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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EMMET BELKNAP RECEIVES 2012 GOLD MEDAL AWARD FROM ASCEND EDUCATION

Shreveport, LA (May 23, 2012) Ascend Education announced today that Emmet Belknap Intermediate School in Lockport, NY is the winner of the 2012 Gold Medal Award.

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. The Gold Medal nominees all used Ascend Math as their math intervention solution to assist struggling students. The three judges looked at the challenges each nominee faced and the results they achieved to arrive at their decision. School and community support were also taken into consideration.

“The decision was particularly challenging this year,” said Kevin Briley, CEO of Ascend Education. “There were twice as many nominations as the previous year. All documented amazing progress in helping students fill math skill gaps, get back on grade level, and in many cases accelerate beyond grade level. All of the nominees should feel incredibly proud of the job they’ve done this year. Emmet Belknap truly represents the best of the best.”

In her nomination form Lynn Hewitt, School Psychologist at Emmet Belknap wrote “On average students using Ascend had previously made about .5 grade level growth each year. These same students have improved by 1.7 grade levels (on average) over the past months.” That’s more than three times the growth in far less time.

“We are honored to receive this award” said Hewitt. “Thanks to the support and innovative thinking of our Superintendent, Michelle Bradley; Building Principal, Gary Wilson; and Director of Assessment and Technology / District CIO, Dr. Robert Lipuma, we were able to use Ascend Math to provide quality math intervention to far more students than we ever have in the past with less personnel. Our results are a direct result of the hard work, dedication, and passion of our staff; most notably our math lab Teaching Assistants, Sue Fisher and Charlene McClain. All involved in the implementation of this program went above and beyond expectations.”

Emmet Belknap will be honored at a special reception to take place at the ISTE (International Society for Technology in Education) Conference in San Diego on June 26, 2012.

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.

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

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