



ED TECH SUCCESS STORIES

During the 2020 pandemic America's schools needed to immediately transition from in-person learning to virtual. SIIA's Ed Tech members products help schools across the country bridge the gap keeping students, teachers and schools engaged and learning. Here are their stories.

IN FOCUS:

Amplify.

THE SCIENCE OF READING
THE AMPLIFY EARLY
LITERACY DIFFERENCE
ASSESSMENT, CORE, AND
SUPPLEMENTAL





KYRENE SCHOOL DISTRICT AND AMPLIFY READING

Kyrene School District (KSD) - like so many districts across the country during the pandemic - experienced instructional loss impacting student readiness and achievement. In order to address the impact of instructional loss, KSD used mCLASS DIBELS 8th Edition, which is widely considered the gold-standard formative assessment and instructional suite for early literacy helping every child learn to read confidently. According to their mCLASS data, fewer students were ready at the beginning of the academic year and performance during the middle of the year diagnostic assessments were lower as well. Instructional loss due to Covid has widened academic inequities such as the reading gap, and has steered school districts to find outside tools and resources such as mCLASS to help make up for the loss in instructional time. One such tool is Amplify Reading (AR) - a highly engaging digital supplemental reading solution that provides targeted support for K-8 students. Kyrene uses AR for grades K-5. By utilizing the tool for these grades, the program adapts to each student and provides them with the instruction and practice they need to advance their literacy skills.

SUPPORTING TEACHERS

KSD has taken a coherent, creative approach to best support all teachers and learners. They began this work by recording daily instruction using Core Knowledge Language Arts (CKLA), a hybrid digital curriculum based on cognitive science coupling decoding and broad background knowledge for strong literacy results, and the aligned supplemental reading program Amplify Reading. In Spring 2021, Amplify offered webinars to teachers, led custom training and provided comprehensive data analysis to assist teachers in determining which students had the greatest needs.

IMPROVING STUDENT EQUITY

To address equity concerns, KSD prioritized the most academically vulnerable student populations with a combination of mCLASS, Amplify Reading, and CKLA. Simultaneously, the district included the entire cycle of instruction - core, intervention, assessment, and supplemental - in their long-term plan. Finally, KSD included multiple instructional opportunities in each of their programs (summer learning, after-school learning, school day) to support as many students as possible.





LOOKING AHEAD

Creating a coherent, aligned approach-- from assessment to core instruction to supplemental-- is one of the critical ways to comprehensively address unfinished learning. Amplify continues to encourage and support schools and districts through resources such as mCLASS and Amplify Reading. Additional ways to support implementation include:

- **Core instruction** - on grade level, focused on both knowledge and skills, during the school day and for all students.
- **Additional foundational skills instruction** - during the school day and in summer school, for all K-2 students, and 3-5 students performing below benchmark
- **Intervention opportunities** - during the school day, and in before/after school tutoring, targeted at students performing below benchmark
- **Science of reading based personalized learning** - during the school day, before/after school, and in summer school.

<https://amplify.com>

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