



# MobyMax Helps Louisiana School District by Streamlining RTI Assessments



8th grade ELA teacher Stephanie McCrary celebrates student's perfect score.

**“MobyMax helps us find missing skills. Students love to see their scores go up!”**

**Robin DeBusk**  
Caddo Middle Magnet Principal

When Caddo Parish in Louisiana began to develop a new RTI (Response to Intervention) plan three years ago, officials knew that one of the challenges would be to implement streamlined, reliable diagnostic methods and ongoing assessments.

They turned to MobyMax and were so thrilled with the results and the price that the nation's leading K-8 online learning tool soon became an integral part of the district's RTI strategy.

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**MobyMax**  
Learn twice as fast.™

**“For me to sit there with a student and get him up to grade level in nine weeks would take all of my time, whereas MobyMax is filling those gaps quickly.”**

**Temeka Hardman-Seamster**  
Caddo Parish RTI Coach



Stephanie McCrary discusses lesson topics with class

## Why MobyMax?

All school districts need tools that are straightforward, affordable, and achieve great results, and Caddo Parish found MobyMax consistently met all three criteria for the Louisiana district of 61 schools.

“We selected MobyMax to simplify the process and offer something to our students that met the challenges academically and instructionally in a user-friendly platform,” said Erin Redden, Director of Accountability and Instructional Support with Caddo Parish Public Schools. “The tool could not be mundane, tedious, or boring, either. The teachers liked the ease of use and instant feedback, and the students were excited, too.”

## How MobyMax Helped Caddo Parish Achieve Its RTI Goals: Diagnostics and Assessments

The National Center for Learning Disabilities lists three essential components for an effective RTI plan: tiered instruction and intervention, ongoing student

assessment, and family involvement. Caddo Parish found that MobyMax incorporates all three essential components, starting with diagnostics.

That was important because in order for an RTI program to implement successful tiered instruction and intervention, it needs reliable diagnostic tools. MobyMax provides those tools with diagnostic tests that quickly assess student proficiency in each standard of the Common Core. This function assists teachers in one of their biggest challenges: identifying student learning gaps and assigning appropriate lessons to fill those gaps.

The ongoing assessment function MobyMax offers also provides Caddo Parish teachers with instant feedback and real-time monitoring to help keep



Students working on personalized lessons

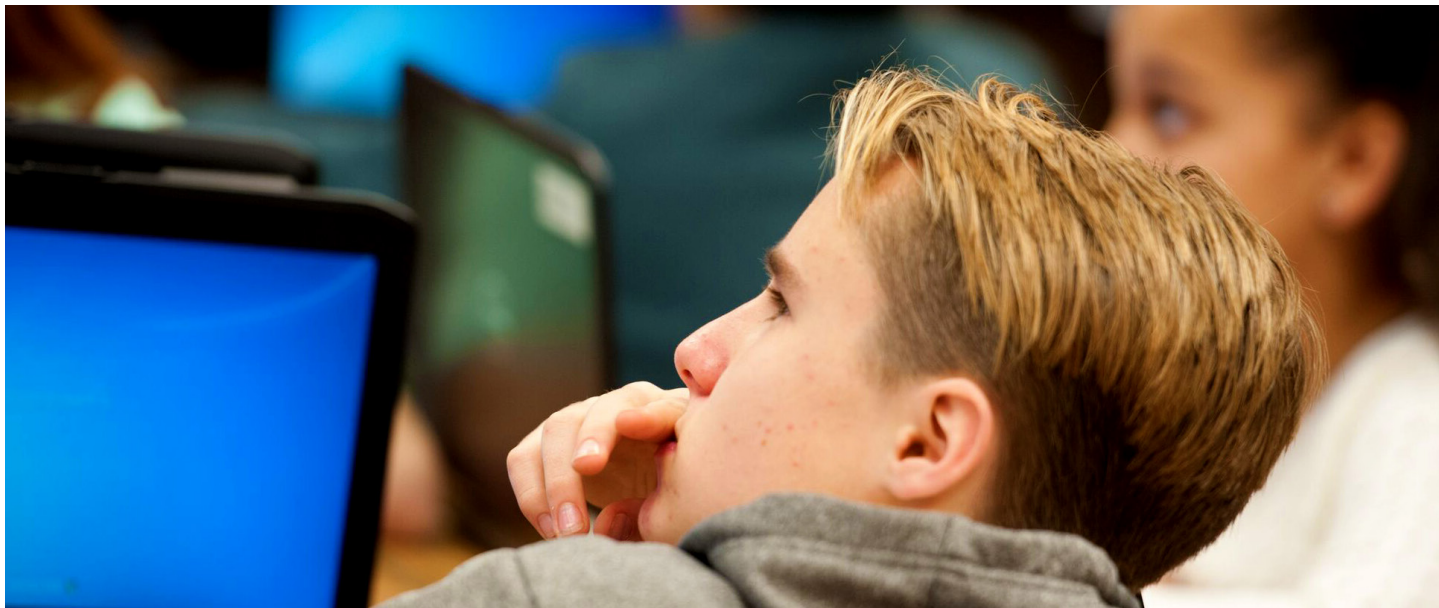
students on track. Teachers can assign formative, summative, diagnostic, or unit assessments, and much more. Teachers also can create customized assessments and assign them at their convenience.





**“Since our district implemented MobyMax, we have seen an increase in our School Performance Score each year, which is not easy to accomplish.”**

**Robin DeBusk**  
Caddo Middle Magnet Principal



Eighth grade student keys in on white board lesson

2015-2016 SCHOOL DISTRICT YEAR

**9.1 million**  
problems completed

**41,456**  
assessments completed

**12,300**  
active students

**278,115**  
standards completed

### **Flexibility Was, and Remains, Key**

The frequent changes in education can throw teachers into a tailspin and render education software obsolete soon after it's purchased, wasting tens of thousands of dollars. "The most exciting thing about MobyMax is that it continues to evolve," reported Temeka Hardman-Seamster, one of the RTI Coaches in Caddo Parish. "Since our parish began using MobyMax, its features and curriculum have consistently changed to meet the expectations in education."



Robin DeBusk, the principal of Caddo Middle Magnet, agrees. "I love MobyMax because it enables teachers to use it in different ways," she says.



**“My advice would be to not wait to use this program. Jump in and learn it! Districts will be so happy when they see their students engaged and making progress.”**

**Michelle Miller**  
Caddo RTI District Coordinator

“Three years ago, our parish used many programs. Some were too easy for our students, and we needed more challenging and user-friendly tools. But we did not have one program that served the needs of different teachers for different things.” MobyMax enables teachers to adapt its tools so that every student can learn, regardless of grade level, achievement, or learning style.

“MobyMax is an excellent choice if you wish to help your struggling learners, yet still provide enrichment for your higher-achieving students,” says Hardman-Seamster.

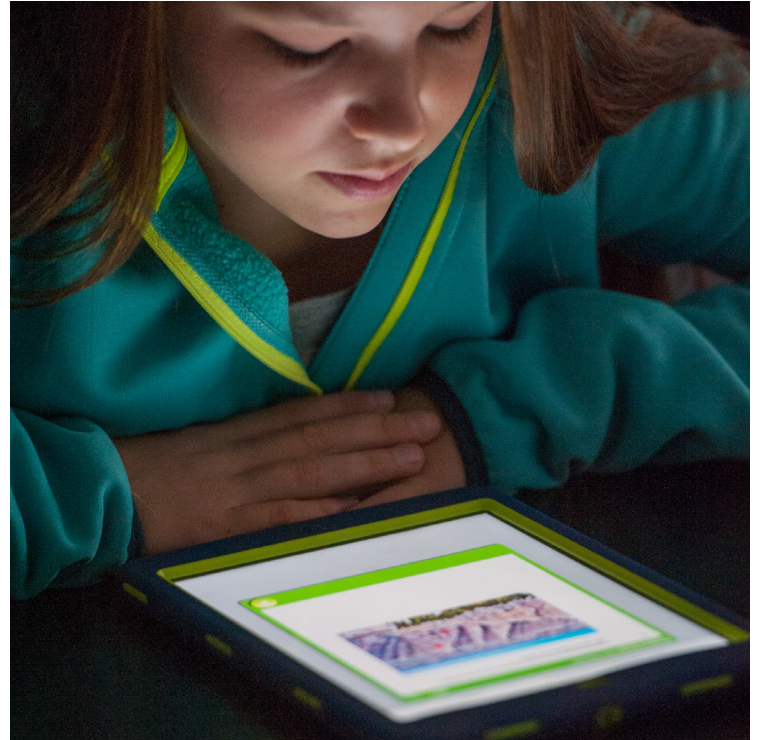
It allows teachers “the flexibility to meet the needs of all learners,” she says.



Principal Ellen Hall of Caddo's Claiborne Elementary concurs.

“Moby is great for both advanced students as well as for RTI students in the lower groups. It allows them to work at their levels.”

“The teachers like that Moby isolates the skills and standards to work on, and they have the option to change the settings for the students,” she said. “And for some struggling students, it is great to give them extra things to do at home, requiring no printouts, worksheets, books... nothing extra!”



Learning by discovery with Cognitive Skills Science



**“Moby is great for both individual advanced students as well as for RTI students in the lower groups. It allows them to work at their level.”**

**Ellen Hall**  
Claiborne Elementary Principal

### **Flexibility Worked for Parents, Too**

Another benefit the Caddo community found was how easy it was for parents and other caregivers to stay involved in their children’s learning. All they have to do is log in to MobyMax at home. Their child’s progress is readily accessible, and the messaging function allows parents to communicate instantly with teachers. Kids who love MobyMax in the classroom can share it with their parents in the living room!

Teachers and administrators also value MobyMax. In Caddo Parish, instructors became the biggest advocates for MobyMax once they learned more about it through personal experience.

“I love that it is consistent,” notes Hall. “As an administrative team, we have to put something in place starting at the kindergarten level that follows students



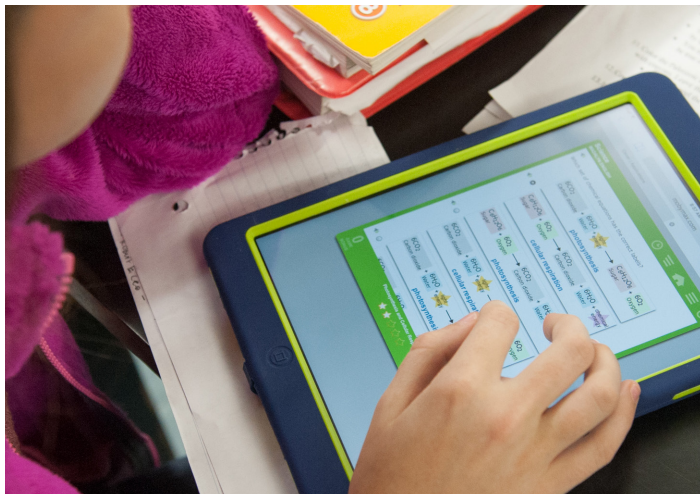
Kids love MobyMax so much, they do it on their own.

all the way to 8th grade.” MobyMax makes that progress easy for parents and teachers to understand, helping them work together and support each other. The process must work, as Principal Hall reports that “most of our students go on to the middle school magnet.”

### **What About Results?**

Principal DeBusk of Caddo Middle Magnet reports that one of the key measures of success has been an increase in test scores.

“While we have maintained our A rating, it is typically hard to show growth once you reach that level of success,” she says. “Since our district implemented MobyMax, we have seen an increase in our School



Student using manipulatives to learn chemical symbols

### **Consistency Counts**

Though MobyMax adapts to the times and the students and teachers who use it, it never fails to deliver quality.

**“If the district did not do it, we would have paid for it ourselves. That is how we feel about it!”** **Robin DeBusk**  
Caddo Middle Magnet Principal



Students love to see achievement certificates.

Performance Score each year, which is not easy to accomplish.

Prior to using MobyMax, our school achieved a score of 124.2. In the three years we've been using MobyMax our scores have improved to 125.1 (.9 increase), 126.5 (.4 increase), and 134.9 (8.4 increase)! Our 8th grade students have benefited by having MobyMax for the past three years, and this is evidenced by the improved scores." DeBusk credits MobyMax's ability to "find and fix" missing skills for the point increases.

"Our incoming 6th graders are coming to us from schools all over the district. Some may lack knowledge and skills in certain subjects, especially in math. MobyMax helps us find those missing skills. Students love to see their scores go up!"

Michelle Miller, Caddo's RTI District Coordinator, has taken MobyMax one step further and is using it in the parish's high schools with their SPED students and with new students enrolling in the district. "The high

schools that we have started with are really pleased with the program," she reports. "If this continues, I foresee that the students will benefit greatly from using MobyMax. The school teams will be able to use the information to guide instruction as well as show progress on IEP goals."

### What Did It Cost?

"We are a large district with different levels of learning," Redden said. "Not all of the schools have the same configuration. Because of the range and scope of performance, we used to purchase more than one tool. MobyMax allowed us to reduce the number of tools we used overall. By working with MobyMax, we achieved a huge, exponential reduction in cost for our district!"

Adds Caddo Middle Magnet principal DeBusk, "If the district did not do it, we would have paid for it ourselves. That is how we feel about it."



**Caddo Parish School District RTI Team:**  
Denise Richmond, Carla Mitchell, Michelle Miller, Temeka Hardman, Erin Redden



“And for some struggling students, it is great to give them extra things to do at home, requiring no printouts, worksheets, books...nothing extra!”

**Ellen Hall**

Caddo Claiborne Elementary Principal



Students take great pride in progress.

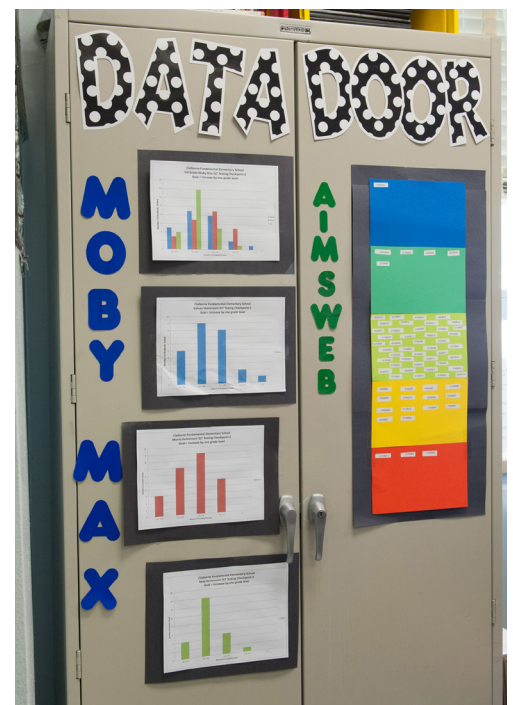
### What If a Teacher or Administrator Is On the Fence About Getting MobyMax?

Erin Redden says she would recommend MobyMax to any school district in need of an affordable, adaptable, versatile, and proven online system to meet a broad spectrum of K-8 educational challenges.

“My advice would be to take a closer look at MobyMax and see the ease of use for teachers and immediate feedback they are able to receive,” Redden said. “Most important is what it does for your students and the marked improvement you’ll see!”

Michelle Miller agrees.

“My advice would be to not wait to use this program. Jump in and learn it! Districts will be so happy when they see their students engaged and making progress.”



Data Door keeps everyone up to speed

**Ready to see how MobyMax can impact your students' learning? Register FREE at [mobymax.com](http://mobymax.com)**