

Success Story



CHARLES COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Charles County, MD

Highlights

- SpringBoard is substantially improving student performance in math and ELA.
- SpringBoard's AP foundation is helping more students score a 3 or higher on the AP Literature and Composition Exam.
- SpringBoard has been a major factor in closing the achievement gap among African American students.

Demographics

<b>Students</b>	<b>26,669</b>
African American	<b>52.3%</b>
White (Non-Hispanic)	<b>32.7%</b>
Hispanic	<b>5.7%</b>
Multiracial	<b>5.7%</b>

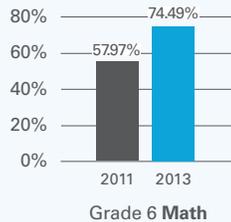
Closing the Achievement Gap and Preparing for the Common Core

Charles County, Md., is a high-performing school district located south of Washington, D.C. Over the past decade, the county has seen significant and diverse growth. District leaders are committed to ensuring that all students are career and college ready when they exit high school.

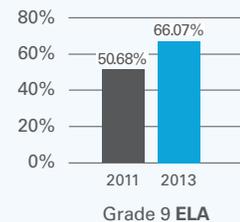
THE RESULTS

- Initial data suggests that SpringBoard's strong AP® foundation is having a positive impact; more students are scoring 3 or higher on the AP Literature and Composition Exam.
- After two years of full implementation, test results in both English and mathematics suggest that SpringBoard® is having substantial impact in improving student performance.

SpringBoard® Increases Student Achievement in Math and English



Grade 6 Math  
Comparing Grade 6 Math Scores Before SpringBoard and After 2 Years of Implementation

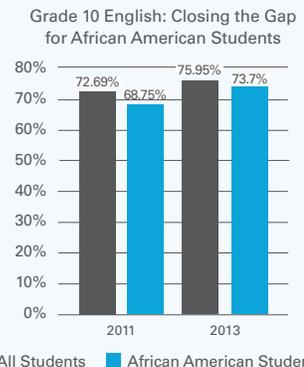
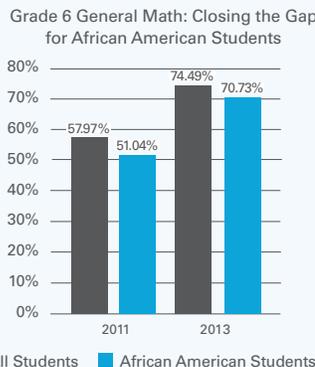


Grade 9 ELA  
Comparing Grade 9 English Scores Before SpringBoard and After 2 Years of Implementation

Closing the Achievement Gap for African American Students

In the years prior to SpringBoard implementation, district data indicated that achievement among African American students was significantly lower than that of the population as a whole. Immediately, Charles County leadership made a commitment to closing that gap. SpringBoard is seen as a major factor in achieving district goals.

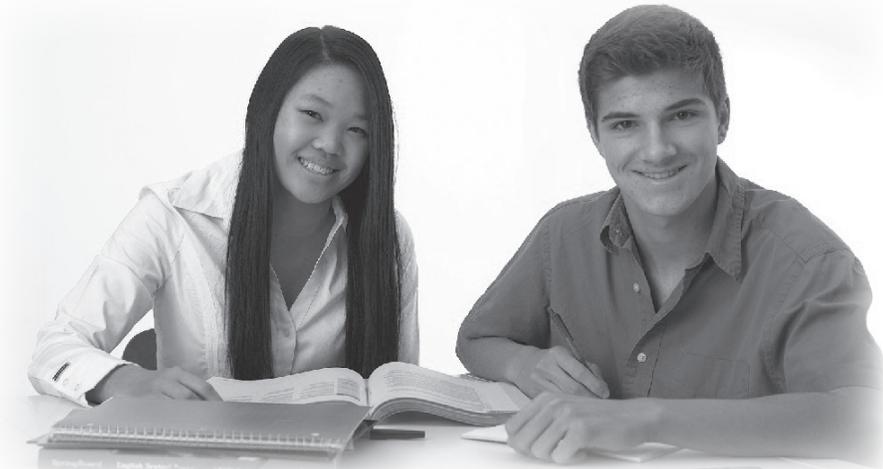
Results from the Charles County Public Schools' Assessment



## Professional Development Makes the Difference

Ongoing SpringBoard professional developmental and district encouragement were instrumental in building teachers' confidence in SpringBoard's student-centered practices.

- Teacher leadership teams at middle school, and high school department chairs at each school received additional PD in differentiation, assessment, and collaborative classrooms and then assisted colleagues in content planning and lesson differentiation.



### SPOTLIGHT ON PROGRAM EXPANSION

#### Expanding the Program

At the same time SpringBoard was being implemented in honors and enrichment classes, district leaders were gaining insight into the demands of the Common Core State Standards.

- District content specialists were convinced that by moving SpringBoard into all levels, they would not have to “reinvent the wheel.” The program was expanded to all math, reading, English, ESOL, and special education courses in the 2011–12 year.
- Teachers recognized the benefit of the embedded strategies that became a daily experience for students in rich, real-world contexts with a high level of rigor.
- English teachers are particularly impressed with the large number and variety of writing opportunities, and mathematics teachers find that the program's activities deepen students' understanding of important math concepts.



For information, call 877-999-7723 or visit [collegeboard.org/springboard](http://collegeboard.org/springboard)

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## What Charles County Teachers Are Reporting:

“This is the first program that I’ve taught in which writing is valued and incorporated continuously throughout each activity. What’s fascinating is how the kids can’t wait to share their writing and insights about the stories we’ve read.”

“SpringBoard is the program that has revived my love of teaching and has given me extra tools to keep pushing my students to the next level.”

“Simply stated...SpringBoard makes the kids think on a higher level and makes them take an active role in their learning process.”

“I am confident that as this curriculum is implemented at each grade level, rigor will become the norm for our students.”

“Students relate to the real-life applications brought forth in the program. SpringBoard has renewed interest in mathematics in my classroom.”

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“Preparing all students for success in college and careers is a major challenge in a district this size. SpringBoard is a perfect fit since it builds in all the elements to support both teachers and students. The program has caused teachers to reconsider how they are delivering instruction as they improve their craft and as students become more engaged and responsible for their learning.”

#### Judy Estep

Assistant Superintendent for Instruction  
Charles County School District