



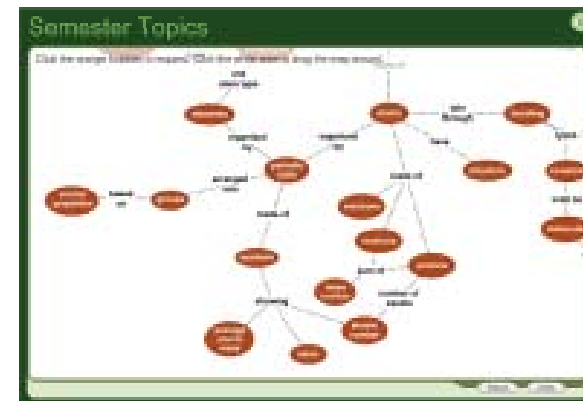
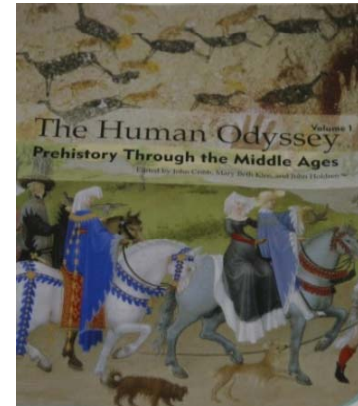
unleash the xPotential

Technology and Public Education:  
*Improving Student Achievement Through  
Innovative Learning Solutions*

Pennsylvania House of Representatives  
Republican Policy Committee  
March 15, 2010

# K<sup>12</sup> ~ Innovative Learning Solutions

- **K<sup>12</sup> is a pioneer in partnering with states and school districts to extend the promise of public school education through innovative learning models utilizing technology.**
- **The K<sup>12</sup> curriculum cost over \$140 million to develop, with the more than 15,000 discrete lessons specifically designed for online delivery and based on decades of education research.**
- **The K12 curriculum is technology-rich, with over 100,000 videos, recordings, animations, graphics, and other interactive online elements integrated with offline learning kits.**
- **Leading national provider of online learning programs with more than 69,000 full-time, public school students served in SY 2009-10.**
- **Aligned to state & national standards & iNACOL Standards of Quality for Online Courses.**



# Virtual Education: A National Snapshot



**Programs and enrollments are growing rapidly** ~ Fastest growing area in K-12 public education, where 44 states offer significant full- and part-time virtual education programs with an estimated 1 million+ enrollments, up from 328,000 in 2002. In SY 2007-08, a 173 full-time virtual public schools served more than 90,000 students in 18 states.

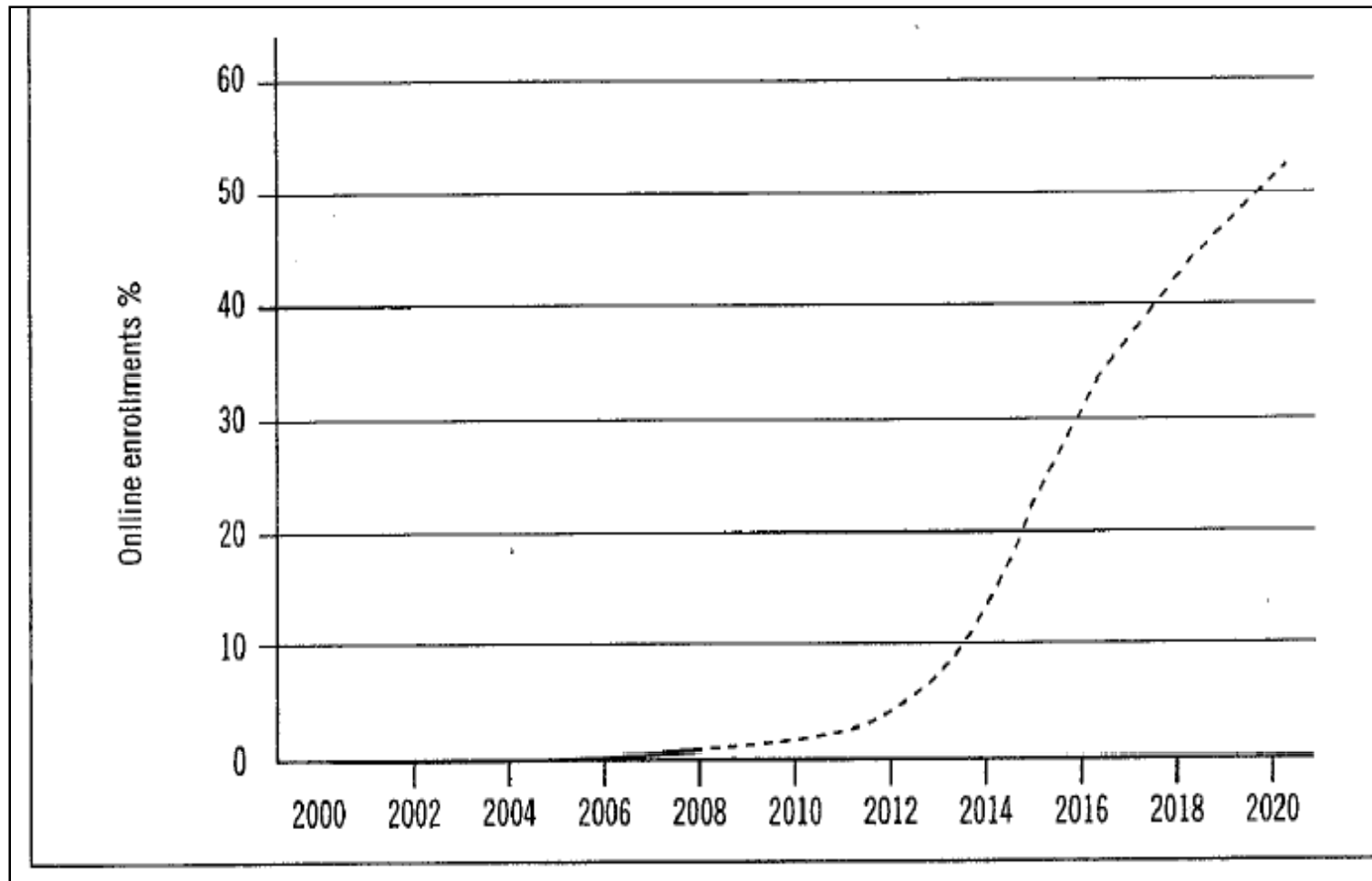
**Tremendous program diversity serving every type of student** ~ Virtual education programs are a wide mix and match of variables, including governance (state-led, charter, district, etc.); amount of instruction online (full-time, supplemental, hybrid or blended); course types; student types; geographic reach; and other variables.

**Demonstrated quality and success** ~ With 10+ years of experience, the research on virtual education demonstrates that “on average, students perform equally well or better academically in online learning.” (NCREL *Synthesis of New Research on K-12 Online Learning*, 2005, North Central Regional Education Laboratory/Learning Point Associates)

# Online learning growth projected to accelerate



Projections suggest that by 2019, 50% of high school courses will be delivered online.



# Why Consider Virtual School Programs?



- **Increase Achievement:** proven academic model with strong academic results, particularly for children below grade level and with special needs
- **Reduce Drop-Outs:** better success means fewer students dropping out
- **Customized Option:** provides unique custom education alternative for some students whose needs are not met or can't be served by current system
- **Cost-Effective:** provides a high quality public education option at less cost
- **Choice:** creates new options for families and students
- **Flexibility:** not constrained by buildings, bell schedules, or school calendars
- **Holding Power:** good schools keep families and jobs in communities
- **Drawing Power:** good schools attract families and jobs to communities
- **The Future:** helps students acquire essential 21<sup>st</sup> technology skills
- **Leadership:** establishes entities as visionary public education leaders

# K<sup>12</sup> ~ Innovative Learning Solutions

*A continuum of online learning options*



	Full-time Online Learning	Blended Learning	Online Courses	Classroom Solutions
<b>Schooling type</b>	Full-time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full-time</li> <li>• Supplemental</li> </ul>	Supplemental	Supplemental
<b>Implementation</b>	Distance learning	Distance learning + in classroom or learning lab	Learning lab or distance learning	In classroom via whiteboard
<b>K<sup>12</sup> Offering</b>	<b>End-to-end solution</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• K-12 Curriculum</li> <li>• Technology</li> <li>• Assessment</li> <li>• Teacher training</li> <li>• Supporting products &amp; services</li> <li>• Administrative services (optional)</li> </ul>	<b>End-to-end solution</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• K-12 Curriculum</li> <li>• Technology</li> <li>• Assessment</li> <li>• Teacher training</li> <li>• Supporting products &amp; services</li> <li>• Administrative services (optional)</li> </ul>	<b>Customized Solution</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• K-12 Curriculum</li> <li>• Technology</li> <li>• Assessment</li> <li>• Teacher training or K<sup>12</sup> teachers</li> </ul>	<b>Customized Solution</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• K-8 Math &amp; Science Curriculum</li> <li>• Technology</li> <li>• Assessment</li> <li>• Teacher training</li> <li>• K<sup>12</sup> on-site teaching &amp; learning coach</li> </ul>
<b>K<sup>12</sup> partnerships</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Statewide virtual academies</b> (e.g. OHVA)</li> <li>• <b>District programs</b> (e.g. Washington County School District)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Urban charter schools</b> (e.g. CVCS)</li> <li>• <b>District programs</b> (e.g. St. Louis Public Schools)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>District/school supplemental programs</b> (e.g. Lansing School District)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Struggling urban &amp; rural schools</b> (e.g. North Panola School District)</li> </ul>

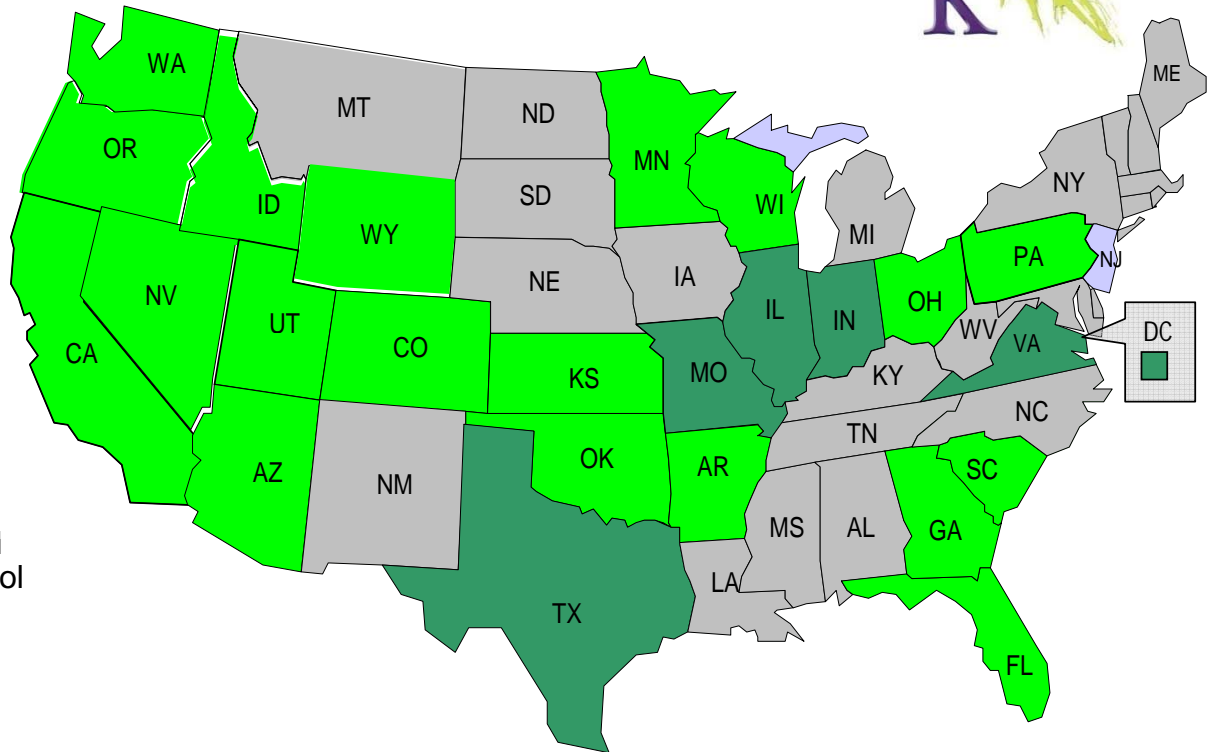
# K<sup>12</sup>'s Public School Partnerships

Over 69,000 public school students served



- **STATEWIDE PUBLIC VIRTUAL SCHOOLS (21 States):**

- Agora Cyber Charter School (PA)
- Arizona Virtual Academy
- Arkansas Virtual Academy
- California Virtual Academies
- Colorado Virtual Academy
- Florida Virtual Academy
- Georgia Virtual Academy
- Hawaii Technology Academy
- Honors High Online of Wisconsin
- Idaho Virtual Academy
- Lawrence Virtual School (Kansas)
- Minnesota Virtual Academy
- Nevada Virtual Academy
- Ohio Virtual Academy
- Oklahoma Virtual Academy
- Oregon Virtual Academy
- Pennsylvania Virtual Charter School
- South Carolina Virtual Charter School
- Utah Virtual Academy
- Washington Virtual Academy
- Wisconsin Virtual Academy
- Wyoming Virtual Academy



- **Urban Districts / Regional Partnerships with K12 (in 6 States):**

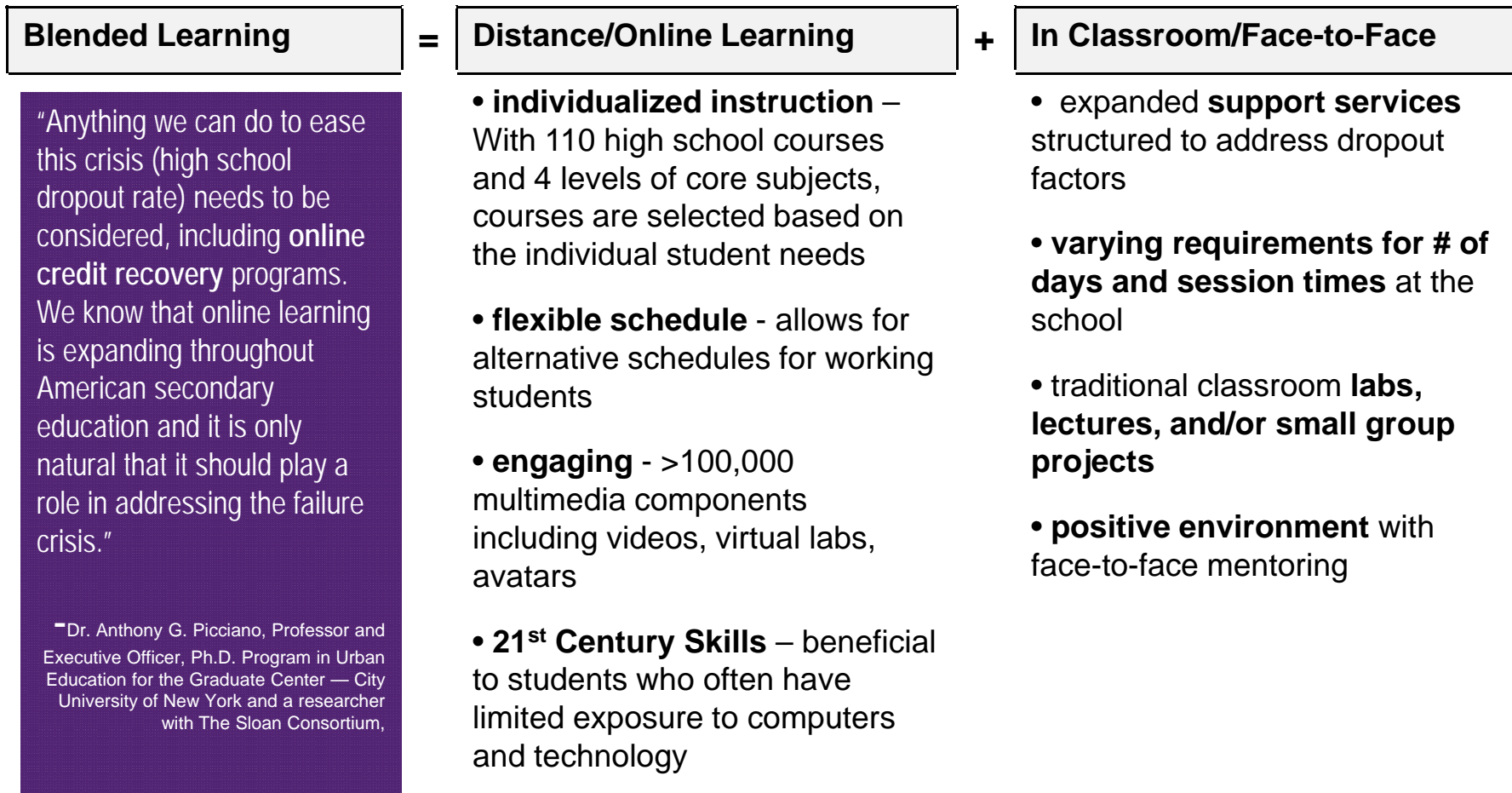
- Chicago Virtual Charter School
- Hoosier Academies at Indianapolis and Muncie (IN)
- St. Louis Virtual School
- Texas Virtual Academy at Southwest
- Virginia: Regional / County Partnerships with Carroll, Bedford, Halifax, Prince George, Pittsylvania
- Washington D.C. Community Academy Public Charter School Online (CAPCS Online)

# K<sup>12</sup> Blended Learning & Credit Recovery Programs

## Benefits of Blended Learning



The blended learning model can be a powerful tool in the effort to decrease the high school dropout rate.



# K<sup>12</sup> Blended Learning & Credit Recovery Programs

*Results in Chicago*



**Chicago Virtual Charter School (CVCS), the city's first blended learning program and a K<sup>12</sup> partner school, has demonstrated strong results.**

## CHICAGO VIRTUAL CHARTER SCHOOL

- located in the Merit School of Music building in Chicago's West Loop
- 557 students in grades K-11
- 83% minority students
- 51% low-income families

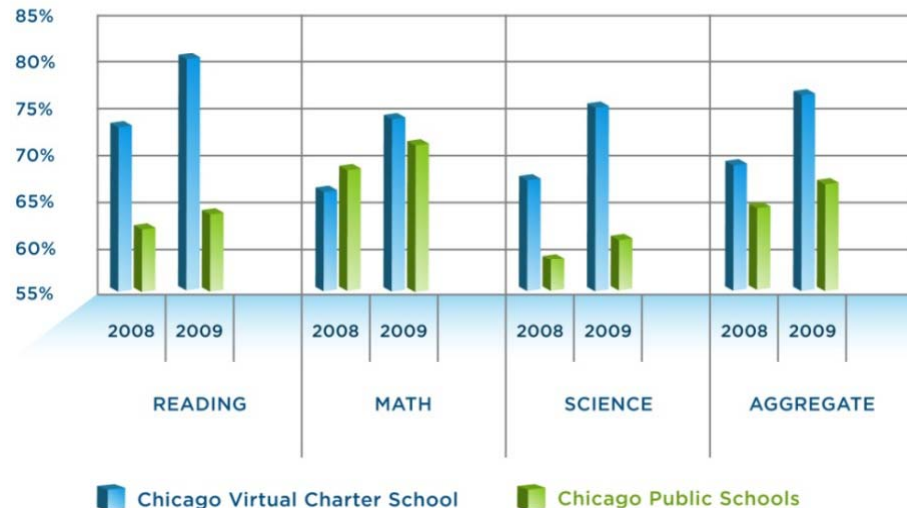
## K<sup>12</sup> Scope of Work

In July 2006, Chicago Virtual Charter School (CVCS) launched with approval to serve up to 600 students in grades K-8. Program features include:

- K<sup>12</sup> online curriculum
- Face-to-face meetings with teachers 1-2 days/week at downtown facility
- Individual student learning plans
- Strong partnerships between teachers, parents, learning coaches and students

## Results

% of Students (grades 3-8) Meeting or Exceeding Standards on Illinois Standards Achievement Test (ISAT)



Chicago Virtual Charter School, a K<sup>12</sup> blended learning program, has outperformed the Chicago Public School System in Reading, Math & Science by up to 16 percentage points.

# K<sup>12</sup> Blended Learning & Credit Recovery Programs

*Results in Indiana*



**Hoosier Academies in Indianapolis and Muncie draw students from over 20 counties and 70 school districts, with some families traveling 60-90 minutes to attend the schools' learning centers**

## Hoosier Academies

- learning centers located in Indianapolis and Muncie
- 470 students in grades K-10
- 49% academically at-risk
- 60% below average income families

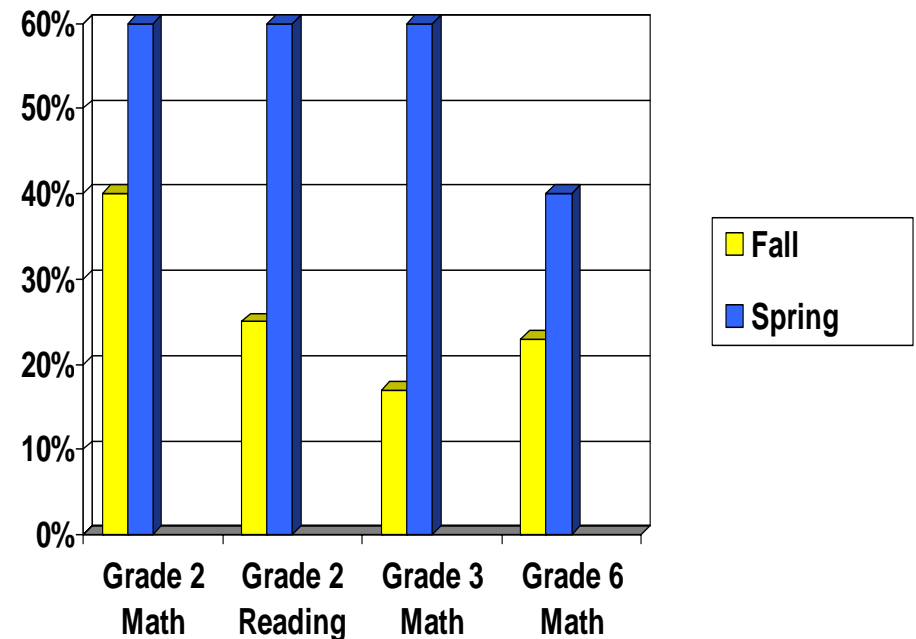
## K<sup>12</sup> Scope of Work

In September 2008, Hoosier Academies opened in Indianapolis and Muncie in grades K-10. Program features include:

- K<sup>12</sup> online curriculum
- 2 days a week of teacher-led instruction at –schools' learning centers in Indianapolis and Muncie
- Individual student learning plans
- Strong partnerships between teachers, parents, learning coaches and students

## Results

**NWEA Results, School Year 2008-09  
Percent of Students Above the Median  
RIT Score**



# K<sup>12</sup> Blended Learning & Credit Recovery Programs

## *Results in Chicago*

**The second K<sup>12</sup> partner school, YCCS Virtual High School, is an emerging success story, helping an underserved population finish high school and plan for career and/or college.**



### YCCS Virtual High School

- located in Malcolm X College of Chicago
- launched in September 2009
- students 18-21 yrs of age
- 100% eligible for free lunch

### Results

- retained 70% of students in the 1<sup>st</sup> semester
- projecting ~150 students (>250% increase in enrollment) for 2<sup>nd</sup> semester
- 31% (12 of 38 students) graduated after 1<sup>st</sup> semester

### K<sup>12</sup> Scope of Work

YCCS is a virtual hybrid late high school credit recovery program designed to serve as an education solution for students who are capable of completing their high school graduation requirements within two years with the intention of continuing their post-secondary education at Malcolm X City College or another post-secondary institution. Program features include:

- K<sup>12</sup> online curriculum with multiple levels of core subjects to meet the needs of diverse learners
- Daily face-to-face instruction at Malcolm X City College
- Individual student graduation plans
- Laptops provided to students with 100% attendance after 1<sup>st</sup> month (~50% eligible)
- Social development support fostering essential life skills
- Leadership development & mentoring programs

# K<sup>12</sup> Blended Learning & Credit Recovery Programs

## Research-Based Services

**K<sup>12</sup>'s social services, incentive programs and career/college counseling are research-based\* and critical to the success of the YCCS virtual high school.**



Drop Out Factors	How The YCCS Virtual High School Addresses
School Climate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Small school design</li> <li>• College campus setting with similar age peers</li> <li>• Attendance and Truancy focused on prevention relationship</li> <li>• Positive and safe environment</li> <li>• Recognition for student improvement, weekly, monthly, yearly</li> <li>• Community presentations, career, homeless services, mercy care, and Navy</li> </ul>
Social/Emotional	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social worker to connect students with existing community and campus resources</li> <li>• Community volunteer opportunities</li> <li>• Instructors provide time for one on one support</li> <li>• One on one school mentoring for students</li> <li>• Administration background in adolescent clinical treatment</li> <li>• Personality inventories raise student self awareness and inform staff</li> <li>• Childcare support, tutoring services</li> </ul>
Transition Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• College counselor in collaboration with Malcolm X</li> <li>• Individualized learning plans focus on academic needs and post sec goals</li> <li>• All students take career planning courses</li> <li>• Hoop Dreams: Control Your Destiny Curriculum planned for 2<sup>nd</sup> semester</li> <li>• Career assessment and exploration</li> <li>• College and post secondary counseling</li> <li>• TRIO program</li> <li>• Pyramid Partnership college and career placement</li> <li>• College campus setting with dual credit partnership pending</li> </ul>

\*Research includes surveys and focus groups with target students and publications by organizations such as the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, National High School Center and the Institute of Education Sciences (IES).

# The K<sup>12</sup> Discovery School Offering



- K12 plays an “IMO” or Instructional Management Organization role
  - Focus on instruction, training, and student achievement
  - **Work with existing staff and administration** under existing collective bargaining agreement
- Emphasize K<sup>12</sup>'s math, science, and technology, also offer K<sup>12</sup>'s history and art programs
- K<sup>12</sup> provides a suite of online tools, online courses, and physical materials
- K<sup>12</sup> Teaching and Learning Coach (TLC) is onsite daily to provide support and professional development
- K<sup>12</sup> and TLC seek to create a school culture focused on improved instruction and measurable student achievement gains
- Focus on mostly high-poverty schools in need of restructuring.
- Requires each classroom to have a high-speed internet connection and an interactive whiteboard.
  - Cost per IT upgrade is approximately \$3000 per room

# Case Study ~ William H. Hunter School



## William H. Hunter School - School District of Philadelphia



### About Hunter School

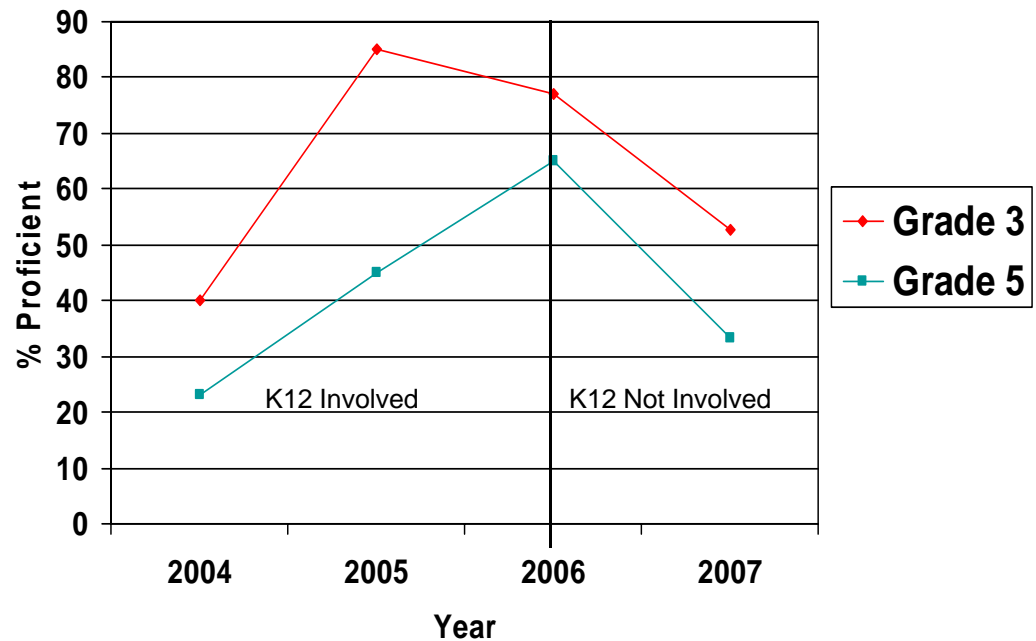
- Located in Norris Square neighborhood
- 600 students in grades K-8
- 95% qualify for free/reduced lunches
- 25% study English as a Second Language (ESL)
- Numerous bilingual classrooms

### K12 Scope of Work

In 2004, K12 became the sole provider of math, science, art, and history in a traditional brick and mortar classroom. K12 provided a full-time trainer for support.

### Results

After just one full year of using K12, the Hunter School achieved impressive gains on the Pennsylvania PSSA state math exams (see chart).



# Case Study ~ North Panola School District



## North Panola School District, Panola County, MS

### About the North Panola School District

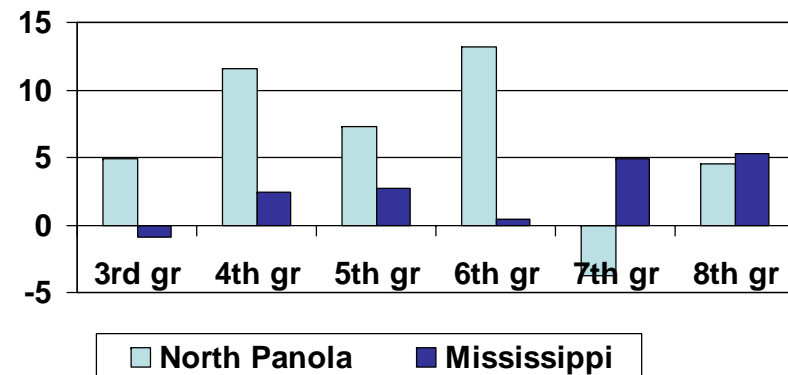
- Located in northern Mississippi
- Three elementary schools; one junior high school
- Approximately 1200 students in grades K-8
- 95+% qualify for free/reduced lunches
- All schools are Title 1

### K12 Scope of Work

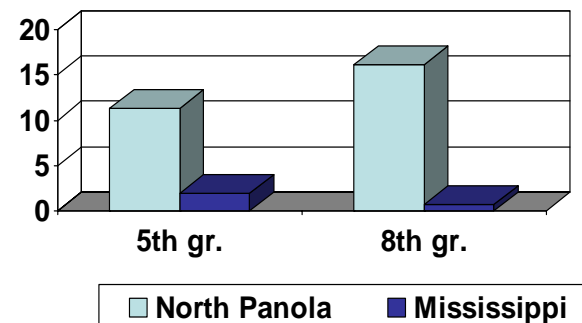
The Mississippi Department of Education, under the guidance of State Superintendent Bounds, engaged K12 to help improve the daily instruction of math and science in the North Panola School District, which was recently taken over by the state. In August 2008, K12 became the sole provider of Math and Science for the three elementary schools and one junior high school in the district. As a result of this partnership, K12 provides:

- Math and Science curriculum materials
- Online School access for teachers, students and parents
- A trainer at each site for daily on-site support and professional development
- Promethean Boards for every classroom using the program
- Scantron Performance Series for Math and Science

**Average Increase of Students Proficient or Above on MCT2 Math**



**Average Increase of Students Proficient or Above on MCT2 Science**



# Case Study ~ Fuller Normal Advanced Technology Charter School



## Fuller Normal Advanced Technology Charter School- Greenville, SC



### About FNATCS

- 120 students in grades K-6
- 98% qualify for free/reduced lunches
- 10% qualify for Special Education services
- Won the 2007 InnoVision Technology Award for Innovation in Education for the state

### K<sup>12</sup> Scope of Work

In 2006, the first year of the charter, the FNATCS Board of Directors contracted with K<sup>12</sup> for their math, science, history and art curriculum. K<sup>12</sup> provided a full-time trainer for daily on-site support.

### Results

After just two years of using the K<sup>12</sup> curriculum, FNATCS made the highest gains in Math of any school in SC.

### Palmetto Achievement Challenge Test- Math

	2007	2008	Difference
<b>South Carolina</b>			
gr. 3	78.5	77.2	-1.3
gr. 4	78.1	79.0	0.9
gr. 5	77.2	77.6	0.4
<b>Greenville School District</b>			
gr. 3	81.8	81.7	-0.1
gr. 4	78.8	80.8	2.0
gr. 5	79.6	80.2	0.6
<b>FNATCS</b>			
gr. 3	52.6	76.9	24.3
gr. 4	20.0	68.4	48.4
gr. 5	34.8	62.5	27.7