

Kershaw County Middle Schools Show Remarkable Growth

District Uses Two High-Quality Partners to Close Gaps

How often have you heard, “my elementary schools are doing great, but my middle schools are struggling or stagnant?” Continuing the trajectory of growth in middle school is a challenge, but not impossible. How did Kershaw do it?

“Our teachers are committed to helping all students demonstrate mastery, as evidenced by the exciting growth we experienced this past school year. **We’re particularly proud of the middle school growth** and look forward to seeing our students reach new heights of achievement this year.” Dr. Alisa Taylor, executive director for K12 instruction, Kershaw County Schools.



Classworks and NWEA: Partnership for Success

In 2014, Kershaw County chose Classworks as a districtwide resource to support teachers with closing achievement gaps. The district administers the NWEA MAP assessment three times a year to measure student growth and determine which students need intervention. Using MAP assessment results, Classworks delivers custom reading and math lessons matched to students’ specific needs. Kershaw teachers are able to start interventions much earlier in the year, with tremendous results.

“The district prioritized implementing research-based tools to provide insight into where students are struggling and where they excel,” says, Dr. Alisa Taylor, executive director for K12 instruction, Kershaw County Schools. “NWEA’s MAP assessment paired with Classworks Individualized Instruction provides both the data and a plan for each student’s success.”

About Kershaw County Schools

State: South Carolina

Number of middle schools: 4

Number of middle school students: 2,748

Total number of students: ~10,000

Free/reduced lunch: 57% eligible

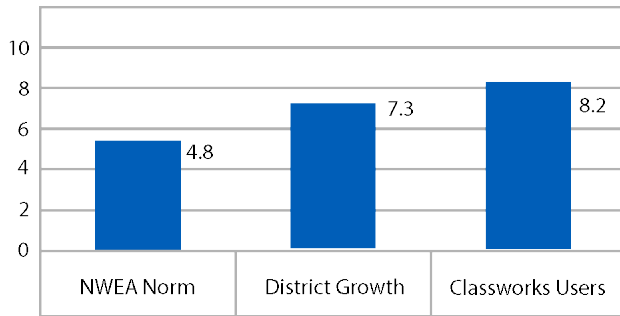
Classworks customer since: 2014



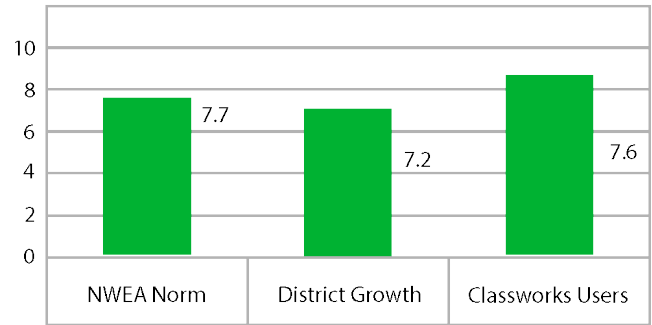
The Proof is in the Data!

Middle schools in the district exceeded NWEA's Mean Growth Norms by 7.6 points in reading. Classworks users in the district with 70% + mastery saw the most growth, 13 points higher than Growth Norms in reading and 3 points higher in math.

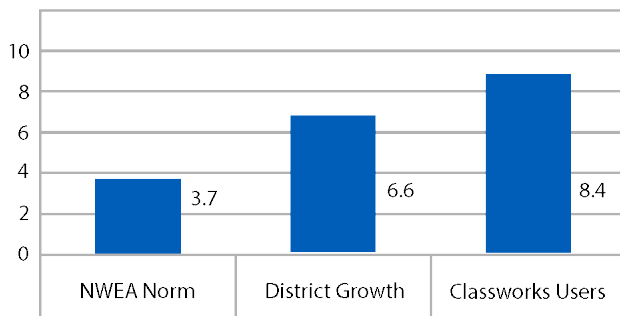
6th Grade Reading Results



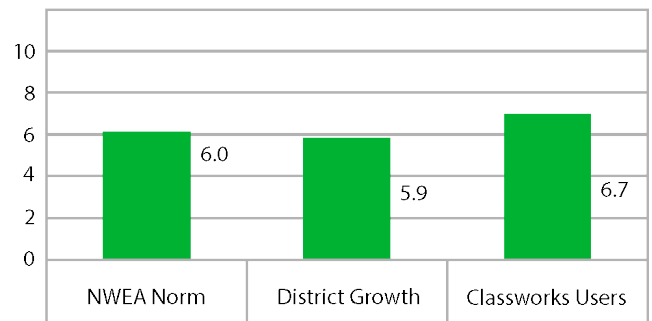
6th Grade Math Results



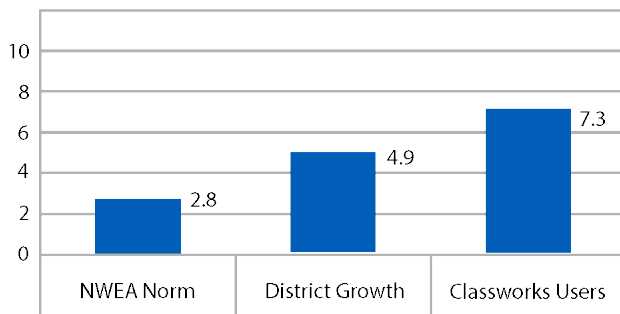
7th Grade Reading Results



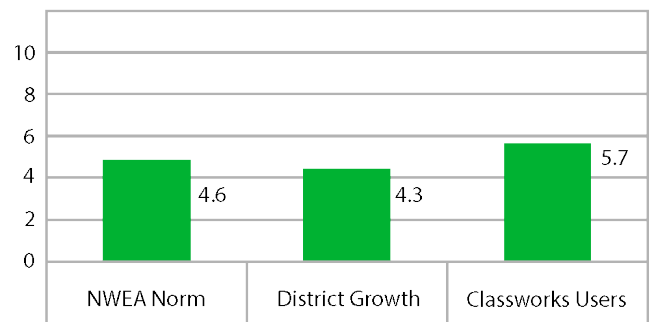
7th Grade Math Results



8th Grade Reading Results



8th Grade Math Results



"I use the data from NWEA MAP and prescribed instruction from Classworks to help my students strengthen needed math skills," explains Sharon Pharis, middle school math interventionist, Leslie M. Stover Middle School. "Working with their classroom math teacher, we use the data to implement tutoring and pullout groups. My kids are getting the time and extra help to master skills and their confidence levels are through the roof!"