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President Highlights Progress in Education Reform

President Bush talks to Dr. Linda Reksten, principal of the Disney Elementary School in Burbank, Calif., during an education ceremony in the Rose Garden, Tuesday, June 10, 2003. Bush chose a Rose Garden ceremony to spotlight the one year anniversary of the No Child Left Behind law, a landmark overhaul of elementary and secondary education. Reksten's school, where half the students are not fluent in English and nearly two-thirds come from low-income families, was selected as an example of how using data to guide instruction can improve student achievement. As he introduced Reksten, President Bush said, "She has shown what works in education. She is the model of education reform. I'm proud you're here. Thank you for your leadership, and thank you for your heart."

Disney Elementary is one of The Pulliam Group's star achievers. Leslie Pulliam began working with Reksten and the Disney staff in 1999 as one of The Pulliam Group's first II/USP low performing schools.