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Linking NCLB Directives to Successful School-Improvement Efforts

CHICAGO—School- and district-level improvement teams now can build organizational capacity for evidence-based continuous improvement with a new book, *Implementing NCLB—Creating a Knowledge Framework to Support School Improvement*. Authored by Paul L. Kimmelman, Ed.D, a senior advisor to the chief executive officer at Learning Point Associates, the book will be released by publisher Corwin Press on April 4, 2006, and available for purchase online at www.learningpt.org/publications.

"After nearly four years of observing schools working under NCLB [the No Child Left Behind Act], I am convinced the path to school improvement is through the process of building organizational capacity," Dr. Kimmelman said. "There needs to be greater focus placed on acquiring, managing, and implementing research-based knowledge in improvement initiatives."

Intended for educators and administrators who play an active role in leading their school or district improvement efforts, the book includes the following key features:

- An overview of the politics and education initiatives that led to NCLB
- Lessons in leadership from educators, scientists, explorers, and entrepreneurs
- Practical examples, reflective questions, and action ideas to link concepts to applications

Dr. Kimmelman was instrumental in establishing the NCLB Implementation Center www.learningpt.org/nclb/center at Learning Point Associates. Using the same principles discussed in the book, the center helps schools and districts build local capacity to understand and implement NCLB requirements through research, technical assistance, and evidence-based best practices and tools.

Dr. Kimmelman has worked in K–12 education for more than 30 years as a superintendent, assistant superintendent, middle school principal, assistant high school principal, and teacher and has been an adjunct professor at several colleges and universities. He has authored numerous articles and publications on education and has presented at national and state education meetings. Appointed by former U.S. Secretary of Education Richard Riley to the National Commission on Mathematics and Science, he also serves as an advisory board member of the National Council on Teacher Quality.

About Learning Point Associates
Learning Point Associates is a nonprofit educational organization with more than 20 years of direct experience working with and for educators and policymakers to transform student learning. Committed to high-quality research, evaluation services, and on-site technical assistance, Learning Point Associates builds on more than two decades of research and development conducted by the North Central Regional Educational Laboratory® (NCREL®).

Our goal is to build the capacity of our clients to be good consumers, practitioners, and advocates for educational excellence. Our professional staff of 150 continues to grow as our work expands both nationally and internationally with offices in Naperville, Illinois; Chicago; and Washington, D.C.

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