
Marion County Public Schools (MCPS)

ACALETICS®
Evidence of Effectiveness
and
Successful Florida Partnerships



2000-2014

ACALETICS® Math Partnerships

Executive Summary

“ As school systems nationwide sign multi-million dollar contracts with universities and educational companies to save their struggling schools, Educational Development Associates signs individual schools at a fraction of the cost and often produces immediate results using its innovative program ACALETICS®.”

- The Miami Herald

- “ On July 19, 2010, ACALETICS® was recognized by the Florida Department of Education and the Council for Educational Change (CEC), established by the Florida Annenberg Challenge, as a Best Practice in Mathematics at the 8th Florida Leadership Academy held at the University of South Florida in Tampa.
- “ From 2006 to 2012, the total Florida Schools Recognition Program Award during the Saddlewood Elementary - ACALETICS® partnership was **\$432,514**. (See [Exhibit #1 – Page 1](#))
- “ From 2008 to 2012, the total Florida Schools Recognition Program Award during the Shady Hill Elementary - ACALETICS® partnership was **\$249,125**. (See [Exhibit #2 – Page 2](#))
- “ From 2000 to 2014, the total Florida Schools Recognition Program Award during the Stanton-Weirsdale Elementary - ACALETICS® partnership was **\$560,362**. (See [Exhibit #3 – Page 3](#))
- “ During the 2014 School Year, 2 out of 2 schools that partnered with ACALETICS® received funds under the Florida Schools Recognition Program for improving at least one performance grade. (See [Exhibit #4 – Page 4](#))
- “ Evergreen Elementary increased its Black subgroup for Percent Scoring At/Above Proficiency by +32 percentage points from 2004 to 2009! (See [Exhibit #5 – Page 5](#))
- “ Saddlewood Elementary increased its Hispanic subgroup for Percent Scoring At/Above Proficiency by +36 percentage points from 2004 to 2010! (See [Exhibit #6 – Page 6](#))
- “ College Park Elementary increased its Hispanic subgroup for Percent Scoring At/Above Proficiency by +28 percentage points from 2004 to 2010! (See [Exhibit #7 – Page 7](#))
- “ Superintendent of Schools in Marion, Jim Yancey, vows to bring back ACALETICS®, after a disappointing 2010 school year. (See [Exhibit #8 – Page 8](#))
- “ Big achievers for the 2011 school year include 3 ACALETICS® schools: Fesseden, Evergreen and Stanton-Weirsdale Elementary. (See [Exhibit #9 – Page 10](#))
- “ Current Commissioner of Education Pam Stewart during her term as principal in Marion County partnered with ACALETICS® to take Reddick-Collier Elementary from an “F” to a “C” in one year. (See [Exhibit #10 – Page 12](#))
- “ In 2014, post-ACALETICS® partnership, Marion County had a record number 14 D and F schools, compared to a low of 0 during the 2009 ACALETICS® partnership year. (See [Exhibit #11 – Page 13](#))
- “ ACALETICS® Value Proposition - ACALETICS® provides its clients with an extremely high Return On Investment (ROI). (See [Exhibit #12 – Page 14](#))



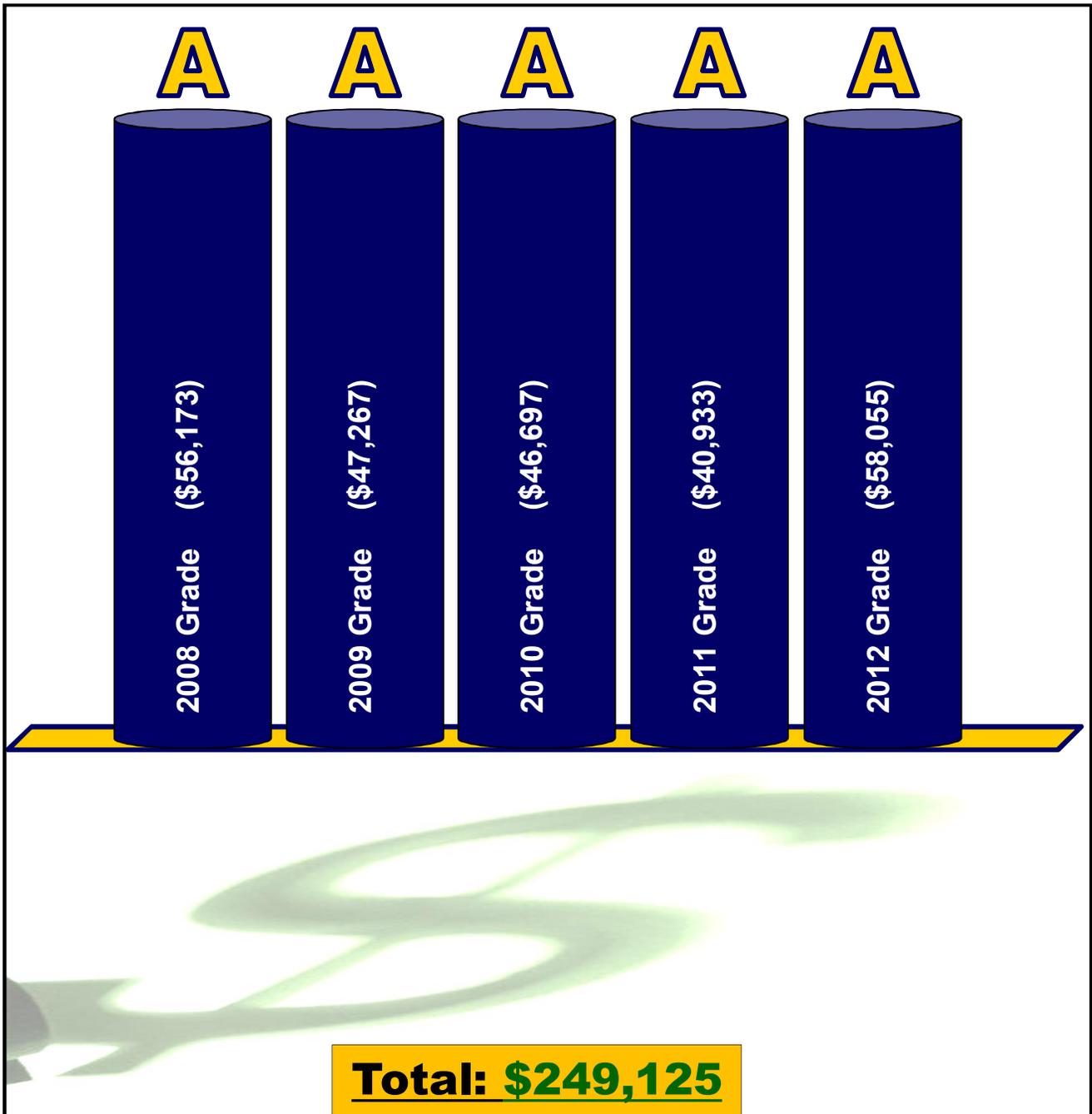
**Saddlewood Elementary-ACALETICS® Partnership
2006 to 2012
Florida School Recognition Program**



Saddlewood Elementary's partnership with ACALETICS® from 2006 to 2012 resulted in 7 consecutive As, along with \$432,514 under the Florida School Recognition Program.



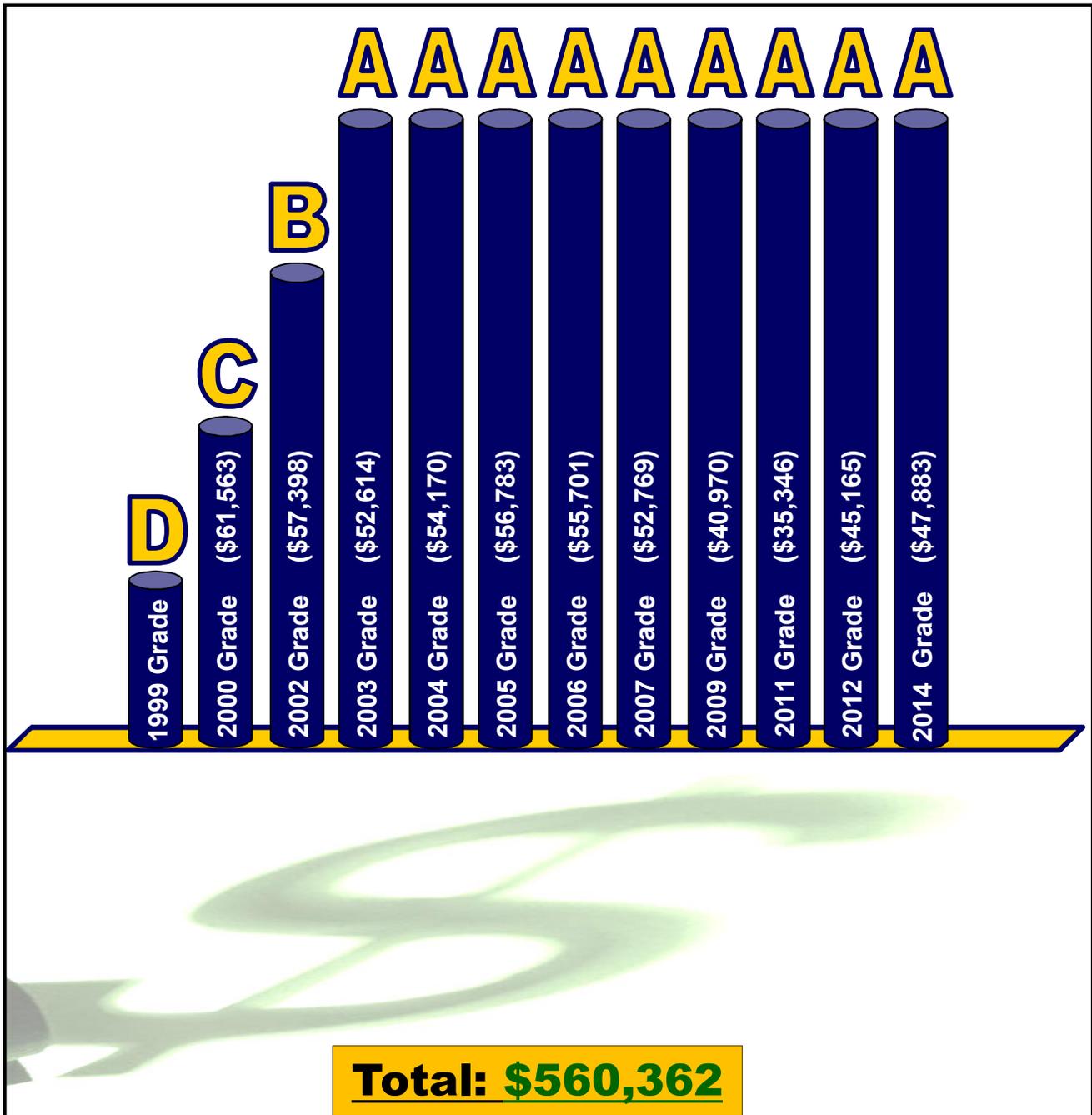
**Shady Hill Elementary-ACALETICS® Partnership
2008 to 2012
Florida School Recognition Program**



Shady Hill Elementary's partnership with ACALETICS® from 2008 to 2012 resulted in 5 consecutive As, along with \$249,125 under the Florida School Recognition Program.



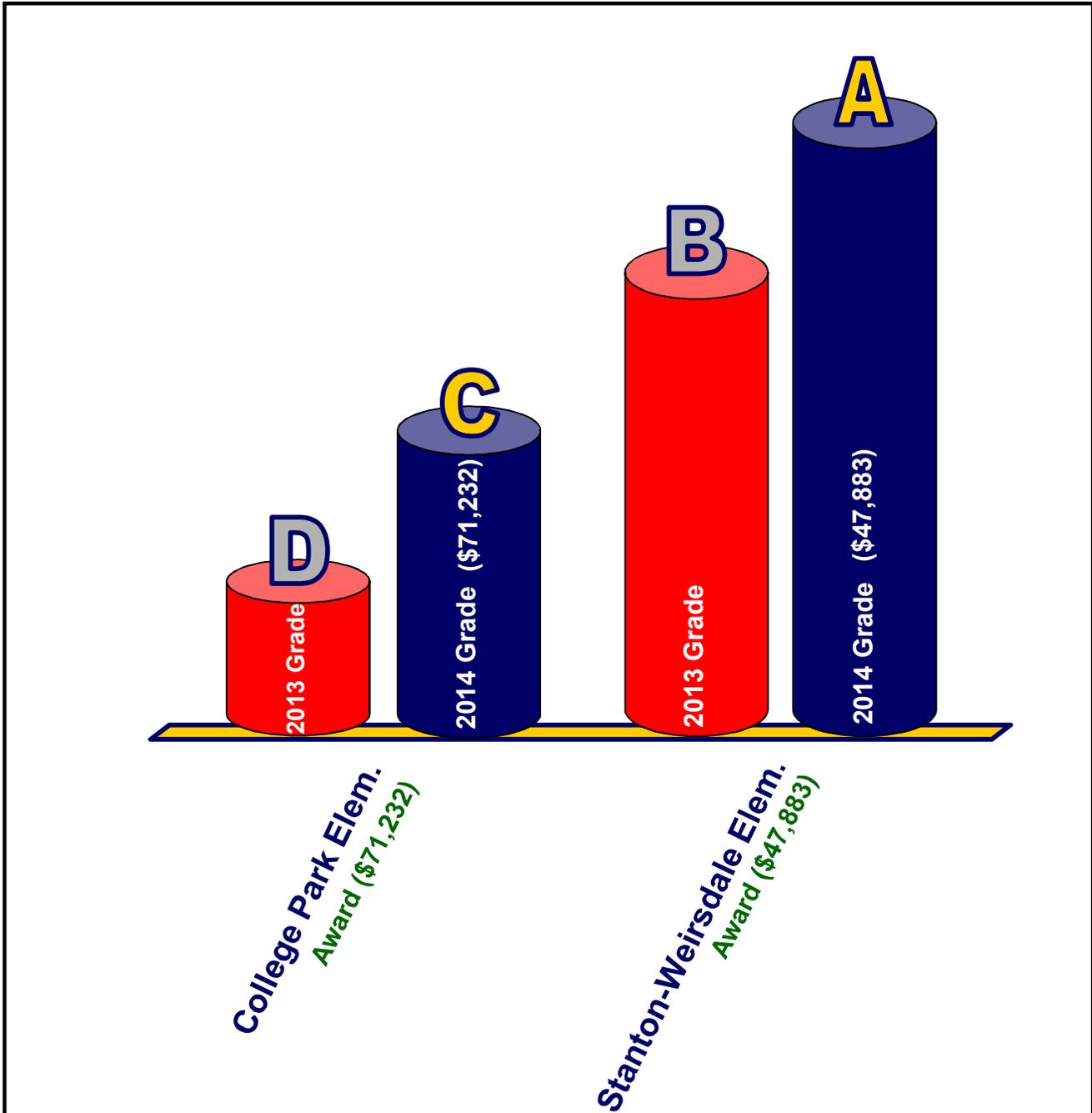
**Stanton-Weirsdale Elem.-ACALETICS® Partnership
2000 to 2014
Florida School Recognition Program**



Stanton-Weirsdale Elementary's partnership with ACALETICS® from 2000 to 2014 resulted in 5 consecutive As from 2003 to 2007, along with \$562,362 under the Florida School Recognition Program.



**2014 MCPS-ACALETICS® Partnerships
Florida School Recognition Program**

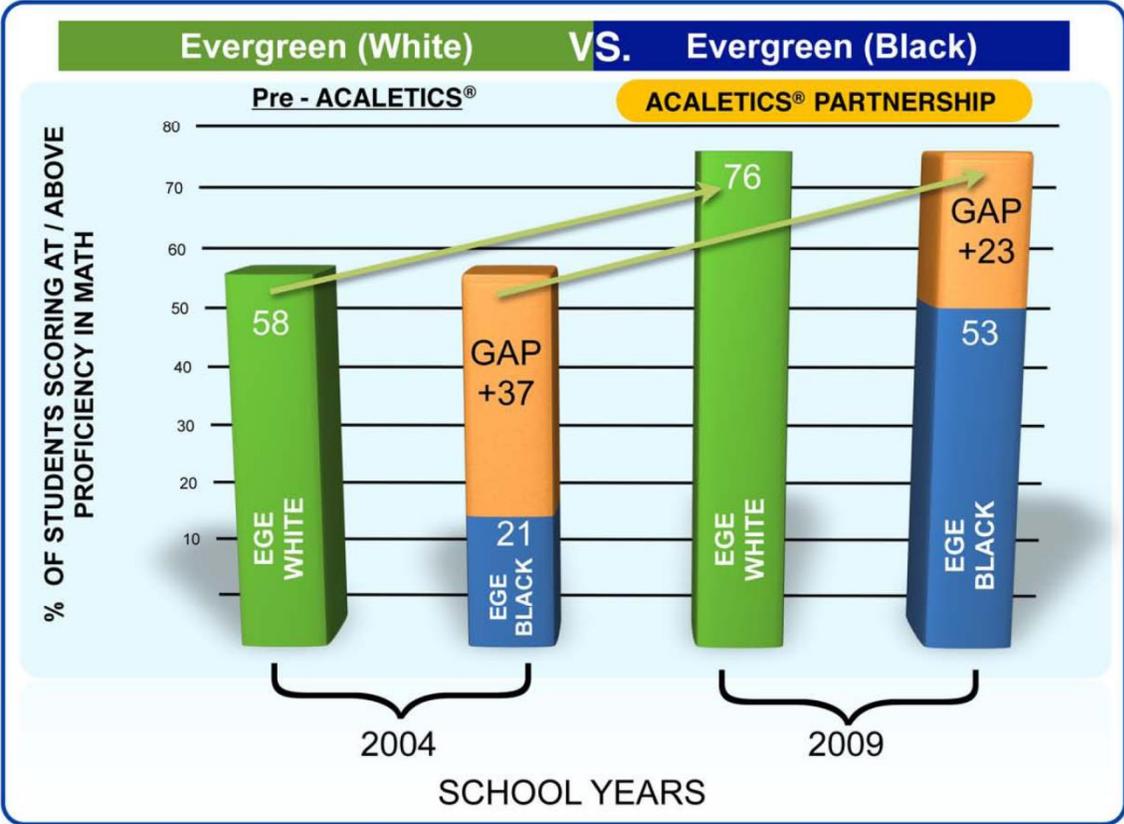


For the 2014 School Year, 100% of schools that partnered with ACALETICS® increased at least 1 letter grade. Whereas, only 45% of Marion County elementary schools maintained an “A” or increased 1 letter grade or more from 2013.

ACALETICS® Subgroup Gap Analysis - Math



EVERGREEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (EGE)
2004 – 2009 Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)



Evergreen Elementary School (EGE):

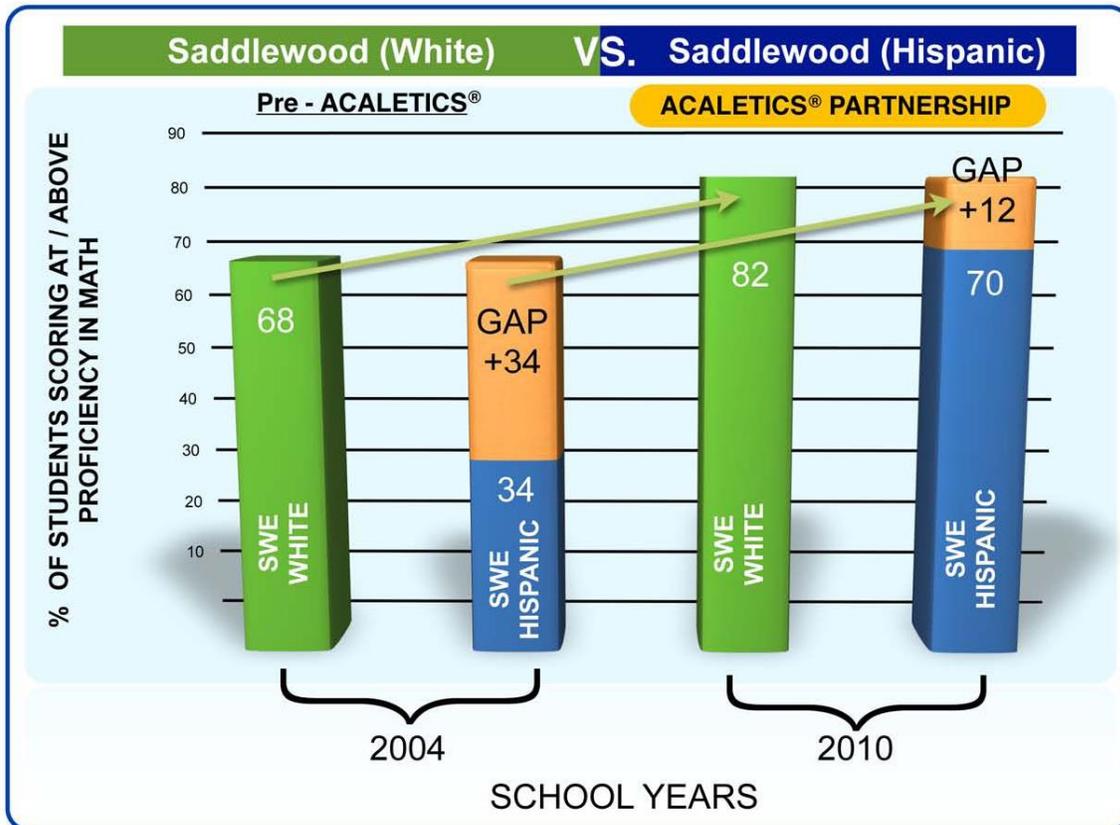
Data Source: *Florida Department of* EDUCATION

- EGE has increased its Black subgroup Percent Scoring At/Above Proficiency by **+32** percentage points from 2004 to 2009!
- In 2004, EGE's Black subgroup was significantly below (-37 percentage points) its White Subgroup in Percent of Students Scoring At/Above Proficiency in Math. During the five-year **ACALETICS®** partnership, EGE closed the achievement gap by **+14** percentage points in 2009! **Note, with our partnership the White subgroup also showed tremendous progress from 58% to 76%.**

ACALETICS® Subgroup Gap Analysis - Math



SADDLEWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (SWE)
2004 – 2010 Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)



Saddlewood Elementary School (SWE):

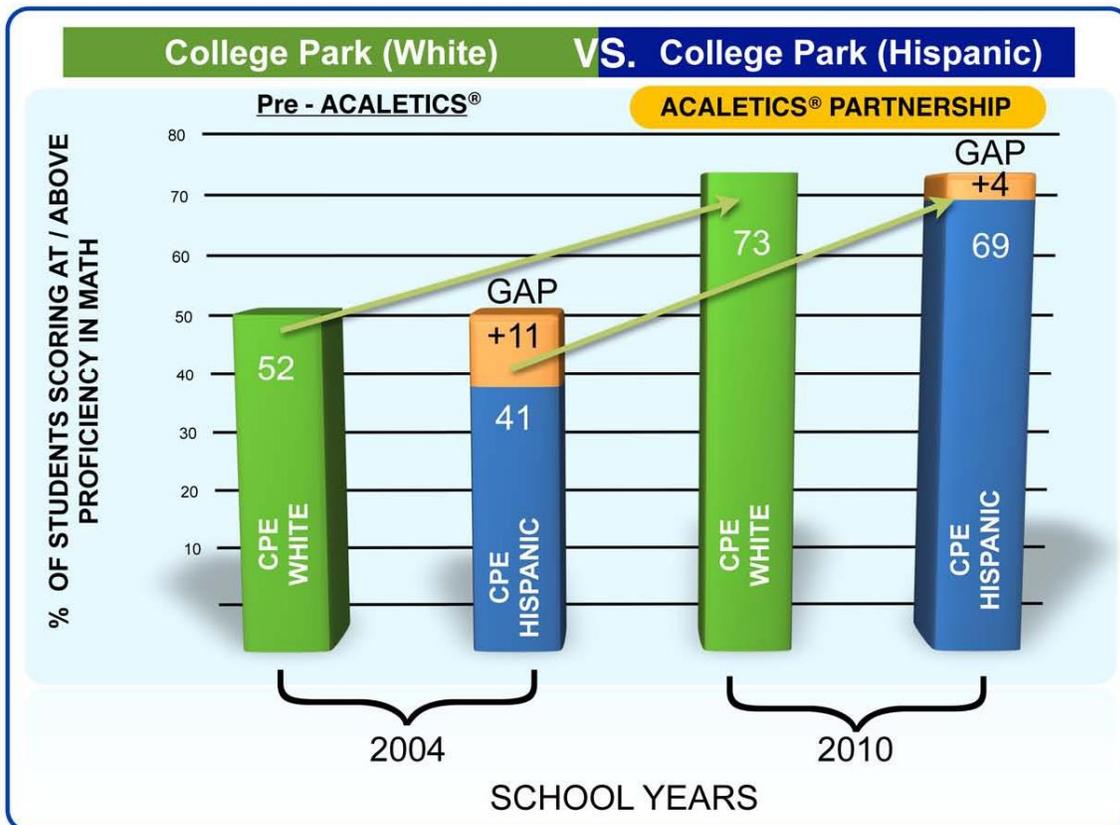
Data Source: Florida Department of EDUCATION

- SWE has increased its Hispanic subgroup Percent Scoring At/Above Proficiency by **+36** percentage points from 2004 to 2010!
- In 2004, SWE's Hispanic subgroup was significantly below (-34 percentage points) its White Subgroup in Percent of Students Scoring At/Above Proficiency in Math. During the six-year **ACALETICS®** partnership, SWE closed the achievement gap by **+22** percentage points in 2010! **Note, with our partnership the White subgroup also showed tremendous progress from 68% to 82%.**

ACALETICS® Subgroup Gap Analysis - Math



COLLEGE PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (CPE)
2004 – 2010 Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)



College Park Elementary School (CPE):

Data Source: Florida Department of Education

- CPE has increased its Hispanic subgroup Percent Scoring At/Above Proficiency by **+28** percentage points from 2004 to 2010!
- In 2004, CPE's Hispanic subgroup was below (-11 percentage points) its White Subgroup in Percent of Students Scoring At/Above Proficiency in Math. During the six-year **ACALETICS®** partnership, CPE closed the achievement gap by **+7** percentage points in 2010! **Note, with our partnership the White subgroup also showed tremendous progress from 52% to 73%.**



Yancey takes blame for failing school, promises changes

By Joe Callahan
Staff writer

Published: Wednesday, August 11, 2010 at 10:12 a.m.

Last Modified: Wednesday, August 11, 2010 at 3:08 p.m.

(Please refer to shaded areas on page 2.)

Superintendent of Schools Jim Yancey accepted responsibility Tuesday night for the dramatic fall of Evergreen Elementary School, the county's first demonstration school that received an F grade after a complete restructuring last summer.

School Board member Ron Crawford said the freefall was shocking, considering the school was graded a B in 2009. He said he is not happy with the results of last summer's radical new restructuring, which occurred because Evergreen was not meeting the federal No Child Left Behind criteria.

Just like last year, the state will send a team next week to look at the School District's plan to raise the school's performance, especially among its lowest performing students.

"I take full responsibility and apologize to the students and the community," he said. "If I had known it would have become an F, I would not have done this."

Yancey told the School Board there were many factors in the school's plunging FCAT test scores. Scores declined by 20 percent since 2009 when the school was rated a B.

In the wake of that, Yancey ordered a dramatic restructuring of the school, removing all of the teachers, replacing the principal and reopening Evergreen as a demonstration school with cutting-edge educational principles.

Teachers were allowed to reapply for their jobs, but many of the experienced educators did not return.

Yancey said he understands why they did not want to come back to the school they were asked to leave, and he believes the exodus of so many experienced educators was a factor in the school's declining performance. With a year of experience in the demonstration school, however, Yancey expects to see improvement in 2010-11.

Yancey said the economy also was a factor statewide. He said younger students feel the stresses of financial issues in the home. Many school grades fell, many from A to B, this year. Statewide, 300 schools dropped a letter grade to a B.



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Through it all, the School District as a whole held its B grade and the number of A and B schools held constant at 78 percent.

Though Crawford said he is proud that the percentage of A and B schools remained the same, especially considering the problems with the FCAT grading company NCS Pearson, he is concerned about what happened at Evergreen. He wanted to know what will be done to bring the school scores back up this school year.

Yancey said they will bring back Acaletics, a program that focuses on boosting math scores. That program has helped many schools boost their scores over the years. He said more reading programs will be used in hopes of bringing scores back up.

He said they will also abandon the concept of changing classes in grades 3-5, and students will stay with their homeroom teachers.

Yancey plans to go into more detail about his plans for addressing Evergreen's woes at an upcoming School Board work session.

School Board member Bobby James pointed out that many restructured schools across the state received poor grades and that the economy is partly to blame.

School Board member Jackie Porter also pointed out that the number of students receiving free and reduced-priced lunch climbed by 10 percent in the 2009-10 year.

Porter said 10 local schools have 80 percent or more students receiving discounted lunch in 2009-10. She believes that number will continue to climb because the economy "is worse" today. The number of those receiving discounted lunch is used to identify students needing more specialized help in reading and math.

Crawford said he would have supported bringing in an expert in restructuring and paying veteran teachers more to go to Evergreen.

Judi Zanetti agreed with Crawford, saying they should not allow one student to fall behind or "we must change what we are doing."

Joe Callahan can be reached at joe.callahan@starbanner.com.



Marion County School District earns a B, again

By Molly Larmie
Correspondent

Published: Thursday, June 30, 2011 at 11:01 a.m.
Last Modified: Thursday, June 30, 2011 at 11:01 a.m.

(Please refer to shaded areas on page 1 and 2.)

School grades for elementary and middle schools were released Thursday by the state Department of Education, and while most Marion schools held steady or changed by one grade from last year, the county tallied a few notable improvements and drops.

The Marion School District as a whole earned a B grade for the fifth year in a row.

The biggest achiever in the county was Fessenden Elementary, which improved from a D grade to an A.

Two elementary schools and one combination school jumped two letter grades. Evergreen Elementary, which dropped from a B grade in 2009 to an F in 2010, improved this year to a C. Stanton-Weirsdale Elementary and Horizon Academy at Marion Oaks, which offers fourth through eighth grades, both improved from C's to A's.

Five Marion elementary schools — Belleview-Santos Elementary, Dunnellon Elementary, Hammett Bowen Jr. Elementary, Maplewood Elementary and Ocala Springs Elementary — improved by one letter grade.

Six Marion elementary schools — Belleview Elementary, College Park Elementary, Emerald Shores Elementary, Reddick-Collier Elementary, Romeo Elementary and South Ocala Elementary — dropped one letter grade.

The rest of the area elementary schools earned the same grade as the previous year. The only middle school to move up a letter grade was North Marion Middle School, which improved from a C to a B. Belleview Middle, Howard Middle, Liberty Middle and Osceola Middle all earned A's for the third year in a row. Fort King Middle and Lake Weir Middle dropped one letter grade. Dunnellon Middle dropped two letter grades from an A to a C.

No elementary or middle school under the direction of the public school system scored below a C. Marion Charter School, which has its own governing board, dropped from a B to a D.

School grades are calculated by comparing FCAT results from this year to last year in categories that measure students' performance in reading, math, writing and science.



Marion County School District earns a B, again

By Molly Larmie
Correspondent

Published: Thursday, June 30, 2011 at 11:01 a.m.

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This year, the state implemented "FCAT 2.0," which introduced different standards in reading and math and raised the passing score for writing from 3.5 to 4, according to Deputy Superintendent Diana Greene.

"We (the district) had a lot to celebrate because we didn't know how the change in standards was going to affect our schools," Greene said. "We were able to pretty much maintain our grade without any falloff."

Some schools managed to improve several letter grades despite the tougher standards. Fessenden Elementary jumped three grades from a D to an A.

After last year's poor rating, there was a sense of urgency at the school, said Principal Anna DeWese.

"We knew we had to do something," she said.

From Jan. 24 to April 29, Fessenden extended its day by an hour. The school held community nights so parents could see what their children were learning in the classroom.

Each week, Fessenden teachers either met with administrators or other teachers to discuss data and plan lessons together, DeWese said.

The extra work paid off on Thursday when Fessenden was awarded an A — a score the school hadn't earned in 11 years.

"Our students, teachers, administrators and parents have done a phenomenal job," DeWese said. "When we all come together, anything is possible."

Statewide, school grades held relatively stable despite the higher test standards, according to a state Department of Education press release. More than 75 percent of Florida schools received either an A or B grade.

High school grades will be released in the fall.



SUNSHINE STATE NEWS

Pam Stewart: Florida Principals 'Best in Nation'

BY: ALLISON NIELSEN | Posted: October 29, 2013 9:40 AM

Commissioner of Education Pam Stewart took to the Florida Department of Education's blog on Tuesday to talk about the importance of principals in schools. Stewart boasted about principals at schools in Florida, calling them the best in the nation.

"Florida has the best principals in the nation, displaying the kind of leadership their schools and communities consistently need," wrote Stewart. "It's no secret that the past few years have been challenging as our state has raised its standards and expected more from its students. However, I know from my own experience as an elementary and high school principal that a productive, positive culture starts at the top."

Stewart herself was, at one time, a principal of Reddick-Collier Elementary in Marion County. The school, which was an "F" school when the first-year grades were released, jumped two letter grades in a year as a result of what Stewart refers to as "pushing through" and establishing school-wide expectations to attain student success.

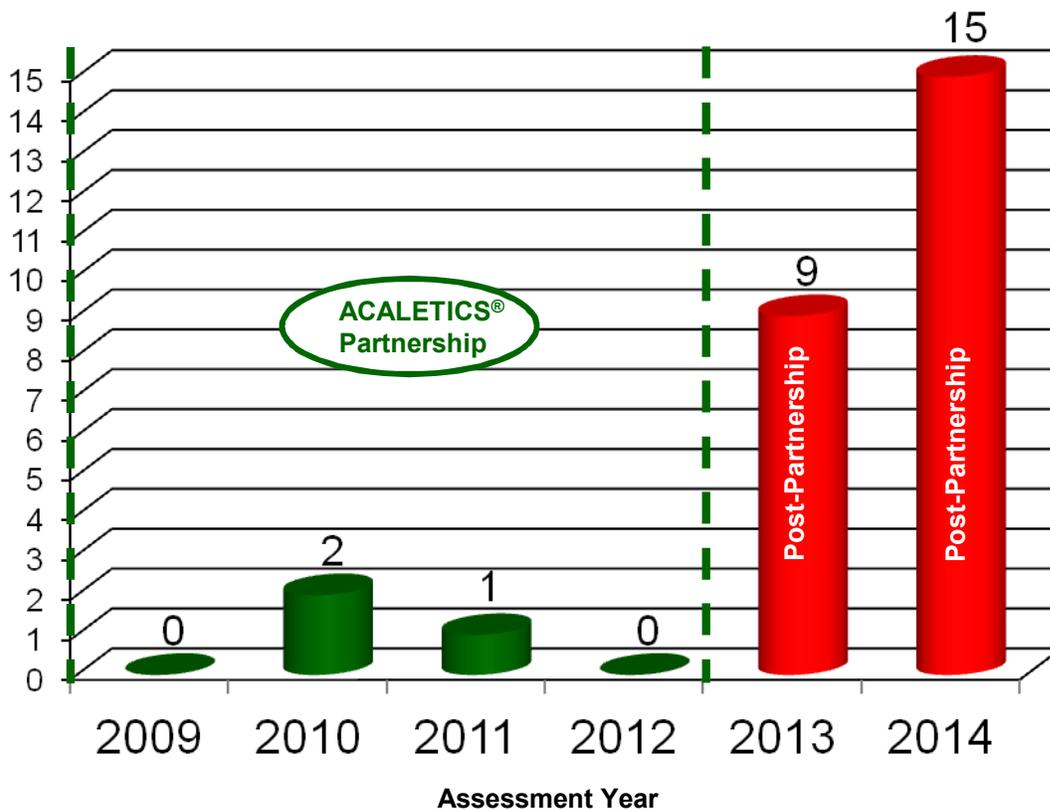
Principals, according to Stewart, are key to excellence in education.

"Principals set the tone for the school," she said. "In addition to leading their staff, it is crucial that they establish a school culture where academics come first and where involvement and accessibility are key. As many of you know, students and teachers perform best when they feel supported by their principal." Stewart had high words of praise for principals in the Sunshine State.

"Their support of classroom instruction continues to move our state forward and better prepares students for successful paths to college and careers," said Stewart. "I truly appreciate all they do each day to empower their staff, inform parents and inspire students to work toward a brighter tomorrow."



“D” and “F” Elementary Schools in Marion (2009 to 2014)



During the ACALETICS® partnership from 2009 to 2012 Marion County had no more than 2 %D+ and %F+ schools for any given year. Post-ACALETICS® partnership, starting in 2013 the number of %D+ and %F+ schools jumped to 9 in 2013. By 2014, close to half of Marion County elementary schools were either %D+ or %F+.



VALUE PROPOSITION:

The ACALETICS® **Value Proposition**, which sets us apart from other educational firms, is that we provide our clients an **extremely high Return On Investment (ROI)**, typically within **one school-year**, as indicated in the following excerpt from the Miami Herald.

“As school systems nationwide sign multi-million dollar contracts with universities and educational companies to save their struggling schools, Educational Development Associates signs individual schools at a fraction of the cost and often produces immediate results using its innovative program ACALETICS®.”

-Miami Herald

We measure **ROI** in terms of dramatic results in Math, as follows:

- 1) Achievement (% of Students Scoring At/or Above Grade Level),
- 2) Annual Learning Gains/Growth, and
- 3) Subgroup Achievement Gap Closure/Elimination/(Gap Reversal).

ACALETICS® 4 Key Components – EDU-neeringSM

<p>Professional Development</p> <p>The Special Venue: In the CLASSROOM!!!!</p> <p>with REAL Students, Your Students!</p>	<p>Differentiated Consultation (DC)</p> <p>One Size Does Not Fit All:</p> <p>There are Different Bright Spots in every school to be IDENTIFIED & LEVERAGED.</p>
<p>Standards-aligned Supplemental Materials</p> <p>Our effective “process” is embedded in our materials!</p> <p>We SUPPORT our Supplemental Materials/Support Tools with our customized Online Math Portal, ongoing onsite visits and 800#. With our 800#, you will receive a call back from a Consultant within 24 hours!</p>	<p>Parent & Student Engagement Services</p> <p>Customized Online Math Portal</p> <p>Math ClubSM within Every Classroom – An NFL Environment</p> <p>Well-received Parent Workshops: “Math ClubSM for Parents”</p> <p>Incentive Packages for Students</p>