



CASE STUDY

Everyday Mathematics Enhances Core Math for Teachers and Students

ABOUT THE DISTRICT

Name

Champaign Unit #4

Location

Champaign County, IL

Grades

K-6



Overview

Champaign Unit #4 School District is a large school district that serves 12 elementary schools in Champaign, Savoy, and Bondville, Illinois. The mission of the district, in partnership with the community, is to guide all students in gaining the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary to excel in a changing world by providing dynamic, resource-rich experiences.

In line with this mission, Champaign administrators chose *Everyday Mathematics 4* to provide the district's teachers with a very clear pathway for evolving their math instruction to meet rigorous Illinois Learning Standards.

37%

CAUCASIAN

35%

AFRICAN
AMERICAN

11%

HISPANIC

9%

ASIAN

10%

LIMITED
ENGLISH
PROFICIENT

55%

LOW
INCOME

TOTAL ENROLLMENT: 10,060

Implementation

Prior to 2015, Champaign district leaders were getting good results using McGraw-Hill's *Everyday Mathematics*. When *Everyday Mathematics 4* was released, they were enticed by new features in the latest iteration of the program. According to Susan Zola, Assistant Superintendent for Achievement, Curriculum and Instruction, it was the right solution for aligning with the Common Core.

"Even though we were very satisfied with our initial work, we're extremely happy that *Everyday Mathematics 4* now has a line to the Common Core," says Zola. "It provides a much clearer pathway for teachers and students to do the lesson components, in terms of how concepts are introduced."

Everyday Mathematics, which was developed by The University of Chicago's School Mathematics Project, continually reinforces abstract math concepts through concrete, real-world applications. It helps students master key concepts by revisiting them in a variety of contexts over time, as opposed to rote memorization.

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Susan Zola
Assistant Superintendent for Achievement,
Curriculum and Instruction
Champaign Unit #4 School District

Everyday Mathematics 4 gives teachers the confidence that students will master the Common Core state standards for each grade. Teachers can see how content develops across lessons and can pinpoint each student's mastery level for standards at any point during the school year.

"The fact that all the lessons are specifically aligned to the Common Core allows teachers, students, and administrators to have some clarity in the instruction and in what we would expect in terms of student learning," Zola says. "At the end of the day, our work is always going to be about student outcomes, and our students' success is always based on having a sound core curriculum."

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Zola says access to McGraw-Hill consultants and to the authors of *Everyday Mathematics* provides Champaign with a feeling of collaboration and partnership rather than one simply of a paying customer.

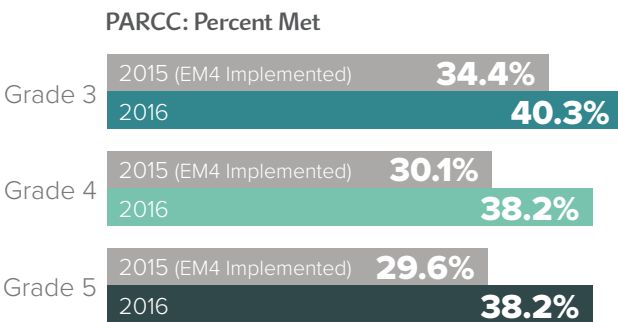
"McGraw-Hill is always trying to improve its work, and they're very responsive to our needs both in terms of professional work and practice," says Zola. "Part of the difference for us is that McGraw-Hill Education is a collaborator and a partner."

Results

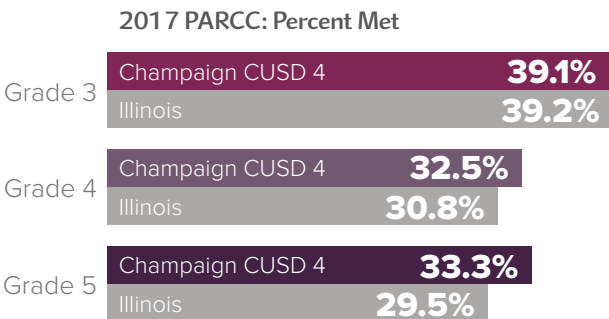
Champaign students have shown steady growth since *Everyday Mathematics 4* was implemented in 2015, and they now meet or exceed the scores of students in the rest of the state.

“*Everyday Mathematics* was thoughtfully developed, and it continues to be renewed and enhanced,” says Zola. “Our results speak volumes.

Champaign math student’s 2015 scores as compared to 2016



Champaign math students 2017 scores as compared to students statewide



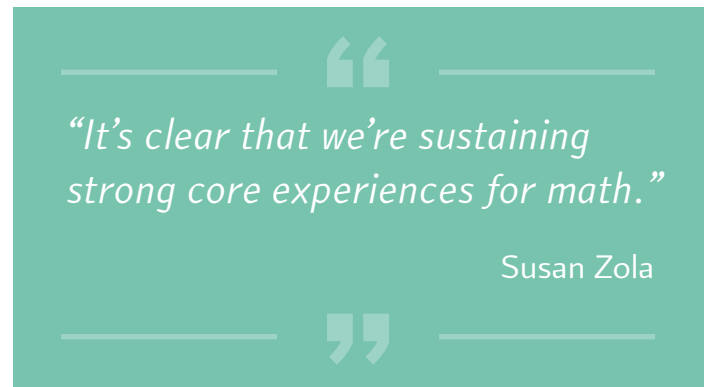
The Future

This summer, The University of Chicago will hold a two-week immersive experience for Champaign elementary staffers, which will expand the depth and understanding of *Everyday Mathematics 4* and will provide a valuable reward for attendees.

“Now we’ve got two weeks of model classroom experiences for teachers, coaches, administrators and district teaching-learning team members,” Zola says.

Zola adds that teachers value the district’s continued investment in *Everyday Mathematics* as an instructional and professional development tool.

“They’re very appreciative that we’ve invested in a high-quality resource,” Zola says. “I think people have appreciated the ongoing professional practice conversation. It’s clear that we’re sustaining strong core experiences for math.”



About *Everyday Mathematics 4*

Everyday Mathematics 4 is a comprehensive Pre–K through Grade 6 mathematics program engineered for the Common Core State Standards and grounded in an extensive body of research into how children learn. Among the approaches on which the program is most closely based is “distributed practice,” a technique that involves repeated exposures to key ideas in different contexts over time. The program’s signature spiral curriculum uses distributed practice to help students build depth of knowledge and achieve long-term mastery of concepts and skills.