

Florida School Embraces MobyMax Year Round with Summer E-Learning Contest

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It did not take long for Monica Contreras to become a MobyMax believer. The third grade teacher at McKitrick Elementary School in Lutz Florida, started with the free version of the leading e-learning platform for grades K-8 in the United States.

She was hooked, and she knew her fellow teachers would love it as well. Momentum at McKitrick built quickly.

"I received an email [about MobyMax] in the middle

of the year a few years back and tabled it until summer, then researched it," said Contreras. "I explored the program and signed up."

"People that use MobyMax love it. We had eight teachers sign up right away."

McKitrick's teachers and students alike loved how easy MobyMax was to implement as a way to reinforce and enhance classroom curriculum. Kids loved the fun. Teachers also loved the affordability





MobyMax helps students learn twice as fast with an engaging, interactive, and personalized curriculum that aligns with Common Core Standards.

and simplicity of use and were thrilled to witness the rapid academic improvement of their students.

"Initially, I used the free program and shared it with all of the McKitrick teachers for a year," Contreras said. "Then, I upgraded to the paid version because my students loved the game time and badges, and the PRO version saves their game time and badges and is more motivational."

"Then, I applied for a PTA school-wide grant to cover the school license for the last two years."



The top three students answered 7,795 science questions correctly. Alan Burke (1st place), Moritz Arnald (2nd place), and Miyaz Ansari (3rd place).

One of the most powerful aspects of MobyMax also quickly caught the attention of Contreras and her fellow teachers: students are able to advance through the complete, fully integrated curriculum at their own pace and learning level.

That means MobyMax is perfect for all students. The adaptive curriculum creates a unique, individualized education plan for each student, allowing advanced students to progress as quickly as they like while

simultaneously ensuring that remedial students receive the extra instruction they require.

With the advent of the paid version of MobyMax, McKitrick expanded its implementation to include a school-wide science challenge to help students prepare for the Florida Standards Assessment (FSA). More than 100 students participated, and they earned a combined 17,000 points while gaining a 20 percent grade level increase in science.

The top three students achieved more than 2,000 points in the five-week science challenge. The second place student, Moritz Arnold, a third grader, completed more than 234 standards and is now learning at a 5.1 grade level in science. "My son was so excited about the contest, and it was intense! He learned about many new things, such as the respiratory system, he would not have just yet. He loved the friendly competition with his classmates and jumped from a third grade level to a fifth grade level in just four weeks!" said Mrs. Arnold.





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MobyMax is used in more than half of all K8 schools in the United States.



That success led them to the next logical step: a summer e-learning contest designed to help students avoid the annual summer break learning loss known as "summer slide." McKitrick chose to go the route of the MobyMax Summer Olympics with free, optional participation for students throughout the summer.

The school decided to use prizes as incentives for students who reach specific point levels by the end of the summer break.

"Students will earn points in every subject for each question they answer correctly with the goal of earning 1,500 points by the end of the eight and a half week summer break," Contreras said. "Those students who earn the 1,500 points will be invited to a special, big picture Movie complete with popcorn, snow cones, and feature film shown in our transformed cafeteria movie theater. We will also have a special drawing for those students with more than 2,000 points to earn gift cards and treats. Students that earn 750 points will also be invited to a snow cone party the first week of school."



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More than 15 million students have been registered by teachers for MobyMax.

Contreras said the school got the word out about the contest using morning announcements and a printed insert with all relevant information—including login information and contest goals—in every student's end-of-year report card. Parents and educators will be able to stay in touch using the school's messaging system and McKitrick Elementary's Facebook page.

"Our goal is for students to come back from summer break with no gap in learning," she said. "And for new students to log on and try it."

As an experienced user of MobyMax, Contreras has plenty of sound advice for educators who are considering implementing it in the coming school year.

"My advice to teachers new to the program—start slow," Contreras said. "Math/fact fluency is easy. Pick one subject and focus for the next three months. I would highly recommend MobyMax Test prep, and I wish I would have started this at the beginning of the year. It is a great tool for preparing for the Florida Standards Assessments (FSA). My best advice is to start with a target and then build upon it. Don't try to figure it all out at once."



Test Prep is highly recommenced.



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> Monica Contreras 3rd grade teacher, McKitrick Elementary

