

**From:** CHARLENE HEFNER  
**Sent:** Friday, April 4, 2014 8:36 AM  
**To:** customersupport@ascendmath.com  
**Cc:** SCOTT SWIFT  
**Subject:** Ascend Math



---

To whom it may concern:

My name is Charlene Hefner and I oversee the Math Intervention class at South Middle School in Wentzville. This is the second year 6th, 7th, and 8th graders have used the web-based Ascend Math. Students are selected for this class based on their MAP scores, Aims Math testing, and math grades. Math Intervention class replaces their Academic Art class but not PE. They attend class every other day for one hour. They take a recommendation test on Ascend and test anywhere from 2nd grade to 8th grade level. They are considered to return to a choir, computer, FACS, etc., class when they have reached their grade level or close to grade level with an improved regular math classroom grade. Almost all of the MI students have completed at least one grade level. 33% of the students have completed two levels (with fourth quarter yet to go!). I have seen 31% of the students that started at the beginning of third quarter already finish a level, and a couple of these students have finished two levels in this short amount of time (even with snow days!)

There are no drawbacks or problems with the web-based program except for computer issues that are related to internet reasons which haven't happened all that much this year.

Lastly, I would highly recommend implementing this program in your school. South's objective is to help students fill in the gaps where students are deficient in basic math skills with the goal to increase student skill levels in order for the student to be able to do grade level curriculum while addressing any existing motivational issues. Ascend has delivered the best-in-class instruction and intensive intervention for students who needed to rebuild their basic math skills with the use of realistic, obtainable, measurable tasks and goals. They offer a great remediation tool for students who are working a year or two behind on some or all math concepts. Ascend engages, inspires, and motivates students with a personalized learning pathway on computers (or tablets) in a consistent, familiar environment. This allows students to be more self-directed, self-determined, and self-confident to improve their understanding of mathematical concepts. Ascend has been a great tool for the students and for me to help them experience success.

If you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

*Mrs. Charlene J. Hefner*, Instructional Assistant  
Math Intervention Teacher  
SMS Yearbook Adviser  
Wentzville South Middle School, Rm 403  
561 East Highway N  
Wentzville, MO 63385