Contact: Luba Lewytzkyj Director, Strategic Marketing and Sales Ascend Education (877) 843-0277 Iuba@ascendmath.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ASCEND MATH® SCHOOLS RELEASE DATA ON SIGNIFICANT STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT GAINS

Shreveport, LA (March 15, 2011), Ascend Education released new data providing further evidence of continued and impressive student achievement gains during the Fall 2010 semester at its partner schools. These new results further underscore the effectiveness of the Ascend Math[®] Intervention Solution in helping students pass state tests, further their education, and prepare to enter the work force.

Focused specifically on closing math skill gaps quickly, Ascend Math is being successfully implemented in a wide range of instructional settings, including before/after school programs, classrooms, computer labs, alternative learning environments and for at home use. Schools experiencing continued and rapid achievement gains include:

Glendale Union High School District, Arizona_after only 9 weeks, district wide Algebra 1 failure rates decreased from 40% to 17% during a nine week period at all 9 high schools.

Douglas High School, WY,_-Douglas High School targeted students with a 2 or below on their PAWs test. As a result of their implementation, school math scores rose 30%. Fifty percent (50%) of students who were at risk to fail the PAWs test showed proficiency on the PAWs after logging time on Ascend Math. Ascend Math is being effectively used for special populations in Tier II and III, Special Education, independent study and enrichment and remediation.

Brazosport ISD, Texas, At one high school, one teacher had 58 general and special education students, none of whom had passed the math on the TAKS in recent years, meaning that 100 percent were predicted to fail the 2010 assessment. After just four months of learning with Ascend Math, forty-five percent of those students passed the high stakes test. Sixty percent of students realized achievement gains of one and one-half grade levels in that time period, while thirty-eight percent saw remarkable gains of two or more grades during the same time frame.

Brazoswood High School associate principal Ron Redden said, "These students lacked the basic skills to do the content work and needed to close the gaps before they could move forward. Ascend moves them past the hurdle. It's absolutely stunning to see how quickly they're working through their lessons and seeing success. Students who had never had success in math are sailing through the state assessment."

eSchool News recently published a <u>Best Practices Study on how a Texas School District took Math Skills</u> to the next level with the Ascend Math Intervention Solution.

Kevin Briley, CEO of Ascend Education shares in the excitement around the increasing success of students achieving with Ascend Math. "We attribute the amazing gains of our students to the hard work and vision of the educators in their schools and we are proud of the role Ascend Math plays in bridging critical gaps in math achievement."

About Ascend Math.

Ascend Math is a research based instructional resource in which students have proven to achieve two or more grade level gains in a six month period. This web delivered individualized intervention resource identifies skill gaps, prescribes targeted instruction, and motivates students to achieve their maximum performance and potential.

Ascend Math offers intensive math intervention instructional resources, addresses multiple learning modalities by delivering video instruction, student-centered concept explorations, interactive practice with immediate feedback and opportunities for re-teaching, and printable resources.

Ascend's fully automated solution reduces the demands on teachers' time. Ascend's approach supports improved math achievement regardless of students' reading levels. This resource providing important support for ESE, ESOL and students with special needs through the use of video, audio, and multimedia components. Ascend's reports will assist in simplifying progress monitoring and helping meet Federal audit guidelines.

Study plans align by grade level to National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) standards, Core Curriculum and state standards. Instruction is delivered in a logical math sequence and students can progress at their own pace and track their own progress and success. Ascend Math is currently used by hundreds of schools and districts serving tens of thousands of students throughout the U.S. and Canada. Visit <u>www.AscendMath.com</u>