

SRA/McGraw-Hill's Reading Programs Bring Increases in Baltimore's Scores

Administrators for the Baltimore City Public Schools are celebrating students' progressive measurable results after implementing SRA/McGraw-Hill's *Open Court Reading* and Direct Instruction reading programs.

Open Court Reading was introduced district-wide in 1998 in Grades K–2. Now it is used in 102 of the district's 120 elementary schools (still in Grades K–2).

Eighteen elementary schools selected Direct Instruction reading, language, and writing programs in 1996 for their proven results and consistency. Currently, teachers in Grades Pre-K–8 are using the following programs: *Reading Mastery*, *Language for Learning*, *Language for Thinking*, and *Reasoning and Writing*. Both *Corrective Reading* and *Expressive Writing* are also used for intervention when necessary.

As these graphs reveal, students have steadily achieved increases in scores since the SRA programs were implemented.

The Terra Nova Reading Test was only administered through the 2002–2003 school year; however, students continue to score well in reading on the Maryland State Assessment (MSA).

“This year's impressive acceleration of progress is a demonstration of our continuing efforts to provide rigorous curriculum and high quality instruction,” according to Chief Academic Officer Linda Chinnia. “We are seeing the fruit of our maturing programmatic reforms, our formative assessment efforts, and our increasing use of data to make instructional decisions.”

