



United States  
of America

# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE *108<sup>th</sup>* CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 30, 2003

## *Senate*

### **IN CELEBRATION OF PHILLIP C. SHOWELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I rise today to celebrate the selection of Phillip C. Showell Elementary School as a No Child Left Behind-Blue Ribbon Schools Award recipient. This prestigious honor is awarded to schools that meet one of two criteria. The nominated school must have at least 40 percent of their student population from disadvantaged backgrounds and have each segment—including whites, blacks, Hispanics, low-income and special education students—show scholastic improvement, or the school must score in the top 10 percent on State assessment tests in reading, writing, math, social studies and the sciences. Phillip C. Showell Elementary School was successful in meeting both of these criteria. Not only did each segment show adequate yearly progress, but the scores of students from Phillip C. Showell's have shown steady improvement on State assessment tests over the past several years. This is a remarkable honor for Phillip C. Showell Elementary School, attesting to the many achievements and the commitment this school, as

well as the First State, has for educating our youth.

Located in the small town of Selbyville, DE, Phillip C. Showell Elementary School is home to many low-income and disadvantaged students. Approximately 47 percent of Phillip C. Showell Elementary School students come from a disadvantaged socio-economic background. Many students come to the school with English as a second language. To many teachers and faculty, these factors can be extremely frustrating. However, the dedicated staff at Phillip C. Showell Elementary School prides themselves on their commitment to successfully educating and impacting the lives of these underprivileged children.

Known as "The little school that's big on learning," Phillip C. Showell Elementary School provides an environment that allows its faculty to work closely with students. As one of the smallest elementary schools in the State Phillip C. Showell Elementary is described as a close-

knit family. The welcoming atmosphere makes students feel accepted and special.

As a title 1 school, Phillip C. Showell Elementary is able to receive funding and resources which allow them to provide for students. A teacher who specializes in writing and reading provides Early Success and Soar to Success programs for additional support to students. There are after school opportunities for identified students who can benefit from extra reading and math help. In addition, a reading specialist coordinates with other faculty members to identify kindergarten and new students who are in need of extended kindergarten. This extra half-day of learning provides language, arts and

reading skills that will be essential to these students throughout their academic career. These programs were created to identify and assist students in need of extra help. The committed faculty, staff, and administrators offer students the chance to fulfill their potential. These children are inspired not only to reach their potential, but to strive for excellence.

Delaware is a small State, but we are building a growing record of achievement in public school education. The students at Phillip C. Showell Elementary School set the standard for elementary school students across the country. They truly are an inspiration to other schools and communities throughout the Nation.