

A journal of opinion, research, and farce

Palin Reveals ‘Race to the Top’ Deathtraps

Former Alaska Governor Sarah Palin used her Facebook page today to point her friends to overlooked but appalling provisions in a key Obama education policy. Writing about the \$4.35 billion “Race to the Top” competition, Palin warned that the policy is a “deathtrap” that would cull from the population America’s weakest children, such as her son, Trig.

One hidden provision, she explained, is supposedly about providing a comforting environment, but is in fact funding the purchase of “deathbeds.” (Palin refers her readers to a footnote concerning children of “meth heads,” which she may have misread.) Another

provision would substitute “deathray” projectors for overhead projectors. The “deathy” law, she wrote, would be a “deathblow” to America.

The Department of Education issued an immediate denial, pointing out that the regulations do not include any deathtrap provisions. Secretary Duncan pointed out that the program is called *Race to the Top*, not *Race to the Death*. In the spirit of bipartisanship, however, he offered to remove any provisions found offensive to any Republicans. He also strongly denounced teacher unions for defending the status quo and therefore somehow causing Ms. Palin to fear that deathtraps may befall poor Trig.

New ‘Cash for Flunkers’ Program

The Obama administration has announced a new “Cash for Flunkers” program, aimed at improving the nation’s schools. Under the one-month pilot program, states are provided with a \$4,500 per capita incentive to destroy underperforming public school students and replace them with higher-performing students, whether domestic, foreign, or robotic.

At his press conference rolling out the innovative new policy, Education Secretary Duncan brushed aside concerns about possible

abuses, attributing these concerns to teacher unions interested only in defending the status quo. However, he did offer an olive branch to congressional Republicans, excluding from the policy’s scope those students attending schools that were already innovative, which he said included “all charter schools, and possibly a couple non-charter schools.”

When reached for comment, former Alaska Governor Sarah Palin said, “See! I knew there was an Obama death policy.”

Voucher Supporters Rule Out Public Option

At a meeting in Cleveland this past weekend, the nation’s leading advocates of private school vouchers agreed on a policy statement ruling out the so-called public option. Supporters of a public schooling option are, they explained, “socialists” and “scallywags.”

In the spirit of bipartisanship, Secretary Duncan

offered to make the suggested changes and to change any other laws found troubling to any Republicans. He also attacked teacher unions for defending the status quo and thus somehow causing the academic achievement of voucher-receiving students to fail to show improvement over comparable public school students in study after study.