphony ever composed ... when high-speed wireless networks bring distance learning and telemedicine to every rural community in America ... when even the smallest businesses can compete in worldwide markets once reserved for the most powerful corporations. This is the future we are trying to build.

In 1994 – back when only 3% of all classrooms were wired – the Vice President and I set a goal of connecting every classroom and library to the Internet. The public and private sectors have risen to the challenge – through generous grants, through Net Days, and especially through the steep discount on access charges known as the E-rate, for which we owe the Vice President enormous thanks. As a result, more than half of our classrooms are now wired – and in our schools and libraries, the digital divide has already narrowed greatly.

But make no mistake: The digital divide is still a yawning gap in many parts of America. Recent studies confirm what you might expect: low-income families are far less likely to have access to the Internet and computers at home than middle-class families; low-income African-Americans and Hispanics are falling even further behind than low-income whites. People living in rural areas are lagging far behind in computer ownership and Internet use, as well – nowhere more so than in Indian Country.

Eventually, this digital divide will deprive businesses of the technology-savvy workers they desperately need – slowing productivity and economic growth. It could also widen fissures of inequality between people and open a chasm that separates us from our nation’s highest ideals.

We cannot allow this age of opportunity to be an age of missed opportunity. We must make computers and Internet connections as common in every community as telephones are today. And, of course, we must go way beyond wires and hardware. We need teachers with the skills to open

students' eyes and minds to the possibilities of this new world of technology. We need compelling software to help our children think creatively, push their potential, and explore beyond the four walls of the classroom.

And of course, we need your help. Because these challenges are too big for government alone. Closing the digital divide is a job for all of us – businesses and governments, foundations and community organizations, institutions of learning and houses of worship.

To highlight the need for all of us to work together on this great cause, in April I will lead a New Markets tour focused specifically on the digital divide. In the coming days, I will be reaching out to top CEOs as well as various nonprofit leaders to join me on this tour. My great hope is that, together, we can spread the old-fashioned barn-raising spirit to communities across 21st century America.

I am also pleased to announce that the budget I will submit to Congress on Monday represents the greatest effort our nation has ever launched to close the digital divide and open new digital opportunities for all our citizens.

First, if we are serious about making Internet connections as common as telephones are today, we must start by making sure that there is a community technology center in every low-income urban and rural area. We began investing in these centers two years ago, when Rep. Waters, then head of the Congressional Black Caucus, brought this new idea to our attention. These centers work so well that we tripled our investment last year. And this year, we're tripling it again, to add as many as 1,000 new centers all over America.

Second, I want to take another step toward universal access with a new public-private partnership geared toward bringing computers and Internet access into more low-income homes. Public-spirited members of the high-tech industry have already pledged to work with us on this vital goal.

Third, I want to give private companies \$2 billion in new tax incentives, for building and supporting community technology centers, for donating quality used computers, and for providing computer training to their workers.

Fourth, I am proposing to give technology training to all new teachers in America, to help them become as proficient with computers as they are with textbooks. All the computers and connections in the world will go to waste if our teachers lack the knowledge to help our students make the best use of these powerful tools.

Fifth, we are offering new incentives to encourage private-sector firms to bring high-speed networks to under-served communities. In the digital economy, business leaders are looking for high-speed Internet access when they consider new sites for their facilities. Rural areas without such links face a real competitive disadvantage.

Finally, I want to triple our investment in Sec. Daley's highly successful Technology Opportunities Program, to help create innovative applications of technology for low-income

communities. The idea is to support innovations like health information systems that raise childhood immunization rates in inner cities or tele-mentoring for at-risk youth.

The paradox of this age of possibility is that the same tools that are breaking down mighty barriers can also heighten economic inequalities and sharpen social divisions. That is what happened with the mechanization of agriculture and again during the Industrial Revolution. In the Information Age, we have it within our power to avoid these mistakes. We must not let the digital divide exacerbate the human divide. On the contrary, we must use this new technology to help close the gaps between people, communities, and nations.

To those of you who are already doing so much, I am deeply grateful. And to those of you who have not yet gotten involved, we're ready to show you the way. It's time for every company in America to use its power to empower others. At this sunlit moment of prosperity and promise, there is no reason why any American has to be left in the dark.

#

THE U.S. DREAM ACADEMY



Providing
Hope and Promise
For A
Critically Important
Group of America's Youth

U.S.
Dream
Academy
Inc.

OUR MISSION

The U.S. Dream Academy is the vision of Wintley Phipps, an internationally noted minister, singer, speaker and goodwill ambassador. It provides a unique, positive and powerful way to reach youth who are at risk – either for future underemployment, unemployment or incarceration.

Our primary focus – the sons and daughters of our nation's prisoners – are youth of promise who too often lack the support, encouragement and guidance of caring adults in their lives.

More than two-thirds of juveniles in the criminal justice system either have a parent or other close family member in prison. The children of prisoners are six times more likely to be incarcerated themselves. Providing both direction and hope in the lives of these young people will have a profound effect on our society.



"WHEN I WAS 14

... I joined my gang ... I was more concerned about my reputation than my education. If I had continued to live that way, I would probably be dead or in jail."

*Jorge Merino,
San Diego County Court Schools
(currently a community college student)*

TARGET POPULATION

web
The U.S. Dream Academy ~~will work~~
directly with three important groups:

- *The sons and daughters of our nation's prisoners*
- *Children from distressed social environments*
- *Children who are falling behind in school*

Providing them with important
educational tools for success:

- *Basic academic skills*
- *Health education*
- *Character ~~and~~ moral education*



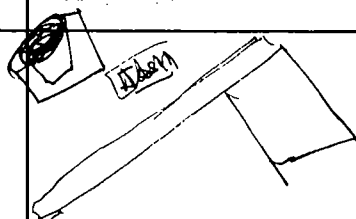
"DESPITE ALL
that had happened, there was an organiza-
tion, a group of people, that helped me to
focus on my education and my future."

*Damian Quaye,
Baltimore, MD*

OUR STRATEGY

"High Tech" and "High Touch" will be the keys to serving targeted youth and their families.

- Computerized learning programs
 - New, exciting software programs
 - Interactive programs
 - Internet "connections" between mentors and youth
- Family Learning Centers
 - Opportunities for personal interaction and relationship building between youth and mentors
 - Direct contacts with caring staff and volunteers
 - Training for academic and employment-related skills



"I'VE STARTED TO
think highly of myself. If I want to do
something, I know I can do it."

*Da Mar Macmillan,
Brody Middle School, Des Moines, IA*

PROGRAM SITES

U.S. Dream Academy Family
Learning Centers will be:

- *Established in partnership with inner-city churches, schools, and youth-serving organizations*
- *Secure locations housing computer stations, learning resources, and program activities*
- *Locations where students can interact with one another in a safe, monitored environment*



"WE NEED TO

catch some students before they fall through the cracks and say, 'Hey, we think you're terrific!'"

*Meredith Barnes,
Scholarship recipient and
Dollars for Scholars volunteer,
Spanaway, WA*

OUR CURRICULUM

Students will access U.S. Dream Academy through a gateway home page which is customized to reflect the identity of both the Academy and the local sponsor.

- *Academic Curriculum, encompassing basic skills and knowledge for success in school, work and life.*
- *Health Curriculum, addressing physical, mental and emotional health, promoting responsible behavior in school and community.*
- *Values Curriculum, built upon the best of our nation's traditional religious and civic heritage, helping develop a sense of conscience, empathy, moral judgment, purpose and life direction.*



"I SEE MY TASK AS

a mentor, and I bring the outside world to
the students."

*Fred Oelschlaeger,
Cargill volunteer, Burbank, WA*

THE PROGRAM

- *The renowned computer-based Comprehensive Competencies Program® provides K-12 educational programming, life and job skills training and a massive CD-ROM library of multimedia information.*
- *ScholarShop, a program which motivates and guides students to stay in school while helping them prepare for postsecondary education.*
- *A values-based curriculum that encourages positive growth and directs students toward a meaningful and rewarding lifestyle.*
- *Support programs, including enriching and fun activities for youth and families.*



"A STRONG FAITH-

based education is the best investment we can make for the young people of America.

Faith-based education helped me and my seven brothers and sisters break free from the cycle of crime and poverty in our family. It prepared us for joy of service in this world, and for a greater service in the world to come."

*Rear Admiral Barry C. Black,
Deputy Chief of Chaplains, U.S. Navy*

SCHOLARSHIPS

Participants in the U.S. Dream Academy will receive incentives for successful participation through scholarships set aside for their educational programs.

Initial scholarship support will be provided by national and regional grants or from participating local agencies.

Long-term scholarship support will come through local, volunteer-based Dollars for Scholars chapters in the U.S. Dream Academy communities, organized with the help of Citizens' Scholarship Foundation of America (CSFA).



"A SCHOLARSHIP

not only impacts the lives of students, but also society as a whole. A scholarship awarded to a deserving student provides each recipient with the power to grow as an individual and take an active participatory role in society."

*Kate Shindle,
Miss America 1998*

PARTNERSHIPS FOR SUCCESS

A strong and concerned group of organizations has "partnered" with the U.S. Dream Academy to create its program design, management structure and initial strategies.

- *Citizens' Scholarship Foundation of America (CSFA), the nation's largest private-sector educational support organization*
- *The Points of Light Foundation, the nation's leading volunteer support and training organization*
- *Quality Education for Minorities Network, with special expertise in promoting high expectations for minority youth*
- *Prison Fellowship Ministries, whose Angel Tree Program reaches out annually with Christmas gifts to sons and daughters of prisoners*
- *The National Association of Former Foster Care Children, a group that also has ties to sons and daughters of prisoners*
- *Adventist Health Systems, one of the nation's largest health care networks*
- *Remediation & Training Institute is the developer of the Comprehensive Competencies Program®*



"CSFA GIVES

leadership in education by working closely with partners who care deeply about the future of your youth. Working with the U.S. Dream Academy through all three of our major programs – Dollars for Scholars, Scholarship Management Services and ScholarShop – our goal is to impact positively the lives of thousands of deserving youth in America."

*William C. Nelsen,
President of CSFA*

MANAGEMENT & BUDGET

A small, well-trained staff, headquartered in Orlando, FL, will direct the U.S. Dream Academy and report to a national 15-member board.

In addition to overseeing the work of each site, developing new sites as the program grows and linking every youth member and family via the internet, the staff will oversee constant curriculum refinement as well as continuing training for staff and volunteers.

The strategic plan calls for a three-year budget of approximately \$3.2 million, including startup costs, training and equipment purchases. An average start-up budget for first-year operations for each new site is \$70,000, including \$40,000 for equipment and \$30,000 for operational services.

Local partnerships will create opportunities to exponentially leverage each dollar invested in these start-up activities.



"I FEEL THAT IF
someone is in the position to help someone
out to accomplish a dream, then they are
'dream-givers'."

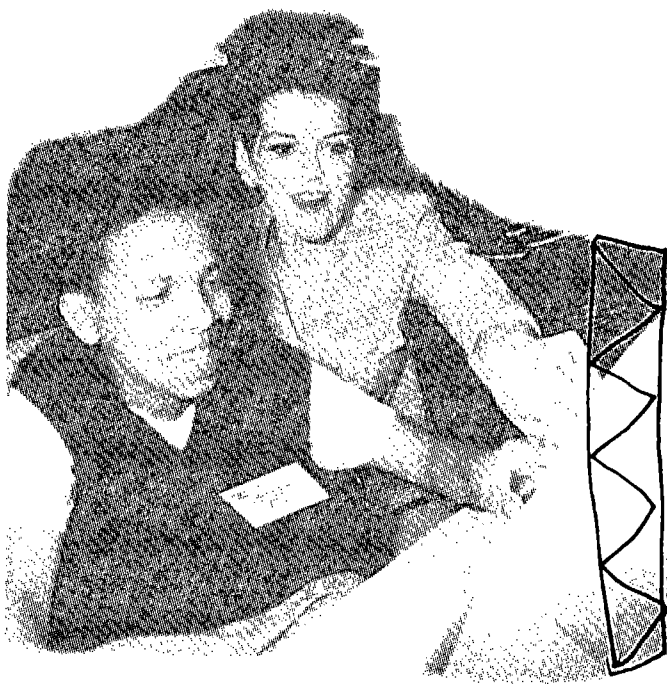
*Abel Aguilar,
Dollars for Scholars scholarship recipient,
Los Angeles, CA*

IMPROVING OPPORTUNITY

Access to opportunities, both for post-secondary education and the job market, will be key results of the U.S. Dream Academy.

The U.S. Dream Academy will actively develop linkages with corporate and educational institution-based training programs designed to prepare individuals for specific occupations. The Academy will develop and maintain a national job placement program as well as facilitate individuals' access to "virtual workplace" employment opportunities which are rapidly developing in our information economy.

And, this unique program will increase family involvement in students' lives, bringing family members – at-home parents and grandparents, and, in the case of children of prisoners, the prisoners themselves – into the activities of the Academy whenever possible.



"EVERY YOUNG

person in the program will become a 'member' of the U.S. Dream Academy and will be supported from the time he or she enrolls, continuing through his or her postsecondary years. As someone once said, 'A hundred years from now, it won't matter what was in your bank account. It won't matter what kind of house you owned or what kind of car you drove. What will really matter is the difference we made in the life of a child.'"

*Wintley Phipps,
President, U.S. Dream Academy*

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUPPORT

The U.S. Dream Academy is an investment that pays giant dividends for everyone in America, and especially for the youth who will find new hope and promise in their lives.

For every youth who stays out of prison and becomes a contributing member of society, the nation saves more than \$1 million over that individual's lifetime.

To help launch this important and unique program, foundations, corporations, and individuals have opportunities to provide both financial and in-kind support.

Establishing Family Learning Center Sites (3-Year Plan)

Budgetary Needs

Capital Equipment	\$538,450
Site Operations	\$490,760
Scholarships	\$260,000
National Operations	\$378,880
Development & Communications	\$457,075
General Administration & Finance	\$827,635
Software Development	<u>\$247,200</u>

**Total 3-Year Budget
for National Office &
13 Family Learning
Center sites** **\$3,200,000**

Sponsor/Partner Categories

Primary

A major contributor of either funds or information services inventory, staged over three years with 50 percent in initial year; 40 percent in year two; and 10 percent in year three.

Secondary

Broad-based, sustainable funding sources made up of larger numbers of smaller fund contributors.

Co-Sponsors

Organizations on the local "site" level who assist in securing moderate levels of matching funds within site communities, including, but not limited to a one-time \$50,000 fee to assist in offsetting site start-up costs.

RETURN ON INVESTMENT

The successful implementation of this unique program will yield many important returns:

- For students – opportunities to redirect their lives from despair and failure to hope and success
- For volunteers – opportunities to make a real difference in the world
- For taxpayers – diversion of individuals from the welfare rolls and criminal justice system to productive citizenship
- For employers – enlargement of the pool of qualified, motivated, value-driven workers
- For society – the uniting of people of differing racial, ethnic and economic backgrounds to change from the cycle of crime and poverty to opportunity and hope



"A GREAT ANSWER

to one of the greatest needs in America."

*Lloyd Ogilvie,
Chaplain, United States Senate*

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or
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Final 06/15/00 2:30pm
Josh Gottheimer



PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON

REMARKS FOR U.S. DREAM ACADEMY

WASHINGTON, DC

June 14, 2000

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Ack: Rep. Eleanor Holmes-Norton; Councilman Kevin Chavous; Deputy Mayor Carolyn Graham; Wintley Phipps (President, U.S. Dream Academy).

I want to thank the U.S. Dream Academy for inviting me here today. I also want to thank all the staff, students and teachers at the Ferebee Hope Community Services Center and Elementary School for giving a home to this important program. All of you are helping these wonderful students realize their full potential.

Eleanor Roosevelt once said, “The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.”

We are here today because Wintley Phipps believed in his dream -- that all children, given the right tools and support, can realize their potential. That's something Wintley himself learned at an early age, when, through his mother's encouragement, he learned to express his faith through music. In discovering music, Wintley discovered his passion ... and later found his success as an award-winning vocalist and an accomplished minister.

Wintley Phipps overcame many of the same obstacles facing the young people here today. But he did not do it alone. That's why Wintley founded the Dream Academy – to give all children the opportunity, tools, and support he had, so they too can realize their dreams.

That's what the Academy does every day, for nearly three-quarters of the students at Ferebee. With strong parental involvement, it gives students the learning environment, the personal attention, and the academic tools they need to build on their experience in the classroom. It teaches them about character building and the importance of maintaining good health; and its Internet-based curriculum, gives them the 21st Century skills they'll need to take advantage of the new economy. This is the opportunity that every child deserves, but not every child receives.

Many of the children in this community, and too many in our nation, are from disadvantaged families, where poverty and prison are all too common. It's a vicious cycle: more than two-thirds of the juveniles in the criminal justice system are the children or relatives of prisoners. And more than 80 percent of those in prison today were high school dropouts. In one sense, these are sobering and discouraging statistics. But in another, they point to the pool of untapped potential that exists in so many places, like Washington, DC.

The U.S. Dream Academy is helping to break that cycle, giving children who have fallen behind the chance to catch up and, more importantly, the opportunity to get ahead.

And its formula for success is working: In just the last year, math and reading proficiency scores at are up sharply. Suspensions are down, class attendance is up, which shows that more of you understand the importance not only of going to school -- but doing well in school.

We should give every community in the country the tools they need to follow the Dream Academy's lead. For more than seven years now, our Administration has worked hard to do just that – to make sure that every child enters school ready to learn, and graduates ready to succeed.

In an era of fiscal discipline, we've nearly doubled investment in education and training, making key investments that help children meet high standards. Investments like the Dream Academy program, which receives funding from a program out of the Department of Labor. I am happy to report that an additional \$200,000 in funding will be granted over the next two years. In addition to federal support, grants from companies like Exxon and the NFL are helping the Dream Academy help more children reach for their dreams.

Our Administration has also taken steps to reduce class size in the early grades, with our program to hire 100,000 new, highly-trained teachers. We've already hired nearly 30,000, and my budget would fund up to 50,000.

That would allow us to bring the kind of small environment that has worked so well here, to three million children around the country.

We've also dramatically increased federal investment in after-school and summer school, from \$1 million a year in 1997 to nearly half a billion dollars a year today. My new budget calls for us to double our funding and triple the number of students with access to after-school. Every child, in every low-performing school would have access to quality after-school programs.

Like the Dream Academy, we're working hard to open the doors of college to every American – through our Gear-Up mentoring program, larger Pell Grants, more affordable student loans, education IRAs, and HOPE Scholarships. That's the largest expansion of college assistance since the GI Bill half a century ago.

We're also working to ensure that every child in America, no matter how rich or poor, has access to the technology needed to unlock the promises of the 21st Century. Programs like those at the Dream Academy are revolutionizing the use of technology in education, and creating a range of possibilities that were unthinkable only a few years ago.

Today, thanks in large part to Vice President Gore's E-rate program, more than half of our classrooms are wired, and 95 percent of our schools have at least one Internet connection.

Access is important, but it's only a means to an end. As the Dream Academy has shown, the ultimate purpose of computers is to boost student performance and help children learn. Earlier this month, I announced \$128 million in new three-year technology grants to train nearly 600,000 teachers. And my budget would fund up to 1,000 community technology centers to help young people and adults gain critical technology skills.

Every child in every neighborhood should have access to the right tools to meet high standards. Unfortunately, the progress we've made is being threatened by an education spending bill passed in the House yesterday. It's a bill that demands too little accountability from our schools, and invests too little in them, in everything from after-school to teacher training. I'd veto the bill if it were sent to me in its present form. In this time of unprecedented prosperity, there is no reason to shortchange our children and our schools. I hope we can work with Congress on a bipartisan education spending bill that will help our students continue to make academic gains.

At the dawn of the 21st Century, it's more important than ever to reach out to students at a young age -- to give them the high hopes and high expectations to stay in school, go to college, and succeed in life. That's what the Dream Academy is all about.

Wintley Phipps is fond of saying, "A child without a dream is a child without a future." Because of your work, the children in this room have the opportunity to follow their dreams, and, in this time of unprecedented economic growth, we have the chance to fulfill them. Thank you again for all you have done, and continue to do every day. God bless you.

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U.S. Dream Academy Inc.

More than two-thirds of juveniles in the criminal justice system are family or children of prisoners.

Eighty percent of those incarcerated are high school dropouts

 **U.S.**
Dream
Academy
Inc. 

Eighty percent of prisoners who never finished high school are functionally illiterate.

Approximately 1.5 million juveniles were taken into police custody during 1995.

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***"A child with a dream
is a child with a
future."***

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