

First In Math® Online Program Contributes to Steady, Spectacular Success for Fitler Academics Plus

After implementing the First In Math® Online Program in 2004, Fitler's 8th-grade math scores rose an astonishing 41.6 percentage points by 2005—and kept climbing.

Thanks in part to the First In Math® Online Program, Fitler Academics Plus School is bucking the trend of many big-city schools. The minority student body, where six out of 10 students are from low-income homes, have seized upon First In Math® and produced a dramatic turnaround.

This year, Fitler was listed among the School District of Philadelphia's "Top 10 Highest-Scoring Schools" in math, recognizing their success on

period of Fitler's commitment to the First In Math® Online Program. Fitler has made Adequate Yearly Progress under federal No Child Left Behind regulations all four of those years.

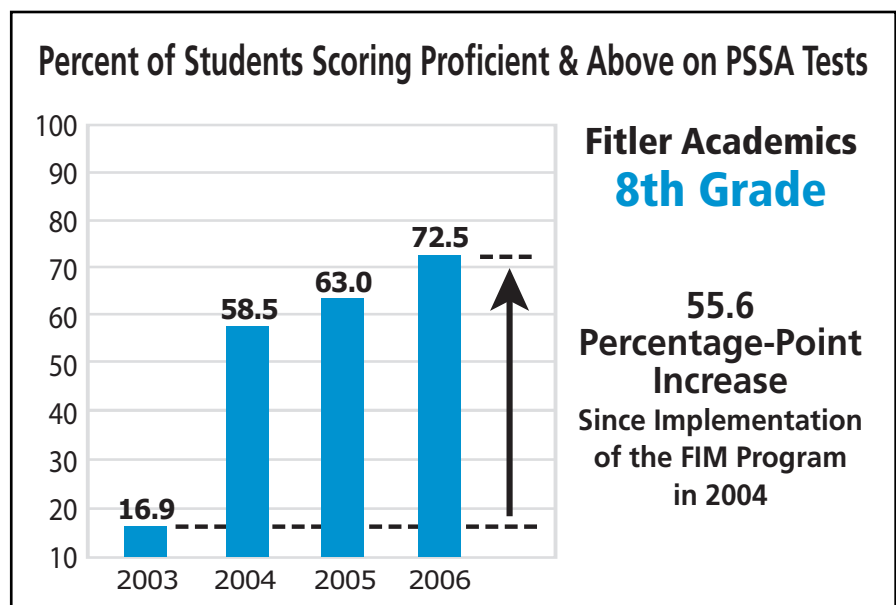
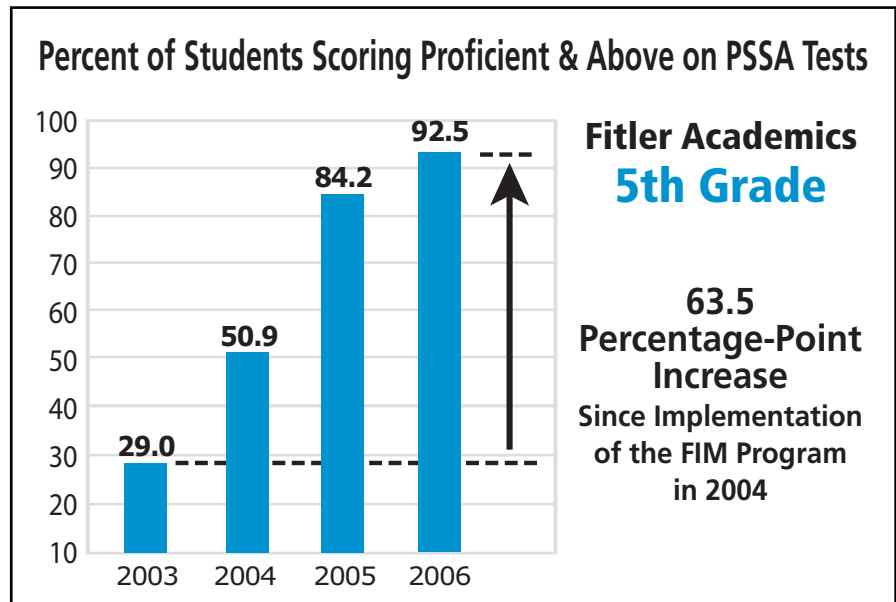
In comparing scores year-to-year, more than 90 percent of Fitler 5th-graders scored proficient/advanced in math. As fourth graders, only about 60 percent of these same students had

*A more than
50% jump in percentage
of students scoring proficient
and above on the PSSA state
standardized tests took Fitler
straight to the top.*

Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) tests.

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Graphs of 5th- and 8th-grade test-score data show dramatic, sustained improvement in PSSA math scores over the entire four year





Fitler honors its success with a "First In Math" celebration! Back row, l to r: Principal Willette Jones; FIM Ambassador Cred Dobson; School District of Philadelphia Northwest Region Superintendent Linda Grobman; Director of School Support Stephen Spence and SDP Curriculum Director Jackie Greene. Front, l to r: Tiara Swain; Kyle Anderson and Gus Jenkins.

reached those benchmarks in math.

Fitler was ranked ranked #9 in Pennsylvania in the program for the 2006/2007 school year, and became the first school in the country to have all students complete the whole number "GYM" modules.

"This is the first school, that I am aware of, where ALL participating students—grades three through

eight—demonstrated mastery of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division facts through completion of the Add/Subtract and Mutiply/Divide Gyms," explains First In Math® creator Robert Sun.

Principal Willette Jones gives credit for her students' mathematics success to the First in Math® Online Program, and praised Northwest

Regional Superintendent Linda Grobman for supporting the content-rich curriculum supplement throughout the Northwest Region's schools.

She is also quick to recognize her committed students and dedicated faculty. "We are fortunate to have a very dedicated staff—many of whom go above and beyond, doing whatever it takes to motivate their students to succeed," says Jones.

The efforts of Fitler Academics Plus math teacher Rachael Pringle were recognized in a front-page article in the September 10, 2007 edition of *The Philadelphia Inquirer*. Her mentor, fellow Fitler math teacher Lori Blue, was also featured.

Much of the article focused on the effort that great teachers, such as Pringle and Blue, are willing to make to help students succeed. Pringle says their method is simple, start each day with a "do more" attitude. **In the article, Pringle and Blue also gave credit for their students' amazing success to the First in Math® Online Program. ■**

Learn more about the correlation between FIM and increased test scores at www.firstinmath.com, where you can download Case Studies such as: *Scientific-Based Research Study conducted by WestEd: Evaluation of the First In Math® Online Math Program; 2004-2005 Case Study: School District of Philadelphia - YEAR TWO* and more.