

**Executive Summary**  
**Charles Gates Dawes School**  
Illinois State Low-Cost Laptop Initiative Grant  
Exploring the World Outside My Door

**Introduction**

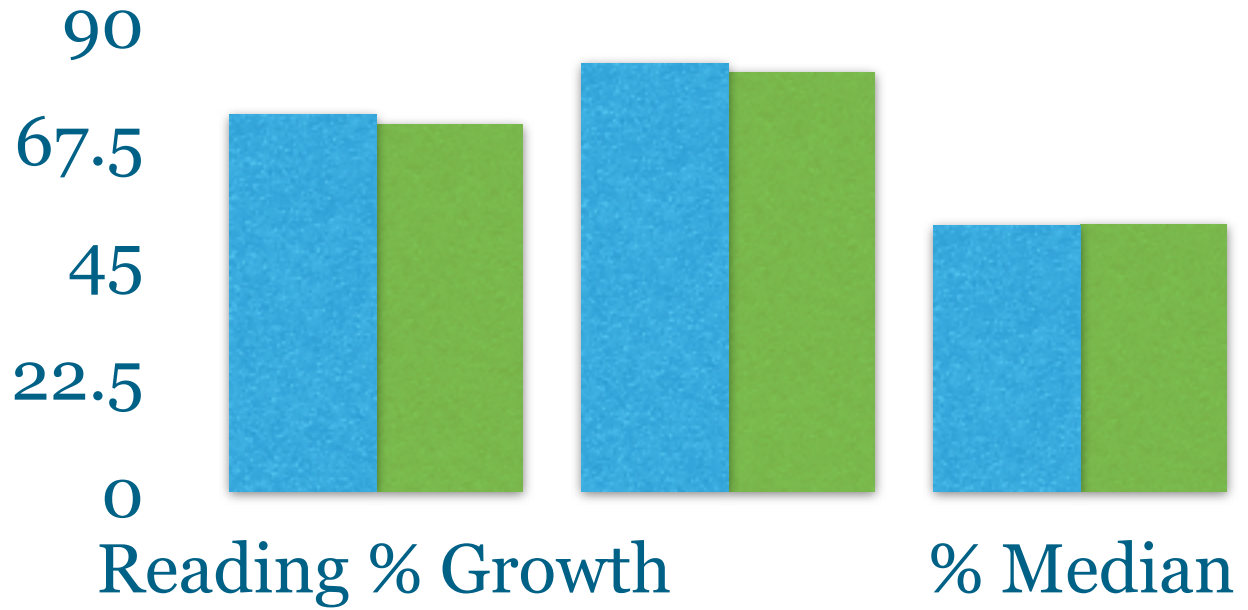
Dawes Elementary School has an enrollment of 1,100 students from pre-kindergarten through eighth grade. Approximately 10% of the student population receives special education services. Ninety four percent are considered low-income and receive free/reduced lunches. The student body is 84% Hispanic and 16% African American. 10% of the population is considered Limited English Proficient. The average attendance rate is 97%, truancy is .1% and the mobility rate is 17.8%.

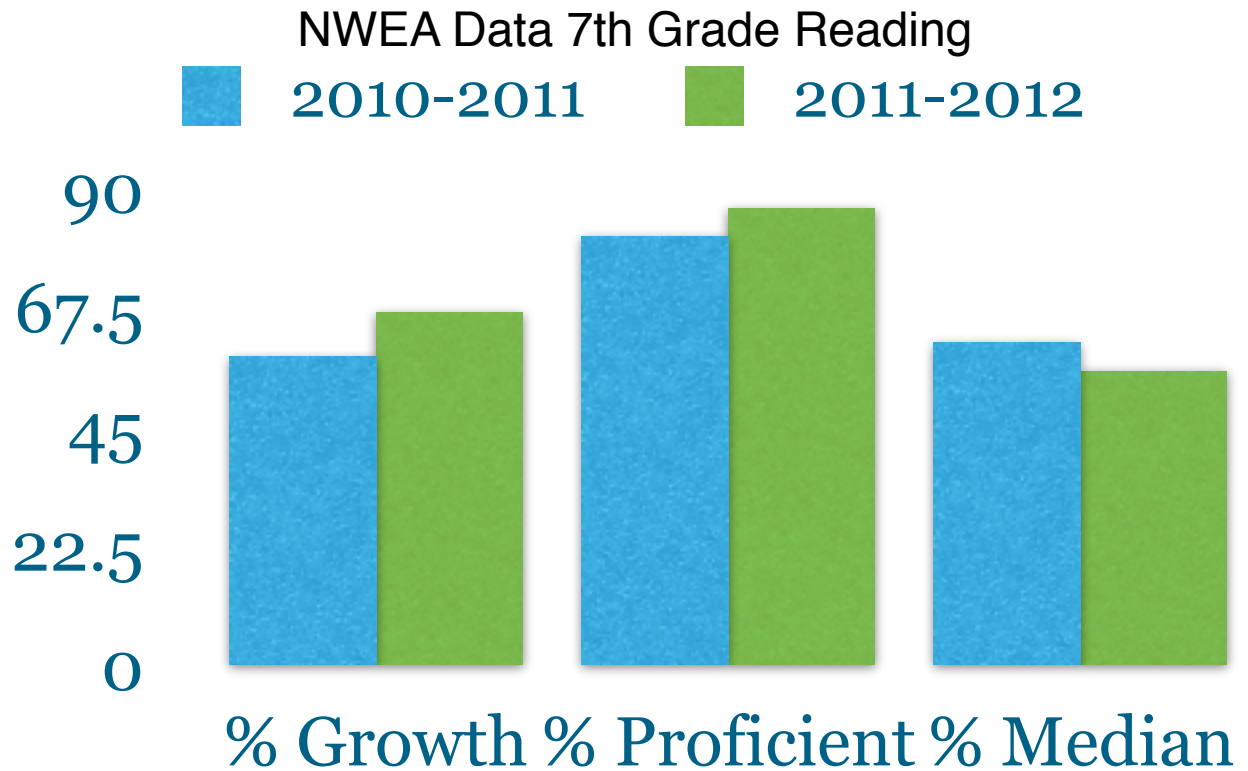
Dawes School was awarded three laptop carts for use in the sixth and seventh grades. We are a community of diverse learners. The iPads have been invaluable in engaging all of our students in more rigorous curriculum. Because of the multitudinous applications available on the iPads, we now have the availability to differentiate for every student's needs. The iPads were used in Math, Science, and Reading classes.

**Quantitative Results**

NWEA Data 6th Grade Reading

2010-2011 2011-2012





Using data to drive instruction, apps were purchased student's areas of need to increase NWEA and ISAT scores. The following apps were purchased:

**Earth Science**

- Science News Prime
- What on Earth?
- Exoplanet
- SkyORB
- Hubble Top 100
- Moon GlobeΩ
- iQuakeLite
- Tornado Simulation
- Earth Quake Lite
- Here on Earth Lite
- Earth Changes
- Star and Plant Finder
- Star Connect
- Star new
- Solar System Fun
- A Solar System Journey

Planet Earth 3D  
3D Sun  
Moon CDV concepts  
Moon Globe  
The Rock Cycle  
Painless Earth Science  
SolarSystemFun  
A Solar System Journey  
Sun Scale Lite  
Planets

### **Life Science**

Real Animals HD  
Powers of Minus Ten  
3D Brain  
iEcology XL Lite  
iMy Garden Designer  
Life Cycles for Kids Lite  
Gene Screen  
CellShades  
Plants HD  
Virtual Heart Museum of Science  
Hudson Alpha iCell  
Genesis DVG  
Visual Muscle& Skeletal  
Jr. Animated Atlas  
Atlas: Human Body  
CardioSmart Explorer  
Guess Words: Biology  
A Seed Grows  
The Cambians Experience  
Nature Human Genome  
My Garden APP  
My Little Garden HD  
Garden Cut  
Groedibles.com  
Garden Dash  
Flower Garden  
Virtual Garden  
IsdDigestion  
Human Brain  
Anatomy  
Build a Body  
Cardio Smart Explore

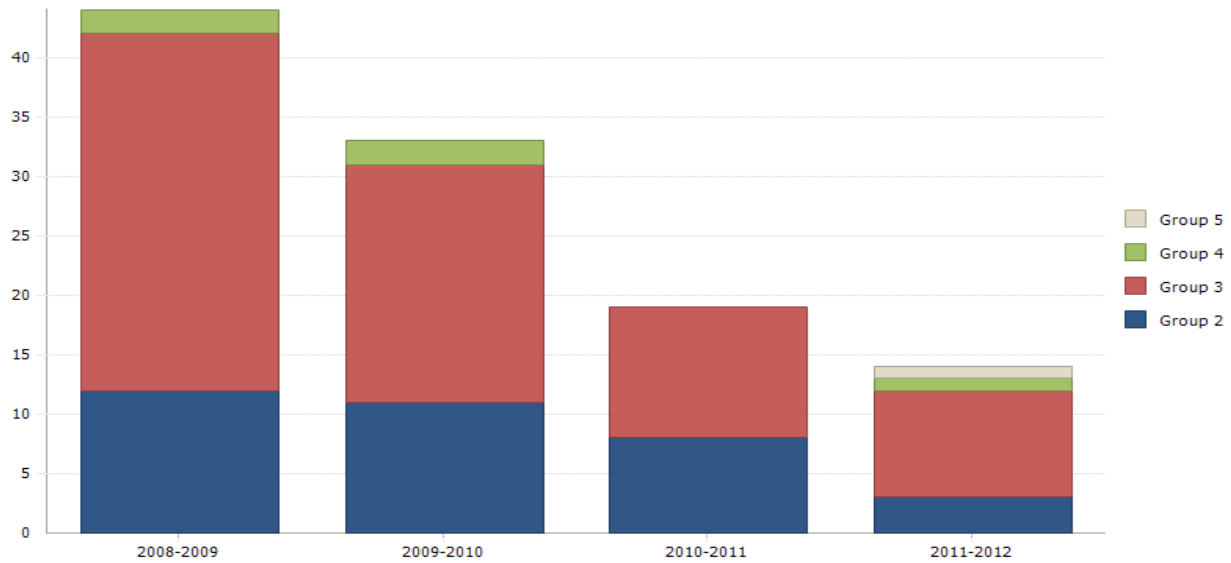
### **Chemistry**

Elements HD  
Chemical Elements  
Atoms HD  
Elements Table HD  
Periodic Table  
Periodic Table App  
Chemical Elements  
Painless Chemistry Challenge  
Elements Table HD  
Chemistry Game HD Lite  
The Elementals  
Oresome Elements

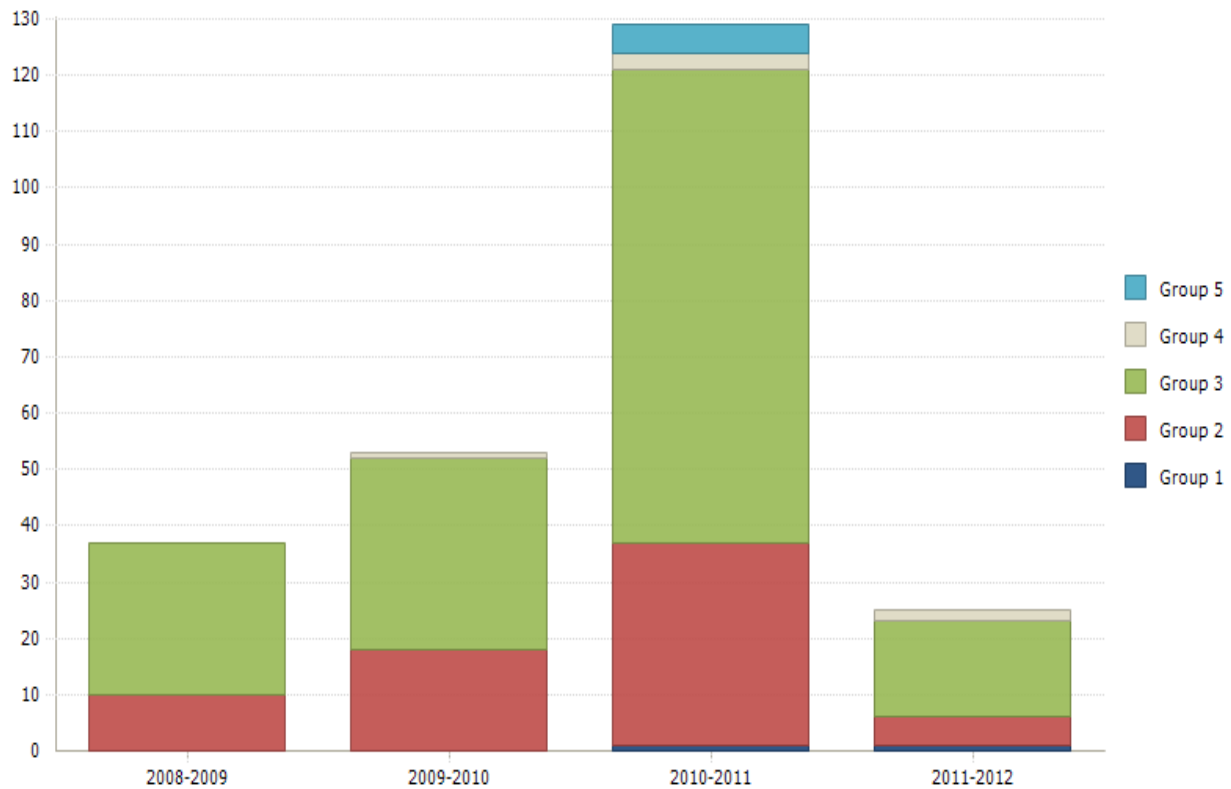
**Physical Science**

Physical 2 HD  
Newton's AG Lite  
Isaac Newton's Gravity  
Newtons Cradel  
Newtonian Simulator  
Physics 2 HD  
Building Serial Circuits  
Atom Matter Physics  
Building Atoms

Discipline Data for 6th Grade



## Seventh Grade Discipline



## Qualitative Data

Through the use of the iPads the amount of discipline referrals were drastically reduced due to the fact that the students were engaged in their learning. Having interactive models at their fingertips allowed the students to fully grasp scientific concepts that are

difficult to communicate using traditional modalities. Prior to having the iPads, in science class students had extreme difficulty in understanding that it took numerous trials to draw a valid conclusion. With the iPads, students readily recorded their trials and made appropriate graphs and charts that helped them visualize drawing conclusions requires more than one trial. Through the use of ScreenChomp, Educreations, and Songify students created videos on various science concepts that were assessed. Concepts such as cell division and DNA replication literally jumped off the screen for the students. For example, students made a video of an assigned element from the Periodic Table. Instead of giving a test on the scientific method, they devised a song to show their understanding.

In Reading, the iPads were used to access research based activities to improve both fluency and comprehension. iPads greatly facilitated the efficiency of progress monitoring in both fluency and comprehension. Poetry apps allowed the students exposure to all of the various forms of poetry as well as the variety of poets. Without the iPad it would have been nearly impossible for them to experience the wonderful world of poetry.

In Math, we instituted Math Minute for the students to become engaged while passing the iPads out. Students enjoyed this time completing against themselves. Educreations was a tremendous app for helping the students with their higher order thinking skills in solving multistep problems. Collaboration was essential in working toward their final answers. It was interesting to see the different formats and ways the students came up with their answers. Creativity abounded here.

In conclusion, with the tremendous amount of learning, engagement and fun that has taken place with the iPads so far this year, we have only scratched the surface of extreme potential in gains our students can make using these amazing machines.

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