



SUCCESS STORY

Enhances Results & DI in Janesville, Wisconsin

ABOUT THE SCHOOL

Name

School District of Janesville

Location

Janesville, Wisconsin

Enrollment

10,400



First Impression and Evidence

In Fall 2013, Janesville School District administered the Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Examination and the Wisconsin Alternative Assessment for Students with Disabilities. As the 10th largest school district in Wisconsin serving more than 10,000 children in 19 schools, Janesville returned a proficient or advanced score for almost 60 percent of its elementary students who took the exam. This resulted in the district cumulatively scoring 7 percentage points above the state average in math.

As the first hard evidence Janesville's adoption of *McGraw-Hill My Math* was working, Amy Sheridan, Janesville's district math coordinator, is quick to point out the signs of success there from day one.

"When we looked at *McGraw-Hill My Math*, it looked liked it would meet all of our needs," said Sheridan.



McGraw-Hill My Math

Differentiated Instruction and ELL Support within *My Math*

Since *McGraw-Hill My Math* is built around the Common Core and focuses on the standards of mathematical practice, Janesville students – at all learning levels - are provided with multiple experiences to build conceptual understanding, reasoning, and real-world, problem-solving skills.

“The number 1 reason why we moved to *McGraw-Hill My Math* was because it affords differentiation,” Sheridan said.

Sheridan remarks how, using *McGraw-Hill My Math*, makes it easier for Janesville teachers to assign students appropriate problems based on their individual levels of proficiency and build the conceptual understanding needed to apply their knowledge to real-world applications.

Differentiation has also become integral in Janesville in teaching English Language Learners (ELL). With the district seeing a growth in the ELL population, especially Spanish-speakers, *McGraw-Hill My Math* has become a staple resource for teachers with ELL students.

Sheridan recalls hearing from the ELL teachers that they “are absolutely loving the Spanish language resources.”

Flexible and Invaluable Support

ELL teachers are not the only ones who benefit from the added resources of *McGraw-Hill My Math*; Sheridan notes that all the teachers have found the flexibility and integration of professional support invaluable.

“McGraw-Hill Education’s professional development has been amazing,” she says. “You make a phone call and the McGraw-Hill Education trainer is ready

and available to support our teachers. McGraw-Hill Education provides us with what we need, whether it’s one-on-one help, group training, online video tutorials or instruction in the computer lab.”

When asked which *McGraw-Hill My Math* features have been best for the classroom, Sheridan highlights the effectiveness of the built-in Mathematical Practices. “Having these integrated into the content standards allows students to translate concepts into application and allows teachers to save time in building lesson plans,” stated Sheridan.

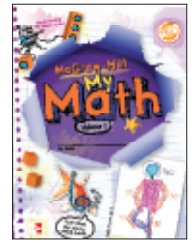
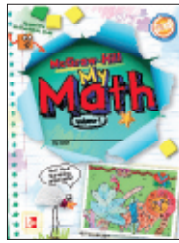
Sharing a story from a veteran kindergarten teacher who has been in the classroom for 30 years, Sheridan recalled how the teacher praised *McGraw-Hill My Math* saying, “I have never had a group of students really understand the math and the concepts behind MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) as well as the students using this program.”

Sheridan also underscores the effectiveness in engaging students while challenging them. She says features like the SMART board, vocabulary cards, games, videos and Foldables® gain students’ attention. Students tell her “It’s colorful. It’s fun. Math is fun again!”

The 3 Components of Rigor in *McGraw-Hill My Math*

1. Conceptual Understanding
2. Procedural Skill and Fluency
3. Application

Woven throughout the program in equal intensity, the components of rigor allow students to progress toward a higher level of achievement.



Unbeatable Resource

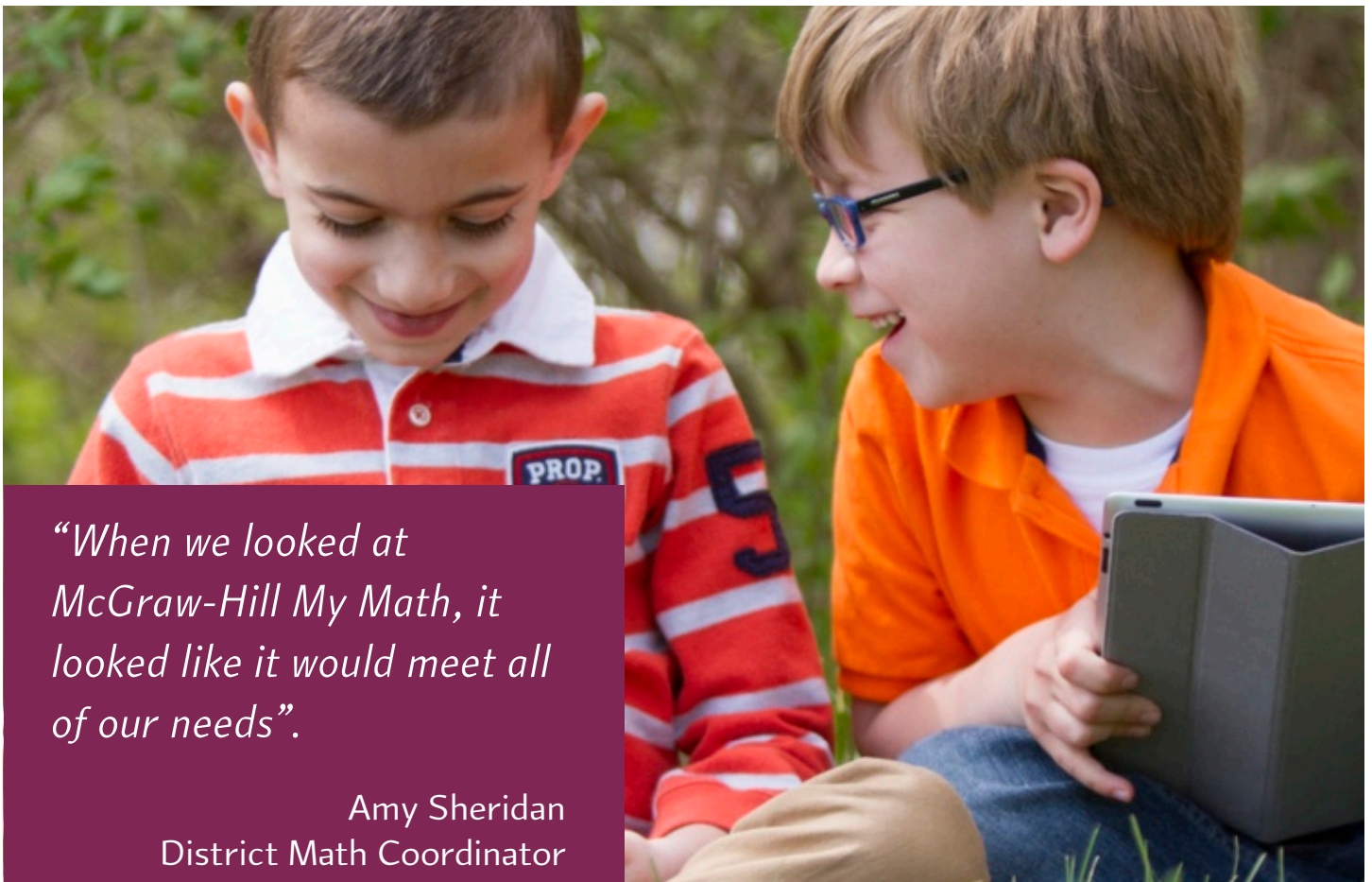
Confident in their partnership with McGraw-Hill Education and hopeful for the future, Sheridan compliments *McGraw-Hill My Math* saying, “The program is continuously being updated and evolving.

We value this in any curriculum we adopt. The amount of technology is great, and the fact that we have a resource that continues to grow with us is unbeatable.”

For the School District of Janesville, *McGraw-Hill My Math* has proven to be just the curriculum it needed

to align with the rigor outlined in the Common Core, differentiate instruction for all learners, and engage all students – which is paramount.

As the senior Janesville teacher puts it to Sheridan, “If we can get them engaged and understanding math at an early age like we are with McGraw-Hill My Math, they will be in good shape for lifelong learning.”



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Amy Sheridan
District Math Coordinator