



"One of my colleagues implemented SuccessMaker in her school with great results, which paved the way for funding for my school. The skills focus of SuccessMaker filled in many of the gaps our students had as a result of transiency. The growth our students experienced supported our increasing explicit reading instruction with a focus on the skills, which is what the Indiana Reading Framework has implemented."

— Connie Miller principal

"I found SuccessMaker to be especially beneficial for my 5th and 6th grade math students. We had no other math interventions available, and my students made gains."

— Joani Sullivan
5th and 6th grade math teacher and
reading interventionist

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CRESTDALE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Richmond, Indiana

PROFILE

School District: Richmond Community Schools

District Enrollment: 5,451 students **School Enrollment:** 350 students

Grades: PreK-6

Free/Reduced Price Lunch: 80%

Ethnicity:

68% Caucasian

18% Multi-racial

• 10% African American

3% Hispanic

1% Asian

CHALLENGE

Two-time recipient of the All-American City Award, Richmond, Indiana, has a rich history and a long-standing commitment to education. Although committed to their heritage, Crestdale Elementary School (Crestdale) had not made Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for two consecutive years and was given a "needs improvement" rating by the state's Board of Education.

Administrators were looking for a solution to help students improve their Indiana Statewide Testing for Educational Progress-Plus (ISTEP) scores. They needed a program that was flexible and had a broad range of functionality to accommodate the many different needs of their student population.

SOLUTION

In 2009 using American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds Crestdale purchased Pearson Digital Learning's SuccessMaker®, a computerized courseware program designed to supplement math and reading learning experiences of elementary students.

During the fall of 2009 all students were scheduled time on SuccessMaker either in the computer lab or classroom resource areas. Kindergarten-2nd grade students received individualized learning one to two times per week; 3rd-6th graders strengthened their skills three times a week, 30 minutes a session.

Teachers generated weekly progress reports that identified areas of strengths and weaknesses for each student. Using this data as well as Acuity and DIBELS scores, teachers developed lessons for group exercises or on SuccessMaker. Any *Continues*



"SuccessMaker is engaging for students to the very end of the year, unlike many intervention programs."

Kara Shelford3rd grade teacher

"SuccessMaker data shows growth and current level in both reading and math. We use the data for sharing with parents as well as for RTI documentation."

Matt Hasecoster2nd grade teacher

"SuccessMaker automatically tracks the skill level of each student, and assigns lessons sequentially, building on what they learn."

— Sarah Hasecoster5th grade teacher

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SOLUTION (Continued)

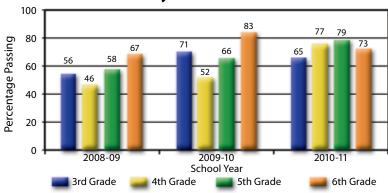
student needing extra intervention was assigned time on the program during their reading centers periods. At-risk students were given the opportunity to participate in an after school program using SuccessMaker three days a week.

RESULTS

After using SuccessMaker during the entire 2009-10 school year, the number of Crestdale's 3rd-6th grade students who scored proficient on the ISTEP+ state level test increased by an average of 20 percent. From 2007-2009 the percentage of students scoring proficient on the state test averaged at 55 percent for both reading and math. For the 2010 and 2011 school years, the number of students scoring proficient rose to an average of 73 percent.

"Since receiving the improvement status in 2008 we have worked hard to improve our curriculum and direct instruction by our teachers. With the implementation of SuccessMaker, we have been able to focus more easily on specific and critical grade-level skills ensuring that students master them before moving on to more difficult content. Our students have increased their rate of learning and SuccessMaker has helped make that possible. We have made AYP for two years now and we are out of improvement status," explains Crestdale Elementary School Principal Connie Miller.

Crestdale Elementary School 3rd-6th Grade Students ISTEP+ Math Proficiency – 2008-2011



Crestdale Elementary School 3rd-6th Grade Students ISTEP+ Language Arts Proficiency – 2008-2011

