



SUCCESS STORY

Rigor Plays Major Role in Minot Public Schools' Success

About the District

Name

Minot Public Schools

Location

Minot, North Dakota

Enrollment

7,500



Minot Public Schools

Prior to the adoption of McGraw-Hill My Math, less than 75% of Minot Public School students met the state's standards for adequate yearly progress in math.

Now, in its second year using McGraw-Hill My Math, positive results are showing for Minot.

Students who scored at the advanced or higher levels on the North Dakota math assessment increased their scores dramatically between 2011-12, the year before the adoption of McGraw-Hill My Math, and the 2013-14 school year.

Renae Rudolph, the math curriculum director for Minot, credits these gains, to what she calls "the greatest strength of McGraw-Hill My Math"- the rigor.

Increase in Grade 3 scores after McGraw-Hill My Math Implementation

5%
Increase in Grade 4 scores after
McGraw-Hill My Math Implementation

6%
Increase in Grade 5 scores after
AcGraw-Hill My Math Implementation

McGraw-Hill My Math

After reviewing McGraw-Hill My Math

Reviewing four series in depth for content aligning with the Common Core State Standards and the Standards for Mathematical Practice, Minot adopted McGraw-Hill My Math at the end of its last curriculum cycle. Renae says McGraw-Hill My Math came in first in every criteria examined, and chief among these was rigor.

"The program is built on the rigor of the Common Core, and that has been very valuable for us," Rudolph says. "We have found a resource that was built upon the standards every child needs to meet."

How McGraw-Hill My Math Works

At the beginning of each lesson, students using *McGraw-Hill My Math* investigate a concept in Investigate the Math. Students then have many opportunities to practice procedural skills throughout the lesson and tackle harder, higher-order thinking problems at the end of the lesson. This makes it easier for Minot teachers to differentiate and assign students appropriate problems based on their individual levels of proficiency.

McGraw-Hill My Math also teaches multiple problem-solving strategies, allowing students to model math and construct arguments that build the mathematical practices into "habits of mind," resulting in strong conceptual understanding.

McGraw-Hill My Math provides teachers the ability to bring more focus to certain concepts, such as fractions, which Rudolph surmises through exposure to McGraw-Hill My Math has led to better student understanding of fractions.

Teacher Tools in McGraw-Hill My Math

When asked which *McGraw-Hill My Math* tools have been most effective in the classroom, Rudolph points to a number of things.

"Teachers really liked the Math Talk Component, the Problem of the Day and the Hands-On Math," Rudolph says. "The differentiation resources are very well laid out and easy to use. The pre-made assessment options are plentiful, with the added ability to enhance them or even create our own. Assessments are available in the form of readiness checks, pre-tests, progress checks, chapter tests and benchmark assessments covering multiple chapters."

Students and teachers in the lower grades also seem to like that *McGraw-Hill My Math* allows them to approach problem solving using multiple methods, says Rudolph.

"We also like the performance tasks included with grades first through fifth," Rudolph says. "There are four per grade level, and they provide excellent practice for the performance task that will be included in the new Common Core testing."

Anywhere, Anytime Access and ELL Support

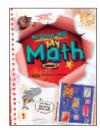
Parents like the online access to the textbook so they can view it whenever they like, she adds. Other school-to-home connections include Math at Home letters, Math at Home games and anytime access to the Student Center, which houses homework assignments, lesson animations, personal tutors, and digital games. eHelp is available for further explanations of concepts.

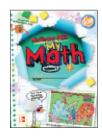
While the district today has few English language learners, North Dakota's economic boom is contributing to Minot's population growth, which could bring unpredictable changes to the student population. Rudolph says "McGraw-Hill My Math is a great resource for ELL students," adding that "We were overwhelmed with the amount of resources McGraw-Hill My Math provided. We feel the resources for differentiation and Spanish are there."





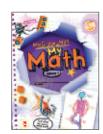












Rudolph says that since implementing *McGraw-Hill My Math*, which requires students to think and reflect more on what they are learning, rigor in the classroom has increased and that "an increasing number of students are attaining their expected annual growth rate as measured by scores on the MAP test. Now, the district is working to sustain that growth and *McGraw-Hill My Math* will be a big part of that."

McGraw-Hill My Math should also help ease the transition for fifth-graders moving to sixth grade, where the district is in its second year using McGraw-Hill Glencoe

Math, says Rudolph.

In the end, McGraw-Hill My Math's rigor and alignment with Common Core, combined with differentiated instruction, adaptable online resources, professional development and multiple assessment tools are all helping to achieve results, inspire engagement, and lifelong learning for students in the Minot Public Schools.

