



# MT. MORRIS CONSOLIDATED SCHOOLS

*Mt. Morris, Michigan*

Waterford  
Early  
Learning™

SuccessMaker

GRADPOINT™

ZEOS™

*“I can’t get the kids out of the lab!  
When it was time to go to lunch, the  
kids asked if they could stay just a few  
minutes more. They absolutely love how  
it looks like a video game. I was shocked  
to hear those words come out of the kids  
who were attending summer school  
because they aren’t typically engaged or  
particularly successful learners.”*

— **John Strickert**  
**Moore Elementary School**  
**principal**

*Speaking about kids using  
ZEOS during summer school.*

[Savvas.com/SuccessMaker](http://Savvas.com/SuccessMaker)

## PROFILE

**District Enrollment:** 2,500 students

**Number of Sites:** 8

**Grades:** PreK-12

**Free/Reduced Price Lunch:** 80%

**Ethnicity:**

- 58% Caucasian
- 29% African American
- 7% Multi-racial
- 3% Asian
- 3% Hispanic

## CHALLENGE

Mt. Morris Consolidated School District (Mt. Morris) administrators are forward thinkers. Seeing the educational trends toward 21st century learning objectives and digital learning programs, they wanted to expose their students to these new technologies and prepare them to successfully work and live in society.

Analyzing their student populations and their various needs, administrators at Mt. Morris needed digital programs for different age groups that would help bridge the achievement gap, build foundational grade-level skills, remediate struggling learners, provide preparation practice for state assessments and give alternative educational opportunities to their high school students.

## SOLUTION

Using federal government and grants funds Mt. Morris purchased Savvas’ products Waterford Early Learning™ and SuccessMaker® in 2008, and GradPoint™ as well as Zeos in 2012. Implementation of each program was based upon student needs and age groups.

All PreK–1st grade students use Waterford Early Learning four days a week, 30 minutes a day as a supplement to their core instruction. Each student receives personalized guided practice and instruction to build foundational reading and math skills. Students receiving Tier II and/or III intervention services use the program for additional immersion depending on their individualized plan.

*Continues*

**SAVVAS**



## SOLUTION (Continued)

All 2nd–5th grade students receive individualized learning practice to build language art and math skills using SuccessMaker. For four days each week, 45 minutes a day, each student works at their own pace on the program as it supplements their core instruction. Teachers also use SuccessMaker as a resource for Tiers II and III intervention for students in grades 2–8, creating individualized plans depending on identified areas of difficulty.

Students not experiencing success at the traditional high school have the option to enroll at the IGNITE Blended Learning Academy and take online courses provided and hosted on GradPoint. Students access courses either at the academy’s computer lab or at home recapturing credits, remediating skills, or taking new courses. Students at the traditional high school can also use GradPoint for credit recovery. Teachers are available at both locations to provide support for any student who needs assistance.

All 2nd–10th grade students have access to Zeos to practice mastering grade-level state standards. They can use the program during summer school, after school and before school programs. It has also been infused into the school day for students to be fully prepared for the Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) test. Even after the state test, students elect to use Zeos when they have completed their SuccessMaker time and/or when they receive additional computer time as a reward.

## RESULTS

Rebekah Dupuis, assistant superintendent of Mt. Morris explains their success. “We started using GradPoint at our IGNITE Academy in mid-September 2012 and our enrollment grew from 15 students to 39 by December. Of those 39 students, there have been 72 successfully completed courses in GradPoint (data collected on December 21st, 2012). By the end of the year four students had completed their graduation requirements and received their diplomas. Two more students earned their diplomas in February 2013. These were students who had dropped out or were considering dropping out due to a lack of success in the traditional school environment.

“At the junior high school, where we use SuccessMaker as a Tier II and III remediation tool in math and reading, we are seeing student growth of more than three grade levels in the most successful cases, and no less than one grade level of growth from September through December.

“SuccessMaker is used as a Tier I supplement at our elementary schools, and when implemented with fidelity, has yielded net gains of at least two grade levels of growth when used concurrently with solid Tier I instruction. We attribute student gains of our Tier I implementation to the fidelity of both our classroom instruction and use of SuccessMaker. When we use it as a Tier II intervention tool, we see similar gains to those described above with respect to our junior high school.”

*“Savvas products are second to none. I do my homework before investing in any digital learning solution because the competition is fierce. Despite my diligence in seeking out every possible solution, I inevitably turn to Savvas. What sells me every time is the significant body of research supporting each product. The research and development teams at Pearson blow the competition out of the water. My most recent case in point is GradPoint. I looked at multiple competitors. GradPoint’s learning platform outperformed every competitor I looked at.”*

— **Rebekah Dupuis**  
assistant superintendent  
Mt. Morris Consolidated Schools

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