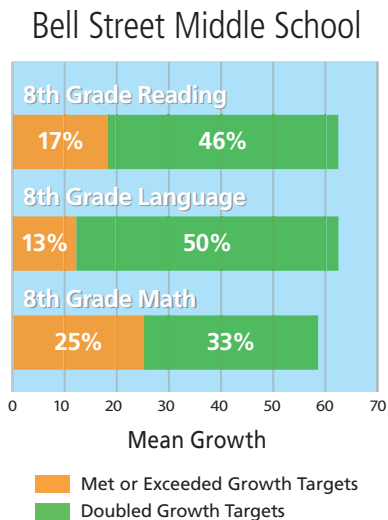


Bell Street Middle School, Laurens School District 56, SC

CLASSWORKS HELPS STUDENTS MEET GROWTH TARGETS IN BIG NUMBERS



"In addition to the academic gains, these students are really working hard and achieving success on a daily basis. An added benefit is the admiration they receive from the entire student body for their accomplishments, through the school's daily news broadcasts, incentive days, and the annual school-wide Awards Day. You can see their confidence build day by day."

— George Goings, Lab Manager
Bell Street Middle School

Challenge: After a successful intervention program for 'at-risk' students last year, Bell Street Middle School continued to focus on students with below-basic performance on the high-stakes Palmetto Achievement Challenge Test (PACT) test and lack of growth on the Measures of Academic Progress (MAP). These are 7th and 8th grade students with Individual Academic Plans (IAPs) due to performance levels far below their peers.

Goals:

- See the growth on year 1 MAP scores translate into increased high-stakes test scores
- Accelerate learning by meeting or exceeding grade-level growth targets
- Reduce the number of students at risk for low performance
- Keep target group engaged and build confidence in their abilities

Action Plan: For year two, Bell Street raised the bar by setting higher achievement goals, and adding new 6th graders to the program mid year. Overall, 83 students were impacted by intensive Classworks intervention, 5 days per week using ILPs automatically generated from MAP results. The positive and highly structured incentive program continues to be popular among the target group and an effective way to measure student motivation and effort while working in Classworks.

Results:

- 2007-2008 MAP gains were evident in fall PACT scores, as the number of 7th graders performing Below Basic dropped from 45% to 36% in ELA and 32% to 27% in Math
- In 2009, high numbers of target students met their MAP on-grade level expected growth targets in every grade and subject; many students for the first time
- In many cases, the expected growth targets more than doubled, including more than one third of the 8th graders in the program—in every subject