

FAST FACTS

PROGRAM: Liguori Academy Deep Remediation Program

LOCATION: Philadelphia, PA

GRADES: 1–9

NO. OF STUDENTS: 300+ in six schools

CHALLENGE

Wright Solutions Group Devoted to Assisting Disengaged Students

SOLUTION

Online reading and math assessment and remediation including use of Academy of READING and Academy of MATH

RESULTS

An average of 2.47 grade level gains in reading comprehension. In math, students gained about 1 year of growth, with 1.25-year growth in the NTCM-aligned strands of Numbers and Operations and Algebraic Thinking.

Liguori Academy Deep Remediation Program

Background

In order to help Liguori Academy meet the needs of their ever-growing population of students below grade level in math and reading, Wright Solutions Group designed and implemented a real-time progress monitoring system, referred to as Mission Control. Mission Control was launched last year in partnership with Liguori Academy—a private school devoted to serving the needs of disengaged students—in a shared mission to meet the needs of struggling and disengaged students throughout the city of Philadelphia.

Academy of READING® and *Academy of MATH*® were selected to be a part of the rigorous academic intervention programs, not only because they are research-proven to help rapidly raise reading and math scores, but also because of their compatibility within a highly personalized, adaptive, and data-driven model.

Mission Control's DASHBOARD application now serves as a core component of Liguori Academy, which opened this academic year.

Mission Control

The purpose of Mission Control is to create instructional intelligence regarding the academic progress and proficiency of students, schools, and districts. The collected information is used by teachers and school support staff to provide the most timely and meaningful intervention strategies possible to ensure ongoing student success.

Using DASHBOARD—a software application that was designed in collaboration with teachers—data analysts and administrators can bring online-based, data-rich, high quality academic intelligence to the fingertips of all the stakeholders in a more timely manner than has ever been possible.

Data from the *Academy of READING* and *Academy of MATH* programs—such as time-on-task and skills mastered—are used to monitor the effectiveness of student progress. Both quantitative and qualitative measures are used to monitor student progress.

More importantly, the data provide real-time information that guides staff to deliver appropriate interventions to ensure rapid student success.

There were four schools in 2015-2016 involved with the deep remediation program, all in Philadelphia. The students ranged from grades 1-9, with 340 students enrolled in *Academy of READING*, *Academy of MATH*, or both programs. Teachers were either assigned from the school or provided by Liguori Academy. Laptops and headsets were provided as a part of this program.

Key performance indicators were defined and monitored throughout the school year. This included fidelity measures to ensure that proper amounts of time were being spent on each intervention program. Time-in-Program versus Time-on-Task measures allowed teachers to see how efficiently students were working. The number of trials on each student activity was also monitored to alert teachers of students who were most in need of guidance and help.



Mission Control Dashboard View

Implementation Model

Most school program teachers had a caseload of 45-50 students. All staff members (teachers, mentors, etc.) participated in a complete professional development session before program implementation to learn about the online tools and basic functionality and reporting for monitoring student progress. They also learned about the procedures for collaboration with Mission Control, which included the Daily Briefing—a video call at the end of the school day with each teacher providing a quick review of rolled up student data for all classes and individual students. The primary goal of this meeting was to prioritize students who missed one or more of the four defined KPI's, and to define what intervention strategy was required for the next session for each student.

When school began, the Dashboard tool was still in its infancy, but throughout the year, the development of analytic functions and filtered data views allowed for the automation of many of the procedures normally performed manually by data analysts.

Christopher Zagacki, Head of School at Freire Charter Middle School, stated:

“During the first year of implementation at Freire Charter Middle School, Mission Control has added great value to the intervention program within the school. The assessments gave the RTII team insight into the students’ strengths and deficits, allowing us to provide an appropriate level of individualized support. The student programs, monitored in real-time, have enhanced our RTII model significantly. We have seen significant progress in student performance, both in terms of grade level equivalent gains and improved confidence in all coursework.”



Results

For reading, 52 students in grades 5-9 had a full year of implementation. With an average of 17 hours in *Academy of READING*, students gained an average of 2.47 GLEs. In fact, 19 ninth graders did significantly better with an average of 3.84 GLE gains in reading comprehension.

There were 49 students in grades 5-9 that had a full year of implementation in *Academy of MATH*. In math, students gained about one year of growth, with 1.25-year growth in the NTCM-aligned strands of Numbers and Operations and Algebraic Thinking. These students had an average of 26.7 hours in the program.



Plans for 2016-2017

Over the course of the 2016-17 school year, Mission Control will expand its service to over 500 students in the city of Philadelphia. In addition to Liguori Academy, Mission Control will be implemented at three charter schools. As a strategic part of EducationWorks' commitment to provide quality and targeted academic content within their K-12 Out of School Time Programs initiative, Mission Control will also be implemented at two public schools in Philadelphia.