



About the District:		About the Students:	
Grades:	PreK-12	African American:	23%
Number of Students:	11,644	Caucasian:	70%
Test(s):	EOG	Hispanic:	6%
Reduced Price Lunch:	51%	Asian:	<1%
		Other:	<1%
		ELL	-



## Title I Schools in North Carolina District Meet All-State Reading Targets with Direct Instruction

Following the implementation of SRA/McGraw-Hill’s Direct Instruction in three Title I Brunswick County elementary schools, each school met all reading targets for the very first time during the 2006–2007 school year. Their overall scores on the state’s End-of-Grade Test (EOG) have also improved since Direct Instruction began in fall 2004.

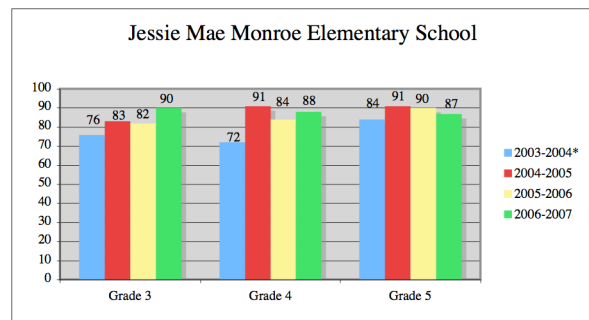
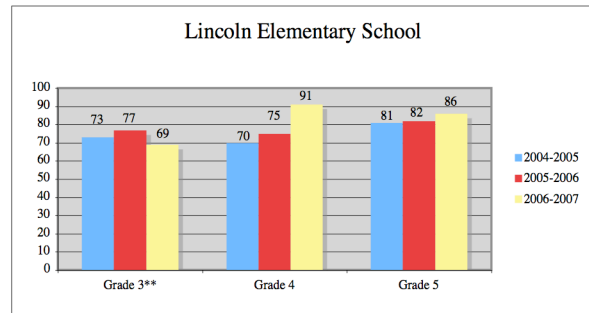
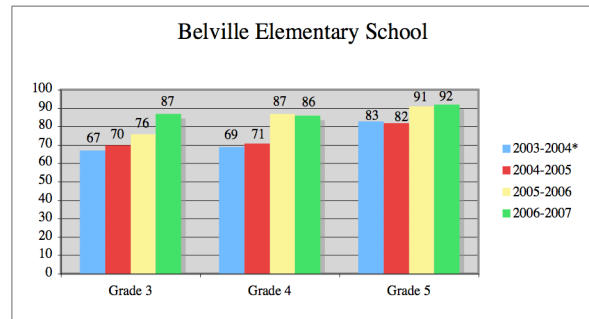
Belville Elementary School, Jessie Mae Monroe Elementary School, and Lincoln Elementary School had all been placed in the School Improvement category during the 2003–2004 school year because they had not achieved Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP).

Direct Instruction’s *Reading Mastery* began as intervention at the start of the 2004–2005 school year in each school’s Kindergarten and was soon expanded to Grades K–5 for intervention.

Two additional Direct Instruction programs were added as well: *Language for Learning* (in Kindergarten) and *Corrective Reading* (for intervention).

By 2006–2007, Lincoln Elementary School exited the School Improvement category because students had met reading goals for two straight years. The other two schools will exit the category if they meet their reading goals again during the 2007–2008 school year.

**Percentage of Students Scoring At or Above Proficient in Reading**  
Source: EOG



\*Before Direct Instruction began.

\*\* The Grade 3 score at Lincoln decreased in 2007 because of a large influx of new students.



Faye Nelson, Director of Elementary Education and Title I, said Direct Instruction has been so successful at these schools that the need for intervention is phasing out, especially among older students who have experienced the programs since Kindergarten.

“Many of these students in Grades 3–5 were complete non-readers before Direct Instruction began,” she said. “These are regular education students who had struggled for years, but now they have developed the skills necessary to improve fluency and comprehension. Direct Instruction caught them up to the point where they are able to participate successfully in their regular classrooms.”

Tina Child, Direct Instruction lead teacher, said Direct Instruction’s explicit, systematic instruction is what makes all the difference.

“Students are placed where they need to be, and then we systematically move them through the programs,” she explained. “We’re amazed by the incredible rate at which children can learn, especially those below grade level. It’s all because of the explicit instruction. I’ve seen students experience one to two years of growth in just one school year.”

Since Direct Instruction has been so successful at these three schools, teachers have implemented its programs with at-risk students in all district elementary schools.

#### **About Brunswick County Schools**

Serving more than 11,640 students in Grades Pre-K–12, the district’s student population is 70% Caucasian, 23% African American, 6% Hispanic and less than one percent each Native American and Asian. Fifty-one percent qualify for free or reduced-price lunch. For more information, please visit [www.co.brunswick.k12.nc.us](http://www.co.brunswick.k12.nc.us).

#### **For More Information**

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

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