

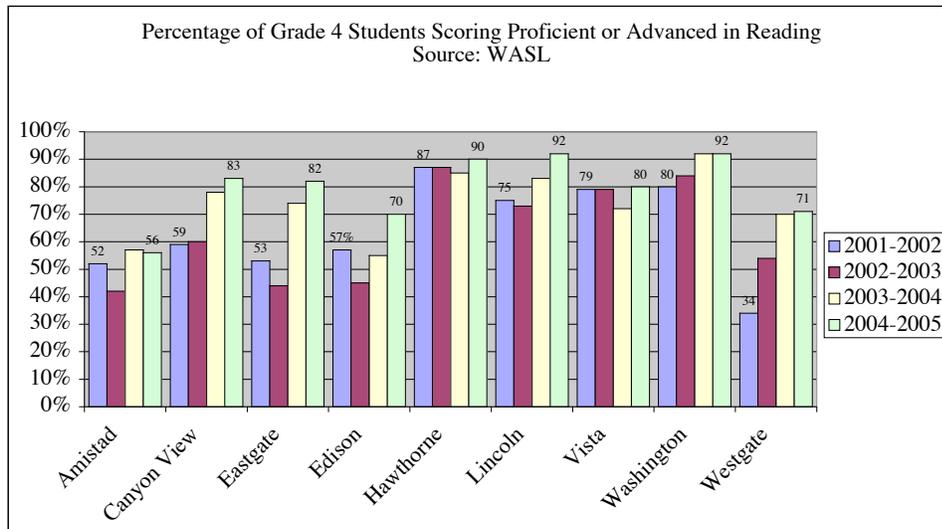


About the District:		About the Students:	
Grades:	K-12	African American:	3%
Number of Students:	15,000	Caucasian:	72%
Test(s):	WASL	Hispanic:	23%
Reduced Price Lunch:	40%	Asian:	2%
		Other:	-
		ELL	8%



Open Court Reading Students Outscore Others In District

Kennewick School District saw the impact of SRA/McGraw-Hill's *Open Court Reading* when nine of its 13 elementary schools implemented the program in Grades K-5 by the fall of 2002. Teachers at the nine *Open Court Reading* schools were thrilled when some of their Grade 4 students outperformed Grade 4 students in the four remaining schools not using the program. Even more remarkable is that the nine schools using *Open Court Reading* have low-income populations of students, while the four other schools serve children at higher socioeconomic levels.



About the Implementation

Educators teach *Open Court Reading* to all students each day during a two-hour reading block. Struggling readers received additional instruction every day for 30 minutes to one hour.

Dave Montague is principal at Washington Elementary School, which serves 560 students (58% of whom are low-income). He says reading instruction is sacred at his school – no assemblies, no announcements, and no interruptions during this time.

“If you start 20 minutes late or stop 20 minutes early every day during Grades 1-3, students lose the equivalent of 40 minutes daily of reading instruction during those first three years,” he said. “This averages out to approximately 120 hours of lost reading time per year.”

Following the first 60 minutes of grade-level instruction in the classroom, students move into smaller groups for tightly organized, highly integrated, and prescriptive activities. Students are able to reconvene into these smaller groups because virtually every adult at the school teaches reading, including teacher aides, librarians, and music and physical education specialists.





“We have mobilized every adult in the school to teach during the two-hour reading block because these 120 minutes are precious, and we maximize every minute,” Montague said.

Jenny Olson teaches Grade 1 at another *Open Court Reading* school – Vista Elementary, where 46% of the students qualify for free or reduced-price lunches. During the 2004-2005 school year, her class included 27 students who had not achieved Kindergarten standards. After one year with *Open Court Reading*, all but three students graduated to Grade 2.

“One student experienced 21 months of growth in just nine months of instruction!” she said. “Another child doubled his score from fall to spring on the Functional Level Test, despite being dyslexic. I couldn’t have achieved these miracles without *Open Court Reading*. After 30 years of teaching, I only wish I had found it sooner.”

About Kennewick School District

Serving nearly 15,000 students in Grades K-12, this district’s student population is 72% Caucasian, 23% Hispanic, 3% African American, and 2% Asian. Forty percent of the students qualify for free or reduced-price lunches, and 8% are English Language Learners. For more information about Kennewick School District, visit www.ksd.org.

For More Information

If you would like to learn more about success with *Open Court Reading* in your school or district, please contact us today at **1-888-SRA-4543**.
