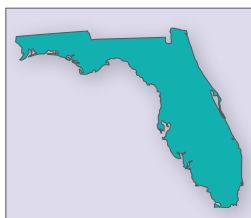




## The Ascend<sup>®</sup> Math Solution Helps Close Math Skill Gaps in Florida



### BACKGROUND

Schools throughout Florida work diligently to prepare students according to the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards. To increase math scores several Florida middle schools and high schools have adopted The Ascend<sup>®</sup> Math Solution.

### ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED STUDENTS

**Nolan Middle School attributes their distinction as “the top performing middle school in Manatee County (based on Norm Reference Test Scores) for 2007-2008” to The Ascend<sup>®</sup> Math Solution!** Nolan Middle School had sought to further improve achievement in math, especially for economically disadvantaged students. During the 2007-2008 fall semester, they implemented Ascend as part of their school improvement plan and added an additional class period focusing on math intervention in grades 6-8. Pre-assessments in the Ascend program identified many students working several grade levels below their assigned grade. As a result of Ascend’s individualized learning plans and differentiated instruction, students made impressive gains—often two grade levels of growth in proficiency over the course of the single semester pilot.

### IMPLEMENTATION IN HIGH SCHOOL

**78% of students at Lakewood High School in Pinellas County reported in writing that they had a positive experience in using Ascend.** Lakewood High School conducted a 6-week pilot during the Spring 2008 Semester in their FCAT remediation classes. Students were placed in the High School sequence as preparation for the FCAT exam. Ascend’s automated features prescribed individualized learning plans and guided students through differentiated instructional paths to address specifically identified math weaknesses. Teachers were encouraged by their students’ gains and the results achieved during the 6-week pilot.

### MEETING MATH INTERVENTION INITIATIVES FOR SPECIAL NEEDS STUDENTS

**Special Ed Administrators at Miami Dade public schools allocated IDEA funds to implement The Ascend<sup>®</sup> Math Solution.**

After reviewing success stories among other schools in Florida, Miami Dade’s Executive Director of Special Education selected The Ascend<sup>®</sup> Math Solution for 19 private schools in Miami Dade. Thanks to Ascend’s combination of gold

standard video instruction, interactive activities and rich reporting capabilities, Miami Dade fulfilled its obligation to engage in meaningful consultation for best practice strategies, and monitor the success of the program.

### HELPING FLORIDA SCHOOLS ASCEND

All three Florida schools appreciated The Ascend<sup>®</sup> Math Program’s ability to statistically improve math scores and:

- Diagnose students’ deficiencies and strengths.
- Prescribe targeted instruction.
- Automatically assign instruction and practice using proven lessons.
- Deliver post-instruction testing.
- Adjust learning paths with formative assessments.
- Generate student reports by individual, class and school data.
- Address state, federal and NCLB accountability requirements.

For an online, interactive demo & more information about our free preview program, please visit [www.AscendEdu.com](http://www.AscendEdu.com) or call toll free at (877) 843-0277

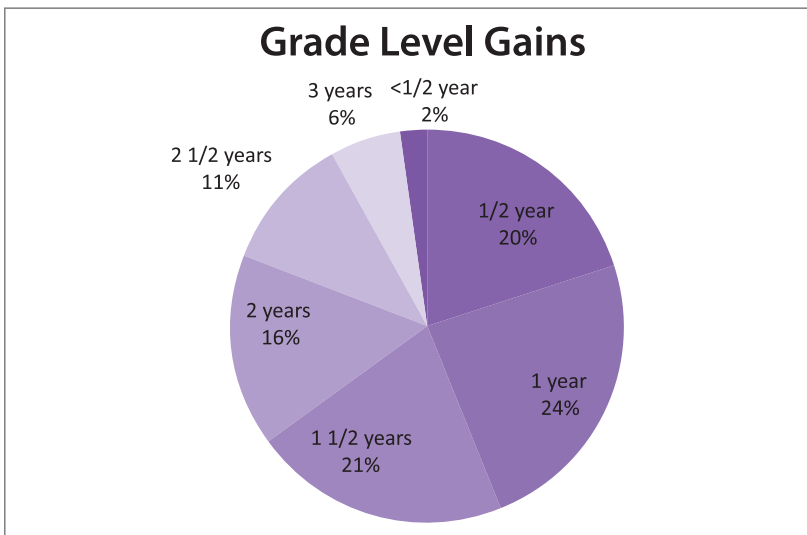
### ABOUT THE ASCEND<sup>®</sup> MATH SOLUTION

Ascend Education provides research-based math instructional resources to a wide variety of students and schools nationwide. With diagnostics and prescriptive feedback, Ascend uses the power of technology to identify skill gaps to meet students at their individual levels, and organizes math instruction in a way that ensures student success. In addition, Ascend’s automated tracking of student performance provides built-in accountability reporting tied to both NCTM and state curriculum standards.

“ What I like about Ascend is that it occupies the attention of the whole class. You don’t have 13 students raising their hand at the exact same time. This allows me to have one-to-one interaction with the students when they need it at the exact time they need it. ”

—Nolan Middle School Teacher

## Dramatic Improvement in Math Scores in Florida

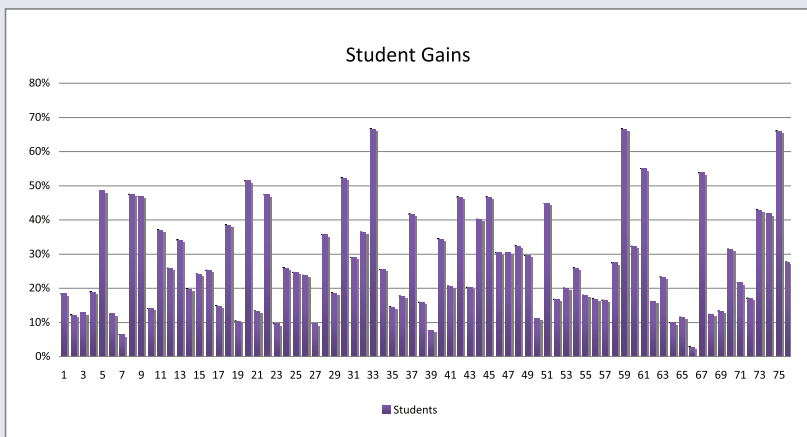


### NOLAN MIDDLE SCHOOL

#### Percentage of Grade Level Advancement During Intervention Period

- 34% of all students advanced two or more grade levels.
- 43% of Grade 7 and 8 students advanced two or more grade levels.
- Gains reflect daily use during a five month intervention program.

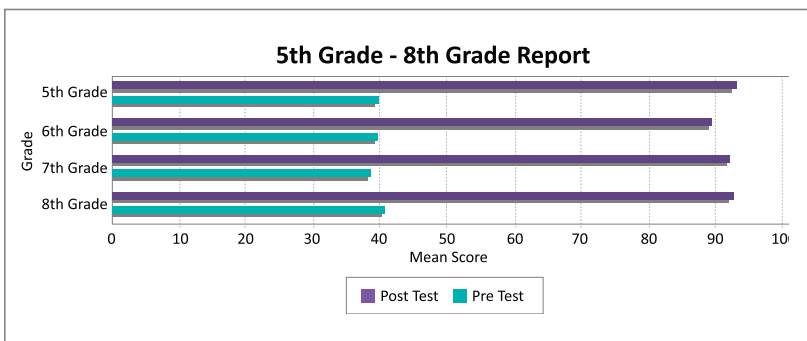
*Average student gain equaled 35.8% (pre test vs. post test).*



### LAKWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

#### Lakewood High School Pilot Results— During 6-Week Pilot

- Average Gain for all students 27.4%.
- Students spent an average of 8.9 hours on Ascend during pilot period.
- 78% of students reported in writing that they had a positive experience using Ascend.



*Miami Dade Administrators easily track school wide progress using Ascend's Web-based reporting capabilities.*

### MIAMI DADE PRIVATE SCHOOLS

#### Special Education Administrators are optimistic about their decision to implement The Ascend® Math Solution, because it:

- Satisfies response to intervention program initiatives.
- Guides students automatically through individual learning plans.
- Generates easy to read accountability reporting.



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