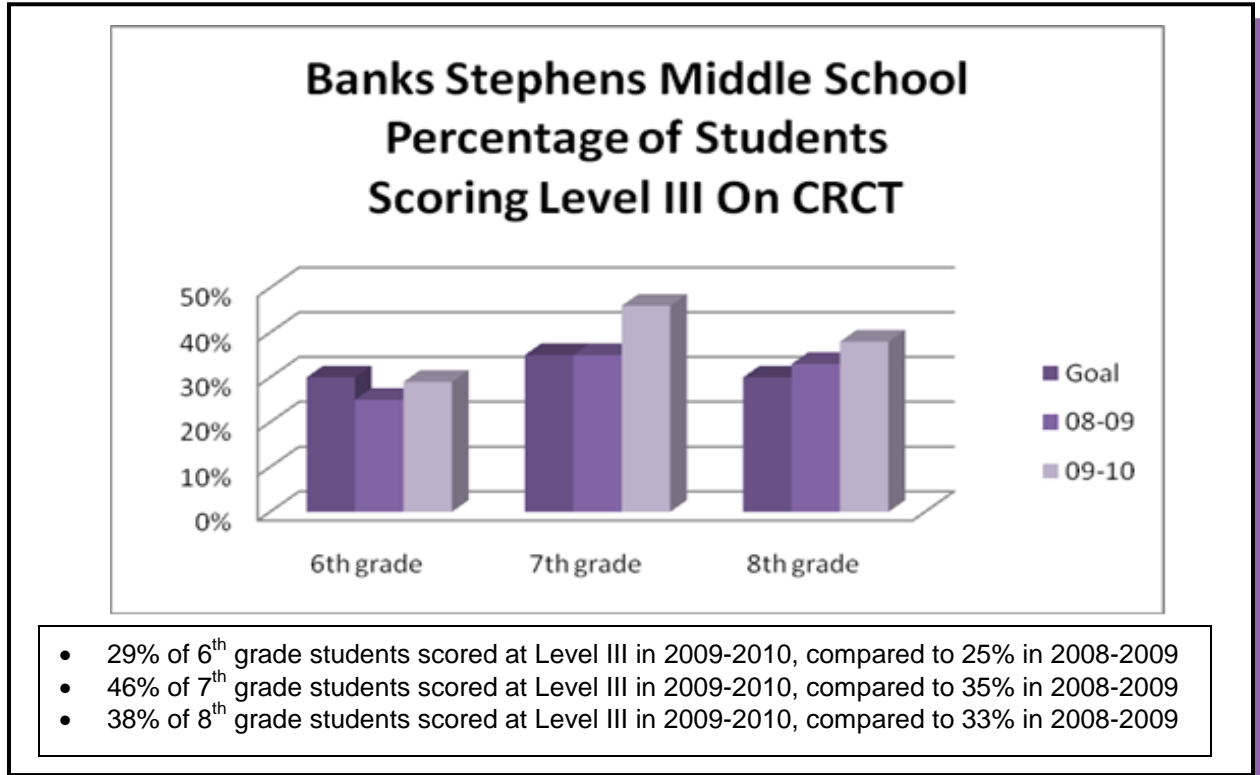


**Ascend<sup>®</sup> Math Intervention Program Helps 100% of Banks Stephens Middle School  
7<sup>th</sup> Graders Pass Georgia’s State-Mandated Test in 2010**

**Ascend<sup>®</sup> Math**, a web-based math intervention program, was introduced in the 2009 - 2010 school year as a key instructional resource at Banks Stephens Middle School (Monroe County, Georgia). The results were incredible, with 100 % of 7<sup>th</sup> grade students passing the state-mandated Criterion-Referenced Competency Test (CRCT), including students with disabilities. There was also a significant increase in the percentage of students scoring at Level III on the CRCT.



**Banks Stephens Middle School, Monroe County, Georgia student improvement on CRCT**

**The Challenge**

Following the 2008-2009 school year, Banks Stephens Middle School administrators set two strategic goals:

- Close the achievement gap in Math, Reading and ELA for special education students.
- Increase the number of students achieving at Level III in Reading, ELA and Math on the CRCT.

Banks Stephens is one of two middle schools in the district with an enrollment of 462 students. Located in rural Monroe County (pop. 25,000), Banks Stephens is a Title I school with 51 % of students on free or reduced lunch programs. The student attendance rate at the school is 96 % (15 days or less absent).

*"In my class, the average increase in CRCT scores was 15 points from an average score of 840 in 2009 to an average of 854 in 2010. All my students passed and 39% exceeded! The Wall of Fame and the checklist of Ascend objectives gave my students the extra motivation they needed to complete the assigned objectives. Our motivational poster is "Success, don't just wish for it, work for it." Ronnie Shipman Banks Stephens Middle School, 7th Grade Math Teacher*

**The Solution**

To reach their goal of improved student achievement in Math, administrators decided a new “mental model” in teaching was needed. Math teachers met by grade level and created instructional calendars designed to ensure each student in each grade received the same content at the same time.

In addition, Banks Stephens needed a web-based support program that:

- Provided individualized instruction;
- Aligned with the instructional calendar;
- Remediated, enriched and motivated students;
- Offered one-on-one instruction, and
- Measured success to increase accountability.

With these criteria in mind, teachers and administrators selected **Ascend<sup>®</sup> Math** to remediate and extend students’ math learning, Ascend Math was used as their math intervention program and was used in morning labs as part of their Extended Learning Model.

With **Ascend<sup>®</sup> Math**, teachers were able to incorporate data, tracking sheets, and other resources to increase student motivation. Teachers created the 850 and 900 Clubs for students who scored at those levels on the CRCT. A great student motivator was an in-class *Ascend Wall of Fame*, where students were able to proudly display their progress. Students were also given Ascend checklists, which provided a visual progress graph showing them how they compared with their peers—while introducing a bit of competition and fun in the process.



*Nine students had the biggest increases on the CRCT’s math section, with one student increasing 62 points. Students pose with Mr. Ronnie Shipman after he kept his promise to shave his head if all his students passed the CRCT.*

**The Results**

In 2009, the average 6<sup>th</sup> grade test score was 839. By 2010, these same students increased their average score to 854 on the 7<sup>th</sup> grade test. Every single student passed the test, and an increased number scored at the Level III goal.

Because of the demonstrated results from **Ascend<sup>®</sup> Math** at Banks Stephens Middle School, Monroe County District Administrators plan to introduce Ascend in the district high school and its alternative school, the Monroe County Achievement Center.

**Helping Banks Stephens Middle School ASCEND**

As with many schools, Banks Stephens Middle School is experiencing the benefits of Ascend<sup>®</sup> Math to statistically improve math scores and enable teachers to:

- Diagnose student deficiencies and strengths;
- Prescribe targeted instruction;
- Assign instruction and practice using proven lessons;
- Deliver post-instruction testing;
- Adjust learning paths with formative assessments;
- Generate individual, class and school reports; and
- Address state, federal and NCLB accountability

**Contact us to learn more about how we can help your students succeed.**

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**800-779-4444**

For an online, interactive demo and information about our FREE preview program, please visit:

[www.ascendmath.com](http://www.ascendmath.com)