

GRAND PRAIRIE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, TX

BILL ARNOLD MIDDLE SCHOOL

THE PROBLEM

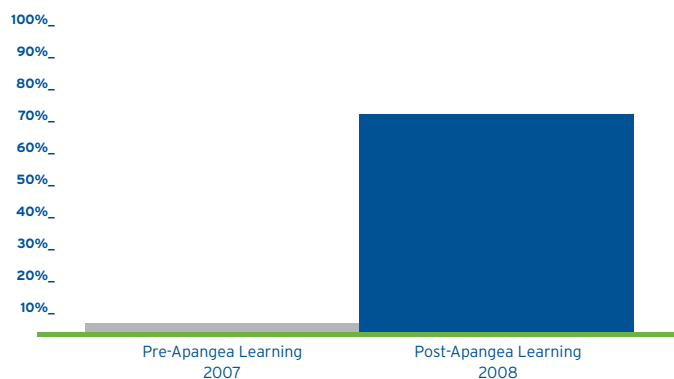
Bill Arnold Middle School had only 10 weeks to prepare a group of "At-Risk" 8th graders for the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS).

THE SOLUTION

A secondary math class was created utilizing the Apangea Learning Math program to provide these "At-Risk" students the necessary intervention to pass the TAKS.

THE RESULT

73% OF 8TH GRADE "AT-RISK" STUDENTS PASSED THE TAKS AFTER USING APANGEA LEARNING MATH. OF THESE STUDENTS, ONLY 6.3% PASSED THE TAKS IN 7TH GRADE.



THE STORY

The Texas Education Agency mandates that all 8th graders must pass the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS) in order to advance to the 9th grade. Bill Arnold Middle School, part of the Grand Prairie Independent School District, identified a group of 8th graders that were "At-Risk" and likely to fail the TAKS. Last year, only 3 of these 48 students (6.3%) passed the 7th grade TAKS. Bill Arnold Middle School had only 10 weeks until its 8th grade student population was going to be taking the first administration of the TAKS, including these 48 students. Replacing an elective, a secondary math class was

created utilizing the Apangea Learning Math program to provide these "At-Risk" students the necessary intervention to pass the TAKS.

According to Kenneth King, a math teacher at Bill Arnold Middle School, "The problems in Apangea Learning Math are of a nature that they are very well-aligned with the state tests in the aspect that it's a word problem, it's a multi-step problem and my students have to analyze this problem; they have to pull out the information; they have to set up what it is that they need to answer; they have to come up

with a strategy on how they are going to do it; they have to execute that strategy; and then they have to answer the question.

Beyond just improving the TAKS scores, I see my students with a higher level of confidence, a willingness to participate because they don't have to be embarrassed by asking something that might be a 'dumb question' because they understand the concept from Apangea."

Bill Arnold Middle School was not the only school in the Grand Prairie Independent School District to benefit from Apangea Learning Math. Nine schools used the program; collectively, Grand Prairie students spent 5,424 self-motivated hours working on math during their weekends and nights from September 1, 2007 through March 27, 2008.



"WHEN WE SAW OUT OF THE 8th GRADE—AND AGAIN, THEY ONLY HAD TEN WEEKS TO WORK ON THE SYSTEM UNTIL THEY TOOK THE TAKS TEST... ACROSS THE BOARD, THERE WAS AN INCREASE OF ABOUT 100 POINTS ON THE TAKS FROM USING APANGEA LEARNING MATH."

—Kenneth King
Teacher



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BILL ARNOLD MIDDLE SCHOOL

Hispanic	81%
African American	5%
White	11%
Asian/Pacific Islander	3%
Native American	<1%
Eligible for Reduced Lunch	87%
Special Education	13%
Limited English	23%

Source: TX Education Agency, 2006-2007

For more information, visit www.apangealearning.com

For a demonstration of Apangea Learning, contact our sales team at sales@apangealearning.com or at 866.357.8664.



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