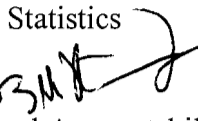




UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

April 2, 2008

To: Mark Schneider, Commissioner
National Center for Education Statistics

From: Zollie Stevenson, Jr., Director 
Student Achievement and School Accountability Programs
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education

Subject: NAEP/Puerto Rico and Title I

Thank you for your memorandum of March 14 explaining the technical complexities and psychometric challenges with the NAEP mathematics assessment in Puerto Rico. I appreciate the alert that you will not be administering the assessment in 2009 while you continue to search for a reliable assessment of their progress. While Puerto Rico is required to participate in NAEP to qualify for Title I funding, we are supportive of your continued work in partnership with Puerto Rico to develop a valid and reliable instrument. I can assure you that the delay in reporting will not affect Puerto Rico's Title I funding status.

Please keep me informed as to your progress in revising the assessment for Puerto Rico.

Cc Honorable Rafael Aragunde Torres
Secretary of Education
Puerto Rico Department of Education

Grover Whitehurst, Director
Institute for Education Sciences

Stephanie J. Monroe
Assistant Secretary
Office of Legislative and Congressional Affairs

Amanda Farris
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education

400 MARYLAND AVE., S.W., WASHINGTON, DC 20202
www.ed.gov

Our mission is to ensure equal access to education and to promote educational excellence throughout the nation.