## First, some good news.

After more than a decade of fairly flat achievement and stagnant or growing gaps, we appear to be turning the corner.

## NAEP Reading, 9 Year-Olds: Record Performance for All Groups



Note: Long-Term Trends NAEP
Source: National Center for Education Statistics, NAEP 2004 Trends in Academic Progress

## African American-White Gap Narrows to Smallest Size in History NAEP Reading, 9 Year-Olds



Note: Long-Term Trends NAEP
Source: National Center for Education Statistics, NAEP 2004 Trends in Academic Progress

## Latino-White Gap <br> Narrows to Smallest Size in History NAEP Reading, 9 Year-Olds



Note: Long-Term Trends NAEP
Source: National Center for Education Statistics, NAEP 2004 Trends in Academic Progress

## NAEP Math, 9 Year-Olds: Record Performance for All Groups



$$
\leadsto \text { African American } \sim \text { Latino } \sim \text { White }
$$

Note: Long-Term Trends NAEP
Source: National Center for Education Statistics, NAEP 2004 Trends in Academic Progress

## African American-White Gap Narrows to Smallest Size in History NAEP Math, 9 Year-Olds



Note: Long-Term Trends NAEP
Source: National Center for Education Statistics, NAEP 2004 Trends in Academic Progress

## Latino-White Gap Narrows to Smallest Size in History NAEP Math, 9 Year-Olds



Note: Long-Term Trends NAEP
Source: National Center for Education Statistics, NAEP 2004 Trends in Academic Progress

# Bottom Line: <br> When We Really Focus on Something, We Make Progress 

Clearly, much more remains to be done in elementary and middle school

Too many youngsters still enter high school way behind.

But at least we have some traction on these problems.

## The same is NOT true of our high schools.

## Gaps between groups wider today than in 1990

## NAEP Reading, 17 Year-Olds



Note: Long-Term Trends NAEP
Source: National Center for Education Statistics, NAEP 2004 Trends in Academic Progress

## NAEP Math, 17 Year-Olds



Note: Long-Term Trends NAEP
Source: National Center for Education Statistics, NAEP 2004 Trends in Academic Progress

## Why so much less progress in our high schools?

Hormones?

# US 15 Year-Olds Rank Near Middle Of The Pack Among 32 Participating Countries: 1999 

U.S. RANK

READING
MATH
SCIENCE

15TH 19TH
14TH

## The new ones?

## PISA 2003: US 15 Year-Olds Rank Near The End Of The Pack Among 29 OECD Countries

## U.S. RANK

READING MATH SCIENCE 20
$24^{\text {TH }}$
$19^{\text {TH }}$

# These gaps begin before children arrive at the schoolhouse door. 

But, rather than organizing our educational system to ameliorate this problem, we organize it to exacerbate the problem.

## How?

By giving students who arrive with less, less in school, too.

Choices we make about what to expect of whom...

## Students in Poor Schools Receive 'A's for Work That Would Earn 'Cs' in Affluent Schools



- Low-poverty schools - High-poverty schools

Source: Prospects (ABT Associates, 1993), in "Prospects: Final Report on Student Outcomes", PES, DOE, 1997.

## Choices we make about what to teach whom...

## Fewer Latino students are enrolled in Algebra 2



And choices we make about Who
teaches whom...

## More Classes in High-Poverty, HighMinority Schools Taught By Out-of-Field

 Percent of Classes Taught by Out| 50\% |
| :---: |
| $\stackrel{0}{0}$ |
| - |
|  |  |
|  |
| \% |
|  |
| 0\% |



Note: High Poverty school-50\% or more of the students are eligible for free/reduced price lunch. Low-poverty school -15\% or fewer of the students are eligible for free/reduced price lunch.

High-minority school - 50\% or more of the students are nonwhite. Low-minority school- $15 \%$ or fewer of the students are nonwhite.
*Teachers lacking a college major or minor in the field. Data for secondary-level core academic classes.
Source: Richard M. Ingersoll, University of Pennsylvania. Original analysis for the Ed Trust of 1999-2000 Schools and Staffing Survey.

## Poor and Minority Students Get More Inexperienced* Teachers


*Teachers with 3 or fewer years of experience.
Note: High poverty refers to the top quartile of schools with students eligible for free/reduced price lunch. Low povertybottom quartile of schools with students eligible for free/reduced price lunch. High minority-top quartile; those schools with the highest concentrations of minority students. Low minority-bottom quartile of schools with the lowest concentrations of minority students

## Results are devastating.

Kids who come in a little behind, leave a lot behind.

## African American and Latino 17 Year-Olds Do Math at Same Levels As White 13 Year-Olds


$\rightarrow$ White 13 Year-Olds - - African American 17 Year-Olds - Latino 17-Year Olds
Note: Long-Term Trends NAEP
Source: National Center for Education Statistics, NAEP 2004 Trends in Academic Progress

## African American and Latino 17 Year-Olds Read at Same Levels As White 13 Year-Olds


$\xrightarrow{-}$ White 13 Year-Olds $\_$- African American 17 Year-Olds - Latino 17 Year-Olds

Note: Long-Term Trends NAEP
Source: National Center for Education Statistics, NAEP 2004 Trends in Academic Progress

## Students Graduate From High School At Different Rates, 2001*

* 4-Year Graduation Rates


Source: Jay P. Greene and Greg Forster, "Public High School Graduation and College Readiness Rates in the United States," Manhattan Institute for Policy Research, September 2003.

## What Can We Do?

An awful lot of us have decided that we can't do much.

## What We Hear Many Educators Say:

- They're poor;
- Their parents don't care;
- They come to schools without breakfast;
- Not enough books
- Not enough parents . . .

But if this were right, why are
low-income students and students of color performing so well in some schools...
M. Hall Stanton Elementary Philadelphia, Pennsylvania


## M. Hall Stanton Elementary Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

- 487 students in grades K-6
- 100\% African American
- 86\% Low-Income


## Rapid Improvement at Stanton Grade 5 Reading Over Time



## Rapid Improvement at Stanton Grade 5 Math Over Time



## Capitol View Elementary Atlanta, Georgia



## Capitol View Elementary Atlanta, Georgia

- 252 students in grades K-5
- 95\% African American
- 88\% Low-Income


## High Achievement at Capitol View 2006 Grade 5 Reading



## High Achievement at Capitol View 2006 Grade 5 Math



##  



中园

## Elmont Memorial Junior-Senior High School Elmont, New York

- 1,966 Students in Grades 7-12
- 75\% African American
- 12\% Latino


## Elmont Memorial

Higher Percentage of Students Meeting Graduation Requirements than the State, Class of 2004 Regents English


$\square$ Elmont $\square$ New York

## Nation:

## Inequities in State and Local Revenue Per Student

|  | Gap |
| :--- | :--- |
| High Poverty vs. Low <br> Poverty Districts | $-\$ 907$ per <br> student |
| High Minority vs. Low <br> Minority Districts | $-\$ 614$ per <br> student |

African American, Latino \& Native American high school graduates are less likely to have

Full College Prep track is defined as at least: 4 years of English, 3 years of math, 2 years of natural science, 2 years of social science and 2 years of foreign language

## More Classes in High-Poverty, HighMinority Schools Taught By Out-of-Field

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| :---: |
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*Teachers lacking a college major or minor in the field. Data for secondary-level core academic classes.
Source: Richard M. Ingersoll, University of Pennsylvania. Original analysis for the Ed Trust of 1999-2000 Schools and Staffing Survey.

## Science Classes in High Poverty High Schools More Often Taught by Misassigned* Teachers



Science
less than $20 \%$ Free Lunch $\quad$ greater than $49 \%$ Free Lunch
*Teachers who lack a major or minor in the field
Source: National Commission on Teaching and America's Future, What Matters Most: Teaching for America's Future (p.16) 1996,

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## Cumulative Teacher Effects On Students' Math Scores in Dallas (Grades 3-5)



## Teacher Quality More Important to College Readiness than Course Taking


"By our estimates from Texas schools, having an above
average teacher for five years
running can completely close the
average gap between lowincome students and others."

John Kain and Eric Hanushek

