George W. Bush

Influence Index: 94

Date of Birth July 6, 1946

Education B.A. Yale University, 1968; M.B.A. Harvard University, 1975

Current Position President of the United States



Career Highlights

- □ President of the United States (2001-present)
- ☐ Governor of Texas (1994-2001)
- Managing General Partner, Texas Rangers (1989-1994)
- CEO, Spectrum 7 Energy Corporation (1984-1987)
- □ Sought seat in U.S. House of Representatives (1978)

Accomplishments

- ☐ Created the National Mathematics Advisory Panel (2006)
- Signed into law the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004
- □ Signed into law the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001
- ☐ First Texas governor elected to consecutive four-year terms
- □ Established the Texas Reading Initiative in 1996

Biographical Sketch

President Bush's work with education reform began as Governor of Texas, which included legislation emphasizing local control of schools, higher standards, and a revised curriculum. During his 2000 presidential campaign, Bush frequently referred to the reforms in Texas as a model that the nation could follow to increase accountability and performance.

As President, Bush supported and eventually signed into law the No Child Left Behind Act in January of 2002. The federal legislation brought about accountability measures including increased testing, certification for highly qualified teachers, and requirements for districts to make "adequate yearly progress" in meeting performance goals.

George Bush on No Child Left Behind

"I believe every child can learn and I refuse to accept excuses when they don't. My plan will renew parents' faith in the schools their children attend. I will insist on accountability, local control and the importance of teaching every child to read."

From: New York Times, September 25, 2000

Notes

Information collected from the White House website at www.whitehouse.gov and the Forbes website at www.forbes.com.