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PRESERVATION



U.S. Department of Education
Washington, D.C.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
THE SECRETARY

July 11, 1997

Dear Cabinet Member:

I am writing to invite you and your agency to play a leading role in the Administration's key education initiatives.

As you know, in his 1997 State of the Union Address, the President made clear the importance of ensuring that Americans have the best education in the world. He issued a ten-point *Call to Action for American Education in the 21st Century* to enlist parents and family members, teachers, students, community groups, businesses and employers, religious organizations, colleges and universities, and local and state officials in this effort. His plan calls for strong, safe schools with clear standards of achievement and discipline, and talented and dedicated teachers in every classroom. It also asks that we ensure that every 8-year-old can read well and independently, every 12-year-old can log onto the Internet, every 18-year-old can go to college, and every adult can continue learning.

The back-to-school season from August to October generates a lot of media interest and provides a great opportunity for us to galvanize support for education. In August we will be launching our third annual *America Goes Back to School* initiative, a nationwide effort that encourages all caring citizens to take an active role in improving education in their community. We have already enlisted four distinguished co-chairs to lead this year's effort: Tipper Gore; actor Michael Keaton; National PTA President Lois Jean White; and President of Drew University and former New Jersey Governor, Tom Kean.

Your personal involvement can draw significant attention to the President's education priorities, so I hope you can help out by making a year-long commitment to highlight the President's *Call to Action*. I would appreciate your help in several ways: 1) participating in at least one of the many high-profile *America Goes Back to School* events happening around the country this fall; 2) throughout the year determining how you and your agency can highlight the President's education priorities, including raising academic standards, encouraging states and school districts to put new emphasis on improving math and reading achievement and participate in voluntary national testing, and opening the doors of college to all Americans; and 3) involving your agency in next summer's *America Reads Challenge* project – a nationwide effort that supports the work of teachers and libraries by mobilizing trained tutors who will provide individualized tutoring to children.

Therefore, I would appreciate very much if you could assist us in supporting the President's education initiatives as follows:

- Identify a person on your immediate staff who will act as the contact for your involvement in the Department of Education's *Back to School* effort and other *Call to Action* activities, and who will attend a meeting at the Department of Education on Wednesday, July 23, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.; Leslie Thornton, my Chief of Staff, will provide further details at the next meeting of the Chiefs of Staff;
- Reserve time on your calendar during the week of September 8-13, 1997, and any other time during late August through October to participate in one or more *America Goes Back to School* events around the country; and
- Discuss the importance of the President's education priorities during your speeches and interviews, with particular emphasis on achievement of high standards, voluntary national assessments in reading and math, access to college for all Americans, tutoring in order to maintain reading proficiency over the summer, teacher quality, education technology, and safe and drug-free schools.

I am enclosing a summary of the President's *Call to Action for American Education*. Thank you for your interest and involvement in this important initiative.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dick", with a stylized, cursive flourish.

Richard W. Riley

cc: Chief of Staff



America Reads CHALLENGE

RESPONSE FORM

Contact Person from Your Agency of Department for the America Reads Challenge 1998

This person will serve as the Department of Education's contact starting in September for follow-up work on the *America Reads Challenge* in the summer of 1998.

Name:

Agency:

Title:

Office:

Address:

Phone:

Fax:

E-mail:

Please fax this form by **August 15** to:
Ann O'Leary, Office of the Secretary, Department of Education
Fax: (202) 401-0596

Questions? Contact Ann O'Leary at (202) 401-2993 or ann_o'leary@ed.gov

DC Reads

In August of 1996 President Clinton announced the *America Reads Challenge* - a call to communities, colleges, private institutions and citizens across the country to ensure that every child can read well and independently by the end of third grade. In February of 1997, the President and General Becton, Chief Executive Officer of the District of Columbia Public Schools, announced that the District of Columbia was taking the first step towards meeting the President's America Reads Challenge by starting the DC Reads Collaborative. The initial focus of the Collaborative was on building a strategy to address the tutoring needs of 16 District elementary schools that General Becton designated as having the greatest need. Initial partners came together, including the Corporation for National Service, Communities in Schools of Georgetown University, George Washington University, Howard University, and Trinity College - each pledged students to serve as tutors to young children in these grade schools in fall of 1997 through work-study and other efforts.

DC Reads Sites

The Collaborative will bring the following program components to the 16 identified schools this fall: 1) *Book Partners*: first-graders will be paired with community volunteers and work-study students for an hour-long session held twice each week. All tutors will be trained and assisted by a reading specialist provided by D.C. public schools. Two AmeriCorps*VISTA members will serve with Communities in Schools in each of the 16 sites to recruit and coordinate volunteers and manage communication among parents, teachers, tutors and students; 2) *Saturday Academy*: third and sixth-graders will participate in a Saturday tutoring program to increase students reading proficiency, and 3) *Family Literacy and Resource Centers*: centers will be established that assist families and help them support their children's reading, while addressing social service needs that enable students to perform better.

DC Reads Next Steps

As additional partners came to the table, DC Reads organized around a larger mission to "mobilize the assets of the people, organizations and institutions (public, private, religious, civic, social and business) in the metropolitan area in a collaborative effort to implement effective strategies to increase the literacy of children and adults in the District of Columbia." By reaching out and involving a majority of the District of Columbia literacy groups, DC Reads hopes to improve the quality of all programs by assisting with recruitment of volunteers, training of tutors, evaluation of program effectiveness and promotion of results.

Your Part in DC Reads

With fall approaching, we are hoping to recruit 2,000 volunteers from the D.C. metropolitan community to assist with our Book Partners and Saturday Academy programs at our 16 Reads sites. We would like to see each federal agency partner with one school, as our colleges have done, and provide a steady stream of committed tutors. To learn more about getting your agency involved:

Please contact:

**Karen Hallerman, Corporation for National Service
Director of Program Coordination and Special Projects
(202) 606-5000 ext. 485**

RESPONSE FORM

Contact Person from Your Agency or Department for the U.S. Department of Education *Mathematics Initiative*

This person will serve as the Department of Education's contact starting in September for follow-up work on the *Mathematics Initiative*.

Name:

Agency:

Title:

Office:

Address:

Phone:

Fax:

E-mail:

Please fax this form by **August 15** to:
Judy Wurtzel, Director, Mathematics Initiative, Department of Education
Fax: (202) 401-9027

Questions? Contact Judy Wurtzel at (202) 401-3389 or judy_wurtzel@ed.gov
or John Luczak at (202) 205-7848 or john_luczak@ed.gov



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

MATHEMATICS INITIATIVE

Helping all students master challenging mathematics, including the foundations of algebra and geometry, by the end of 8th grade

MATHEMATICS: ESSENTIAL FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

In this technological era, mathematics achievement is more important than ever before as quantitative and problem-solving skills will be required to succeed in many careers.

EIGHTH-GRADE MATHEMATICS: CRUCIAL ACADEMIC CHECKPOINT

A young person's opportunities for college and careers are greatly enhanced by mastering challenging math, including elements of algebra and geometry, by the end of eighth grade. Students are then ready for the more advanced math and science courses in high school that will prepare them for college and productive employment.

RAISING EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENT PERFORMANCE

The results of the Third International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) show that U.S. students are generally learning the basics of arithmetic, scoring above the international average at the fourth grade. However, by the eighth grade, U.S. students score below average in mathematics when compared to their peers in 40 nations. TIMSS shows that U.S. students can compete with students anywhere in the world if we have high expectations. We do not expect as much of our eighth graders as do other nations: our curriculum compares to the seventh grade level in leading countries.

VOLUNTARY NATIONAL TEST IN MATHEMATICS AT EIGHTH GRADE

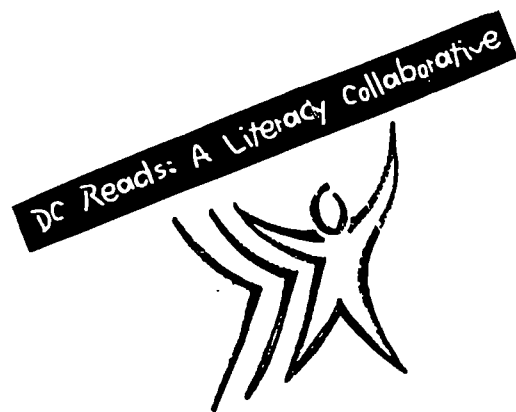
As part of a national effort to help all students achieve to higher standards, the Education Department is overseeing the development of a new voluntary national test in mathematics at the eighth grade as well as a test in reading at the fourth grade. President Clinton is urging states and local districts to participate in the voluntary national test, which will be available for use in 1999. The voluntary national mathematics test will supply all our citizens with readily identifiable understandings of what students should know at eighth grade. This test is intended to reinforce higher mathematics standards and to inform parents and teachers about how individual students are performing compared to rigorous national and international standards.

ACTIVITIES UNDERWAY IN MATHEMATICS INITIATIVE

- o **Comprehensive Action Strategy.** President Clinton has asked the Department of Education and the National Science Foundation to cochair an Interagency Working Group on Improving Mathematics Education. The working group is preparing a comprehensive Action Strategy for using federal resources to assist states and local school systems to meet challenging mathematics standards in the eighth grade, and for involving the mathematical, scientific, and technical communities in support of these efforts. The strategy will be released this summer. Activities will be carried out in collaboration with other federal agencies, education, mathematics and professional organizations, the business community, and others.

- o **Learning from TIMSS.** TIMSS provides a wealth of information not only about student achievement but also about curriculum, teaching practices and other factors that affect U.S. performance in mathematics. A TIMSS Resource Kit will make this information easily accessible for teachers, administrators and concerned citizens.
- o **Showing what high standards in mathematics by the end of 8th grade looks like.** The Department, in collaboration with NSF and major mathematics and education organizations, will develop a range of materials for students, families and educators that address the major areas of mathematics that students should master by this level, the sorts of items they should be able to grapple with, and examples of student work.
- o **Sparkling a national dialogue about mathematics.** Engaging and fun mathematical explorations and investigations, which students can enjoy doing outside the classroom, will be widely disseminated to students, teachers, and volunteers. The Department of Education will work with other federal agencies, businesses, and education, community and youth organizations in this effort.
- o **Supporting effective teacher preparation and professional development.** To equip current teachers with the content knowledge and pedagogical skills they need to teach challenging mathematics, the Education Department plans an extensive strategy that includes creating high-quality professional development tools and large-scale teacher networks to support teachers' efforts to be mathematical thinkers. As a first step in this larger effort, the Department is developing guides that highlight promising practices and programs in teacher preparation and professional development.
- o **Identifying promising and exemplary curricula.** As part of a larger effort to provide good information and support to assist teachers and communities in selecting and implementing high quality curricula, the Department will develop a guide to exemplary and promising mathematics curricula and programs.
- o **Materials supplementing the national test that will help parents, teachers, schools and communities better use it to improve teaching and learning.** To assist communities in their efforts to prepare students to meet high standards in mathematics, the Department will develop a range of helpful materials, including materials that will assist teachers and districts on using the test results for instructional purposes.
- o **Upgrading mathematics instruction through Title I, Eisenhower and other federal programs.** The Department is developing specific strategies to assist states and districts in using Title I and Eisenhower resources to help students reach high standards in mathematics.

Contact: Judy Wurtzel, Director, Mathematics Initiative at (202) 401- 3389
 e-mail <judy_wurtzel@ed.gov >



DC Reads is an effort to increase literacy among children and families throughout Washington, D.C. Through the involvement of D.C. Public Schools, local colleges and universities, businesses, and other public and private organizations, DC Reads is supporting the national goal to ensure that all children can read by the end of the third grade.

The Purpose of DC Reads

In August 1996, President Clinton announced the *America Reads Challenge* -- a call to communities, colleges, private institutions, and citizens across the country to help ensure that every child can read well and independently by the end of the third grade. In February 1997, the President and General Becton, Chief Executive Officer of the District of Columbia Public Schools, announced the DC Reads Collaborative as a step toward meeting that challenge.

The initial focus of the Collaborative was building a strategy to set up tutoring programs in 16 elementary schools with the greatest need. Several organizations stepped forward to provide tutors for these schools' students in the fall of 1997 -- including the Corporation for National Service, Communities In Schools of Washington, D.C. and six local colleges (American University, Catholic University of America, Georgetown University, George Washington University, Howard University, and Trinity College).

As additional partners became involved, DC Reads organized around a larger mission to "mobilize the assets of the people, organizations, and institutions (public, private, religious, civic, social, and business) in the metropolitan area in a collaborative effort to implement effective strategies to increase the literacy of children and adults in the District of Columbia." By reaching out and involving other literacy groups in the area, DC Reads hopes to improve the quality of all programs by helping to recruit volunteers, train tutors, evaluate program effectiveness, and promote results.

DC Reads Programs

This fall, the following programs will be brought to the 16 schools identified as DC Reads sites:

Book Partners. First-graders will be paired with community volunteers and work-study students for an hour-long session held twice each week. All tutors will be trained and assisted by a reading specialist provided by D.C. public schools. Two AmeriCorps*VISTA members will serve with Communities in Schools in each of the 16 sites to recruit and coordinate volunteers and manage communication among parents, teachers, tutors, and students. In addition, Foster Grandparents and volunteers with the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) will play an important role

Saturday Academy. Second- and third-graders will participate in a Saturday tutoring program to increase students reading proficiency.

Family Literacy and Resource Centers. These centers will help families support their children's reading, while addressing social service needs that enable students to perform better.

For more information on DC Reads, call Communities In Schools of Washington, D.C., at (202) 289-4314.

President's Coalition For America
Reads

FAX TRANSMITTAL

AMERICA READS CHALLENGE

U.S. Department of Education
600 Independence Avenue, SW
Room 6100, Washington, DC 20202-0110
202/401-8888; FAX: 202/401-0596

TO: Bill Krind

ORGANIZATION: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____ FAX NUMBER: 456-7028

FROM: **Billie Rollins**
Coordinator of President's Coalition for the America Reads Challenge

of pages including cover 2 DATE: 9/19/97

MESSAGE:

Carol Rasco asked that you have copy of the attached memorandum for your information.

Confidentiality Notice

This transmission is intended for and restricted to the named addressee only. It may contain confidential and/or privileged information. If you receive this transmission in error, you are notified that you are prohibited from reading, copying, or disseminating the transmission. Please call 202-401-8888 to arrange for return of any transmission sent in error. Thank you!



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM

TO: ~~Leslie Mustain~~

FROM: Carol Rasco
Director, America Reads Challenge

Billie Rollins
Coordinator, President's Coalition for the America Reads Challenge
202/401-3096; e-mail, billie_rollins@ed.gov

DATE: September 17, 1997

SUBJECT: America Reads Site Coordinators and Agency Contact Persons Meeting

Thank you for joining us as your agency's representative to work together on the America Reads Challenge. We appreciate your involvement in helping us fulfill the President's Call to Action for American education and assisting us with plans for the America Reads Challenge's 1998 summer program.

Fourteen pilot sites were involved in the America Reads Challenge's 1997 summer program. Our goal for this coming summer is to have fifty-- at least one program site in every state. To begin planning together for the 1998 program, we are inviting you to attend a meeting with the 1997 summer program site coordinators on September 25. The purpose of the meeting is an overall program evaluation but we have set aside an informal discussion time for you to learn more about the America Reads Challenge and the work these sites have been doing. These small group discussions are scheduled from 10:00 a.m. to Noon and will highlight the activities of the Challenge's 1997 summer program activities. As you participate, we would like you to listen for ideas we could continue in the America Reads Challenge's 1998 summer program as well as the areas of volunteer learning partner recruitment, tutoring and training, websites and others where you think your agency could best partner with sites to support the Challenge. As a followup, we will be scheduling an October agency representatives meeting to discuss ideas that come out of this meeting in more detail.

The meeting will be held at the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, in the **Portals Building, 1250 Maryland Avenue, SW, 4th floor, Room 4050**. The fourth floor is a secure floor so you will need your federal ID to check in with the guard as you proceed to the conference room.

We think this will be a very interesting and informative session for you and we are looking forward to meeting you on September 25.



America Reads CHALLENGE

We hope to showcase your institution as an ^gexemplary America Reads Challenge program. Please send us a brief description (no more than one page) of the America Reads Federal Work-Study program on your campus. This description will be made public and shared with other colleges and universities. We would greatly appreciate the following information:

- Name of Institution
- Name of President
- America Reads Contact
- Phone, E-mail, Fax, Mailing Address of America Reads Contact
- # of Federal Work-Study (FWS) students serving as reading tutors
- % of 97/98 FWS increase used for America Reads
- Approximately 2 paragraphs that best describe your program. Please let us know where and when the tutoring takes place (for example, after school in the library) and the population served (for example, first grade students). You may also wish to describe some of the following aspects of your program:

recruitment

community and on-campus partnerships

publicity

tutor screening

(e.g. Some states require background checks.)

training

program coordination

materials

transportation

evaluation

tutor support

helpful resources

innovative ideas

Corporation for National Service resources used

(e.g. Learn and Serve or AmeriCorps grants)

non-FWS elements of your America Reads program.

Please e-mail your response to Cynthia_Wong@ed.gov by the deadline of Friday, October 3, 3 pm EST. If you don't have access to e-mail, please fax your submission to 202-401-0596. We look forward to hearing from you.

THANK YOU!

THE AMERICA READS CHALLENGE: THE INITIATIVE

If students cannot read well by the end of third grade, their chances for success are significantly diminished. In 1994, 40 percent of America's fourth graders failed to attain the basic level of reading on the National Assessment of Educational Progress. Study after study finds that sustained individualized attention and tutoring after school and over the summer, when combined with parental involvement and quality school instruction, can raise reading levels.

The America Reads Challenge asks every American to identify what role he or she can play to help all of our children to read independently and well by the end of third grade. Several strategies are essential for helping our children learn to read:

Create More After School, Weekend and Summer Learning Opportunities

The fundamental purpose of the America Reads Challenge is to enable parents and educators to complement and expand successful literacy efforts to help many more children increase their skills and achievement levels, and to provide children who need additional help in reading with extended learning time.

The America Reads Challenge will build on nationwide efforts such as:

- **Read*Write*Now!:** With 60 reading and literacy groups, the Department of Education designed this summer program in 1994 to help fight the "summer reading drop off." The program, expected to reach 1.5 million children this summer, encourages children to read 30 minutes a day at least once or twice a week with an older reading partner, get a library card and use it, and learn a new vocabulary word a day.
- **Corporation for National Service:** National service grant programs that engage volunteer tutors in literacy efforts are working in hundreds of communities.
- **Federal Work Study (FWS):** President Clinton has challenged all colleges and universities to join The Honor Roll by pledging 50 percent of their Federal Work-Study increase for tutoring children in reading. Nearly 500 have signed on so far.
- **America Reads Challenge Legislation:** The Administration is proposing legislation to fund the establishment or expansion of community partnerships to help children with reading. This program will supplement classroom instruction in reading with high-quality volunteer tutoring, primarily after school and during the summer.

Strengthen Parent Involvement and Our Nation's Investment in the Early Childhood Years, So That Our Children Develop Readiness Skills for Learning to Read by the Time They Enter School

Parents and caregivers can engage in exercises to foster development of the necessary reading skills in their child. Early childhood researchers, the Department of Education, the Department of Health and Human Services, and the Corporation for National Service developed a kit called Ready*Set*Read! that suggests ideas for parents and caregivers to

help their young children develop their language skills. The kit includes an activities booklet, a calendar of activities, and a growth chart that identifies language skills many children can perform.

A number of existing Federal resources and programs can be strengthened. For example:

- **Head Start Expansion:** One million 3- and 4-year-olds will be reached through the expansion of Head Start programs, already a part of President Clinton's balanced budget.
- **Even Start Expansion:** Additional investments are included in the President's balanced budget plan to expand and strengthen family literacy efforts.

In addition, the America Reads Challenge Act would create **Parents as First Teachers** grants to support programs that underscore the importance of parents' staying involved in their children's lives as they make the transition into their school years.

Bring Best Practices Into the School and Classroom

Teacher Preparation: Working with exemplary teachers and successful local reading programs, the Department of Education will identify examples of best practices to help improve teacher development in reading instruction.

Principal Leadership: America Reads will participate in efforts with the Department of Education and principals around the country to support efforts to expand principal leadership training.

Strengthening of Title I: Additional investments are included in President Clinton's balanced budget plan to expand efforts to strengthen reading instruction during the regular school day.

Identification of Successful Reading Programs: As a part of this effort to bring best practices into our schools, strong reading programs will be identified based on current research and the findings will be disseminated. Three areas of particular focus will be children in poverty served by Title I, children with disabilities served by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, and children who speak English as a second language.

Promote Greater Public Awareness and Local Partnership Building

The America Reads Challenge will encourage states and communities to form and to build on literacy partnerships among schools, libraries, youth-serving groups, businesses, and other community organizations. America Reads will use all available resources to raise awareness about what each of us can do to help our children learn to read.

Support Research and Evaluation

America Reads will continue to support research, evaluation, and dissemination in a range of critical areas related to reading and early childhood development. Dissemination of up-to-date research findings to a wide audience remains a priority.

FAX TRANSMITTAL

DATE: September 24, 1997

TO: Bob Shireman
Mike Cohen
Bill Kincaid
Bill White

FROM: Diane B. Jones, Communications Director
AMERICA READS CHALLENGE

PHONE: 202-401-3292

FAX: 202-401-0596

RE: America Reads Challenge Calendar Updates

Here's most recent America Reads Challenge event calendars.

September 1997 • America Reads Challenge

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1	2	3 Riley Town and Townships Event/ AOBTS- D.C.	4 Riley Remarks, Distance Learning Conference	5 Riley Tentative: AGBTS Event w/VPOTUS & Gov. Shaheen- Portsmouth, NH	6 Rasco Workshop at SPA Conf. W/Terry Crane- D.C.
7 Rasco Panel speaker, "Family Reading in the U.S." for Federation of the State Humanities Councils- D.C.	8 Riley National Test Event @ W.H. Riley CNN AGBTS Brdst. Event (D.C.) @ TC Williams School- Alexandria, VA	9 Riley AGBTS event @ Orlando Science Ctr.- Orlando, FL Riley McCaffrey AGBTS and Roller Readers Riley AGBTS Guam Satellite Link w/Rep. Tom Underwood	10 Riley AGBTS event w/Gov. Voinovich - Columbus Zoo, OH Riley America Reads Student FWS Forum - Ohio State U.	11	12 Riley Forstman, Little Education Roundtable- Aspen, CO	13 Riley Roundtables on Media Responsibility and Electronic Commerce- Aspen, CO Riley AGBTS event- Denver
14	15 Riley ND Goals 2000 Conf. Wofford Governors' Conf. On Volunteerism and Community Service - Des Moines, IA Congressional Black Caucus Nat'l. Conf. - D.C.	16 Riley AGBTS STM Rasco Speech, Intergenerational Reading Event- Boston, MA	17 Riley Education Roundtable w/ Rep. Charlie Rangel	18 Riley MAST School AGBTS Event - Miami, FL Riley North Western High School Visit w/Rep. Carrie Meek- Miami, FL Riley AGBTS speech to FL Chamber of Commerce	19 Riley Speech, Religious Summit- St. Petersburg, FL Riley Campbell Elem. School	20 Riley AGBTS speech @ "Do the Right Thing" Urban League Rasco Remarks, El Paso Adelante /Literacy Summit- El Paso, TX

September 1997 • America Reads Challenge

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
21	22 Riley Remarks, Annual Technical Assistance Conf. Riley Remarks, Committee for Education Funding Rasco Panel for Committee for Ed. Funding- D.C.	23 Riley AGBTS Report Press Conf./speech @Press Club	24	25 Riley 40th anniv. of Little Rock Central High	26 Riley Keynote Address, Anti- Defamation League Nat'l Commission Lunch- San Diego, CA Rasco Panel for Nat'l. Distinguished Principals, NAESP - DC	27
28	29 Riley Southwest Airlines "Adopt-A- Pilot" Event- D.C.	30 Riley Family Ed Network Event				

October 1997 • America Reads Challenge

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Riley YMCA breakfast @ AT&T - New York, NY Riley YMCA Youth Forum re: After School Program - New York, NY Rasco Region VI Head Start Assn. Ann'l Training Conf. Keynote speech- Little Rock	2 Wofford Mass. Statewide Summit Follow-up (10/2-5) Rosh Hashana	3 Riley United Methodists Board Conference/speech Rosh Hashana	4
5	6 Riley Speech, Teacher Forum	7	8 Riley Speech, Business Week Forum	9 Riley Keynote speech, Hispanic Leadership Forum on Education- Chicago, IL Rasco Nat'l Even Start Assn. Conf- San Diego, CA	10	11 Riley Brazil 10/11-16 Yom Kippur

October 1997 • America Reads Challenge

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
12	13 Rasco speech, Land Grant Deans of Ed. Conf.- Albuquerque, NM Columbus Day	14 Rasco Event with Rolling Readers- Los Angeles, CA	15 Rasco Event w/Dr. Corrigan- San Francisco, CA	16 IAS Conf. - San Diego Rasco Regional IAS Conf.- San Diego, CA	17 IAS Conf. - San Diego, CA Rasco IAS Conf. America Reads Institute/ Pres. Coalition for Amer. Reads Regional Mtg.	18 IAS Conf. - San Diego Riley Tentative: Remarks, Aspen Institute- Aspen, CO
19	20	21 Riley STM RE: Internet Access Rasco Panel and Plenary Speech, FL Commission on Community Service- Tampa, FL	22	23 Riley WH Conf. On Child Care	24	25
26 Daylight Savings Ends	27	28	29 Literacy Volunteers Of America Conf - Charlotte, NC	30 Literacy Volunteers Of America Conf - Charlotte, NC	31 Rasco Dinner w/Exec. Cmte. of Literacy Volunteers Of America Town Hall - Charlotte, NC	

November 1997 • America Reads Challenge

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Rasco Speech for Literacy Volunteers of America Town Hall - Charlotte, NC
2	3	4	5	6 Rasco Speech NYS Reading Association- NY	7	8
9	10	11 Veteran's Day	12	13	14	15
16 Rasco Regional IAS Conf. - Dallas, TX	17 Rasco IAS Conf. America Reads Institute Pres. Coalition for Amer. Reads Regional Mtg	18	19	20	21 Rasco Arkansas Reading Ass'n speech	22
23	24	25	26	27 Thanksgiving	28	29
30						

Strengths of America Reads that Support Effective Local Literacy Efforts

Building on strength of local resources and existing literacy initiatives

Developing strong partnerships between schools and community groups

Providing training and coordination to allow sustained, meaningful assistance students

Leveraging and engaging federal and higher ed resources, like work-study

Building community understanding for and commitment to reading goals

Addressing the need for early learning

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Reading - President's
Coalition for
America Reads
Challenge

AMERICA READS CHALLENGE BRIEFING

Monday, July 28, 1996
10:00 am - 3:00 pm
Old Executive Office Building, Room 450
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20202

10:00 am - 10:15 am **Welcome and Introductions**

10:15 am - 10:45 am **President Clinton's Call to Action**

10:45 am - 11:30 am **Overview and Update of the America Reads Challenge and the
READ*WRITE*NOW! program**
Carol Rasco
Senior Advisor to the Secretary of Education
Director, America Reads Challenge

11:30 am - 12:30 pm **Lunch in the Indian Treaty Room**

12:30 pm - 1:45 pm **Working Groups: Community Organizing**
The assembly will divide into five working groups to discuss the development of
community coalitions.
* See working group list for room assignment.

2:00 pm - 3:00 pm **Plenary Session**
Working group reports will be presented to the entire group and Clinton
Administration officials.

AMERICA READS COMMITMENTS

AARP - National Association of Teacher Retirees
ACE
A.R.C.O.
ASHA
A.S.P.I.R.A.
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Arab Anti Discrimination Committee
American Booksellers Association
American Federation of Teacher Retirees (AFT)
American Library Association
American Online
American Public Transit Association
AmeriCorps Early Childhood Technology Assistance Center
Association of American Publishers, Inc.
Baltimore Reads, inc.
Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs
Books and Beyond
Boys and Girls Clubs of America
Brandeis University National Women's Committee
Business and Industry for the Arts in Education, Inc.
Center for the Book
Children's Literacy Initiative
Church Women United
Coalition for America's Children
Coastal Carolina University
Corporation for National Service
Corporation for Public Broadcasting
Council for Chief State School Officers
Crayola/Hallmark
D.C. Family Literacy Project, Georgetown Law Center
EDS
Ernst & Young
Everybody Wins
Family Voices
First Book
Franklin Electronic Publishers
Friends of the Libraries, USA
Gay, Lesbian, Straight Teachers Union
General Federation of Women's Clubs
Girls Scouts USA
HADASSAH
HIPPI USA
HOSTS Corporation

Hispanic Radio Network, Inc.
Houston READ
Hungarian Reformed Federation of America
International Reading Association
Jesuit Social Ministries
Jewish Coalition for Literacy
KCET Public Television
L.U.L.A.C.
Lamaze Institute for Family Education
Lazarus Foundation
Learning Disabilities Association of America
Libraries for the Future
Links, Inc.
Los Angeles Unified School District
Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs - UT at Austin
Lyrick Corporation
M.A.L.D.E.F.
M&M/MARS
Marvel Entertainment
MegaSkills Education Center of the Home and School Institute
NCAA National Youth Program
National Academy of Sciences
National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies
National Association of Elementary School Principals
National Association of State Title 1 Directors
National Black Child Development Institute
National Coalition for Parent Involvement-Ed.
National Coalition of Title 1 Chapter Parents
National Council of Churches
National Council of Negro Women
National Easter Seal Society
National Head Start
National Information Center for Children and Youth with Disabilities
National Institute for Literacy
National Middle School Association
National Parent Network on Disabilities
National School Boards Association
National Urban League
National Writing Project
Newspaper Association of America Foundation
OPERA America
Parents as Teachers National Center
Parents, Families, Friends of Lesbians and Gays
Payne Memorial Outreach
Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society

Pizza Hut, Inc.
Polish American Congress
Portuguese American Leadership Council U.S.
Presbyterian Church
Reach Out and Read
Reading is Fundamental
Reading Recovery Council of North America
Salomon Brothers
San Francisco State University
San Jacinto Girl Scouts
Scholastic, Inc.
Seventh-day Adventist Church
Software Publishers Association
Sylvan Learning Centers
The Benefactory
The Humane Society of U.S.
The Lightbeam Group
The Lightspan Partnership
The Mini Page
The Reading Foundation
The United Methodist Church, Baltimore - Washington Conference
The Washington Post
Thompson Newspaper Corporation
Time Warner Inc.
Tomorrow's Morning
U.S. Catholic Conference
Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America
United Cerebral Palsey
United Talent Agency
University of North Carolina - Greensboro (Reading Together)
University of Pennsylvania
Very Special Arts
WETA
WGBH/Boston
Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts
Women's American ORT: Nationwide Literacy Event
YMCA of Greater New York
Zany Brainy

THE PRESIDENT'S COALITION
for the

★
AmericaReads
CHALLENGE

*10 Suggestions to Ensure that Every Child Reads
Well and Independently by the End of the Third Grade*

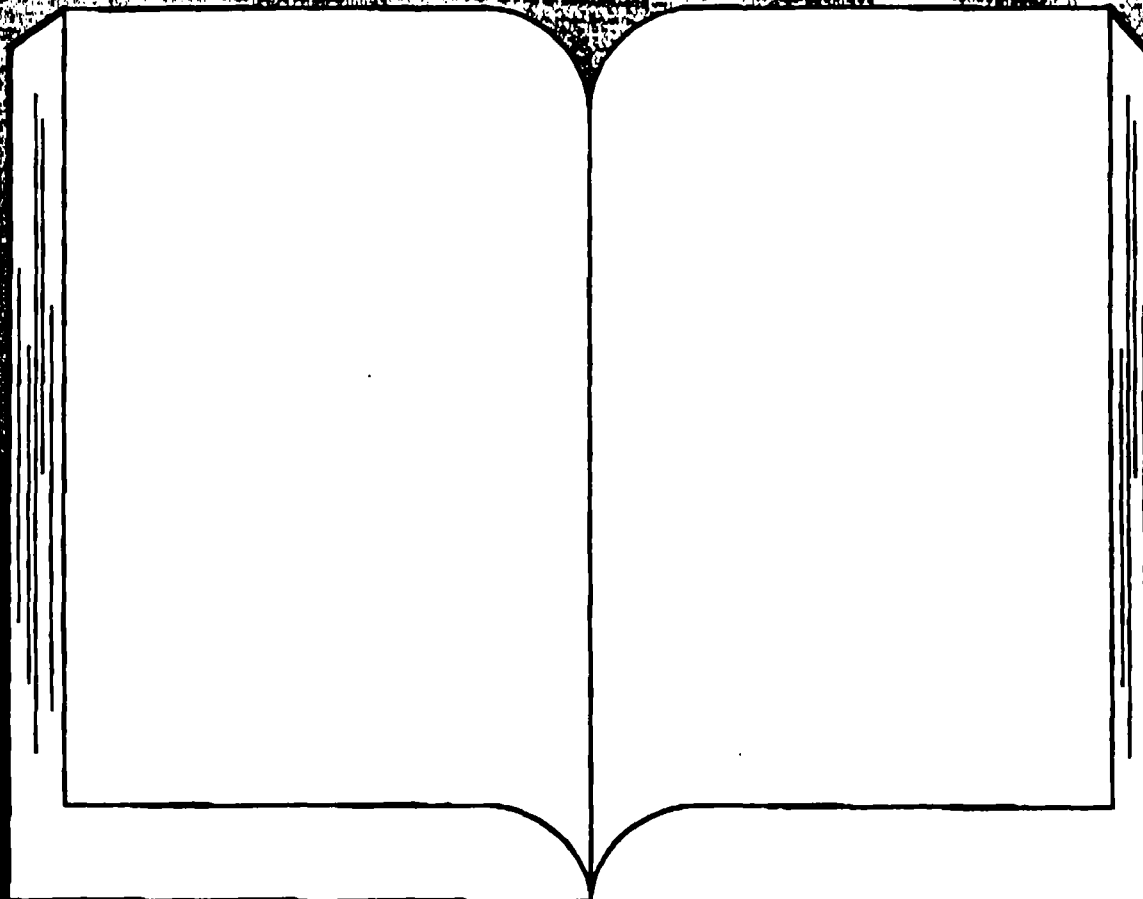
- 1** Make the commitment to read daily to your own child or serve as a tutor to another child in your community at least once each week for 30 minutes. Recruit volunteer tutors from your community or employees from your organization to join you in this commitment.
- 2** Ask if the colleges and universities in your community and/or with which you are affiliated have signed up to participate in the Federal Work-Study program of the America Reads Challenge. This program provides college students the opportunity to finance their education while helping prepare the next generation for success. If the institutions are not participating, work with the America Reads staff to get them signed on to the Challenge.
- 3** Bring together family, school, library, college and community organizations that have a stake in helping all children read well and independently and invite them to join your organization in starting a local America Reads Challenge: READ* WRITE*NOW! community reading program.
- 4** Develop public service announcements for newspapers, billboards, television and radio that can help spread the message about the importance of reading.
- 5** Ask your local schools how you can help them improve students' reading.
- 6** Form a partnership with the public library in your community to ensure that students can take advantage of the library during after-school hours.
- 7** Work with your local hospital to provide every newborn baby with a book to begin a home library, and guarantee that children have books to read in medical waiting rooms.
- 8** Work with local day care providers to infuse reading into early childhood programs to ensure that students are ready to learn when they reach kindergarten.
- 9** Support school, community and state efforts to meet high academic standards for reading.
- 10** Hold an essay-writing contest among local children on a topic like "Why Reading Has Made a Difference in My Life."

THE PRESIDENT'S COALITION
for the

★
America Reads
CHALLENGE

Mission Statement

The President's Coalition for the America Reads Challenge is made up of organizations committed to fulfilling the goal of the America Reads Challenge—to ensure that every child can read well and independently by the end of the third grade. Members of the Coalition will commit time and resources to building community coalitions for literacy by supporting existing literacy programs and developing new ones where needed, and by recruiting learning partners to work on reading with America's young children from birth through third grade.



1 in margin
5 for bookends
30" W X 40" H

40"
1

For Each Participant

THE PRESIDENT'S COALITION FOR THE

America Reads CHALLENGE

Mission Statement

The President's Coalition for the America Reads Challenge is made up of organizations committed to fulfilling the goals of the America Reads Challenge to ensure that every child can read well and independently by the end of the third grade. All members of the Coalition will commit time and resources to building community coalitions for literacy by supporting existing literacy programs and developing new ones where needed, and by recruiting learning partners to work on reading with America's young children from age birth through third grade.

CURRENT LITERACY COMMITMENTS: My organization currently supports the America Reads Challenge by:

FUTURE LITERACY COMMITMENTS: My organization commits to provide the following time and resources to support the America Reads Challenge:

RECRUITMENT COMMITMENT: During the next 3-5 years, my organization will recruit _____ learning partners to serve as tutors for America's children.

Name of Coalition Member: _____

Organization: _____

Address : _____

E-mail address: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

America Reads Strategy



Robert M. Shireman
07/23/97 03:01:55 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Charlotte_Fraas @ ed.gov @ INET @ LNGTWY
cc: Michael Cohen/OPD/EOP, William R. Kincaid/OPD/EOP
bcc:
Subject: Re: Senate Appropriations Action -- America Reads

Oh shit.

Charlotte_Fraas @ ed.gov



Charlotte_Fraas @ ed.gov
07/23/97 12:13:00 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Robert M. Shireman
cc:
Subject: Re: Senate Appropriations Action -- America Reads

Did we have any forewarning of this that anyone knew about from appropriations staff? This would have to have had Obey's OK. I think this is an outrage that a Democrat would pit one education program against another, let alone how it affects our influence on what America Reads legislation will look like.

Is it worth the Secretary calling Obey to vent???

Reply Separator

Subject: Senate Appropriations Action -- America Reads
Author: Thomas Corwin at WDCT02
Date: 7/23/97 08:50 AM

I learned last night that, in yesterday's full Committee markup of our 1998 appropriation, the House Appropriations Committee amended the language providing a contingent appropriation for America Reads. This amendment would transfer the \$260 million to Special Education if America Reads is not authorized by April 1. I believe the amendment was proposed by Mr. Porter.

Obviously not what we wanted to happen.

Tom

From: Melissa Green on 07/25/97 11:09:20 AM

Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message

cc:

Subject: America Reads/National Service Mtg

Gene Sperling is holding a meeting on Tuesday July 29 at 12:00pm to discuss strategy for appropriations re: Education and National Service. Any questions please call Melissa at 456-5804. Thanks

Attendees:

Dep. Secy Smith
Carol Rasco
Mr. Wofford
John Gomperts
Director Raines
Deputy Director Lew
Barry White
Bruce Reed
Mike Cohen
Bill Kincaid
Sylvia Mathews
John Hilley
Gene Sperling
Mike Shireman

Message Sent To:

Cathy R. Mays/OPD/EOP
Michael Cohen/OPD/EOP
William R. Kincaid/OPD/EOP
Barry White/OMB/EOP
Jill M. Blickstein/OMB/EOP
Janet L. Graves/OMB/EOP
Sandra L. Via/OMB/EOP
Janet Himler/OMB/EOP
Virginia N. Rustique/WHO/EOP
June G. Turner/WHO/EOP
Laura @ 401-0596 @ Fax
Kerry Galea @ 565-2784 @ Fax
Vicky/Sara @ 401-3095 @ Fax