

About the school

The PS 193 Alfred J Kennedy School is an elementary school located in Whitestone in Queens, NY. It has about 570 students from PK through 5th Grade. It is part of the New York City Geographic District #25, and is ranked 473rd among the 2400 schools in NYC.



The Challenge

The PS 193 has a mixed ethnic population, its principal challenge is to deliver differentiated instruction to its students. In absence of a differentiated learning environment, several students had fallen behind, and called for special attention. However, the rigorous nature of their curriculum did not allow them the space that teachers require to carry out the necessary intensive intervention activities. At the same time, it was also crucial that all students were ready to face the upcoming state assessments which were based on Common Core ELA State Standards.

In short, the school needed a program that could help all of its students master their concepts, and prepare their students for the state tests.

PracTutor Solution and Implementation

PS 193 began implementing PracTutor in the fall of 2014. The primary purpose was to ensure improvement in the upcoming Math and ELA State assessments.

Students were asked to take pre-tests. This allowed teachers to identify students' areas of concern or strengths and weaknesses. It helped them adjust their instruction, and match it with students' competency levels.

The analysis of Pre-test results allowed teachers to plan their instructional approach. This helped teachers assign appropriate Math standards and ELA passages to their classes. This

also fueled the number of practice sessions attempted by students, which in turn drove them to attempt a larger number of simulated tests. The major driver of this increase was the immediate nature of feedback, which prompted students to learn from their mistakes and correct them.

Extensive use of hints and video-lessons was also observed, especially in the area of Math. In the case of ELA passages, the majority of students were observed to use graphic organizers to formulate their ideas before taking a dive into comprehension questions. It was also observed that students' reading levels were extensively readjusted, based on their previous passage performance, to keep them appropriately challenged.

Results Achieved

State assessments revealed considerable growth in student scores. The table below highlights student progress across the year, and lists their average scores throughout the year.

Teacher Name	Grade	Total Students	Average PreTest Score	Average Score throughout the year	Growth
Michell Gordon	2	33	65%	78%	13%
Shabnam Yaqubie	2	27	70%	83%	13%
Diane Lamendola	3	31	42%	71%	29%
Lalaena Alfredsson	3	31	35%	77%	42%
Ayse Altan	4	24	36%	79%	43%
Gina Depperman	4	22	40%	83%	43%
Jennifer Navetta	4	27	42%	76%	34%
Leonard Micharlsen	5	31	37%	86%	49%
Stacey Banner	5	31	37%	86%	49%
				Average Growth	35%

As apparent, just within a time span of six months, the school observed a considerable increase in student growth scores. The average growth was observed to be 35 % across all classes. Student performance on State assessments was observed to be above this average, for both Math and ELA.

Visit www.PracTutor.com today for your free trial!

(855) MATH ELA

support@PracTutor.com

www.PracTutor.com