

The 2014 Ascend Math Gold Medalists



Honoring Excellence in Math Improvement

Ascend Math Gold Medal Success 2013-2014

Introduction

The Gold Medal Award was established in 2010 to honor the school or district that best demonstrates a dedication to ensuring that all students become successful at math. In particular, the program encourages educators to build a network of knowledge, sharing challenges they face with low performing math students and the strategies they use to overcome these challenges with the help of Ascend Math®.

Each 2014 Gold Medalist outlined their implementation plans, shared their objectives, and desired goals, as well as results of grade level gains and high stakes testing. Applicants focused on accountability of both teachers and students and highlighted the cornerstones of personal achievement.

Viewed by educators as “Thought Leaders” in math intervention, Gold Medal Program winners and nominees are invited to speak at national and regional conferences and are recognized on Ascend Education’s website, national newsletters, magazines, and other media outlets.

The 2014 Gold Medal Leaders

A total of 18 nominations were received this year. Because of the strength of competition, two Gold Medal leaders were chosen. These top-rated implementations are:

EASTERN DIVISION LEADER

Holabird STEM Program, Baltimore, MD

WESTERN DIVISION LEADER

Valley High School, Sanders, AZ

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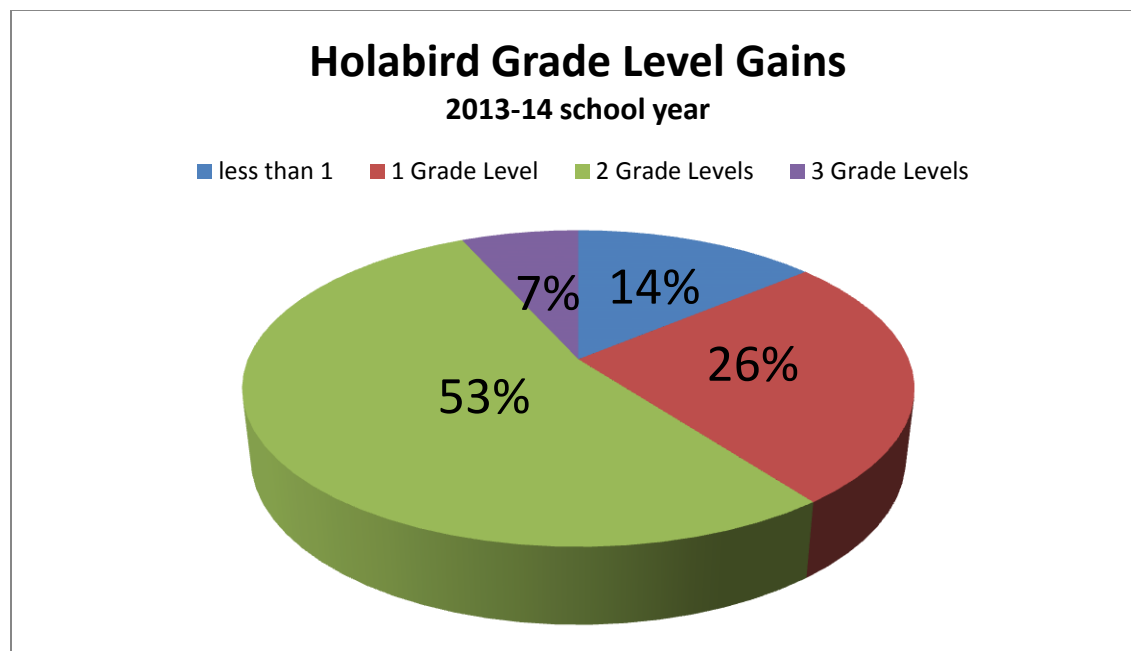
EASTERN DIVISION LEADER

Holabird Middle School STEM Program, Baltimore, MD

Holabird uses Ascend Math with 222 6th-8th graders scoring Basic on their state assessment. Prior to using Ascend, 97% of the students tested at least one grade below grade level, with about 70% of those students testing three or more grades below their current academic grade. Seventy-six percent are special education students. Goals include 100% of these students scoring Proficient or Advanced on the math portion of the MSA (Maryland State Assessment) and 100% increasing their grades for mathematics, specifically focusing on an average of 80% or higher.

Results: Holabird saw dramatic improvement with students quickly moving up in grade levels:

- Number of students testing at 3rd grade level decreased by 92%.
- 6th graders testing at 5th grade level increased by 100%.
- 7th graders testing at 5th grade level increased 280%.
- 60% of students gained 2-3 grade levels in less than one school year.



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WESTERN DIVISION AWARD

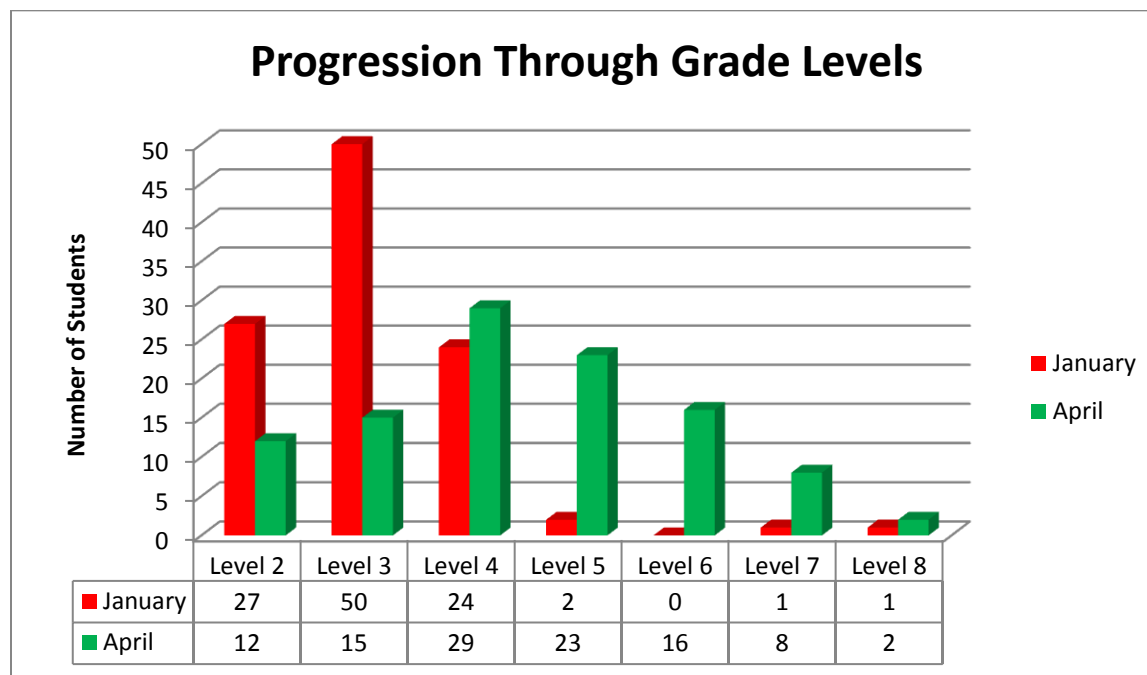
Valley High School, Sanders, AZ



Sanders High School serves a 98% Native American student population. Many students come from homes with no running water, no electricity, and families that want to keep their children home to help tend to livestock and maintain native traditions. This is the first year Valley High School fully implemented Ascend Math to meet the math intervention needs of their students. Prior to using Ascend Math, 95% of intervention students achieved less than one grade level of improvement. All students were placed in level 2.

Results (in less than one semester)

- 24% of the students achieved 4 grade levels of growth or more.
- 9% achieved 5 grade levels or more of growth.
- By the conclusion of the school year they are expected to reach a 10% mastery of level 8.



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The 2014 Gold Medalists

Air Academy High School, USAFA, CO

- 45% of the SSN (significant support needs) students completed at least one level and attained an average of 90% or better on all objectives.
- 9% of the SSN students completed two levels and obtained an average of 90% or better on all objectives.
- 100% of all participating SSN student demonstrated independent work completion on one or more objectives.

American Sunrise Learning Center, San Antonio, TX

- Students developed a positive attitude towards math and gained self-confidence in working on math problems.
- Nine out of thirteen students bringing in their progress report cards made A & B Honor roll.
- School Progress Report for these students shows a 19-23% gain from pre to post assessment.

Burkholder Middle School, Henderson, NV

- 71% of students gained one grade level or more.
- 34% of students gained two or more grade levels.
- Results of district periodic assessment show students across all grades making significant progress.

Cedar Elementary, Avon, IN

- Intervention students saw an 18% improvement (Gain in Score) from pre to post test.
- 75% of intervention students gained 1 grade level or more, 25% gained 2 levels or more.
- Enrichment students posted an average Gain in Score of 19%.
- 57% of enrichment students moved up 2 or more grade levels, 27% moved up 3 grade levels.

Central High School, Grand Junction, CO

- Many of the students have demonstrated a changed attitude toward math and school as a whole.
- Noticeable reduction in discipline incidents and improved attendance in math classes.
- 64% have achieved at least one grade level growth.
- 21% have gained two grade levels or more.

Fort Stockton Middle School, Fort Stockton, TX

2011 Gold Medal Winner

- Passing rates on state tests continue to improve each year, from 75% to 82% to 88%.
- School progress reports show student improvement on pre and post-assessments of 13.2% to 36.3%.

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Garside Junior High School, Las Vegas, NV

- In the first quarter using Ascend, all teachers saw tremendous improvement.
- In one class, 19 out of 39 students improve by at least one letter grade with 5 students moving from an F to a C and another student from an F to a B.
- 11 out of 37 students using Ascend after school improved by at least one letter grade.

Greater Miami Adventist Academy, Miami, FL

- Students report being more comfortable with math.
- IOWA Test ITBS scores increased by 10%.
- Students who completed grade level 8 at the end of 7th grade are considered to take Algebra I during 8th grade.

Grimes Elementary, Chicago, IL

- After 6 weeks with Ascend, students made tremendous improvement in Survey NWEA scores.
- 10 of the 18 students are no longer considered at-risk.
- 13 out of the 18 students moved up in performance categories.
- 100% of these students are expected to move up in performance categories on the NWEA MAP Assessment by the end of the year.

Lakeside Christian School, Clearwater, FL

- 50% of Middle School students improved their level in Ascend.
- Of those, 15% improved two levels or more!
- When they started, there were no students working at a level above their actual grade. As of 3/20/14, 20% of their students are working at a level above their actual grade.

Place Bridge Academy, Denver, CO

- Magnet school for refugee students.
 - 80% ELL population.
 - Students speak 60 different home languages.
- Last year's 3rd graders finished the year with an average Grade Equivalent (GE) of 3.4. This year's 3rd graders have an average of 4.1.
- Last year's 6th graders had an average GE of 5.3. This year's sixth graders have a score of 6.6.
- Overall, students are entering each grade (grades 3-8) at a higher achievement level.

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Sanders Middle School, Sanders, AZ

3rd Quarter Benchmark Results:

- 6th grade meets or exceeds 68% up from 33% on previous year AIMS test.
- 7th grade meets or exceeds 60% up from 39% on AIMS.
- 8th grade meets or exceeds 30% up from 25% on AIMS.

St. Pius X High School, Houston, TX

- 74% of students in one of two classes using Ascend improved by at least one functional grade level.
- Those who moved up have shown improvement in their algebra as well.
- Students at the lowest level have improved by 37.8%. Others improved from 13.3% to 46.7% in their post assessments.

Snowy Peaks High School, Frisco, CO

- Students grew by an average of 5.7 points on NWEA testing. To put that in perspective, a year's worth of growth on that test is 3 points.
- Students using Ascend demonstrated nearly 2 years of growth in 4 months!
- Scores on objectives have increased by over 22%.

Wentzville Middle School, Wentzville, MO

- 67 students (56%) have grown by one grade level or more.
- 10% are now at grade level and one student has moved beyond grade level.
- 41% are now within reach of grade level, working at just one level below grade..

Wentzville South Middle School, Wentzville, MO

- 88% of sixth grade students will be working just one level below grade level!
- 4 out of 9 seventh graders are on level, and 55% are just one level below grade level.
- Students are excited and gaining self-confidence.

Past Awardees

2009-2010	Banks Stephens Middle School Forsythe, Georgia
2010-2011	Fort Stockton Middle School Fort Stockton, TX
2011-2012	Emmet Belknap Intermediate School Lockport, New York
2012-2013	Nolan Middle School, Bradenton, FL Fort Stockton High School, Fort Stockton, TX Sanders Elementary School, Sanders, AZ



About Ascend Math®

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

Ascend Math is written to Common Core and rigorous state standards. Instruction is delivered in a logical math sequence. Students progress at their own pace and track their own progress. Ascend Math® is currently used by hundreds of schools and districts serving tens of thousands of students throughout the U.S. and Canada. For more information visit www.ascendmath.com