

i-Ready, Ready[®] *Indiana Mathematics*, and Experienced Educators Lead to Amazing Results

Two Rural Indiana Schools Achieved Proficiency on the New ILEARN Exam

The spring 2019 results of Indiana's new state assessment, the Indiana Learning Evaluation and Readiness Network (ILEARN), left educators, parents, and politicians dismayed. More than half of the state's Grades 3–8 students did not meet proficiency standards for Mathematics or English Language Arts (ELA).

ILEARN is distinct from its predecessor, ISTEP, in that it is computer-based, adaptive (i.e., questions get harder or easier in response to a student's performance), and more focused on rigor and college and career readiness.

The first ILEARN results also showed that the achievement gap between low-income students and their peers was, as in past years, wide. Only 34.4 percent of Indiana students who qualify for free or reduced-price lunch achieved math proficiency.

However, two small, rural schools in Cloverdale, Indiana—despite having the odds stacked against them—earned ILEARN proficiency percentages that didn't follow larger trends. While more than 13 percent of Cloverdale's citizens live below the poverty line, and 63 percent of Cloverdale's elementary and middle school students qualify for free or reduced-price lunch, both schools' proficiency rates for math were higher than comparable schools and the statewide rate.



Cloverdale Elementary and Middle Schools

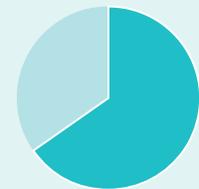
Cloverdale, Indiana

Enrollment: **723**

Grade Range: **K–8**

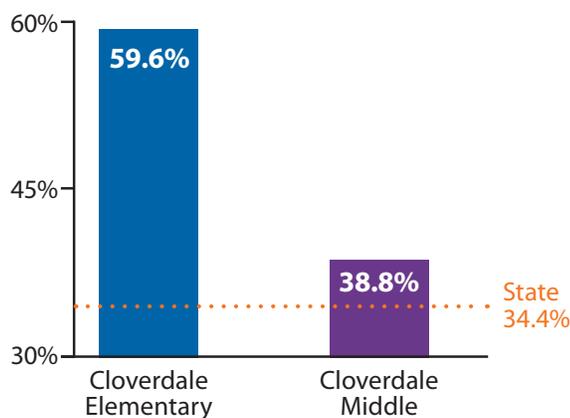


Title I: **67%**

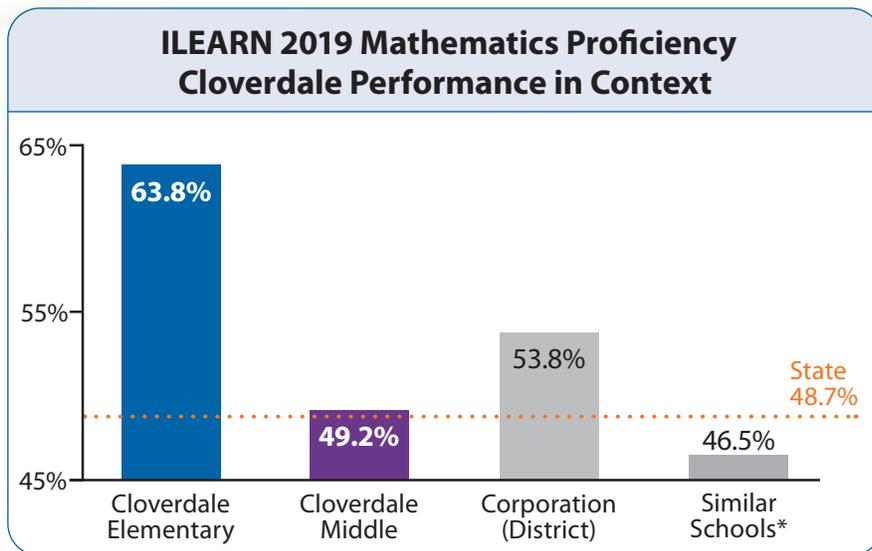


Free or Reduced-Price Lunch Eligible: **63%**

ILEARN 2019 Mathematics Proficiency among Low-Income Students



- Nearly 64 percent of Cloverdale Elementary students and just more than 49 percent of Cloverdale Middle students achieved proficiency. Both scores were higher than the state’s Grades 3–8 proficiency rate of 48.7 percent.



*These schools are similar in terms of key demographics.

- Cloverdale students also had higher proficiency rates than the state for students with socioeconomic disadvantages. The percentage of elementary school students who achieved proficiency was greater by more than 25 percentage points, while the rate for middle school students was higher by 4.4 percentage points.
- Cloverdale’s mathematics median growth percentile was above average. This means that the academic progress students in Grades 3–8 made was greater than other Indiana students with similar academic histories.

“When kids know the level where they’re performing, and they know where they want to be performing—that’s a huge motivator for them to work harder day in and day out. That mindset is a life skill that will serve them well forever.”

—Angie Renard,
Second Grade Teacher,
Cloverdale Elementary

New Programs Lead to Clear Instructional Pathways

Cloverdale Elementary and Middle Schools have used *i-Ready Assessment*, *i-Ready Personalized Instruction* for Mathematics, and *Ready Indiana Mathematics* since fall 2016. Before then, the schools relied on several different assessments. However, educators found that the former tools didn’t give definitive information about students’ challenges and strengths. Teachers had data, but they lacked clearly defined learning pathways for their students.

Switching to *i-Ready Assessment* enabled Cloverdale to consolidate student data and differentiate instruction. *i-Ready Personalized Instruction* and *Ready Indiana Mathematics*, in turn, helped teachers modernize and align their math curriculum across Grades K–8.

Dedicated Educators Become Believers

Cloverdale Community Schools do not have a lot of teacher turnover, which means they retain experienced educators year after year. Twenty-eight percent of Cloverdale Middle School educators and 53 percent of Cloverdale Elementary School educators have more than 20 years of experience.

However, the depth of experience didn't mean implementing the *i-Ready* programs and *Ready Indiana Mathematics* was easy. Overhauling the math curriculum was a huge task, and the first year of implementation was a challenge for teachers and students alike. Cathy Ames, Cloverdale Community Schools Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment, spent a lot of time reassuring both parents and teachers that the results would be worth the efforts.

"When our teachers started to see that data come back from our *i-Ready Diagnostics*, when they started to see that the data was very intentional in regards to specific students' challenges and strengths and that they could take that data and immediately provide support for our students—that really was the big turning point because then our teachers knew that this was something that was going to glean the type of results we wanted," Ames said.

Cloverdale Sees Measurable Growth

Cloverdale's *i-Ready* data shows the impact of all the focused work educators and students put into preparation for the first ILEARN assessment. Over the course of the 2018–2019 school year, more than half of students met their goals for Typical Growth and more than 25 percent met their Stretch Growth goals.

“Now if you talk to our teachers regarding the decision we made to go to *Ready [Indiana Mathematics]* and *i-Ready*, they wouldn't want anything else because they've seen the outcomes. They've seen the growth of our students. They've seen the successes.”

—Cathy Ames,

Cloverdale Community Schools Director of Curriculum,
Instruction, and Assessment

About the Programs



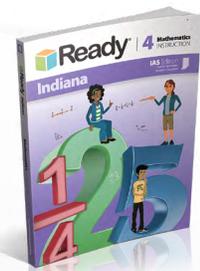
i-Ready Assessment

A research-proven program that provides actionable data about students' academic strengths and specific skills they need to learn to reach grade-level proficiency



i-Ready Personalized Instruction

Powerful online lessons driven by insights from *i-Ready Assessment* that enable educators to give their students individualized pathways to proficiency



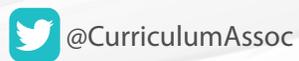
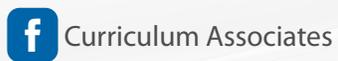
Ready Indiana Mathematics

A teacher-led instruction program built to help students develop mathematical reasoning, engage in discourse, and build strong mathematical habits



Want to build a data-driven culture?

Visit CurriculumAssociates.com/BlendedMath to learn more about *i-Ready's* actionable data, easy-to-use dashboard, and robust reports.



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