

Larkin Awards 'kidscount' Grants To Area Schools

WILLIAM J. LARKIN JR. March 16, 2005

Senator Bill Larkin (R-C, Cornwall-on-Hudson) today awarded all public elementary schools and middle schools housing elementary grades in the 39th Senate district with a special grant through Larkin's "KidsCount" program.

"It's a fact that elementary school teachers are constantly using money out of their own pockets to purchase materials, supplies, and those extra little things for their students and their classrooms," said Senator Larkin. "They work with children every day and know best what children need in the classroom. I wanted to give the teachers and school librarians access to some supplemental funding so that it could be used in the most instantly beneficial way possible. It gives me immense satisfaction to know that many children will be enjoying more books and other additional classroom supplies making their school experience that much more special."

Every public school in the 39th Senate district with students in grades K-6 will receive \$4,000 to use for this purpose. This means 61 elementary schools in Orange and Ulster Counties will receive a total of \$244,000.

"KidsCount" is the only program of its kind in the state. Created by Larkin several years ago, the program is specifically tailored to meet the immediate needs of students in the classroom or in the school library. It gives teachers and librarians direct access to funding for the purchase of extra items such as books, magazines, computer software and hardware, and

other classroom supplies that have direct instructional value.	