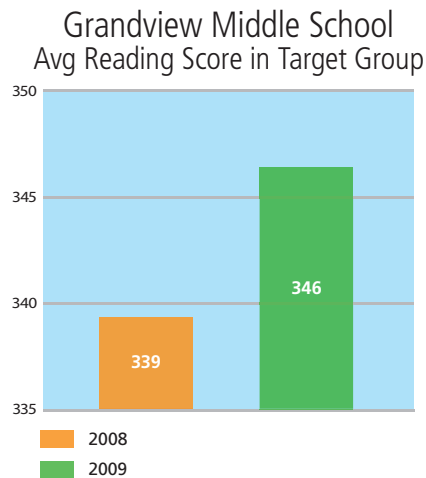


# Grandview Middle School, Hickory County School District, NC

DROP OUT PROGRAM TAKES AN EARLY START — IN MIDDLE SCHOOL!



“These students were targeted because of exhibited dropout tendencies. Many in this group are not successful in traditional educational environments. Classworks has a strategy for engaging these students who struggle that is interactive and motivating.”

— Dr. Vanessa Howerton, Principal  
Grandview Middle School

**Challenge:** As the result of an ongoing commitment to help every student succeed, Grandview Middle School identified a group of low performing students with a high potential for dropout. Most of these students were from a low socioeconomic background and generally suffered from a lack of desire to improve themselves academically. Having recently received a Dropout Prevention grant, Grandview wanted to establish a school program that would take proactive steps to meet these students where they were by motivating them to learn and improve. Most importantly, the school needed to see definitive results on End of Grade (EOG) scores among these students.

### Goals:

- Establish a comprehensive program for dropout prevention
- Motivate students to enjoy learning
- Increase EOG scores from previous low performance

**Action Plan:** Grandview began by identifying a group of 6th graders that were at risk of dropping out based on past low performance and a long history of dropout behavior. Grandview established the RISING STARS after school program with Classworks as the core instructional technology. Classworks also brought a fresh level of enjoyment which helped motivate the students to learn. In addition, Grandview used Classworks’ benchmark assessment to automatically prescribe individual learning paths so each student could work on a tailored learning plan just for them.

### Results:

- Of the targeted 29 students, 86.2% increased their reading EOG scores
- Of the targeted 29 students, 48.3% increased their scaled scores enough to raise them a full achievement level
- Schoolwide, Grandview’s reading proficiency increased significantly from 52.4% to 70.2%