

# Growing with Mathematics®



## Growing with Mathematics Moves Title I Students Toward Proficiency

Once Wright Group/McGraw-Hill's **Growing with Mathematics** was fully implemented district-wide in Grades K–5 at Utah's Washington County School District in fall 2006, math scores at several Title I schools began to rise. The best example of improvement is at four Title I schools where teachers moved a large majority of students from Not Proficient to Proficient on the Mathematics Criterion-Referenced Test (CRT).

These four schools were Dixie Downs Elementary School, Hurricane Elementary

School, La Verkin Elementary School, and Sandstone Elementary School.

As the chart shows, the percentage of students scoring Proficient increased in all four buildings as they moved from Grade 3 to Grade 4. One school in particular – Hurricane Elementary School – increased the number of students scoring Proficient in Grade 3 to Proficient the following year by 22%!

Kris Cunningham, math coordinator for the district, said **Growing with Mathematics**

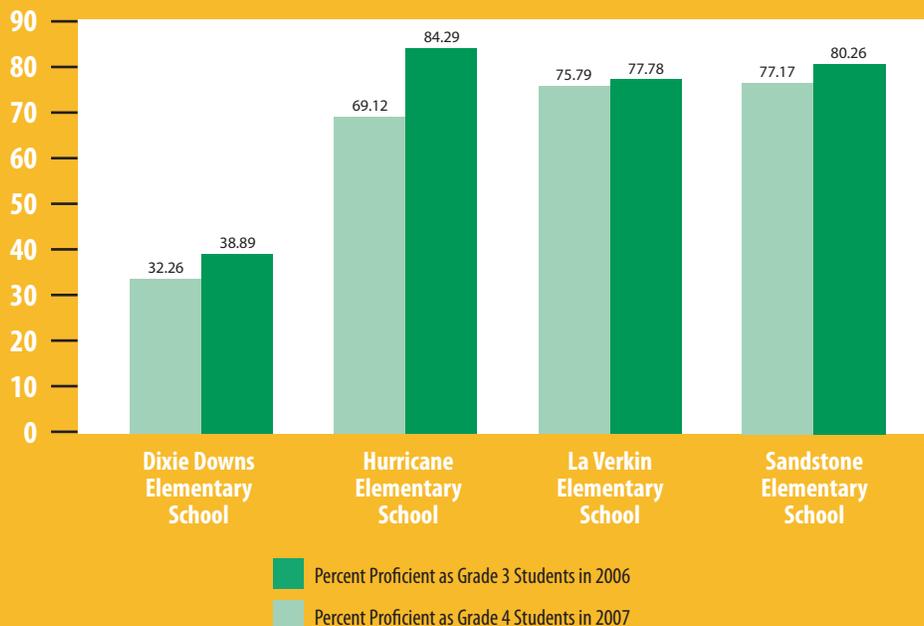
has changed the culture in the district's elementary math classrooms.

"Our teachers were not used to engaging students in ongoing math discussions," she explained. "That was one of our biggest challenges. Now teachers and students have full discussions about many math concepts, including problem solving," Cunningham said.

Cunningham explained teachers find several program components to be helpful. "**Growing with Mathematics** has a strong literary component, including big books for lower elementary grades and real-world books for upper elementary grades. This allows students to see math happening in literature and in the world around them. Teachers also love the

Percentage of Students Scoring Proficient in Math

Source: Criterion-Referenced Test



After implementing **Growing with Mathematics**, the percentage of students scoring Proficient increased in all four buildings as they moved from Grade 3 to Grade 4.

resource kit and the teacher topics within it because all are user-friendly," she said.

In addition to improving student math knowledge, **Growing with Mathematics** has improved teacher knowledge in the Washington County School District. A group of teachers was given a nationally normed college math test before they began teaching the program. They were then tested after each year of teaching. Teachers experienced a 16 percentage point increase in math knowledge the first year and 22 percentage point the second year.

"**Growing with Mathematics** equips everyone, including students and teachers, with a variety of thinking strategies," she explained. "This skill helps everyone solve problems effectively and confidently."

## About The Washington County School District

Serving more than 23,000 students in 40 schools, this district's student

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Kris Cunningham, Math Coordinator

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population is 86% Caucasian, 10% Hispanic, 2% African American, and 2% Asian. Thirty-one percent of children qualify for free or reduced-price lunch. For more information, visit [Wash.K12.ut.us](http://Wash.K12.ut.us).

## About Growing with Mathematics

**Growing with Mathematics** is a core mathematics program that is appropriate for all student populations. Extensive field testing and in-depth research determined the mathematical content and sequence of the program, as well as the teaching methods it promotes. At each grade level,

all components and learning experiences are carefully designed to match students' interests and abilities. **Growing with Mathematics** equips students with a variety of thinking strategies they can use to solve problems effectively and confidently.

The latest revision of **Growing with Mathematics** aligns with the NCTM Principles and Standards for School Mathematics. In 2000, the U.S. Department of Education identified **Growing with Mathematics** as a "Promising Mathematics Program." In 2001, the National Science Foundation recognized **Growing with Mathematics** as one of four elementary research-based mathematics education core curriculum programs.

**Growing with Mathematics** features:

- A unique mix of hands-on activities
- Skill development with accompanying practice
- Rich choice of contexts for problem solving
- Development of mathematical language
- Embedded teacher support

For additional research results demonstrating the success of **Growing with Mathematics** in the classroom, please call **1-800-648-2970**.