

Boiling Spring Elementary School

ALLEGHENY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
COVINGTON, VIRGINIA

SCHOOL PROFILE

175 STUDENTS, GRADES PK-5
43% Free/Reduced Lunch
100% White
Rural Location

LIGHTSPAN ACHIEVE NOW IMPLEMENTATION

Classroom/Family Homework Model
Grade 1, Began Fall 2000
100% Home Deployment
Reading/Language Arts/Mathematics Focus

RESEARCH INSTRUMENTS

Tests for Higher Standards in English (Flanagan)
Phonological Awareness of Literacy Screening (PALS)

RESEARCH TIME FRAME

2001-02 School Year

FIRST GRADE STUDENTS ACHIEVE SIGNIFICANT GAINS IN MATHEMATICS AND ALSO MAKE GAINS ON PALS.

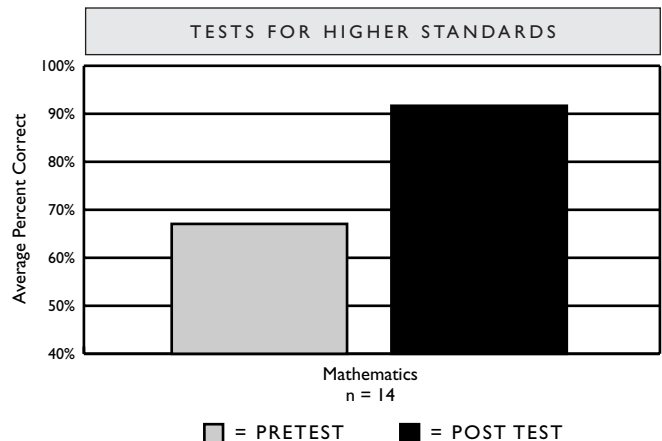
DURING THE 2001-02 SCHOOL YEAR, FIRST GRADE STUDENTS ACHIEVED STATISTICALLY SIGNIFICANT GAINS ($P < .05$) OF 24.6% IN MATHEMATICS ON THE TESTS FOR HIGHER STANDARDS (FLANAGAN). FIRST GRADE STUDENTS ALSO MADE GAINS OF 8.9% AND 15.6% IN THE AREAS OF WORD LIST AND ENTRY LEVEL SUM ON THE PHONOLOGICAL AWARENESS OF LITERACY SCREENING (PALS). 79% OF FIRST GRADE STUDENTS TESTED MET THE PALS CRITERIA IN THE SPRING.

THIRD GRADERS, NEW TO THE PROGRAM THIS YEAR, DID NOT HAVE COMPLETE DATA AVAILABLE FOR ANALYSIS AT THIS TIME.

LIGHTSPAN ACHIEVE NOW™ WAS FUNDED BY A VIRGINIA BUSINESS-EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP GRANT IN FALL 2000. THE PROJECT, "BUILDING THE FOUNDATION FOR SUCCESS: CONNECTING HOME AND SCHOOL," WAS DESIGNED TO INCREASE STUDENT MASTERY OF VIRGINIA STANDARDS OF LEARNING.

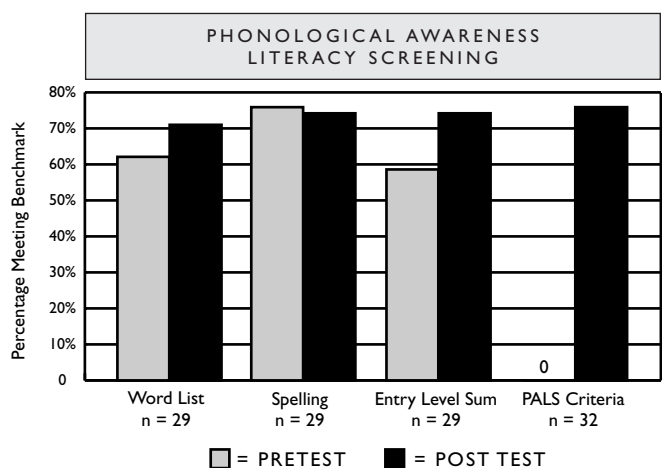
First-grade students achieve gains in Mathematics

First-grade students using Lightspan Achieve Now™ curriculum realized a statistically significant increase ($p < .05$) of 24.6% in Mathematics, moving from an average of 67.1% at pretest to 91.7% at post-test.



First-grade students make gains in 3 of 4 areas of PALS. 75.9% meet PALS Criteria in the Spring.

First-grade students using Lightspan Achieve Now™ curriculum made gains of 8.9% and 15.6% in Word List and Entry Level Sum respectively from Fall to Spring on the Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening (PALS). On the PALS Criteria measure, 75.9% met the PALS Criteria in the Spring compared to 0% in the fall, a notable gain of 75.9%.



Boiling Spring Elementary School Program Background

Boiling Spring Elementary School is located in the rural, mountainous region of Allegheny-Highland Virginia. The school serves 175 students in grades PreK–5.

Implementation of the Lightspan Achieve Now™ standards-based curriculum program began in Fall 2000 and was funded through a Virginia Business-Education Partnership Grant. The Boiling Spring project is called “Building the Foundation for Success: Connecting Home and School.” The goal of this project is to increase student mastery of the Virginia Standards of Learning by extending quality learning time through the development of positive relationships between the school, the home, and local partnerships.

At Boiling Spring Elementary School, the Lightspan Achieve Now™ program began in 2000–01. Two first-grade classrooms were targeted to utilize the Lightspan program as a teaching and learning tool. It expanded in 2001–02 to include one third-grade classroom.

Teachers at Boiling Spring Elementary School attended professional development sessions to align the Virginia Standards of Learning to the Lightspan curriculum. The teachers were able to identify and select Lightspan activities and materials appropriate to their teaching objectives. Throughout the school year, the teachers used the Lightspan curriculum for direct whole class instruction as well as to individualize student learning. The students worked with Lightspan Achieve Now in reading, language arts, and mathematics at school and in the home, thereby increasing student achievement and enhancing meaningful family involvement in student learning. Families participated in an orientation meeting, a mid-year workshop, and a celebration at the end of the year.



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