

The Governor's Conference on Education
No Excuses:
Closing the Achievement Gap
September 19, 2000

*Please plan to join us as we learn how educational leaders
– across the country and across the Commonwealth –
have risen to the challenge of closing the achievement gap.*

Speakers include:

- **Irwin Kurz** At P.S. 161, 98% of the children qualify for free or reduced lunch, and they consistently scored in the bottom 25% on measures of achievement. But after Mr. Kurz became principal, the sixth graders at this school came to have the second highest reading scores in the entire state of New York.
- **Michael Feinberg** At the KIPP Academy in Houston, 95% of the students are low-income. Yet under the leadership of Mr. Feinberg, within three years math and reading scores on the Texas state test have gone from 35-50% to over 90%.
- **John Daniels** Students at his CEP charter school for at-risk students demonstrate an annual academic growth rate of *two* grade levels or more. In addition, the Houston area experienced a 23% reduction in district-wide crime in the first year of the school's existence – and an *additional* 26% reduction in crime in the second year.
- **Break-out sessions** will include presentations by Virginia educators who have met the challenge of raising academic achievement with economically disadvantaged students.

Please note:

**Due to limited space at this conference,
registration will be on a first come, first served basis,
limited to the first 350 people who register.**

Date: September 19, 2000

Time: 9:00-4:00

Location: Omni Hotel, Richmond

Accommodations: Rooms are available at the Omni for the night of September 18 at the rate of \$169. Please call 804-344-7000 for reservations.

Cost: There is no charge, and lunch is included.

How to Register: Fax the attached form.

Confirmation: If you are among the first 350 to register, you will receive confirmation of your registration and a program agenda.