

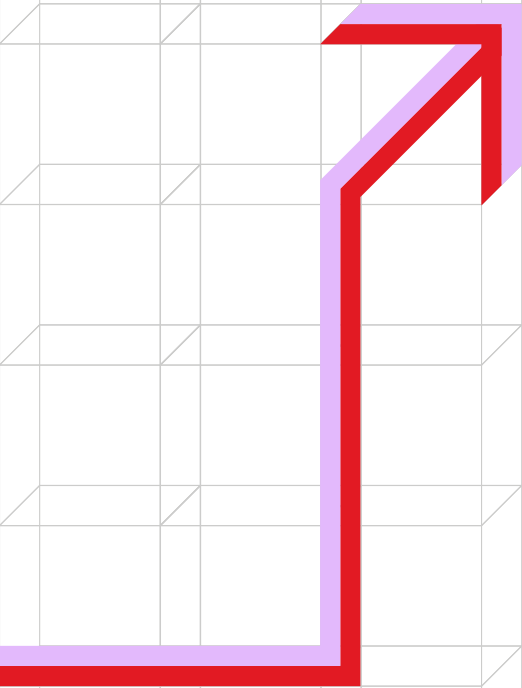


Number Worlds[®] Drives Remarkable Math Achievement Gains by Immersing Mastery Schools' Students in a World of Interactive Learning

Mastery Schools is a non-profit charter network comprised of 24 schools in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and Camden, New Jersey. Serving more than 14,000 students in Grades K–12, the urban school district is nationally recognized for its ability to turn around failing neighborhood schools in a supportive and welcoming community.

An integral part of Mastery Schools' mission is providing special education services and academic interventions that ensure all students are equipped with the skills they need to think critically, act independently, and pursue their dreams after graduation. In a recent interview, Director of Academic Interventions Jennifer Krocilick expanded on this mission by discussing their ongoing efforts to increase math proficiency at their schools—and why they chose McGraw Hill's *Number Worlds* math intervention program to help them achieve this goal.

Rooted in decades of research, *Number Worlds* is proven to accelerate mathematical understanding and bring struggling learners to grade-level proficiency and beyond.

**NUMBER
WORLDS**

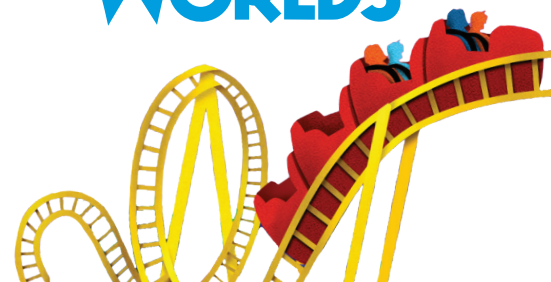
DISTRICT INFORMATION

**Name:**

Mastery Schools

Location:Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
and Camden, New Jersey**Grade:**

K–12



The flexible program pairs seamlessly with any core math program and offers a choice of 30, 45, or 60 minutes of targeted intervention each day.

The Challenge

Kroculick has been with Mastery Schools since 2010 and has held various positions there over the years—as Lead Case Manager, as Assistant Principal of Student Services, and most recently as Director of Academic Interventions.

“When I was Assistant Principal of Student Services at one of our campuses, I realized early on that we were lacking effective intervention for our students who had fallen behind,” Kroculick said. “So, when I became Director of Academic Interventions in 2020, one of the first things I wanted to do was fix this by finding the right intervention program for our entire charter network. At the time, our schools were either using any program they could find for intervention, or they weren’t using anything at all because it wasn’t required.”

The Solution

Mastery Schools began using *Number Worlds* for its K–8 math intervention in 2020 and quickly found that it was just the solution they needed. “With *Number Worlds*, we finally had a common foundation approach—a program that aligned perfectly with our Tier 2 and Tier 3 curriculums,” Kroculick said.

Kroculick added that *Number Worlds* has been so effective for their students because it’s extremely interactive and engaging. “It’s great for our kids who need to get up and move around and be more tactile and hands-on,” she emphasized. “With all of the digital

manipulatives that hold their attention, they feel like they’re playing a fun game with their classmates and teacher—so it doesn’t feel like a typical math class at all.”

“The latest version syncs well with our other systems and provides teachers with a lot of data, so they always know if students are mastering their weekly assessments.”

— **Jennifer Kroculick**
Director of Academic Interventions
Mastery Schools

Kroculick said she especially loves the 2024 edition of *Number Worlds*, which offers an updated easy-to-navigate dashboard for an even more data-rich experience. “The latest version syncs well with our other systems and provides teachers with a lot of data, so they always know if students are mastering their weekly assessments,” she said.



She added that another benefit of the 2024 edition is the enhancement of the *Building Blocks™* Adaptive online component, a collection of nearly 200 game-based activities that provide students with personalized, independent practice through a unique learning path.

Just as important, Kroculick said they also appreciate that *Number Worlds* provides plenty of built-in differentiation opportunities for ELL students. “There’s so much support for our multi-language learners—starting with the ELL Guide that’s part of the program, as well as the vocabulary cards that are available in different languages. At Mastery, we really do value ‘all means all,’ and that’s another reason this program is perfect for us.”

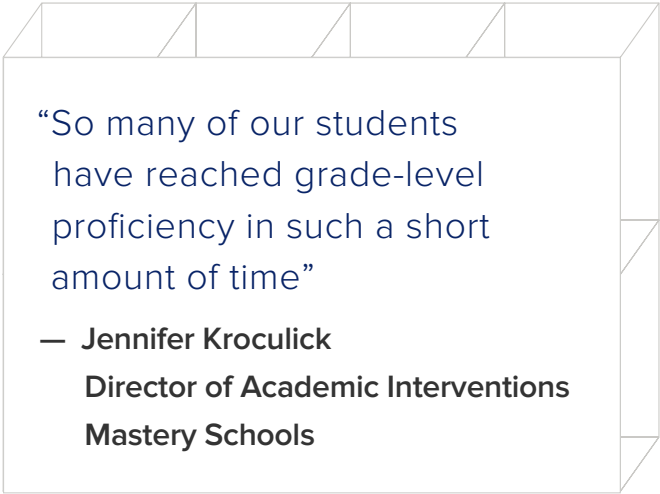
The Results

Mastery Schools has achieved impressive results with the implementation of *Number Worlds*. In fact, **96% of the 460 students currently using *Number Worlds* have met their Individualized Education Plan (IEP) goals.**

“There’s no denying that *Number Worlds* is working,” Kroculick emphasized. “It’s standards-based and the built-in assessment tools make it easy to track student progress—from the daily exit ticket and student workbook problems to the challenge questions and differentiation opportunities that are woven into the lesson plans. It just gives our teachers so much data right at their fingertips. And of course when they see that the data coming in is positive, they feel even more empowered.”

Kroculick said they’ve also seen significant mathematical growth on recent Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) assessments. At Mastery Prep Elementary, 22 out of 40 students have achieved a conditional growth percentile (CGP) of 50 on the Winter 2024–2025 MAP Math assessment—**which means their growth was greater than 50% of all students in the NWEA norm group.** And at Pastorious-Richardson Elementary, 27 out of 55 students have also achieved the 50th CGP on the Winter MAP Math assessment.

“So many of our students have reached grade-level proficiency in such a short amount of time,” Kroculick pointed out. “In fact, a group of middle schoolers at our Frederick Douglass campus recently transitioned back into the core curriculum with their general education peers because of the invaluable instruction they received with *Number Worlds*.”



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Moving Forward

While Kroculik said she's really looking forward to seeing how well their *Number Worlds* students perform on their upcoming state proficiency test, she emphasized that the benefits extend far beyond this.

"It's been amazing to see how much *Number Worlds* has fostered collaboration across our network," she said. "To have a cohort of educators on the same page and consistently teaching the same program has been game changing. And that holds true for our students, too. They're presented with so many opportunities for peer collaboration—and being

able to work together successfully is a skill that will serve them well throughout their lives."

When asked what words of advice she has for other schools looking to implement *Number Worlds*, Kroculik said, "Be sure to use all the resources that come with the program, because they're wonderful. The professional development sessions are so informative, and the consultants are extremely helpful and enthusiastic about showing you the ropes. And definitely utilize their technology team to help with set-up and integration. At the end of the day, it's this relationship building that makes all the difference."



To learn more about our program, visit:
mheonline.com/numberworlds

