

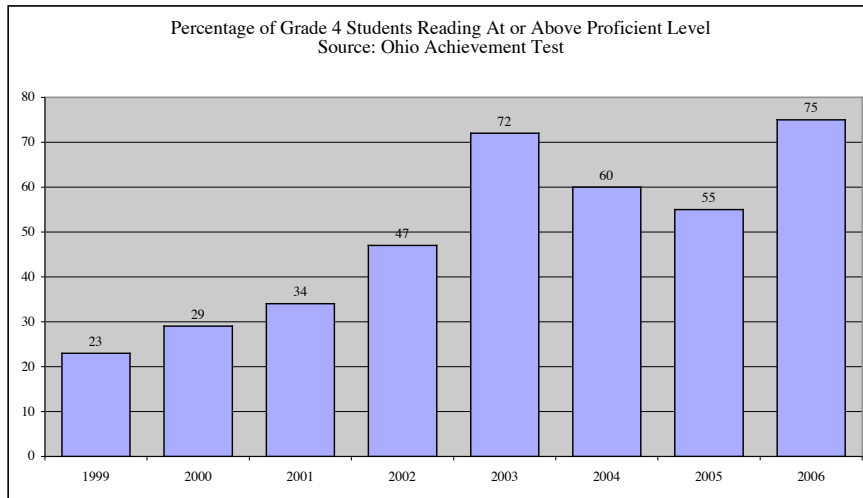


About the School:		About the Students:	
Grades:	PreK-5	African American:	98%
Number of Students:	425	Caucasian:	-
Test(s):	Ohio Achievement Test	Hispanic:	-
		Asian:	-
Reduced Price Lunch:	100%	Multi-cultural:	2 %
		ELL	-



Commitment to Direct Instruction Increases Reading Scores at Cleveland School

After educators at Daniel E. Morgan Elementary School implemented SRA/McGraw-Hill's Direct Instruction during the 1996–1997 school year in Grades K–1, the percentage of those students passing Ohio's reading test as Grade 4 students in 1999 and 2000 rose from 23% to 29%, respectively. Scores continued to rise until 2004 and 2005 when they decreased slightly. Principal Marsha Curtis said that's because several teachers trained in Direct Instruction left the school for various reasons. By 2006, however, Curtis said the new teachers had become acclimated to the program, so scores rebounded – 75% of Grade 4 students read at or above the proficient level.



Before Direct Instruction Began

According to Curtis, teachers knew in the mid-1990s that children were not entering Grade 1 with the reading-readiness skills necessary to succeed.

“We were using the whole-language approach to teach reading then, and it just wasn't working, especially in Kindergarten,” she said. “We all agreed to begin with Direct Instruction's *Language for Learning* and *Reading Mastery* in Grades K–1 to give our kids the tools they needed for a firm foundation in reading.”



What Teachers and Parents are Saying Now

Curtis said some teachers resisted changing the reading program, but they quickly became enamored with Direct Instruction once they witnessed rapid results. “Now all the teachers love Direct Instruction and look forward to starting it with new children each new school year.”

Not only do teachers sing the praises of Direct Instruction, but parents do, too. “It’s wonderful how the children begin reading immediately,” Curtis said. “And parents love the fact that their Kindergarteners are reading by January of each year. I’m so glad we committed to this program seven years ago. We knew it was the missing link for our children.”

About Daniel E. Morgan Elementary School

This school serves roughly 425 students in Grades Pre-K–5. The student population is 98% African American and 2% multicultural. All children are eligible for free or reduced-price lunch. For more information about Daniel E. Morgan Elementary School, visit home.centurytel.net/dem/demmedcenterhomepag.htm.

For More Information

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