

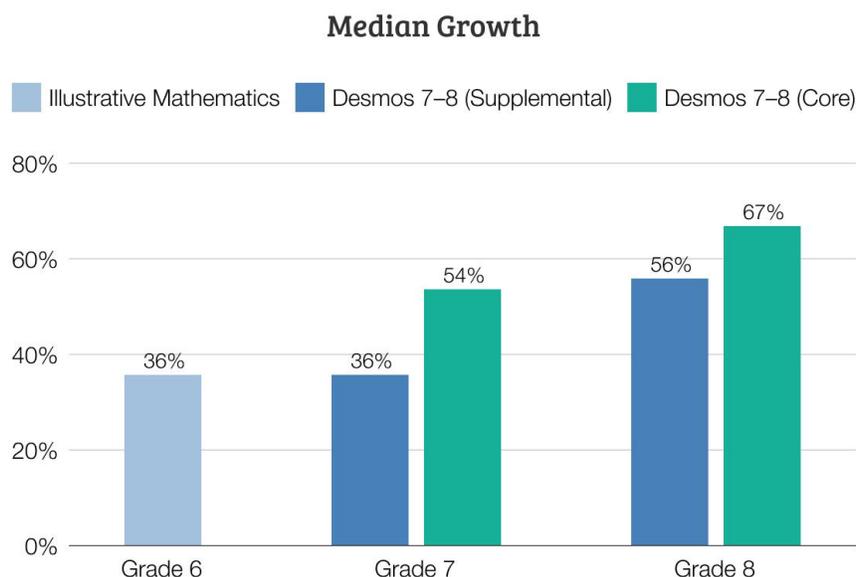
Desmos Math 6–A1

Large Midwestern school district sees strongest growth gains from full adoption of Desmos Math 6–A1.

In a large Midwestern school district,¹ two middle school math departments with comparable student demographics² applied for access to Desmos Math 6–A1, including print and digital resources, data reporting, and professional learning support.

One school used Desmos Math 7 and 8 as their core curriculum and the other used it as a supplement to their existing print curriculum, Illustrative Mathematics. Because Desmos Math 6 was still under development at the time, both schools used Illustrative Mathematics in Grade 6.

A diagnostic test administered in the winter saw students in all grades making strong growth toward their annual goals. In Grade 6, where all students used Illustrative Mathematics, student growth was strong and also nearly identical across the two schools, indicating comparable teaching faculty at both sites.



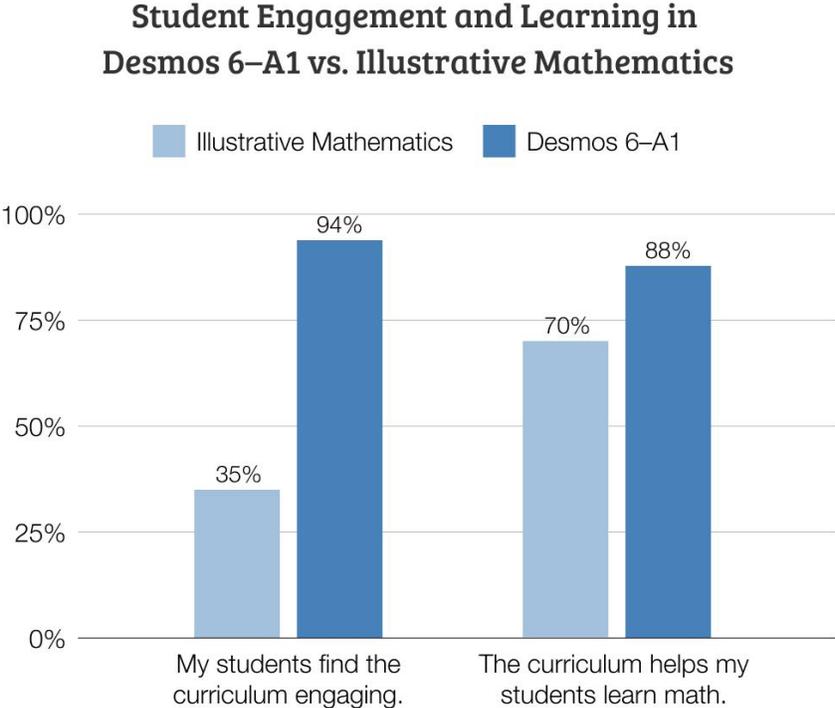
However, in Grade 7 and 8, students who used Desmos Math 7 and 8 as their *core* curriculum saw 18% higher growth in Grade 7 and 11% higher growth in Grade 8 than students who used Desmos Math 7 and 8 as a *supplement* to Illustrative Mathematics.

¹ More than 10,000 students across more than 15 schools.

² According to the National Center for Education Statistics (2018), they have the same percentage of students receiving free or reduced lunch.

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The district math and science coach reports that prior to the Desmos Math 6–A1 adoption, students struggled to engage with their print resources. “The engagement is totally different with Desmos,” she says.



A survey of middle school math teachers in the district³ who adopted Desmos Math 7 and 8 after having used the Illustrative Mathematics print curriculum revealed an increase of 59% in the number of teachers who felt like Desmos engaged students and an increase of 18% in the number of teachers who felt like Desmos helped their students learn math.

The district math and science coach says participation and homework completion rates were both improved with Desmos Math 7 and 8. “The platform gives students an authentic audience for their thinking.” A district teacher echoes the coach’s comments: “The invitation to have students explain their thinking is more inviting than it has been either just on paper or during a whole class discussion.”

³ N = 23 Illustrative Mathematics survey; n = 16 Desmos survey.