West Seattle Elementary
A School in Transformation

Leveraging adaptive technology to close the math achievement gap.
Host:
Casey Davidson
Director of Product Marketing

Presenter:
Vicki Sacco
Principal of West Seattle Elementary
Introduction

Vicki Sacco, Principal of West Seattle Elementary

- 15 year tenure in Brevard County Schools, Florida
- Principal, Assistant Principal, Elementary Teacher
- MA Educational Leadership, BA Elementary Education
West Seattle Elementary

- Title 1 School
- 329 Students
- 92% eligible for FARM
- 35% ELL programs
- 33.4% Bilingual
- 20.7% Special education
- Large representation of Somali, Hispanic and Vietnamese students
Historical Achievement at West Seattle

- Designated among the lowest performing 5% of schools in 2010 after 4 years of not making AYP.

- Average test scores were below state averages for all students as well as for low-income students.

- In 2009-2010 only 16.4% of 4th grade students were scoring at standard for mathematics.

Source: Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction
School Improvement Plan

2010 School Improvement Grant for Transformation

1. Increased professional development for teachers
2. Extended learning time
3. Increased family engagement
4. Introduction of new curriculum: DreamBox Learning
Closing the achievement gap in math

New supplemental curriculum must:

1. Meet students at current ability level
2. Provide instruction (not just drill & practice)
3. Accelerate learning to close achievement gap
Closing the achievement gap in math

New curriculum evaluation criteria

1. Ability to work effectively with Math Workshop Model
   • High quality, independent instruction for small groups
   • Differentiated instruction for individual student needs
   • Focus on developing number sense
2. Computer based intervention

- Leverage technology and computers available
  - Move limited computers available into the classrooms

- Prepare students for online high stakes tests
  - Many students don’t have computer access at home
Closing the achievement gap in math

New curriculum evaluation criteria

3. Ease of implementation
   - Online program needed due to limited technology support
   - Students must be able to get started and work independently
   - Teachers must not require extensive training
DreamBox Learning Implementation

**Initial deployment: Intervention**

- September-December 2010
- Lowest 30% of students
- 6-8 students per class
- K-4th graders
- ELLs
- Special Education
Early results: Dramatic improvement in math performance

• Fall to Winter MAP test scores showed significant achievement gains – the highest growth in math test scores in the district.

• Scores increased at a rate 2.5 times the district average

• Students were asking “When is it my turn to go on DreamBox?”

But our advanced learners were not making similar gains...
January 2010
Expanded implementation

• DreamBox for all K-4 students

• YMCA after school program incorporated DreamBox

• *Coming soon*: Saturday school with individualized plans for each child, including DreamBox

• *Coming soon*: 5\textsuperscript{th} grade students on DreamBox
Unexpected benefits

- Administrator reports increased visibility into program use and student progress
- Facilitated useful conversations with teachers
Unexpected benefits

- Game-like program was an effective tool for reaching students resistant to traditional teaching styles
- Highly visual models support English Language Learners
- Kids love it!
Challenges to overcome

- Computer availability and scheduling
- Bandwidth limitations
- Teacher adoption
- Parent engagement
Making AYP in Mathematics
2010 results vs. 2011 results

Percent of West Seattle Students at Standard

- 3rd Grade: 2010 = 41%, 2011 = 57%
- 4th Grade: 2010 = 16.4%, 2011 = 34%
Please submit questions for our Q&A session.

Take a moment to enter any questions you have for our panelists in the questions box on your attendee toolbar.
DreamBox combines three essential elements to accelerate student learning:

**Rigorous Elementary Mathematics**
- Common Core State Standards
- Standards for Mathematical Practice

**Motivating Learning Environment**
- Student Directed, Empowering
- Gaming Fundamentals, Rewards

**Intelligent Adaptive Learning™ Engine**
- Millions of individualized learning paths
- Tailored to a student’s unique needs

“I love the engagement that DreamBox provides for my students.” — John Bennetts, 2nd grade teacher at KIPP Delta
Intelligent Adaptive Learning
Virtual Manipulatives allow students to ‘show their work’

*Interactive learning*
Adapts based on student **needs and strategies**, not just answers

**DreamBox tracks:**
- Response time
- Scaffolding needed
- Kinds of mistakes
- Efficiency of strategy

“Since implementing the DreamBox program, my students’ scores on the MAP test (Measure of Academic Progress) have increased an average of 40 points!”
-Mrs. Elizabeth Raymond, Special Education Teacher, West Seattle Elementary, WA
Effectiveness
DreamBox Accelerates Student Learning

• SRI International study finds DreamBox increases math test scores
• Students gained 5.5 points in percentile ranking in just 21 hours!
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Q&A

Thank you for attending our webinar on closing the achievement gap in Title 1 Schools

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Contact DreamBox Learning:

- For a personalized demo
- For a customized quote
- With any questions you may have

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