

## Office of the Governor

PO BOX 004  
TRENTON, NJ 08625

### NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT: JAYNE O'CONNOR  
609-777-2600

RELEASE: June 5, 1998

#### **GOVERNOR ADDRESSES TEACHERS; SAYS ABBOTT VERSUS BURKE SUPREME COURT DECISION BEGINS NEW ERA IN EDUCATION IN STATE**

Gov. Christie Whitman said today that New Jersey is entering into a new era in education -- one that focuses on the content and quality of education instead of on funding -- as a result of the recent decision of the State Supreme Court in the Abbott versus Burke school funding case.

"We have ended 28 years of school funding litigation," the Governor told teachers at the third annual Somerset County/Governor's Teacher Recognition Ceremony. "More important, we have entered a new era of education in New Jersey -- an era in which the focus is not on how many dollars come into your school but on how many scholars come out of it."

"The Supreme Court affirmed that under my administration's standard-based, results-oriented plan, New Jersey at last fulfills our constitutional duty to provide a thorough and efficient education for every student," Gov. Whitman said.