ACCESS Math Program Effectiveness: Lancaster, PA 2005-2006



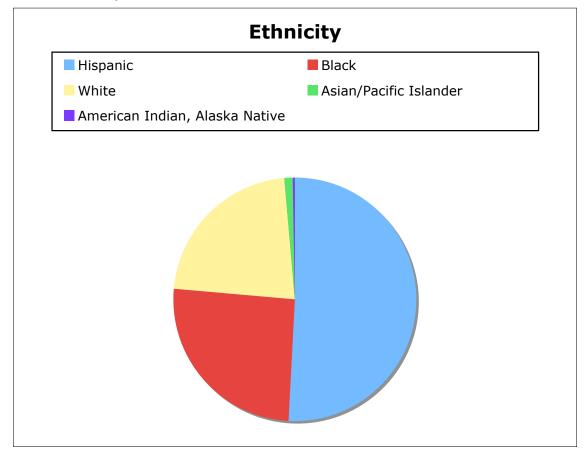
ACCESS Math Effectiveness Evaluation Study Reynolds Middle School, Lancaster, PA

Lancaster Middle School used the *ACCESS Math* program with its 6th grade ELL students. *ACCESS Math*, designed for students who are English language learners, but very useful in other struggling student populations, helps build English language skills while making complex math concepts accessible. It provides program tests to help teachers and students track student progress. In addition to the *ACCESS Math* assessments, students at Reynolds Middle School took the Wechsler Individual Achievement Test (WIAT-II), a test that evaluates mathematics calculation and reasoning. The WIAT-II scores are reported as a grade-level equivalent. The results from both the *ACCESS Math* assessments and the WIAT-II are used in this evaluation to examine the effectiveness of the *ACCESS Math* program.

Reynolds Middle School Demographics

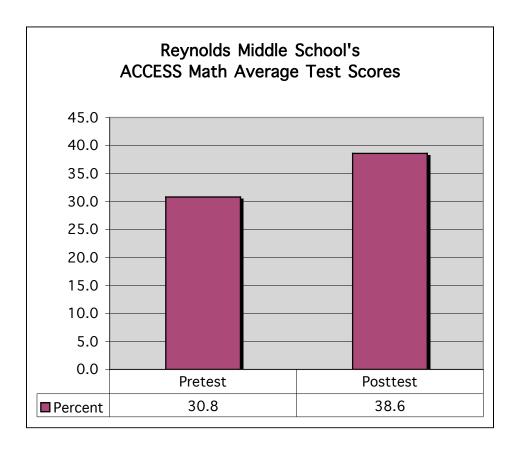
Reynolds Middle School is located in Lancaster, Pennsylvania with 79% of students economically disadvantaged and 22% English language learners.

Ethnicity: Hispanic 50.9%, Black 25.4%, White 22.3%, Asian/Pacific Islander 1.1%, American Indian, Alaska Native 0.3%

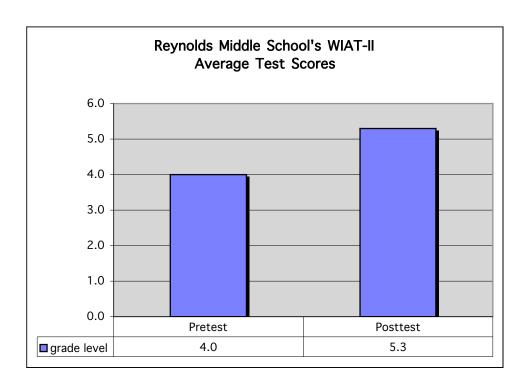


Assessments

Reynolds Middle School's results from the *ACCESS Math* tests show significant growth in students' proficiency. From the pretest to the posttest there was a 7.8 percentage point increase.



Results from the WIAT-II suggest great improvement in students' abilities. As the pretest scores ranged from grade 2.5 to grade 5.5 and the posttest ranged from grade 4.2 to grade 7.2. Students' scores increased from an average pretest performance at a grade 4 level to a posttest performance at a grade 5.3 level—an average change of 1.4 grades. All students experienced an increase in performance grade level (see page 3).



Conclusion

The results from this study show strong patterns of improvement in math skills of students at Reynolds Middle School. It is evident that the *ACCESS Math* program was a major contributing factor in the students' success.