Press Release

Teaching Teachers to Teach Math

New Fairfield, Connecticut, November 24, 2015

Headlines and news reports consistently warn that children in the United States lag far behind other countries in math. In fact, Secretary of Education, Arne Duncan, has said that test scores should "serve as a wake-up call" for the country. To address this concern, the Common Core Standards were developed: the latest in a long line of reforms aimed to improve math scores.

In New Fairfield Connecticut, Consolidated School students not only excel in math, they *like* it. One reason for this lies in a math program, *ORIGO Stepping Stones*, that is as concerned with educating teachers as it is with educating students. Melisa Bartlett, ORIGO Education's General Manager has said, "Stepping Stones is a product that was made to teach students mathematical processes and concepts that allows them to make connections and flourish in mathematics. We want students to learn in a way where they can make those connections on their own and really love math. Same goes for teachers. The embedded videos give teachers the opportunity to learn how to apply concepts to the modules and lessons to help their students gain a deeper understanding of mathematics."

ORIGO Education's Stepping Stones provides embedded professional learning videos. Joanne Woodard, a second grade teacher at the Consolidated School, said: "[With Stepping Stones] you get an understanding about how the whole lesson should be taught, from beginning to end." Lynn Fichtel, Assistant Principal at the school, also praised the program, saying, "We want our teachers to be knowledgeable and having a program that provides intense professional development was the key." The embedded videos are a great tool for teachers looking for new methods to apply the lessons being covered. Teachers at New Fairfield Consolidated School are learning and loving Stepping Stones just as much as their students.

About ORIGO Education

ORIGO Education provides customers with a complete education solution by combining an innovative range of <u>elementary mathematics products</u> with quality professional development.

ORIGO demonstrates a commitment to excellence by creating resources that inspire and empower both teachers and students. ORIGO's web-based program *Stepping Stones* is written for the <u>Common Core State Standards</u>. This world-class mathematics program seamlessly blends digital and print resources with embedded professional development to enable a deep understanding of mathematics. For more information, visit origoeducation.com.

Consolidated School Testimonial