



# CENTENNIAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

*Polo, Illinois*

**SuccessMaker®**  
ENTERPRISE

*“SuccessMaker Enterprise has been an important component of our Response to Intervention (RTI) program. With SuccessMaker Enterprise, we have been able to provide universal support to each student in the building as well as additional individual support for struggling students. Instruction becomes truly individualized by allowing students to work at their independent level. The success and motivation students feel is remarkable!”*

— **Keri Heeren**  
*principal*

*“It’s exciting when I introduce a new topic in the classroom and a student realizes that he/she already knows how to complete the skill because they’ve already had it in the program [SuccessMaker Enterprise].”*

— **Jennifer Yingling**  
*elementary teacher*

*“I like how it adjusts to our skill level.”*

— **2nd grade student**

## PROFILE

**School District:** Polo Community Unit School District 222

**District Enrollment:** 762 students

**School Enrollment:** 311 students

**Grades:** PreK-5

**Free/Reduced Price Lunch:** 50%

### **Ethnicity:**

- 91% Caucasian
- 5% Hispanic
- 2% African American
- 1% Asian
- 1% Other

## CHALLENGE

Centennial Elementary School, named after the 100th anniversary celebration for the town in 1957, has a long history in the small, rural town of Polo, Illinois. The teachers and administrators are well known for their dedication to providing students with a quality education and equipping them to succeed.

To reach all of their students, from those who excel easily to those who require extra assistance and those who are in need of intervention, Centennial Elementary wanted a computer program capable of providing individualized supplemental instruction in reading and math. They also required a product that had multiple functionality and was flexible.

## SOLUTION

In 1999 Centennial Elementary underwent a major expansion of their facilities including a new library and computer lab. Using funds from their district board of education, state grants and their parents organization, they purchased Pearson Digital Learning’s SuccessMaker® Enterprise as one of the main programs to be used in the computer lab. Since their initial investment they upgraded to a higher version of the courseware in 2008.

All students, from 1st through 5th grade, use the program weekly. Monday through Thursday each student uses the program for 25 minutes, building both math and reading skills. Student scores are recorded and reviewed daily by the computer lab aide and teachers. If any students fall below 90 or 80 percent proficiency they are given either more time on the computer or a

*Continues*



## SOLUTION (Continued)

teacher will work with them. Kindergarten students begin using the program during the second half of the school year. They too spend 25 minutes Monday through Thursday working on basic reading and math skills.

“On Fridays students use their time on the computers for intervention, to review material, reinforce content or prepare for their state tests. “We are very fortunate to have SuccessMaker Enterprise, which can service all three tiers of Response to Intervention (RTI). When needed, students in any tier of RTI may be placed on the courseware for extra time in the area of need or enrichment. In addition to helping with RTI, it aids in preparation for the Illinois Standards Achievement Test (ISAT). Two weeks before the ISAT’s, our 3rd through 5th grade teachers schedule their students time on the computers to review or concentrate on specific skills,” explains Sue Hillison, computer lab aide at Centennial Elementary.

*“To start out, I think that SuccessMaker Enterprise really helps. I believe this because it doesn’t give you a problem of the same type just once. It gives it to you a lot so if you don’t understand it well you can keep working on it and you’ll eventually get the hang of it.”*

— 5th grade student

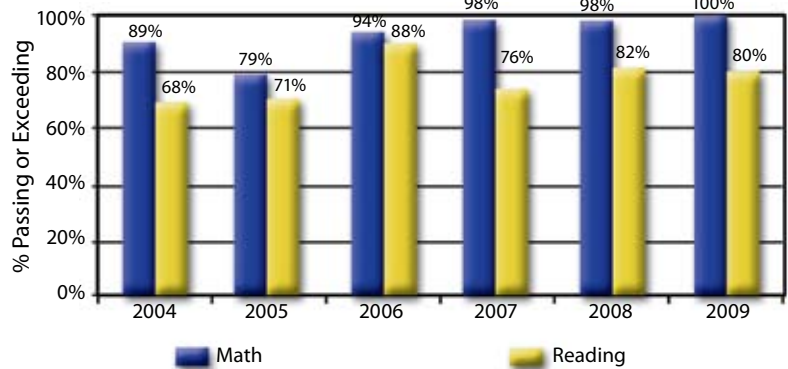
*“As a parent I feel SuccessMaker Enterprise is an outstanding program. The program allows my children to work at their individual levels so they are able to feel successful on a daily basis. The program moves them along as they master skills so they are continually being challenged.”*

— Rachel Phillips  
parent

## RESULTS

“We work hard at keeping the lab at full capacity because we see the benefits it provides for our students. Our ISAT scores have gone up since we began using SuccessMaker Enterprise. The children work at their own levels, which gives them the confidence to tackle the upper level questions on state tests. This is a wonderful opportunity since we do not have gifted classes at our school,” said Principal Keri Heeren.

### 2004-09 ISAT Performance Scores – 3rd Grade Students



### 2004-09 ISAT Performance Scores – 5th Grade Students

