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CLASSROOM BITS & BYTES

A Few Details on How the Stimulus Plan Will Plan Will Impact Education

The direct funding of education (as opposed to tax credits, tuition grants, renovations and administration) amounts to over \$77 Billion. Some of the areas targeted to receive funds within the next 30 days are listed below.



- Education for the Disadvantaged (Title I): \$13 Billion**
 \$10 billion for grants to local education agencies and \$3 billion for school improvement grants, "to ensure that all children have a fair, equal, and significant opportunity to obtain a high-quality education and reach, at a minimum, proficiency on challenging state academic achievement standards and state academic assessments."
- School Improvement Programs: \$720 Million**
 Of this amount - \$650 million for technology grants through the ***Enhancing Education Through Technology (EETT)*** program and \$70 million for grants to aid homeless students. The funding of EETT, which **seeks to use technology to improve elementary and secondary student achievement**, should improve online access and the technological capabilities of students in those grades, better preparing them for future employment.
- Special Education: \$12.2 Billion**
 To aid in enforcement of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), which governs how states and public agencies provide special education and related services to children with disabilities.

For details on district allocations in Texas, call Sally Philipp at 972-543-4290 (877-465-3276-toll free) or email sphilipp@gotolearn.org.

GoToLearn, a Texas based company, is ready to help you improve your students' results with our research-based diagnostic assessment and tutorial software. Whether it's Title I or technology dollars, we fit the requirements and our proven results will make the difference.

For a personalized demo (that only takes 5 minutes) call 972-543-4290 or 877-465-3276 (toll free) and ask for Sally Philipp.

Language is an Art

More reasons why English is difficult to master.

Let's look at meat and great and threat,
 They rhyme with suite and straight and debt.
 A moth is not a moth in mother,
 Nor both in bother, broth in brother.

Quote

"In a completely rational society, the best of us would aspire to be teachers and the rest of us would have to settle for something less, because passing civilization along from one generation to the next ought to be the highest honor and the highest responsibility anyone could have. " Lee Iacocca

Teaching Tip

Test anxiety is a common problem for many students. A few tips to help your students handle the anxiety:

- Be aware of students' developmental levels and the resulting pressure placed on students
- Brief students on successful test-taking strategies - these could include understanding test time limits, pacing, and what to expect in test formats (i.e. multiple choice, essay, etc.)
- When possible, use classroom tests that employ the standardized test format during the school year.

Grin

A first grade teacher had a list of well known proverbs. She gave each student the first half of a proverb, and asked them to come up with the rest. The following are some of the results.

Better to be safe than . . . punch a 5th grader.
 Strike while the . . . bug is close.
 It's always darkest before . . . daylight savings time.
 The pen is mightier than . . . the pigs.
 If at first you don't succeed . . . get new batteries.



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GoToLearn | 2201 Avenue K | Suite C | Plano | TX | 75074