

# Improving Student Achievement

## Assabet Valley Regional Technical High School

### Overview

Assabet Valley Regional Technical High School is located in the city of Marlborough (MA) and offers a well-balanced academic program as well as technical training to students coming from more than eleven communities. The program of study includes advanced placement courses in English literature and composition, U.S. government and politics, physics, and calculus. Several nationally recognized pre-engineering courses are also offered in conjunction with Project Lead the Way. Each year, students in computer programming and web development, electrical wiring, and health technologies have won medals at all performance levels at the national SkillsUSA competition.

In 2003, district leaders called in Teachers<sup>21</sup> after analyzing several years' worth of student performance data in mathematics and English language arts. Together with them, Teachers<sup>21</sup> conducted a further analysis of the performance data and crafted a program to improve classroom instruction.

Assabet Valley Regional Technical High School	
District Profile	% of Dist.
First Language not English	14.4
Special Education	28.2
Free & Reduced Lunch	27.0
African American	.9
Asian	.3
Hispanic	15.1
White	81.9

### Services Provided

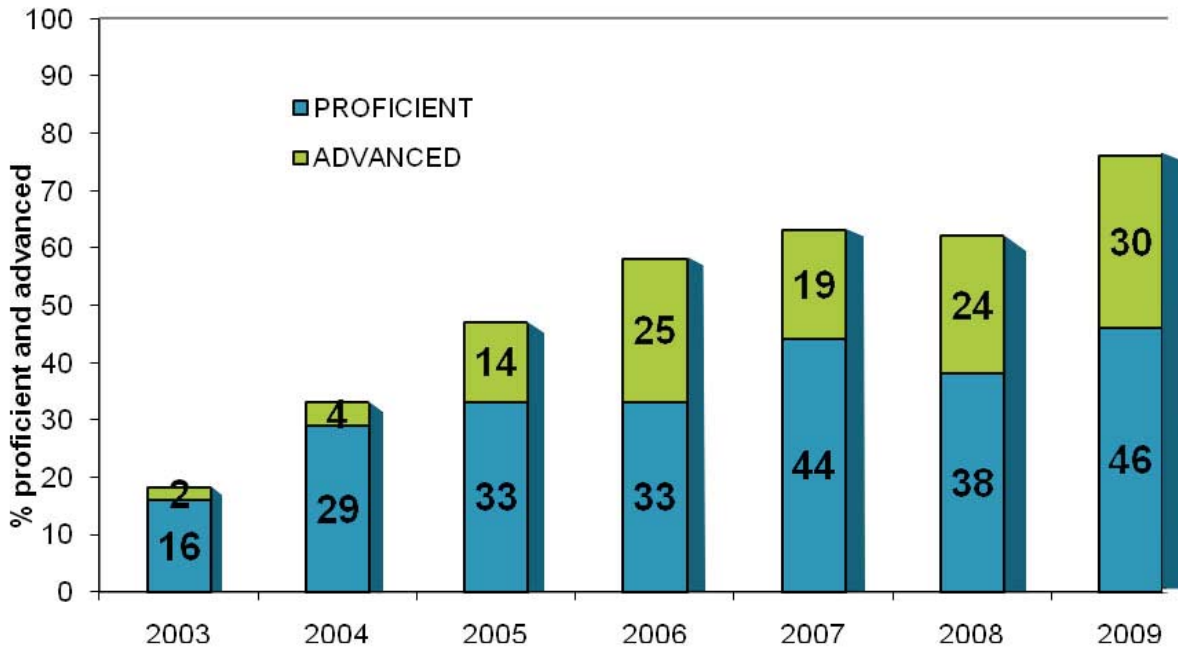
Teachers<sup>21</sup> provided support for administrators in strategic planning, effective communication, data-based instructional planning to spur student achievement, and the development of professional learning communities (PLC).

Over a six-year period, Teachers<sup>21</sup> supported teachers with workshops, classroom coaching, and one-to-one as well as small group consultations. Areas of focus included classroom management, team building, establishing common planning periods, collaborative examination of student work, differentiated instruction, project based learning, standards based instructional planning across the subject areas, questioning, writing, formative assessments, and the use of student assessment data.

### Results--Student Performance

Between 2003 and 2009, student performance on the MCAS improved in mathematics and English Language arts. The percentage of tenth graders scoring proficient and advanced in mathematics increased from 18% (2003) to 76% (2009). The percentage of tenth graders scoring proficient or advanced in English language arts increased from 33% to 75% in the same time period. The results reflected the professional development investment the administrators and teachers made in school improvement.

Assabet Valley Regional Technical High School  
**10th Grade Math MCAS**



Assabet Valley Regional Technical High School  
**10th Grade ELA MCAS**

