

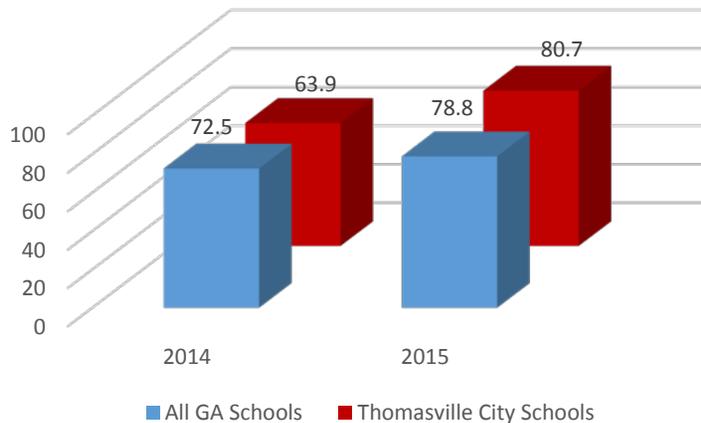
SOLUTIONS

Maximized Learning Time: For students who benefit from learning outside of a conventional classroom setting, Odysseyware offers opportunities to maximize learning time. One gifted student was faced with choosing between completing a required course or an AP course. With Odysseyware, the scheduling conflict became a non-issue, as the student could complete the AP course virtually. The resulting flexibility allows for optimization of each student license.

Minimized Financial Burden: Through the Scholars Academy, activities covered by the district that previously cost additional money are now covered by the district are free to students as part of the program's offerings. Minimized burden for families is part of value brought by Odysseyware.

True Flexibility and Self Pacing: The greatest benefit from Odysseyware is the students' ability to take responsibility for their own learning and be accountable for self-pacing.

26% Increase in graduation rate.
Now exceeds state average.



CASE STUDY

Thomasville, GA

Odysseyware programs have enabled increased student flexibility. Many students have noted that the virtual courses are more rigorous than some of their brick-and-mortar courses have been in the past.

DISTRICT:

Thomasville City Schools

LOCATION:

Thomasville, GA

STUDENT POPULATION:

- 3,100 students
- 66.42% economically disadvantaged students
- 61 virtual students
- 96 alternative school students

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The Virtual/Hybrid Program graduation rate is higher than state average.

“Odysseyware helps districts have their cake and eat it too. You can have your public school that you love, and be a part of that community, but also provide flexibility to do other things that weren’t around when we were in school.”

Dr. Daniel Oldham
Assistant Superintendent
Thomasville City Schools



CHALLENGES

Three years ago the district faced challenges including maximizing learning time, managing financial limitations, working with students with behavioral/disciplinary challenges, and improving pacing, -whether that pace is accelerated or more segmented than it would be in a conventional classroom.

NEW INITIATIVES

Since Thomasville City Schools implemented Odysseyware three years ago, they have witnessed a real change: parents want more for their children than just going through the motions. Students and their parents can truly customize their education through a variety of programs such as New Beginnings, the Thomasville City Performance Center, ACCEL credit recovery, and the Virtual/Hybrid program.

NEW BEGINNINGS: This non-punitive, drop-back-in program is geared to students who need to be placed into an accelerated level of study to complete their graduation requirements on time. Facilitated by the current Thomasville City Odysseyware administrator, New Beginnings is run in half-day sessions.

THOMASVILLE CITY PERFORMANCE CENTER

CENTER: Thomasville City’s TCPC provides a placement alternative for about 100 students with discipline issues. Students representing a wide range of grade levels attend TCPC,

often at the same time. Since the cost of teaching each of the classes directly is cost prohibitive, it's critical for the district to have an option where the staff can facilitate the material as needed, so this brick-and-mortar site uses Odysseyware as its curriculum.

ACCEL: Thomasville’s credit recovery program is geared to students who have failed a course and need to receive the required credit to move forward in their education or graduate. Students come to the lab for this program and attend the rest of their classes in a brick-and-mortar setting.

VIRTUAL/HYBRID PROGRAM: Dr. Oldham and his colleagues considered their options in looking for a way to market this program to a broader group that would include a virtual lab to accommodate homeschooled students as well as out-of-district students. In this program, students can be fully enrolled, fully virtual, or hybrid, which includes in-school attendance for electives or subjects chosen by the parent, and virtual attendance for the rest.

Grades 3 to 5: Currently available at Scott Elementary. The district is looking to expand it to its other elementary schools in the future.

Grades 6 to 12: Students can participate in the Scholars Academy, now available to full-time, virtual, and hybrid students. Prior to 2016, this accelerated college-prep program was limited to a brick-and-mortar setting.

“We don’t just sign them up and say, ‘See you at the end of the year.’ We monitor them as they go through with our own instructors.”

Dr. Daniel Oldham
Assistant Superintendent
Thomasville City Schools

“The flexibility Odysseyware has created for our students is incredible.”

