Penda Supports Hillsborough Middle School Science Classrooms with Varying Needs

Teacher Shortage in Title I Schools, Student Discipline, Struggling Learners, RtI, High Stakes Assessment Prep

Grade-Level Science Support School-By-School

- On-site professional development was offered to teachers during teacher pre-planning and at the start of subscription for those schools that implemented Penda mid-year.
- Teacher-users received weekly automated assignments for students via Penda’s Pacing Assistance Service for the following courses: Grade 6 – Comprehensive Science 1, Grade 7 – Comprehensive Science 2, Grade 8 – Comprehensive Science 3.
- Low performing standards, as indicated by district formative assessment results, were spiraled into the Pacing Assistance Service (PAS) so all students received exposure and remediation up until the FL SSA was administered.
- Emphasis was placed on school/class level data-driven instruction using Penda reports, creating intervention groups within Penda, and differentiating instruction for various levels of learners within a classroom.
- Weekly automated Class Mastery Reports were sent to teachers via email for progress monitoring and monthly School Administrator Reports were sent to school administrators identified.
- Ongoing support was offered via district-level professional partnership meetings, and dedicated customer support for all schools.

Key Findings – Grade 8 Science

Distict Stats:
- 9 Penda school subscribers
- 7 out of 9 Penda school subscribers are Title I schools

Penda Learning Stats:
- 14,477 task hours logged by students in total
- 14,149 science activities mastered (80%+) by students
- 24% of total student time on Penda occurred outside of school hours (4pm-7am)

Correlating Penda Usage to Mean Scale Score Performance:
- 6 out of 9 schools maintained or increased their Mean Score from 2016 to 2017.
- For those schools where students used Penda on average less than 10.0 hours (goal), average mean scale score was 191.
- For those schools where students used Penda on average equal to or more than 10.0 hours (goal), average mean scale score was 202.

Net Mean Scale Score: +11.0 points

Correlating Penda Usage to Level 3 and Above Performance:
- 4 out of 9 schools maintained or increased the percent of level 3 and above from 2016 to 2017.
- For those schools where students used Penda on average less than 10.0 hours (goal), average 2017 Percent of level 3 and above was 32.0%.
- For those schools where students used Penda on average equal to or more than 10.0 hours (goal), average 2017 Percent of level 3 and above was 43.0%.

Net Percent of Level 3 and Above: +11.0%

PENDA LEARNING is an effective math & science intervention tool rooted in efficacy that supports Response to Intervention (RtI), data-driven instruction, and differentiated instruction. Built by educators for educators, Penda Learning creates standards-based content for grades 4 – 10, built on a highly engaging student gaming platform. Districts and schools partner with Penda Learning by providing their custom scope and sequence documents. Penda Learning’s Pacing Assistance Service (PAS) automatically aligns standards-based activities to district/school scope and sequence without any effort needed by district or school staff. Penda Learning’s PAS feature then automatically assigns activities to students weekly on the teacher’s behalf. Students receive instant feedback as they complete activities, earning points that unlock gaming features, including customizing their avatar, challenging friends and moving through virtual Penda Worlds. Teachers receive standards-based Class Mastery Reports weekly via email automatically by the Penda platform. Reports are designed to help teachers proactively employ targeted intervention and remediation using Penda Learning intervention features/functionality.