

Rapides Parish, LA, Nearly Doubles Average U.S. Gains

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After using *Eureka Math* for just one year, K–8 students in Rapides Parish, LA, have shown nearly double the average national increase in math knowledge, according to national data from Discovery Education, which conducts benchmark testing across the country.

Rapides students gained an average of 141 scale score points during the 2014–15 school year, compared to 73 points for students in districts nationally. The district more than doubled the average U.S. gains in all three middle school grades (6–8), plus in kindergarten.

Overall, Rapides students in all nine grades met the standard (level 3 on a four-point scale). All students increased by at least one level in math during the school year, and students in four grades (K, 5, 7, 8) rose by two levels. Kindergarteners gained the most, reaching the advanced level (level 4) on Discovery Education’s benchmark tests.

Kim Bennett, the district’s Deputy Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction, says, “We believe *Eureka Math* afforded our students the opportunity to learn additional strategies which led to a deeper understanding of mathematical concepts. Teachers have reported that for the first time students are understanding the ‘why’ in math. It is not uncommon for a teacher to say, ‘My students are learning more than I ever thought they could.’”

The Rapides Parish district, which is located in Alexandria about three hours northwest of New Orleans, serves about 24,000 students. According to its website, Discovery Education provides digital services to 50 percent of U.S. schools, serving 1 million educators and 35 million students.

RAPIDES MATH PROGRESS VS. NATIONAL AVERAGE, 2014–15

