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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**ASCEND EDUCATION AND CLOSE EDUCATION JOIN FORCES WITH THE INDIANA
ASSOCIATION OF EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTERS TO BRING MATH INTERVENTION TO
INDIANA STUDENTS**

Shreveport, LA (March 25, 2011), Ascend Education announced a partnership with Indiana Association of Educational Service Centers (IAESC) through their Indiana partner, Close Education, to support and bring the Ascend Math Intervention Solution to Indiana School Districts.

“Our mission aligns closely with that of the IAESC in that we offer high quality instructional resources that help students succeed in school,” said Kevin Briley, CEO, Ascend Education. “We are extremely pleased to begin work with the IAESCs to provide targeted intervention instructional resources to Indiana students. This partnership will offer the benefits of the local professional development and ongoing support of Indiana ESC member school districts, ensuring the success of implementations and increased student math scores in Indiana. An additional benefit of our partnership, especially in these challenging economic times, is our ability to pass along cost savings to member districts on Ascend Math purchases”.

Ascend Math meets the needs of diverse student populations and offers differentiated learning paths for students in Response to Intervention programs, Special Education, Title I, General Education, Exceptional Learning programs, Alternative Education and credit recovery programs. Ascend’s proven approach to providing targeted math intervention utilizing adaptive technology provide a tool that will enable the IAESC to help their member districts meet the rigorous demands placed on them.

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. Rapid achievement gains were recently reported:

Glendale Union High School District, Arizona - After only nine weeks, district wide Algebra 1 failure rates decreased on average from 40% to 17% at all 9 high schools.

At Banks Stephens Middle School, Georgia – One hundred percent (100%) of 7th grade students passed the state-mandated test (CRCT), including students with disabilities. The school also achieved a significant increase in the percentage of students scoring at Level III on the CRCT.

Brazosport ISD, Texas- 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. eSchool News recently published a [Best Practices Study on how a Texas School District took Math Skills to the next](#) level with the Ascend Math Intervention Solution.

Close Education, our Indiana partner, will begin a series of events at a luncheon on Wednesday, April 13 at Sullivan's Steak House from 11:30 am to 2pm. Indiana schools may also preview Ascend Math at the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics Conference in Indianapolis, April 14-16 at Exhibit #1030 and attend a presentation on Friday, April 15th by Kymn Van Dyken, Aspen Valley High School in Colorado Springs about their significant grade gains after implementing Ascend Math.

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 www.AscendMath.com or www.closeeducation.com

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