

Lincoln Public Schools Reading Scores Trending Upward with Continued Use and Refinement of Wonders

In 2013 Lincoln Public Schools (LPS) educators were searching for a core literacy program that would get them ahead of the curve in the adoption and implementation of a standards based curriculum. After a careful and thorough pilot process—in which pilot teachers especially enjoyed the text complexity and genre variety in the program—LPS selected *Wonders* as their core ELA curriculum.

Several years after Lincoln's 2013 implementation of *Wonders*, the district is showing clear evidence of success. Since implementation, LPS students have trended upwards on the reading portions of the Nebraska State Assessments (NeSA) for grades 3, 4, and 5. This upward trend culminated in all-time high percentages of students scoring proficient on the 2016 NeSA in grades 3, 4, and 5. Additionally, in these grades, the percentage of LPS students scoring proficient in reading exceeded the state average.

Why has the partnership been so beneficial? In addition to the ease of implementation and the immediate approval from students, Lincoln teachers have been most impressed with the high quality of *Wonders*' content and the research-based instructional practices in the program. LPS has found success using *Wonders* in a blended learning format, taking full advantage of the robust and engaging print and digital features the program offers.