

10 Ways to Challenge the No Child Left Behind Act (Or, how to Leave “No Child Left Behind” Behind!)

- 1) **March on the Department of Education.** Pick a date, gather your friends, students, teachers, administrators, neighbors, and tell Rod Paige and his cronies that No Child Left Behind is nothing more than a slick public relations campaign. Spread the word. Make it a national event. If you can't make it to DC, go to your state capitol. Give NCLB an F.
 - 2) **Make your school district or state exempt from NCLB.** Over a dozen states, in a bipartisan effort, have already voted to become exempt from the pitfalls of NCLB. School districts around the country have also said “thanks but no thanks” to NCLB. Let the Department of Education know that these so-called “watershed reforms” are a waste of everyone's time and money.
 - 3) **Hang up flyers.** Spread the word about the realities of NCLB. Put flyers in your teachers' mailboxes, send them to your board of education, or hand them up on Main Street. Hand out information at PTA meetings, school assemblies, or block parties. Get the word out any way you can.
 - 4) **Call Rod Paige's office at (202) 401-3000.** Explain that you've been left behind and you don't know what to do now.
 - 5) **Start a petition at your school signed by all the children left behind by NCLB.** Send copies to Rod Paige at: 400 Maryland Avenue S.W., Washington, DC 20202
 - 6) **Hold an NCLB-free day.** Instead of endless test-prep coaching and mindless dittos, spend a day doing what students and teachers do best: thinking and learning.
 - 7) **Call the NCLB Superintendents Hotline at the Department of Education.** It's staffed 8 am to 5 pm, EST. Toll Free – 1-888-NCLB-SUP (625-2787). Flood the phone lines telling them what you really think about NCLB.
 - 8) **Hold a Learn-In on the National Mall.** Bring hundreds of students, teachers, parents, and citizens to learn at the capitol – all without standardized tests. Bring books, lesson plans, speakers, and anything else you might need to learn, not regurgitate. Most of all, bring your curiosity. Invite the Department of Education staffers to join you. If you can't make it to DC, do it at your local school.
 - 9) **Invite elected officials to take exams with the students.** On exam day, invite politicians on all levels to take the standardized exams with the students.
 - 10) **If you're a parent, celebrate Leave No Child Bushified Day.** Pick a day where parents across the country refuse to send their children to school to take tests all day.
- *Extra Credit: Send bags of old test-prep booklets to Rod Paige in large garbage bags titled “nonsense” on the outside.**

For more information, log on to:

www.NoMoreTests.com