

# FOUR TIMES THE MATH GROWTH IN LESS THAN A YEAR!

# Emmet Belknap Intermediate School

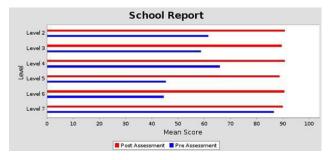
More than half of the students at Emmet Belknap Intermediate School did not make proficiency on statewide tests. After careful consideration educators at Emmet Belknap chose Ascend Math to get their students back on track quickly.

### At a Glance

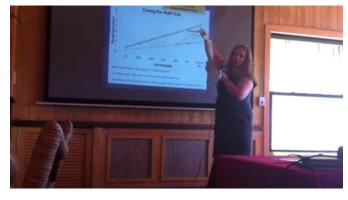
- 750 students in 5th and 6th grades
- 4% Hispanic, 19% Black, 73% White
- 59% at risk in Math (scored below proficiency on the Math State Assessment)
- 45% economically disadvantaged

### The Challenge

- Students were receiving little to no math intervention
- Math Gaps ranged from 1 to 5 years
- Teachers were struggling with students at lower math levels
- Did not have an instructional based academic program for math targeting individual needs
- Limited resources: just two teaching assistants were available to help more than 100 students



Pre and Post Assessment results show the dramatic improvement made by Emmet Belknap students.



School Psychologist Lynn Hewitt explained their success to a full house at an ISTE event in San Diego, CA.

## **Desired Objectives**

- Remediate skill deficits (close the gap) for students falling further behind each year
- Motivate students to do well and take pride in their work
- Provide positive feedback relative to each student's individual progress
- Improve classroom math performance
- Improve results on NY state math test scores

## The Implementation

Ascend Math was provided to 120 at-risk students, testing in the bottom 15th percentile relative to same grade peers based on their performance on the NY State Math Assessment. A math lab was set up to coincide with the 30 minute block of time when the classroom teacher was providing math intervention, practice and acceleration. A Teaching Assistant monitored the math lab. Students generally attended math lab 5 days per week for the 30-minute session.

Each student took the computer adaptive level placement test to determine how low his or her skill gaps reached. Then, through a series of pre-assessments Ascend assigned an individual study plan for each student. Students tracked their own progress as they took advantage of the award winning online instruction and multi-modal explorations in Ascend. Math teachers were kept up to date on progress monitoring though Ascend Math's automated, comprehensive reporting.



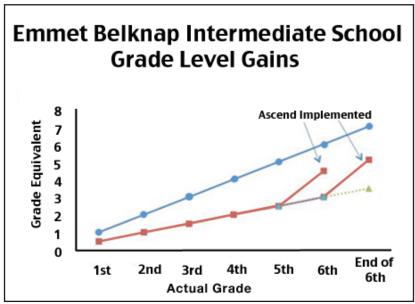
Visit www.ascendmath.com for interactive demos and weekly webinars



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#### Results

On average, at-risk students at Emmet Belknap made about .5 grade level of growth each year. After using Ascend Math for just eight months, these same students improved by 2 grade levels (on average). That's about 4 times the rate of growth they previously made.

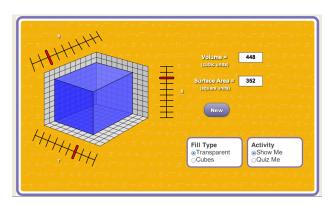


Graph created by School Psychologist Lynn Hewitt of Emmet Belknap Intermediate School.

At-risk students were growing at only half the rate they should. Each year they fell further and further behind. If the students had stayed on their same rate of growth the fifth graders and sixth graders would simply move further along the red line leaving the gap even bigger (dotted line). With Ascend, they achieved two years growth. In just one year with Ascend they closed much of the gap. Predicting another year of this same intervention Emmet Belknap administrators expect most or all of these students to be back at grade level.

#### How Ascend Math Works

- 1. Ascend diagnoses student skill gaps based on common core and your state standards.
- 2. Then, automatically prescribes individual learning paths regardless of grade level.
- Through a multi-modal approach of award winning video instruction, study guides, and online explorations students move through objectives quickly focusing only on what they don't know.
- 4. Automated real-time reporting keeps teachers fully informed making progress monitoring easy.
- 5. The result: students fill gaps quickly often gaining two grade levels or more in less than a year.



Ascend Math offers the most award winning online instruction and multi-modal learning written to common core standards.

