



JOHN F KENNEDY MAGNET SCHOOL

Port Chester, New York



“SuccessMaker has been a partner for more than 20 years and it is a way of life for us and our students. It is an excellent Tier II intervention tool. It gives us a more complete picture of our students and we are very thankful for this knowledge. We do not use SuccessMaker to pull children out of instruction. We have found a creative way to have SuccessMaker support our students.”

— **Louis Cuglietto**
principal

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PROFILE

School District: Port Chester Public Schools

District Enrollment: 5,532 students

School Enrollment: 820 students

Grades: K-5

Free/Reduced Price Lunch: 80%

Ethnicity:

- 87% Hispanic
- 10% African American
- 3% Caucasian

CHALLENGE

Located at the southern most tip on the mainland of New York, Port Chester is a village within the town of Rye, which is part of Westchester County. John F Kennedy Magnet School (JFK Magnet) is one of four elementary schools within the Port Chester Public School District, and the only math, science and technology theme-based school.

Operating at maximum capacity, JFK Magnet has a large student population of English language learners and an overall population with a wide range of proficiency levels. To ensure every student reaches grade-level proficiency, JFK Magnet sought a digital program to assess student performance, to help build core skills in math and reading and provide support for Tier II intervention.

SOLUTION

JFK Magnet has been using Savvas' SuccessMaker® for more than 20 years. In 2011 using funds from Title I and the district's Board of Education, school officials upgraded to the latest version of the digital courseware program.

Every student in grades 2nd-4th receives individualized learning experiences on SuccessMaker building reading and math skills. They work in the computer lab twice each week; however, students who are identified as needing additional support are scheduled more time each week. Each learner spends a minimum of 20 hours per year on SuccessMaker, which generally produces at least one year of growth in both language arts and mathematics.

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SOLUTION (Continued)

Using assessment data from the end of the prior school year, progress reports within SuccessMaker as well as state level skills assessments teachers and administrators were able to identify which students needed additional support and to what extent.

Students in 2nd-4th grades who scored below on literacy or math benchmarks were enrolled in an extended day program and were scheduled more time on SuccessMaker either before or after school. Those students who were identified as needing Tier II intervention were scheduled to use SuccessMaker Enrichment tools for up to 75 minutes per week either before, during or after school.

The computer lab aide pulled progress reports every two weeks and teachers reviewed them to monitor progress and determine correlations between student growth, gains, time on program and their progress in class.

“I have been monitoring SuccessMaker at JFK for 15+ years. In fact after reentering the work force after working in banking it was my introduction to PC usage when I first started working here. Over this time I have witnessed a tremendous amount of growth and expansion in this program and can proudly say that I have grown right along with it. However, if I am to discuss growth then I must mention the success of our students. In monitoring them I can see how exposure to this program has promoted learning amongst our students. Further, when used as a tool for Response to Intervention, our at-risk students are exposed to additional time on the program further lending to their growth in language arts and math.”

— Darlene Noriega
computer lab manager

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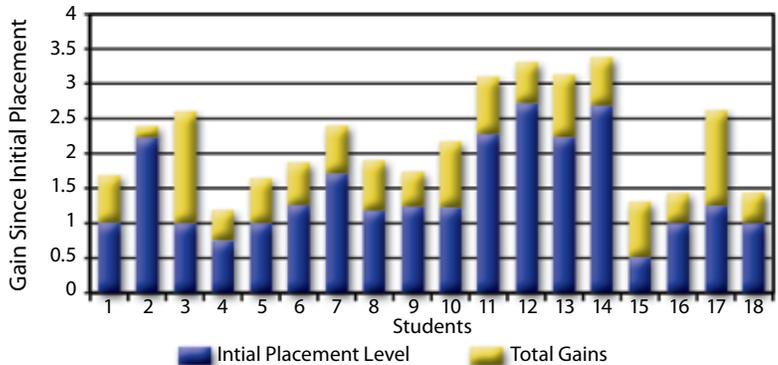
RESULTS

“SuccessMaker has become a way of life for us. Our computer lab aide, Mrs. Darlene Noriega, is our secret weapon, skilled beyond belief. Every hope and dream is made possible through her acuity with the program and her superior creativity, said Louis Cuglietto, principal at JFK Magnet. “The best way to support this program is to consider it as a part of our collection of instructional tools. We use the students’ data to inform our small group instruction and continue to find ways to utilize this software for the benefit of our students.”

JFK Magnet has been recognized for their excellence in providing quality education. In 2010 they received the New York State School of Excellence award and were designated as a 2010 National Blue Ribbon school. JFK Magnet was the only public school to receive this award in Westchester County.

Below is a graph illustrating the progress of 3rd grade special education students who used SuccessMaker in Tier II intervention.

JFK Magent School 2010-2011 – Growth in SuccessMaker 3rd Grade Special Education Students



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