



# Report on Summer Session 2009 Results San Diego Area School District

## Summary

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Learning Upgrade staff worked with a San Diego area district staff and teachers to enroll students in four Learning Upgrade courses during the summer school 2009 sessions 1 and 2:

- Over 90 teachers were trained in multiple 1-hour sessions
- Over 2,000 student courses enrolled with completed lessons
- Four courses were used: Reading Upgrade, Comprehension Upgrade, Math Upgrade, and Algebra Upgrade
- Over 600 certificates earned in the courses
- For students where teachers entered district paper pre/post test scores into the Learning Upgrade reporting system:
  - Math Upgrade gains: 42% from 14.2 to 20.2
  - Algebra Upgrade gains: 26% from 12.8 to 16.1

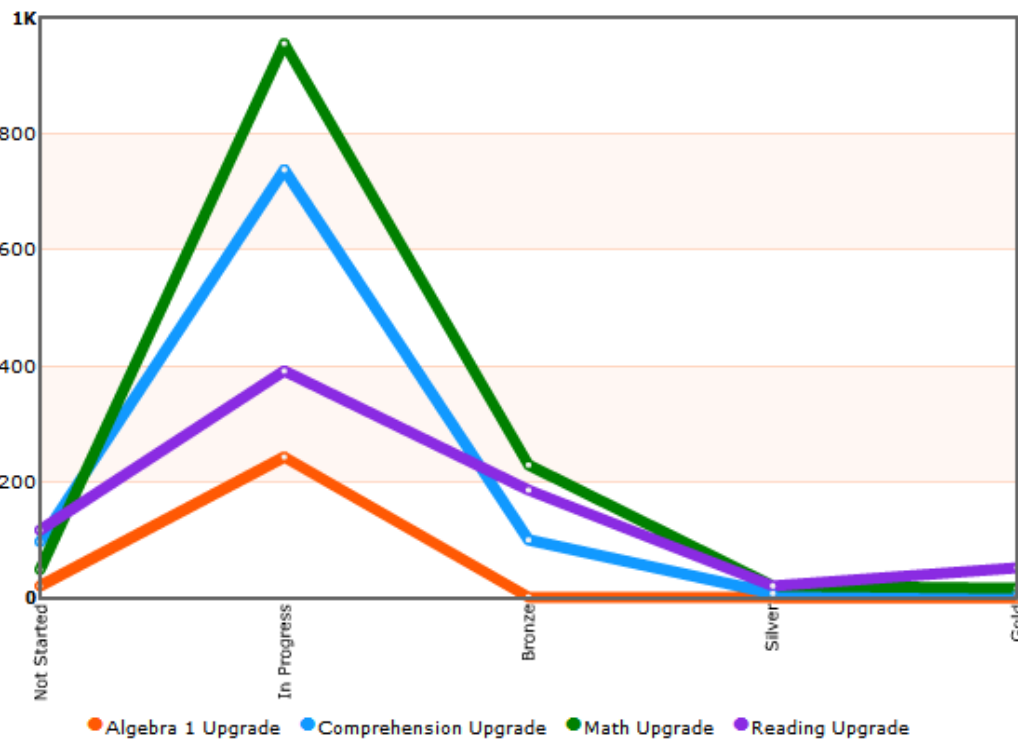
The following pages include a sampling of reports from the summer session, with conclusions at the end.

# Achievement

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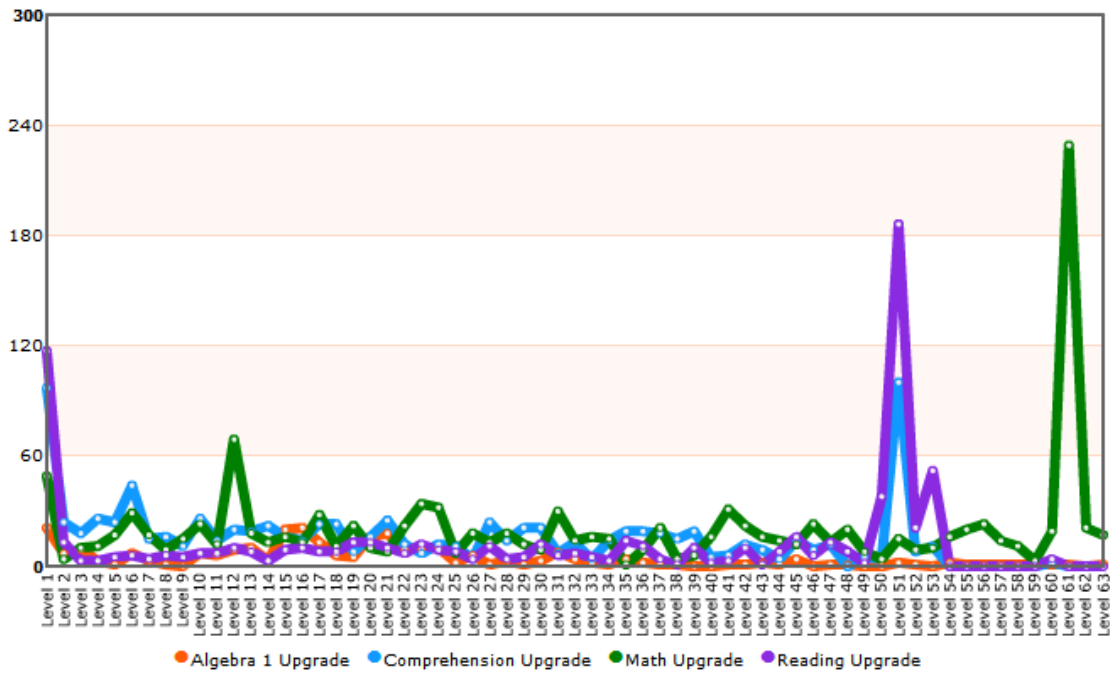
The table and graph below show over 2,700 student courses enrolled (many students enrolled in multiple courses, so total number of students is less). Over 600 certificates achieved. High number of students completing Math Upgrade and Comprehension Upgrade courses.

Course	Not Started	In Progress	Bronze	Silver	Gold
Algebra 1 Upgrade	21	243	2	1	0
Comprehension Upgrade	97	738	100	8	11
Math Upgrade	49	955	229	21	17
Reading Upgrade	117	391	186	21	52



# Lessons Completed by Students

The graph below shows a histogram of the levels (lessons) achieved for the students. There is a wide range of levels achieved in the courses, probably directly correlated with student attendance and “time on task”. The purple/blue peak at 51/52/53 is the certificate for Reading/Comprehension, and the green peak at 61/62/63 is the certificate for Math Upgrade.



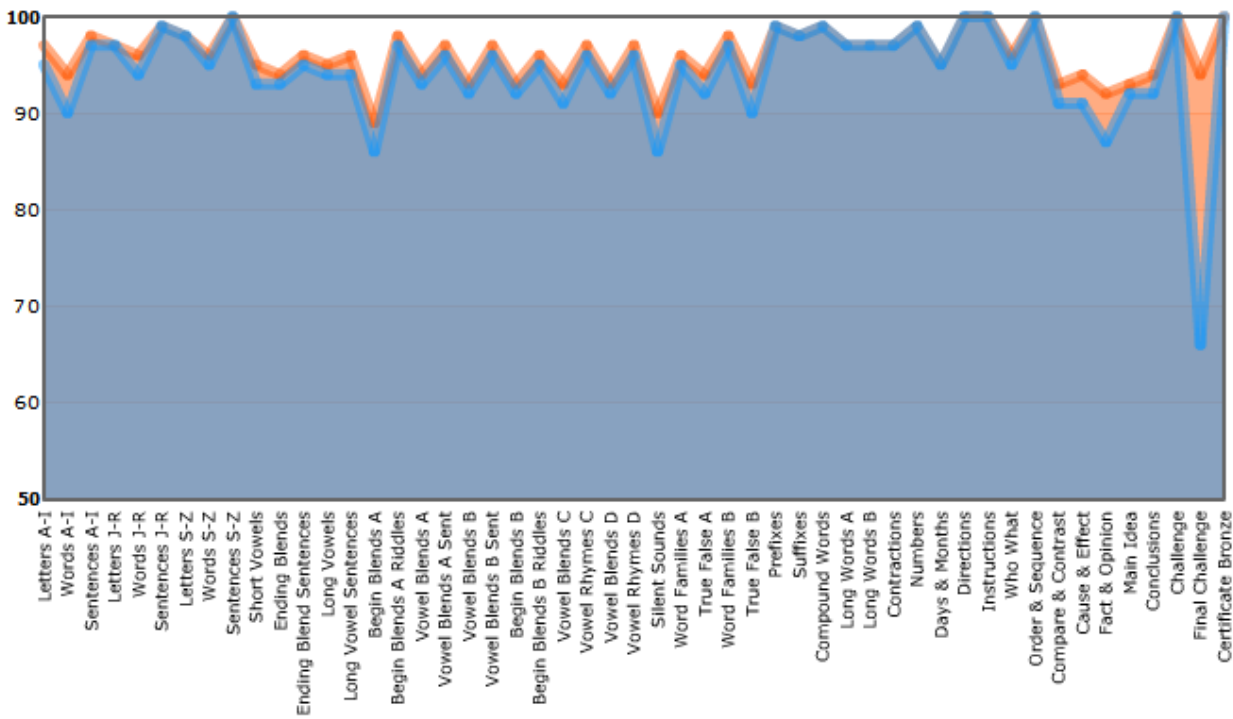
# Aggregate Reports

## Reading Upgrade

The graphs below show average scores on each lesson for all students in the Reading Upgrade course. Students performed well in this course which reviews basic fluency/phonics/decoding.

### Weak areas:

Vowel Blends  
Silent Sounds  
Word Families / Decoding  
Passage Comprehension.

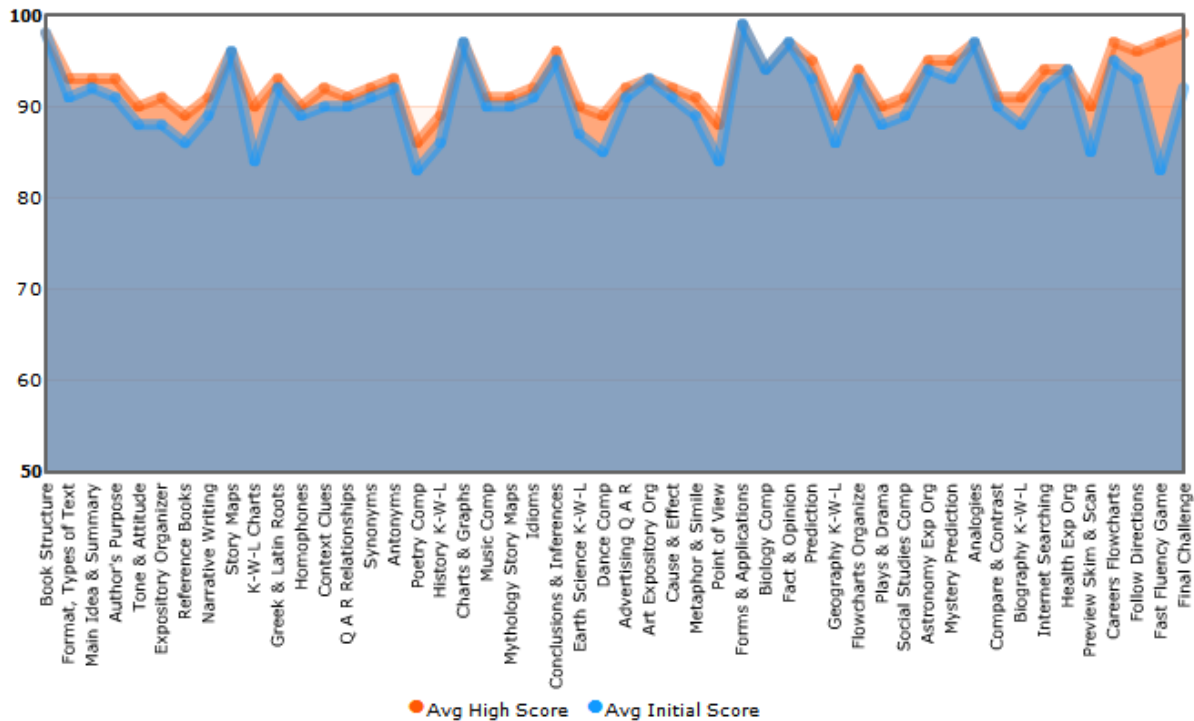


# Comprehension Upgrade

The graphs below show average scores on each lesson for all students in the Comprehension Upgrade course. Students struggled with specific concepts in this course which reviews strategies for understanding expository and narrative text at the middle school level.

## Weak areas:

- K-W-L charts
- Poetry
- Point of View
- Timed fluency.

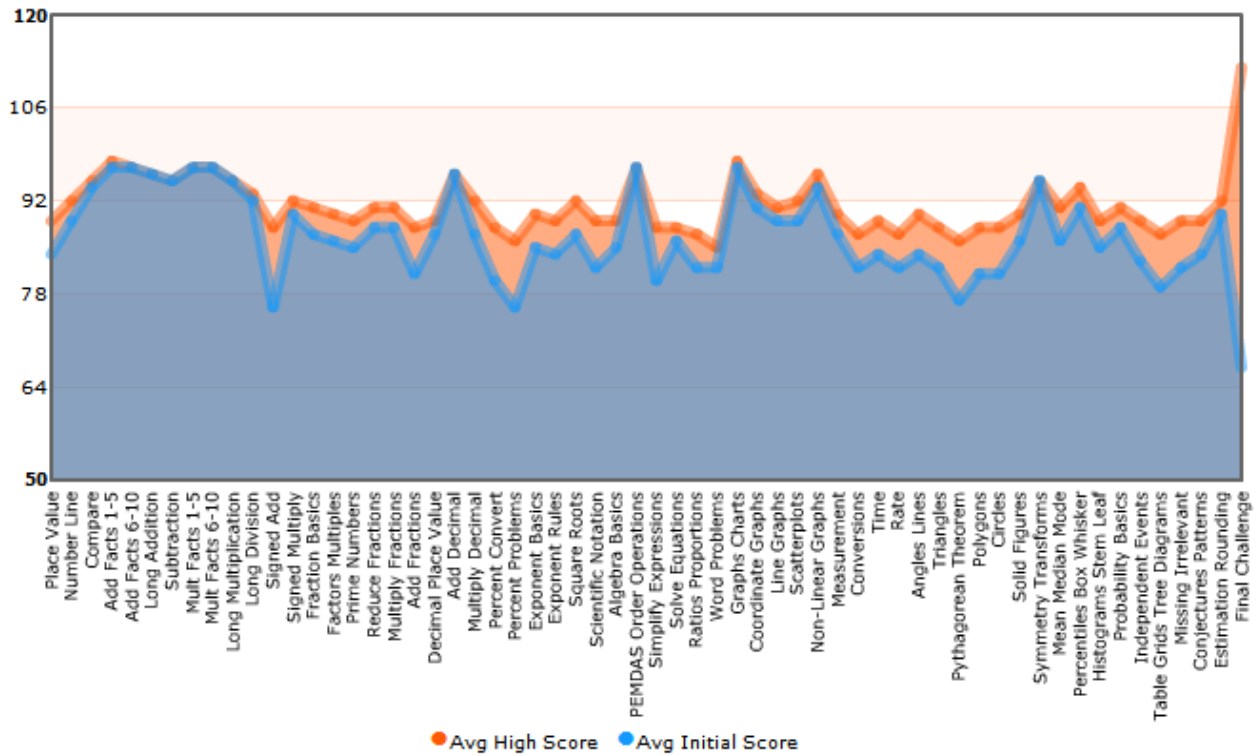


# Math Upgrade (Pre Algebra)

The graphs below show average scores on each lesson for all students in the Math Upgrade course. Students struggled with specific concepts in this course which reviews elementary and moves up to pre-algebra middle school content.

## Weak areas:

- Signed numbers (integer add/multiply)
- Percentages
- Scientific Notation
- Simplify Expressions
- Pythagorean Theorem
- Table Grids/Tree Diagrams

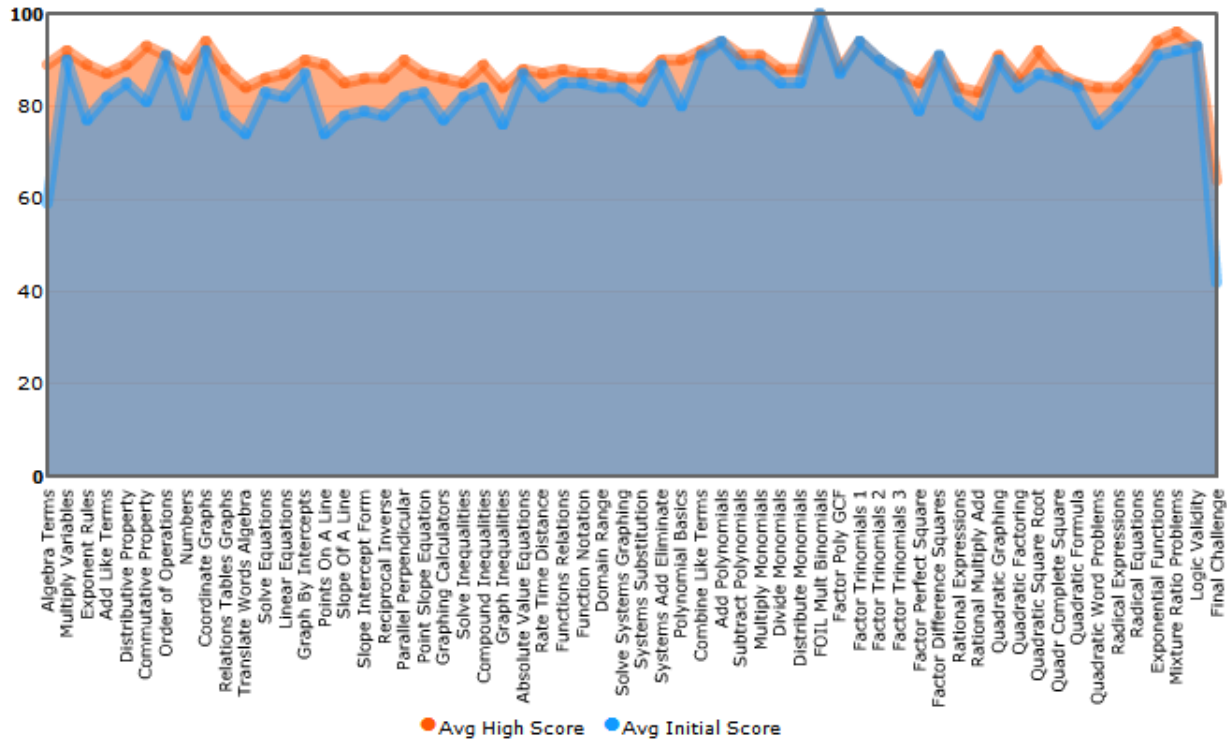


# Algebra Upgrade

The graphs below show average scores on each lesson for all students in the Algebra Upgrade course. Students struggled with specific concepts in this course which covers Algebra 1 content.

## Weak areas:

- Translate Words to Algebra
- Points on a Line
- Graph Inequalities
- Graphing Calculators
- Quadratic Word Problems



## District Test Pre/Post Gains

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At the time of this report, teachers have only entered a portion of the total number of pre/post test scores for students into the Learning Upgrade reporting database. There were not significant scores entered yet for Comprehension Upgrade or Reading Upgrade. The Math Upgrade and Algebra Upgrade scores are summarized below:

	Pre Test Average	Post Test Average	Gain	Percent Gain
Math Upgrade	14.2	20.2	6.0	42%
Algebra Upgrade	12.8	16.1	3.3	26%



# Conclusions

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1. Learning Upgrade staff personally visited many schools this year, which gave us a chance to meet with teachers. We learned a lot from these interactions. I believe the teachers were very committed to our courses this summer. I also believe the well-attended and more comprehensive training sessions made the difference.

2) Over 600 students earned a certificate during summer sessions. This is a remarkable number given the limited amount of time. Many teachers moved students from one course into another after a certificate within the summer session. That 229 students finished Math Upgrade is particularly impressive given the number of lessons and difficulty. I believe this will translate into students better prepared for Algebra in 8<sup>th</sup> grade this Fall.

3) We received much positive feedback from teachers, including a number of teachers who talked about using the courses this Fall in their regular classes.

5) One "best practice" at a middle school was to put up the level of each student on the chalkboard every day, to motivate students and create excitement.

6) Almost every class visited had the teacher looking at the new "Student Monitor" screen, with real-time status of each student as they completed lessons in the class. This new model of teachers monitoring students with feedback on scores and lessons is working well. Teachers have immediate insight into whether students are struggling and on which lessons.

7) The pre/post test score gains in Math Upgrade and Algebra Upgrade show the effectiveness of these courses to improve student performance on an independent assessment in a short period of time

8) The success of the summer sessions in terms of teacher training, students enrolled, certificates achieved and assessment gains achieved highlight the potential to impact entire schools and the entire district. From this summer session, it is clear that a district-wide deployment is feasible and can potentially increase student performance district-wide.