

Cherry Hill Elementary School

BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

SCHOOL PROFILE

464 STUDENTS GRADES PK-5
82% Free/Reduced Price Lunch
99% African American
<1% American Indian
<1% Asian
<1% Hispanic
<1% White

PLATO® ACHIEVE NOW™ IMPLEMENTATION

Grades K-5
Supplemental Educational Services Implementation
After-school Tutorial Model
Mathematics Focus

RESEARCH INSTRUMENTS

PLATO® Achieve Now Progress Test

RESEARCH TIME FRAME

2005-06 School Year

STUDENTS MAKE GAINS IN READING AND LANGUAGE ARTS

CHERRY HILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHOSE PLATO® ACHIEVE NOW TO USE AS PART OF A SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICES (SES) AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM FOR LOW-PERFORMING STUDENTS IN GRADES KINDERGARTEN THROUGH FIVE. STUDENTS WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE PROGRAM MADE NO GAINS IN TOTAL MATHEMATICS AS MEASURED BY THE PLATO® ACHIEVE NOW PROGRESS TESTS.

WHEN PRE- AND POST-TEST SCORES OF THE PLATO® ACHIEVE NOW PROGRESS TEST WERE COMPARED, ON AVERAGE, THE PARTICIPATING STUDENTS MADE A 17 (p=.037) PERCENTAGE POINT DECLINE IN TOTAL MATHEMATICS. IN TERMS OF ACTUAL PERCENTAGE CHANGE, ON AVERAGE STUDENTS SHOWED A 19% DECLINE IN TOTAL MATHEMATICS SCORE.

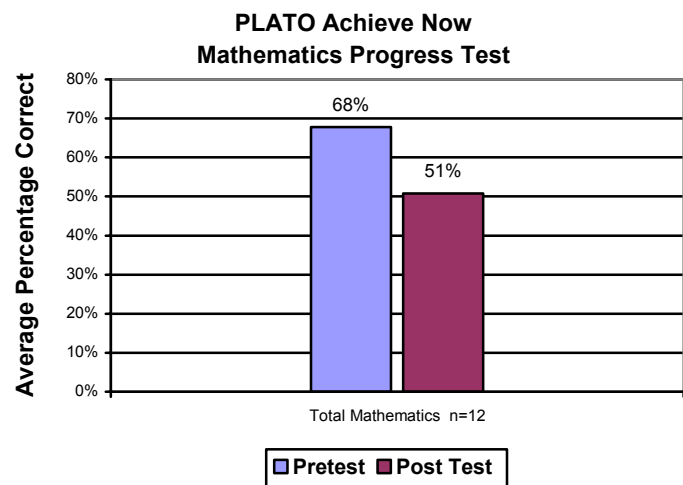
PLATO® LEARNING, INC. REQUIRES STUDENTS TO ATTEND A MINIMUM OF 75% OF THE SCHEDULED SESSIONS, AND BY THE END OF THE PROGRAM PERIOD 75% OF THE PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS ARE EXPECTED TO ATTAIN A 15% INCREASE IN PROFICIENCY SCORES.

STUDENTS WERE OFFERED A TOTAL OF 44 HOURS OF INSTRUCTION IN THE SES PROGRAM USING PLATO® ACHIEVE NOW. WHEN THE PRE- AND POST-TEST SCORES OF THE PLATO® ACHIEVE NOW PROGRESS TEST WERE COMPARED FOR STUDENTS WHO ATTENDED 80% OR MORE OF THE PROGRAM SESSIONS, PARTICIPATING STUDENTS MADE A 14 (p=.077) PERCENTAGE POINT DECLINE IN TOTAL MATHEMATICS. IN TERMS OF ACTUAL PERCENTAGE CHANGE STUDENTS WHO ATTENDED 80% OR MORE OF THE PROGRAM SESSIONS MADE A 14% DECLINE IN TOTAL MATHEMATICS SCORE.

STUDENTS WERE CHOSEN FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE SES PROGRAM AT CHERRY HILL ELEMENTARY BASED ON TEACHER RECOMMENDATION AND PARENT REQUEST. STUDENTS ATTENDED THE ELEVEN-WEEK PROGRAM TWO DAYS EACH WEEK FOR APPROXIMATELY TWO HOURS PER SESSION. OVERALL PROGRAM SUCCESS WAS MEASURED BY A COMPARISON OF PRE- AND POST-TEST SCORES OF THE PLATO® ACHIEVE NOW PROGRESS TEST. A COMBINED ANALYSIS OF KINDERGARTEN, FIRST, SECOND AND FIFTH GRADES WAS PERFORMED DUE TO SMALL SAMPLE SIZE. NO SCORES FOR THIRD GRADE WERE INCLUDED IN THE ANALYSIS.

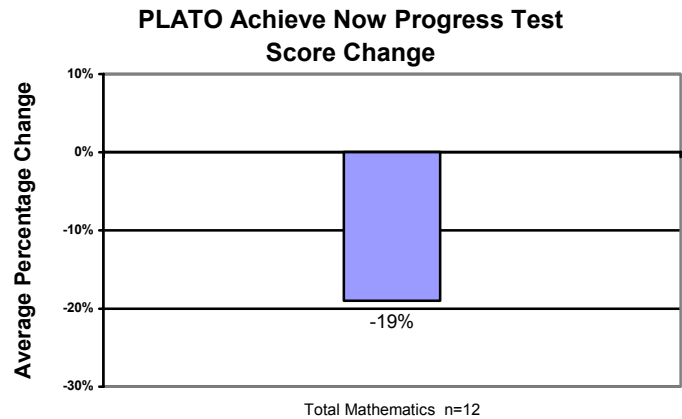
Students show decline in Total Mathematics score

When the pre- and post-test scores of the PLATO® Achieve Now Progress Test were compared for students participating in the SES program using PLATO® Achieve Now, students made a significant 17 (p=.037) percentage point decline.



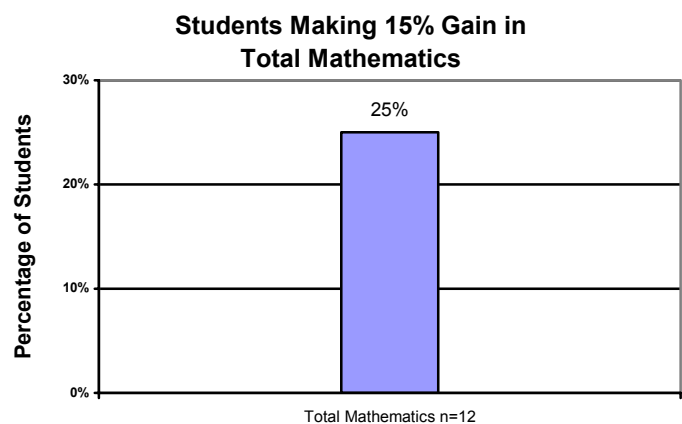
Students make percentage decline in Total Mathematics Score

When the pre- and post-test scores of the PLATO® Achieve Now Progress Test were compared for low-performing students participating in the SES program at Cherry Hill Elementary School, the students saw a 19% decline in Total Mathematics score.



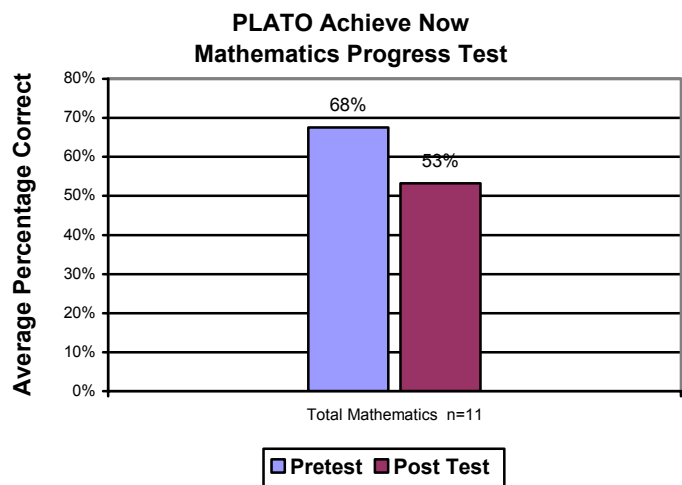
Some students make a 15% gain in Total Mathematics

When the pre- and post-test scores of the PLATO® Achieve Now Progress Test were compared for students participating in the SES implementation using PLATO® Achieve Now, 25% made a 15% or higher gain in Total Mathematics score.



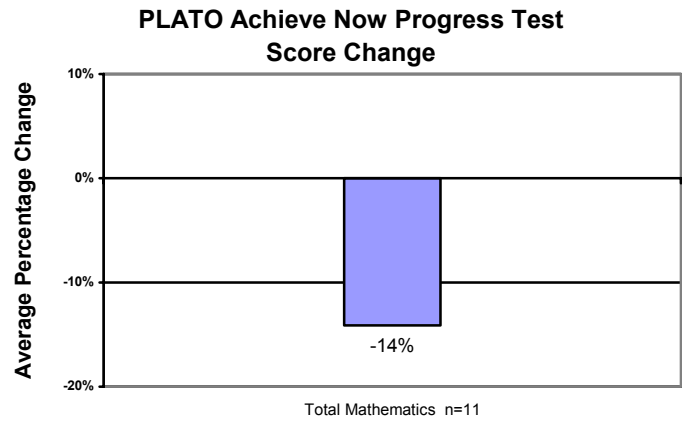
Students show decline in Total Mathematics score

When the pre- and post-test scores of the PLATO® Achieve Now Progress Test were compared for students participating in the SES program who attended 80% or more of the program sessions, students made a significant 14 (p=.077) percentage point decline.



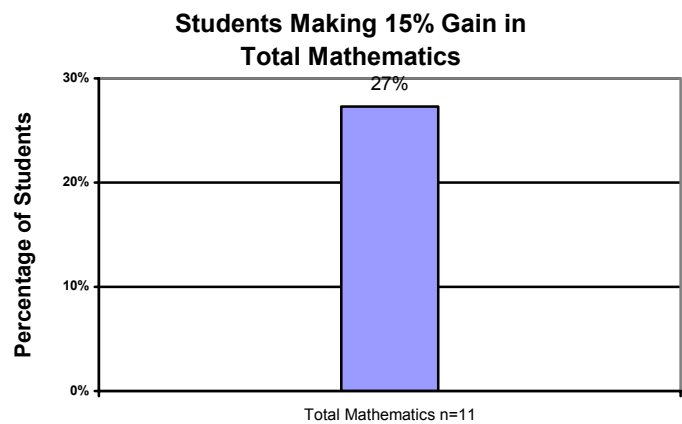
Students with 80% attendance make percentage decline in Total Mathematics Score

Students were offered a total of 44 hours of instruction in the SES program at Cherry Hill Elementary using PLATO[®] Achieve Now interactive curriculum. Students had to attend a minimum of 35 hours to have attended 80% of the program sessions. When the pre- and post-test scores of the PLATO[®] Achieve Now Progress Test were compared for low-performing students who attended 80% of the SES program sessions, the students made a 14% decline in Total Mathematics score.



Some students make a 15% gain in Total Mathematics

When the pre- and post-test scores of the PLATO[®] Achieve Now Progress Test were compared for students participating in the SES implementation using PLATO[®] Achieve Now who attended 80% or more of the program sessions, 27% made a 15% or higher gain in Total Mathematics score.



Cherry Hill Elementary School Background

Cherry Hill Elementary School is one of 54 schools in the Baltimore City Public School System which offered Supplemental Educational Services (SES) as a result of their School Improvement Status as designated by the Maryland State Department of Education. The district chose PLATO[®] Learning, Inc. as one of the approved providers of a Supplemental Educational Services after-school program for students in grades kindergarten through five. At Cherry Hill Elementary School, parents chose PLATO[®] Achieve Now for use in an after-school program to help increase their child's achievement in Mathematics.

Implementation of the PLATO[®] Achieve Now curriculum-based program at Cherry Hill Elementary began in November of 2005 and was funded through a Title I Supplemental Educational Program. The goal of this program was to allow families to choose the tutorial program that would increase their child's achievement in the areas of Mathematics and to motivate students to use the standards-based curriculum program in an after-school tutorial setting. Tutors hired by Plato[®] Learning, Inc. and supervised by the school used PLATO[®] Achieve Now to augment whole group and direct instruction and to support learning center strategies.

Professional development sessions centered on the operational requirements of SES program, the individual instructional components of the PLATO[®] Achieve Now curriculum, strategies for individualized instruction

and program management. Learning paths were created for each participating student to help address skill weaknesses.

Students were selected for participation in the SES implementation based on teacher recommendation and parent requests. Students were offered a total of 44 hours of instruction two hours a day, two days each week for eleven weeks with individual session instruction being divided between small group and individualized instruction.

Student progress was observed using the PLATO® Achieve Now Progress Checks and tutor checklists. All participating students were assessed with the PLATO® Achieve Now Progress Tests and program success was measured by a comparison of pre- and post-test scores.

Parents were given the opportunity to review their student's individual learning path at an initial parent meeting in December and were kept informed of student progress through bi-weekly progress reports. An end-of-program celebration was held at the completion of the 11-week implementation where students' individual results were shared with parents.

Choosing PLATO® Achieve Now for use as the SES skill-and-content model ensured replicable results and offered an innovative research based curriculum to further support Cherry Hill Elementary School's efforts to provide a balanced and integrated educational program which will encourage academic success.



For more information, call 800.44.PLATO or visit www.plato.com

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