

# High Achievement Propelled Higher, Continuing a Tradition of Excellence

## Case Study: Springfield Elementary School, New Middletown, OH

### School Profile

- Title I Targeted Assisted building
- High-performing
- 410 K–4 students
- 16 teachers
- 9 support personnel and administrators
- 29% eligible for free/reduced lunch
- 14% special education

### i-Ready Implementation

- 6 months
- 399 students in grades K–4

### Quick Success Facts

- 20% increase in reading national percentile rank in reading
- 40 scale score point increase in math
- 37 scale score point increase in reading

### Background

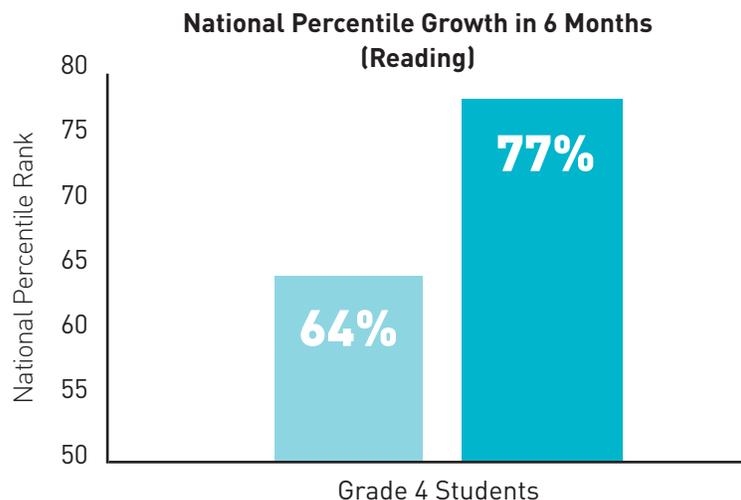
Springfield Elementary in New Middletown, OH, was in an enviable position. Student performance had been consistently strong for the past 11 years. “At the start of i-Ready, the scores were pretty high,” said Principal Tom Yazvac, who oversees curriculum and has set a tradition of high achievement and rigorous performance standards. Yet, Mr. Yazvac wanted to ensure that each and every student was effectively and efficiently able to meet his/her full potential. Thus, the search began for an internet-based instructional and diagnostic program to be used with all students to help:

- Continue to improve scores on the Ohio Achievement Test
- Reinforce content standards
- Boost teacher effectiveness while maintaining the teacher-student ratio (1:20–28)

“i-Ready gave us a tool we could use to compare data, show student progress, and offer additional reinforcement,” said Mr. Yazvac.

### “We’re always focused on the test, but my number one goal is student performance.”

After using i-Ready, Springfield Elementary saw improved performance. For mathematics, there were increases at every grade level from test 1 to test 2. The percentage of students scoring at or above grade level more than doubled for most grades. In reading, the increase in average test scores from test 1 to test 2 was also statistically significant. In fact, after 6 months the national percentile rank for grade 4 students increased by 20%.



*\*Findings are based on 3rd party norm scores through MetaMetrics*

Independent third party data analysis provided by:

**Educational Research Institute of America**

www.eriaonline.com • email: info@eriaonline.com  
An affiliate of Beck Evaluation & Testing Associates, Inc.

Furthermore, student performance on the i-Ready Diagnostic was linked to student performance on the Ohio Achievement Test. For both mathematics and reading, analyses using Pearson R and Spearman's Rho correlations were moderate to strong.

With i-Ready, Springfield Elementary improved results and continued their high level of achievement with fewer tutors and instructional partners in the classroom while freeing up teachers to work more closely with individual students. "Children are growing up with computer software and technology, so they can relate to an online program," recalled Mr. Yazvac. "i-Ready makes learning particularly fun."

### **"The reports are phenomenal."**

Library media specialist Kristen Snyder found i-Ready reports were an essential part of their success. "They go in to great detail, not only saying what a child needs improvement in, but providing suggestions for teachers and parents on how to help," said Ms. Snyder.

i-Ready reports became another tool to show parents the progress their children were making. Another benefit, Mr. Yazvac explained, was the reports "did not leave a lot of room for uncertainty because they spell everything out."

Both administrators and teachers at Springfield Elementary were impressed with the user-friendly reports that made data collection and instructional planning easy. But it wasn't just data. "I love the extra lessons you can put on if students are having difficulty on a particular skill," said Ms. Snyder.

### **"It was easy to go from the test straight to the lessons."**

i-Ready was used as part of a learning center at Springfield Elementary. There was an average of 15 weeks between tests where students worked through lessons and practice that not only kept them on task and challenged, but made learning fun. Because the assessments and instruction are in one system, there's consistency between tests and lessons.

"When students see similarities like this, there's less of a learning curve moving from assessment to instruction," commented Mr. Yazvac. Ms. Snyder found that this made i-Ready "easy and user friendly."

### **"We get so much from it."**

i-Ready achieved all of Springfield Elementary's goals. Mr. Yazvac has been so pleased with the program that he's recommended it to many of his colleagues because of its ease of use, student engagement, the reports, the connection to standards, and the results they've seen.

In addition, Mr. Yazvac and his team felt the support was outstanding. "The i-Ready support team is very patient, addressing our concerns and taking our suggestions."

"There are many principals looking to improve student achievement and i-Ready makes it very easy," said Mr. Yazvac.

