

Monroe County Students Multiply Their
Math Scores with ODYSSEYWARE®

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PROFILE

DISTRICT

School: Monroe County Achievement Center

Location: Forsyth, Georgia

Location Type: Rural

ODYSSEYWARE

Enrollment: 88 students

Focus: Credit recovery, discipline

Grades Using ODYSSEYWARE:

Middle school and high school

Period Examined: 2008-09 academic year

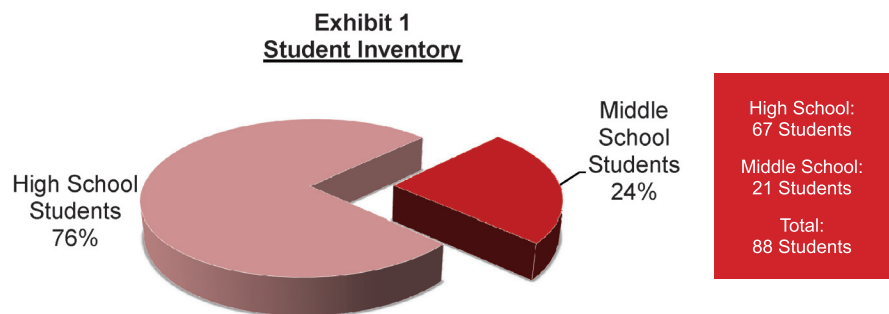
BACKGROUND

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Monroe County Achievement Center (MCAC) provides alternative education for the district's at-risk students, grades seven through twelve. The MCAC program administers self-paced, online courses to its students, with the ultimate goal of either awarding high school diplomas or restoring students back to their regular schools. To aid in this mission, MCAC instituted ODYSSEYWARE during the 2008-09 academic year. ODYSSEYWARE is MCAC's chief provider of course curriculum and acts as the primary instructor, while teachers serve in a supplementary role as monitors.

PROGRAM CHARACTERISTICS

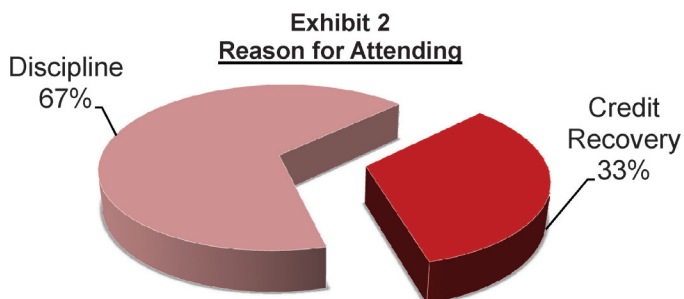
During the 2008-09 academic year, 88 students enrolled in MCAC. Exhibit 1 below depicts the student body, categorized by high school and middle school students.



Source: Monroe County Achievement Center, 2008-09.

As shown in Exhibit 1, MCAC enrollment consisted primarily of high school students. Specifically, 76 percent of MCAC attendees were high school students, while 24 percent were middle school students.

Exhibit 2 illustrates the reason students attended MCAC during the 2008-09 academic year.



Source: Monroe County Achievement Center, 2008-09.

As shown in the exhibit above, the primary reason for attending MCAC was due to disciplinary issues at other campuses within the district. Indeed, 67 percent of students attended MCAC due to disciplinary issues, while 33 percent attended MCAC in order to recover credits.

“ ODYSSEYWARE has given us the rigor and relevance necessary for student success. I have been impressed with the curriculum and the outstanding customer service that we have received from ODYSSEYWARE. Finally, 26 at-risk students graduated because of our credit recovery program. These students finished their course work and successfully passed their exit exam (GHSGT). This is how we measure our program’s success. ”

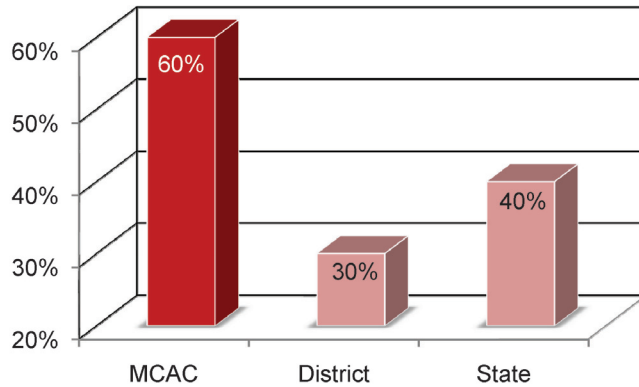
-Rayceen King, Principal
Monroe County Achievement Center

RESULTS

END OF COURSE TEST

The End of Course Test (EOCT) is a national standardized test designed to measure a student’s knowledge of a particular subject. As the name implies, the test is taken at the end of certain courses. In the state of Georgia, the EOCT counts as 15 percent of a high school student’s grade for a particular course. To date, the industry regards EOCTs as extremely rigorous. As such, the pass rate is, overall, markedly low for all students, regardless of the school district for which they attend. Exhibit 3 compares the Achievement Center’s 2008-09 EOCT pass rate with that of the district and the state.

Exhibit 3
EOCT Algebra Pass Rate

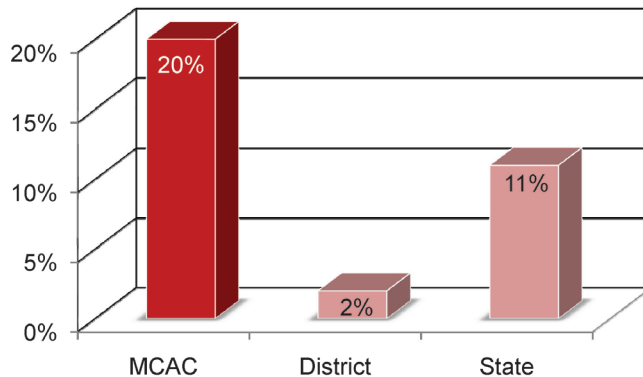


Sources: Monroe County Achievement Center, 2008-09. Georgia Department of Education, 2008-09.

As shown in the exhibit above, a significantly larger proportion of students at MCAC passed the EOCT algebra exam than did those within the district and state. When comparing to the district, MCAC’s at-risk students performed twice as well as the district’s mainstream students. Comparing MCAC’s scores to the state, MCAC students scored 50 percent higher. As previously mentioned, EOCT exams are especially rigorous, and as such, the relatively high pass rate shown for MCAC is particularly noteworthy.

Beyond the EOCT’s Pass status (awarded to students meeting state standards), the EOCT designates a title known as Pass Plus to those students who exceed state standards. Exhibit 4 compares the 2008-09 EOCT Algebra Pass Plus rates of MCAC students to those of the district and state.

Exhibit 4
EOCT Algebra Pass Plus Rate



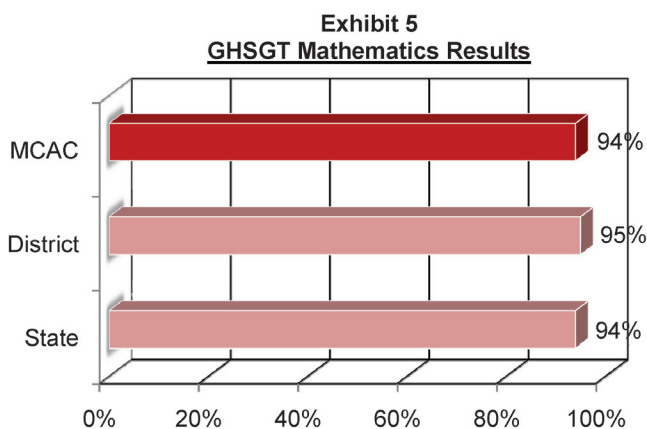
Sources: Monroe County Achievement Center, 2008-09. Georgia Department of Education, 2008-09.

According to Exhibit 4, at 20 percent, the proportion of Pass Plus students at MCAC was ten times greater than its district counterparts and nearly two times greater than that of the state as a whole.

GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION TEST

In addition to the EOCT, the state of Georgia administers a standardized test known as the Georgia High School Graduation Test (GHSGT). All eleventh graders are required to pass each subject of the exam (i.e. mathematics, language arts, science, social studies, and writing) in order to receive a high school diploma. The following exhibit compares the 2008-09 GHSGT mathematics pass rates of MCAC's students with that of the district and the state.

As depicted in Exhibit 5, MCAC students exhibited a mathematics pass rate equal to the state and virtually equal to the district. Specifically, 94 percent of MCAC students passed the GHSGT mathematics exam as compared with 94 percent for the state and 95 percent for the district.



Source: Monroe County Achievement Center, 2008-09. Georgia Department of Education, 2008-09.

CONCLUSION

When educators at Monroe County Achievement Center (MCAC) adopted ODYSSEYWARE as the primary curriculum for their at-risk students, they expected to see improvements in student success. What they didn't anticipate was the remarkable result of their students' hard work.

The students at MCAC substantially outpaced students across the district and the state with outstanding scores on the algebra End of Course Test (EOCT). The Achievement Center's EOCT pass rates were twice that of the district and 50 percent greater than the state's. When compared with high school students across Georgia, students at the Achievement Center scored as well as their counterparts on the Georgia High School Graduation Test, an unprecedented feat. These incredible results prove once again that given the right curriculum adapted to their individual needs, students succeed.

So what advantage do the Achievement Center's at-risk students have over other Georgia High School students? ODYSSEYWARE. This technology-based online curriculum is created for 21st century students whose lives are saturated with technology. For today's students, ODYSSEYWARE is familiar and easy to navigate, employing the same sorts of multimedia with which they engage everyday. It is the right curriculum for students today. In addition, ODYSSEYWARE is fully customizable and easily adapted and paced to meet each student's individual needs. These essential features, when combined with anytime access, automatic grading, built-in messaging, and other functional components, make ODYSSEYWARE ideal for students like those at MCAC, and just about any other student born into the digital generation.