

Owsley County Front Row Ed Pilot Study Brief

Product Info

Product Name: Front Row Ed

Product Description: Digital content provider for ELA, Math, Science, and Social Studies

Learning Focus: ELA and Math in grades K-12, with a focus on K-8

Teacher Training: Required on-site training of 3 hours per content area

Student Usage Minimum: At a minimum, students will use the benchmark assessments to track their learning and will utilize lessons as a part of their instruction (intervention and/or regular classroom) on a weekly basis.

Device Specifications: Front Row will work on any of the devices below:

- Chromebooks
- iPads - gen. 2 or later (iPad app or web version)
- Laptops/Computers with the Google Chrome web browser
- Android tablets ten inches or larger with the Google Chrome web browser

Cost: Pricing per student for 1 content area: \$10; 2 content areas: \$14; 3 content areas: \$18, 4 content areas: \$20

Professional development package: \$2,999

District Context

District demographics: Owsley County School District is a small rural school in eastern Kentucky. Student demographics included in the two(2) schools are 683 students. OCES has a total of 378 K-6 students of which 88.1 percent are considered free and reduced in this Title I school. 1.5% are hispanic and 97.40 are white. OCES has a student-teacher ratio of 17:1 OCHS has a total of 305 students in grades 7-12 of which 90.8 percent are free and reduced lunch eligible students in this Title I school building. 1% of the student population are considered African-American and 98.40 percent are considered white. The student teacher ratio at OCHS is 14:1.

Owsley County Schools are a 1:1 School District that promotes an “anytime, anywhere learning environment”, 365 days per year with free resources (OER) for students and parents to access and utilize. Owsley County is a gigabit community with over 95% of student’s homes having access to fiber.

Pilot demographics: K-12, 683 students participating and 49 teachers.

Pilot Goal

Achieve target weekly student growth, and Increase the number of grade level standards that each student has mastered, as identified by the content provider, for nine consecutive weeks.

Implementation Plan

Duration: October 2017 - May 2018

Quality of Support: Professional development was offered in our district and was provided by FrontRow Ed personnel; the professional development was on-site and content specific so teachers were able to attend those sessions specifically designed for their content. Building principals and district administrators attended the training with teachers. In addition to the on-site professional learning that is provided, FrontRow Ed offers an online community for support as well as a Help Section with areas for specific contents and for both teachers and administrators.

Implementation Model: We began implementing the free version of the program K-12 in both Reading and Math in August 2017. In October of 2017, we purchased the School Edition for Reading and Math, which provided additional resources as well

as access to benchmark assessments. The program was used as part of our system of interventions and to support regular classroom instruction. Also in October of 2017, we were able to obtain a trial of both Science and Social Studies materials, so we were able to add these opportunities for teachers that were not anticipated in the beginning.

Data collected: Data collected includes student usage by teacher, by grade level, and by content. Data are available in real time as students work in the program. Data are used by teachers during weekly professional learning community meetings and every three weeks to evaluate impact on interventions. The program is a part of our non-traditional instruction program (virtual learning days for students when school is not in session), and student and parent feedback is gathered at the conclusion of this program.

Findings

Actual implementation model: Our implementation aligned with our implementation plan. In addition to those elements we planned for in implementation (ELA and Math content, specifically), we were able to add both Science and Social Studies learning experiences for students.

Educator engagement: Based on usage data available from the program, ALL reading and math teachers in grades K-12 utilized the program, with the most substantial usage occurring in grades 1-8.

Educator satisfaction: Teachers were very satisfied with the program, with some even switching their lesson plans to include Front Row Ed in place of previously utilized resources. Additional feedback information from staff will be collected at the conclusion of this semester.

Student engagement: From August through January of this school year, students answered nearly 400,000 questions in Reading and Math, with third grade, fifth grade, and eleventh grade showing the highest numbers.

Student satisfaction: Students responded favorably to the program. Elementary students in particular enjoyed the concept of the Piggy Store where they could track and spend their program rewards. Students indicated that the program was more engaging than other software programs they had used. Additional feedback information from students will be collected at the conclusion of this semester.

Student learning: All students engaged in the pilot. At the conclusion of this year, we will compare academic growth of students as compared to previous years when other programs were used.

Outcome

Purchasing Decision: Based on the usage and impact on learning that we have seen thus far, we will continue to purchase and utilize the program.