

“The main difference between the Singapore Math program and traditional math is that Singapore Math adds a pictorial step for kids in problem solving,” says Gregg Klinginsmith, Curriculum Coordinator for the Wentzville School District. “It also offers a consistent problem-solving approach to word problems.”

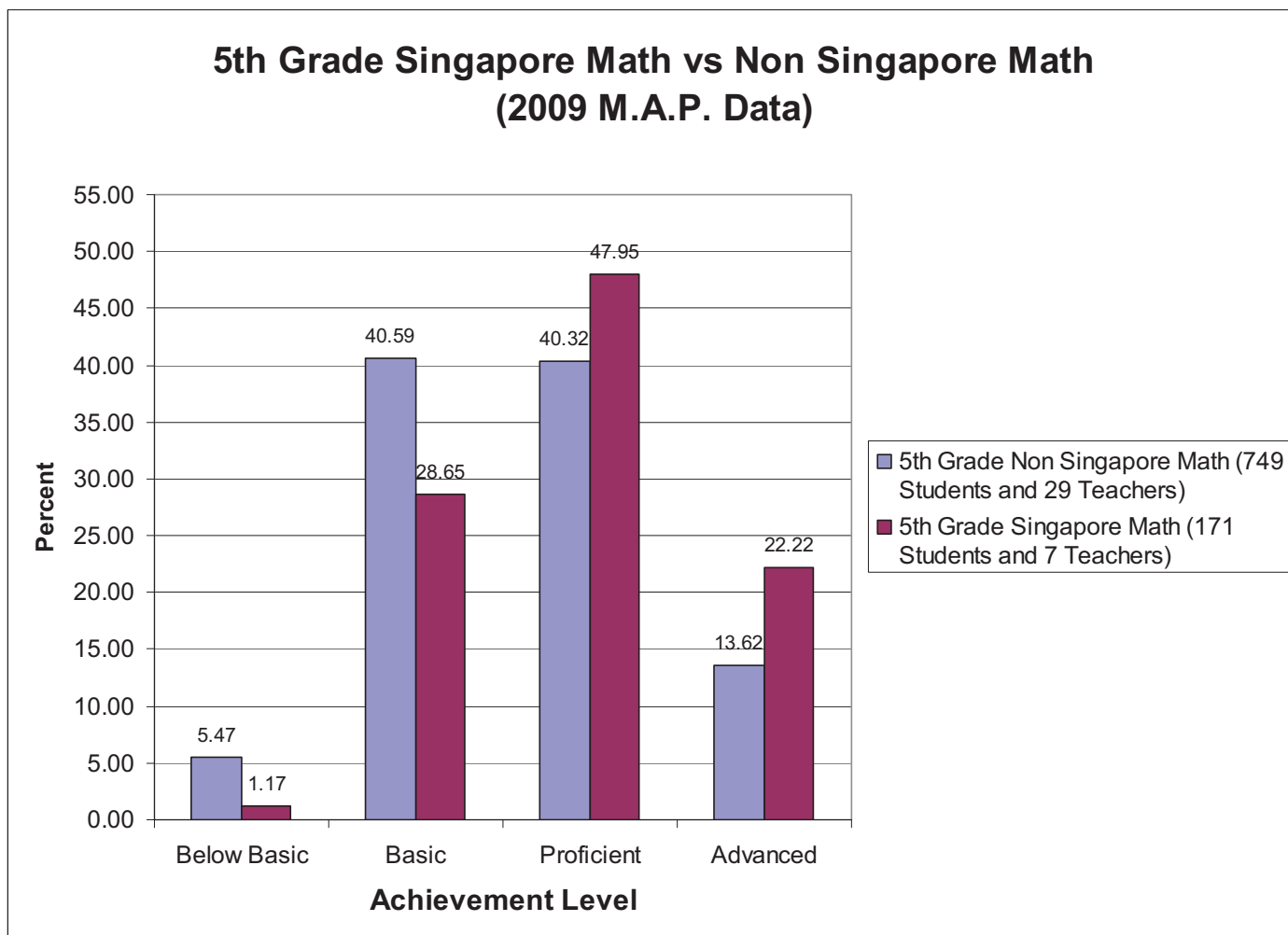
During the past school year, each elementary building offered ‘Singapore Math Nights’ for parents to come and hear an overview about the program so they could better understand and assist their children with questions that may arise at home. Over this past summer, all 1st through 5th grade math teachers in the district were trained as instructors in Singapore Math, and consequently, all 1st through 5th grade students are currently enrolled in the Singapore Math program.

“We were so excited to see the results,” said Susan Gauzy, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction. “There was no ‘implementation dip’ which is sometimes the case in the first year of a new program. Instead we saw gains for all three grade levels. In particular 4th and 5th grade Singapore classrooms did very well and had fewer students scoring below basic. We look forward to the current school year with all classrooms - first through fifth grade - utilizing Singapore/Wentzville math.”

###

Last year (2008 – 2009), the program was broadly introduced and 86% of 1st graders, more than 50% of the 2nd, 3rd and 4th graders, and 18% of 5th graders took Singapore Math as their math curriculum.

The MAP data demonstrates that just over 43% of Singapore Math 4th graders scored at the “Proficient” level versus 39.6% of 4th graders taking traditional math. It also shows that over 11% of 4th grade Singapore Math students scored at the “Advanced” level versus 7.7% of their classmates taking traditional math. Results were even more profound for 5th graders. MAP data showed that 47.9% of Singapore Math 5th graders scored at “Proficient” levels versus 40.3% of Non-Singapore Math students, while more than 22% of Singapore Math 5th graders scored at “Advanced” levels versus 13.6% of their classmates who were in traditional math classes.



The term "Singapore Math", as used in the U.S.A. and Canada generally refers to the Primary Mathematics Series, which was first published in 1982 and was the only series used in Singapore primary schools up until 2001 when it was revised in terms of its teaching methodologies, learning approaches, and assessment modes. Primary Mathematics was written by members of a project team put together by the Ministry of Education in Singapore, and has been widely hailed as the most demanding in terms of its textbooks and assessments. Singapore is a recognized leader across the globe in mathematics achievement, in 2003 students in Singapore ranked first in the world on the Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study.

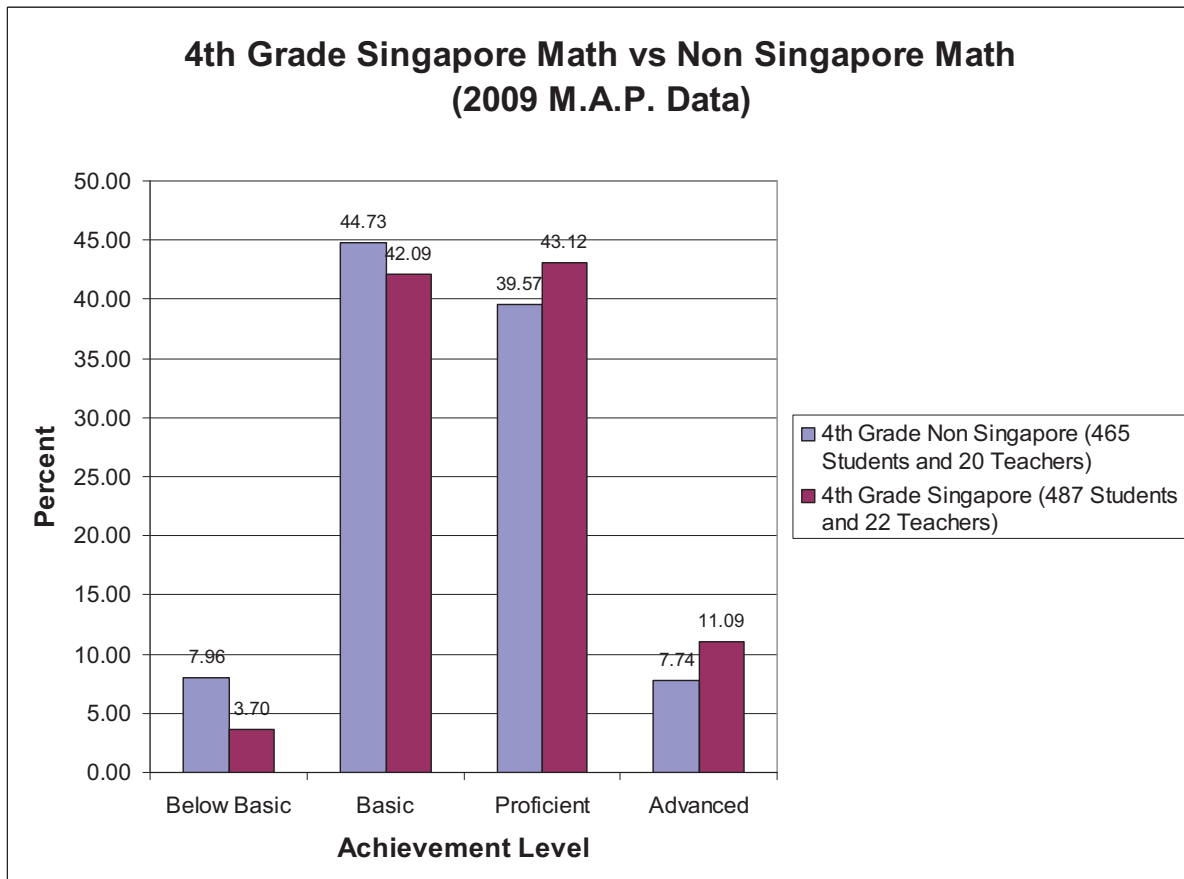


Press Release

CONTACT: Matt Deichmann
One Campus Drive
Wentzville, MO 63385
636-327-3800 ext.20352
matthewdeichmann.wentzville.k12.mo.us

Wentzville Singapore Math Students Excel on MAP Test

(September 2, 2009) Wentzville, MO...According to the latest Missouri Assessment Program (MAP) scores released by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, more 4th and 5th grade students in the Wentzville School District scored at “Proficient” and “Advanced” levels than their counterparts who were learning a traditional math curriculum.



Singapore Math was first introduced in the Wentzville School District in the 2007 – 2008 school year as a pilot after-school program. 2nd, 3rd and 4th graders volunteered for the program, which numbered about 20 students per elementary building.