

CPS + Math Competition = Success

Williamsburg Collegiate Charter School, New York

A Success Story

Eric Green, a sixth grade math teacher at Williamsburg Collegiate Charter School in Brooklyn, New York, began using eInstruction's™ Classroom Performance System (CPS) about a year and a half ago, and his classroom hasn't been the same since. Green says that his students love using the CPS clickers. He has also noticed that they have made the students much more interested in and dedicated to their work.

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The class uses the CPS clickers to answer questions from worksheets. As the students enter answers into their individual clickers, the results are sent to Green's computer and instantly displayed on the projected screen at the front of the room; allowing him to instantly assess whether the class understands the lesson being taught.

“CPS allows me to make out which kids understand the concept I am teaching and which kids do not,” Green said. “I have a better idea about when my students are ready to move on and when I need to re-teach a concept.”

Since Green incorporated CPS into his classroom, his students' test scores have risen, their attention span has increased and Green has been able to greatly reduce the amount of time he used to spend grading papers. He also found a way to use the technology to impact more than just his students.

Game Time

Each year, fifth, sixth and seventh graders from 12 different schools in the district compete in individual and team math competitions hoping to leave with the first place trophy and a school year's worth of bragging rights. Green was searching for a way to bring some excitement to the citywide competition and he didn't have to look any further than his own classroom.

In the past, students participating in the individual competition were asked to take a written test while their parents and friends sat silently on the sidelines waiting for the tests to be completed. This year, thanks to Green, students were able to use eInstruction's CPS clickers to “buzz in” their answers.

Participants from other schools, who had not previously used CPS, were able to pick up on and use the clickers very quickly. The top scorers from the respective competitions advanced to the head-to-head competition, where students competed to be the first person or team to send the correct answers. Trophies were awarded to the first, second and third place participants in the individual competition and first place in the team competition.



CPS(suspense)

Not only did the presence of the CPS clickers bring excitement to the participants, but they seemed to provide additional suspense as the audience members waited for the answers to appear. For the first time, onlookers were able to see the results to each question first hand. Additionally, graders were not needed in this season's competition. The inclusion of CPS helped the competition run quicker and more smoothly.

"I think everyone really enjoyed the addition of CPS in this season's competition," Green said. "It seemed to bring in some added excitement for the competitors as well as making the competition more appealing to the audience members."

To the Winners go the Spoils

As a result, eInstruction donated a set of CPS clickers to be raffled off at the end of the competition. All of the participating schools anxiously hoped that their name would be drawn in the raffle, but only one lucky school was able to bring the clickers back home. Fortunately, Green still had his CPS clickers in his classroom to return "home" to. He also returned to numerous emails from other teachers in the district interested in the clickers.

"I received a great deal of inquiries regarding the clickers," Green said. "Staff members from several different schools seemed very interested about incorporating CPS into their own classrooms."

About eInstruction™

eInstruction pioneered the first student response system for the education market during the 1980s. Its Classroom Performance System (CPS) provides instructors and students with real-time feedback on comprehension during instruction. Today CPS remains the leading student response system in education, being used by millions of students in more than 60,000 K-12 classrooms and over 400,000 students in more than 1,300 colleges and universities. In 2006, eInstruction acquired FSCreations and integrated its ExamView® and Learning Series content into CPS; so instructors can seamlessly use publisher and proprietary question banks in lesson plans, quizzes and tests with eInstruction technology. The result is an integrated system for instruction and assessment with real-time feedback. In 2008, eInstruction joined forces with Interwrite Learning®, another premier global provider of interactive learning solutions to the primary, secondary and higher education markets.

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