

Everyday Mathematics® Success Stories



A Record of Success in Penn-Harris-Madison Schools

The Penn-Harris-Madison (PHM) School Corporation serves 10,000 students in Grades K-12 in north central Indiana, just east of the city of South Bend. A diverse set of communities is served by the Penn-Harris-Madison School Corporation, including middle and upper-middle class suburbs, working class areas and rural, farming communities. The corporation operates 11 elementary schools, 3 middle schools and 1 high school.

The Penn-Harris-Madison School Corporation adopted *Everyday Mathematics* in fall 1998. Pam Holt, who is currently the curriculum coordinator for the school corporation, recalls the adoption process. “As the PHM math adoption committee reviewed the several math programs approved by the state, the *Everyday Mathematics* program dramatically stood apart from

all the others. The conceptual approach to mathematics was readily apparent. *Everyday Mathematics*, particularly at that time, was not flashy or glossy. At the end of the review process, our committee strongly endorsed the adoption of *Everyday Mathematics*.”

Strong Pilots

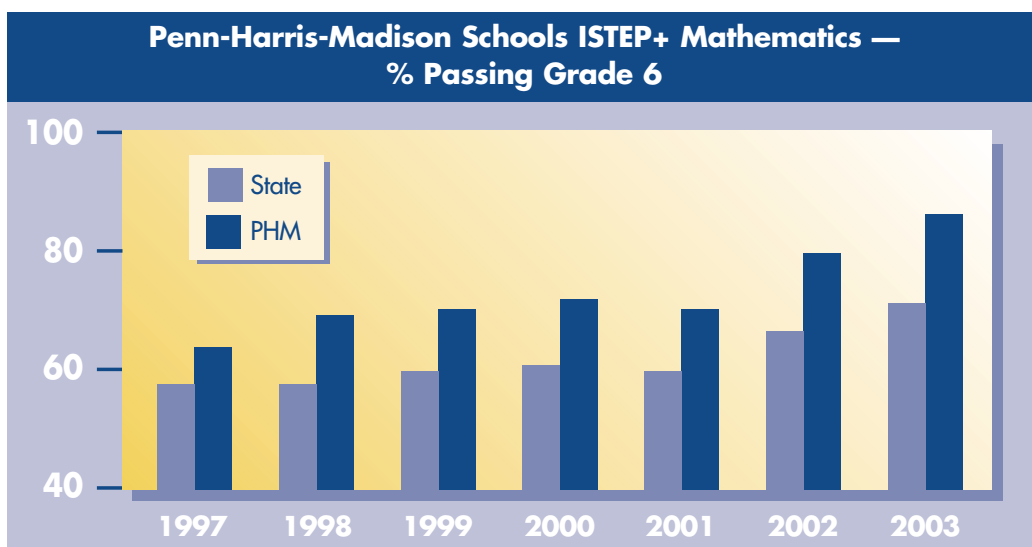
In addition to the committee’s review, *Everyday Mathematics* was piloted in Grades K-5 in 2 Penn-Harris-Madison schools. The feedback from the teachers who piloted *Everyday Mathematics* was enthusiastic. Holt explains, “Teachers noted that the children were introduced to more mathematical concepts at earlier levels compared to other math series. Importantly, the children responded positively to *Everyday Mathematics*, and indeed were learning the mathematical concepts.”

Long-term Experience

Over the length of the math adoption in Penn-Harris-Madison Schools, Holt reports that there has been a paradigm shift in mathematics education. “The children want to do mathematics, allowing our teachers to teach math for longer periods. *Everyday Mathematics* is a kid-friendly, hands-on program with practical applications. These practical applications make sense to the children at their own levels.”

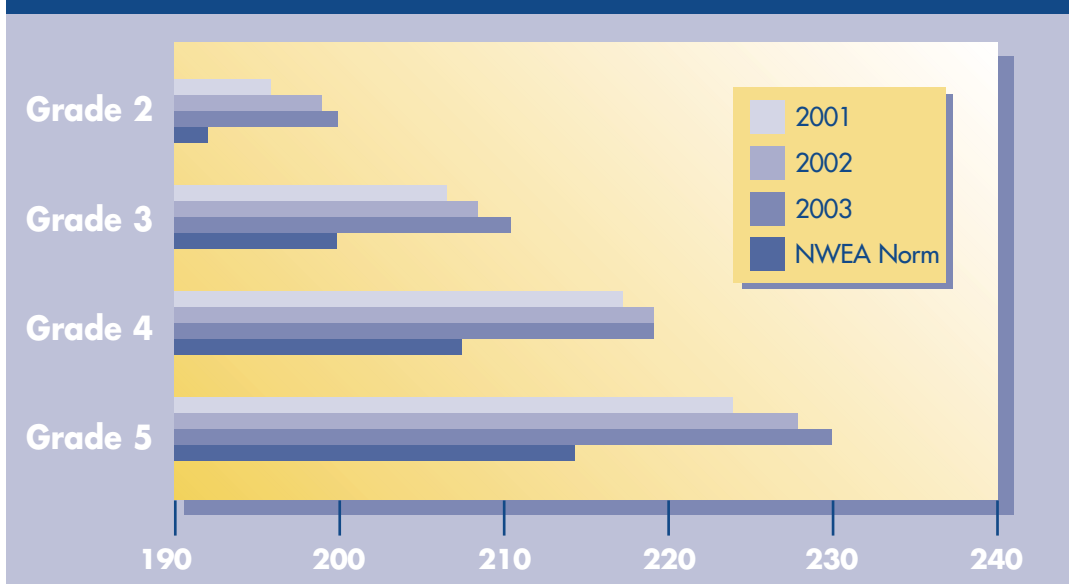
Results

The state of Indiana measures student achievement in mathematics with the Indiana Statewide Testing for Educational Progress (ISTEP+) in Grades 3 and 6. Grade 6 results in mathematics for the Penn-Harris-Madison School Corporation show a high level of



At Grade 6, the pass rate on the mathematics ISTEP+ in PHM schools was 89% meeting or exceeding state standards. The overall pass rate on the Grade 6 mathematics ISTEP+ in the state was 73%, allowing PHM schools to achieve a 16 percentage point variance over the state average.

Penn-Harris Madison-Schools Median NWEA Scores: 2001-2003 Math — Grades 2-5



Since the first testing date in spring 2001, the median scores in mathematics have consistently increased in Grades 2-5, and have been well above the NWEA norm scores in every case.

achievement compared to overall state results as well as a consistent trend-line growth in the percentage of students passing the state test. According to the district, these results at Grade 6 represent the cumulative effects of the *Everyday Mathematics* curriculum in Grades K-5.

In spring 2003, fully 89% of Penn-Harris-Madison students passed the ISTEP+ mathematics exam, meeting or exceeding state standards. Over the trend period, Grade 6 ISTEP+ math scores in Penn-Harris-Madison schools have increased at a greater rate than the overall scores in the state. In 2003, the variance between the PHM pass rate and the statewide pass rate rose to 16 percentage points.

In addition to the state ISTEP+ assessment, the Penn-Harris-Madison School Corporation also administers the Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) Assessment. The NWEA Assessment is a standardized test that

reports student scores on a continuum, meaning that students' scores advance on the same scale as they progress through the grade levels. The NWEA Assessment also provides a norm score at each grade level that indicates the amount of progress students typically make over the course of the school year.

NWEA Results

The results in mathematics on the NWEA Assessments in Penn-Harris-Madison Schools are noteworthy. Since the first administration of these assessments in 2001, the median scores in Grades 2-5 have been consistently above the NWEA norm score. Additionally, the median mathematics scores in Grades 2-5 have increased further above the norm score each year in the trend period of 2001-2003. It should also be noted that as students progress through the grade levels, the variance over the norm has increased to 16 points at Grade 5 in 2003.

Holt sums up, "Our experience over the past 6 years confirms that *Everyday Mathematics* presents more math content in a conceptual way that the children understand. Our school corporation's decision to adopt a radically different math program like *Everyday Mathematics* has been confirmed conclusively. The results are clear as measured by the ISTEP+ and NWEA, as well as by the strong conceptual understanding of mathematics developed by our students."

For additional information on the *Everyday Mathematics* program, please contact us toll-free at 1-888-772-4543 and visit our Web site at www.WrightGroup.com.

Meeting All Expectations