

Noralto Elementary



School Years: 2008–2010

Location: Sacramento, CA

School: Noralto Elementary

School Type: Suburban

District: Twin Rivers USD

Student Enrollment: 697

Grade Levels: K–6

Demographics: 59% Latino
20% Asian
9% African-American
6% Caucasian
6% Other
85% Free or Reduced Lunch
61% ELL

Product(s): ST Math®: K–5

Years Using the Program: 2 years

Implementation: Grades K–5

Assessment Tool: CST (California Standardized Test)

Site Contact: Brad Allen, Principal

Creating a Culture of Success

The crossing guard at Noralto Elementary, who is also a student learning coach, greets you with a giant penguin sewn across her uniform. This support is in celebration of a math program that helped the school increase 32 points in their state API scores after only the second year of students and teachers participating in the MIND Research ST Math® visual math software program.

Results

21 Point Increase in Percentage of Students in Proficient & Advanced After Two Years of Implementation

In the 2009–2010 school year, Noralto Elementary School adopted the MIND ST Math K–5 program. After the first year of implementation, the students who scored in the Proficient and Advanced categories on the California Standards Tests (CST’s) increased by almost 14 points over the previous year. The school quickly adopted a culture of math success that raised the expectation bar for every student in math. And Jiji, the animated penguin mascot of the unique, non-language based software, began to appear campus-wide.

With six full computer labs and a staff that ensures that every child interfaces with the math puzzles in this program daily, Noralto continued to see significant gains in their math proficiency. In the 2010–2011 school year, students and teachers realized a nearly 7 point additional increase in advanced and proficient levels. In just two years, they saw an increase of almost 21 points.

Noralto serves mostly students struggling with economic disadvantages, and learning English. You can see smiles on the faces of the crossing guard and on a whole campus full of students who now have leveled the academic playing field with the help of a penguin, and of research-proven software which emphasizes a visual learning approach, and the outstanding team of Noralto’s visionary educators who are helping the students at Noralto achieve math success.

“This year Noralto is celebrating 16 students who received perfect scores on their CST exams. Twin Rivers Unified School District is made up of 49 schools. We have the highest number of 100% scores in our district. It is not a coincidence that Noralto also had the highest percent of student progress within the district on the ST Math [Jiji] program. Our student math proficiency has greatly benefited due to the full implementation of Jiji [the animated penguin].”

– Brad Allen, Principal, Noralto Elementary



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RESULTS

