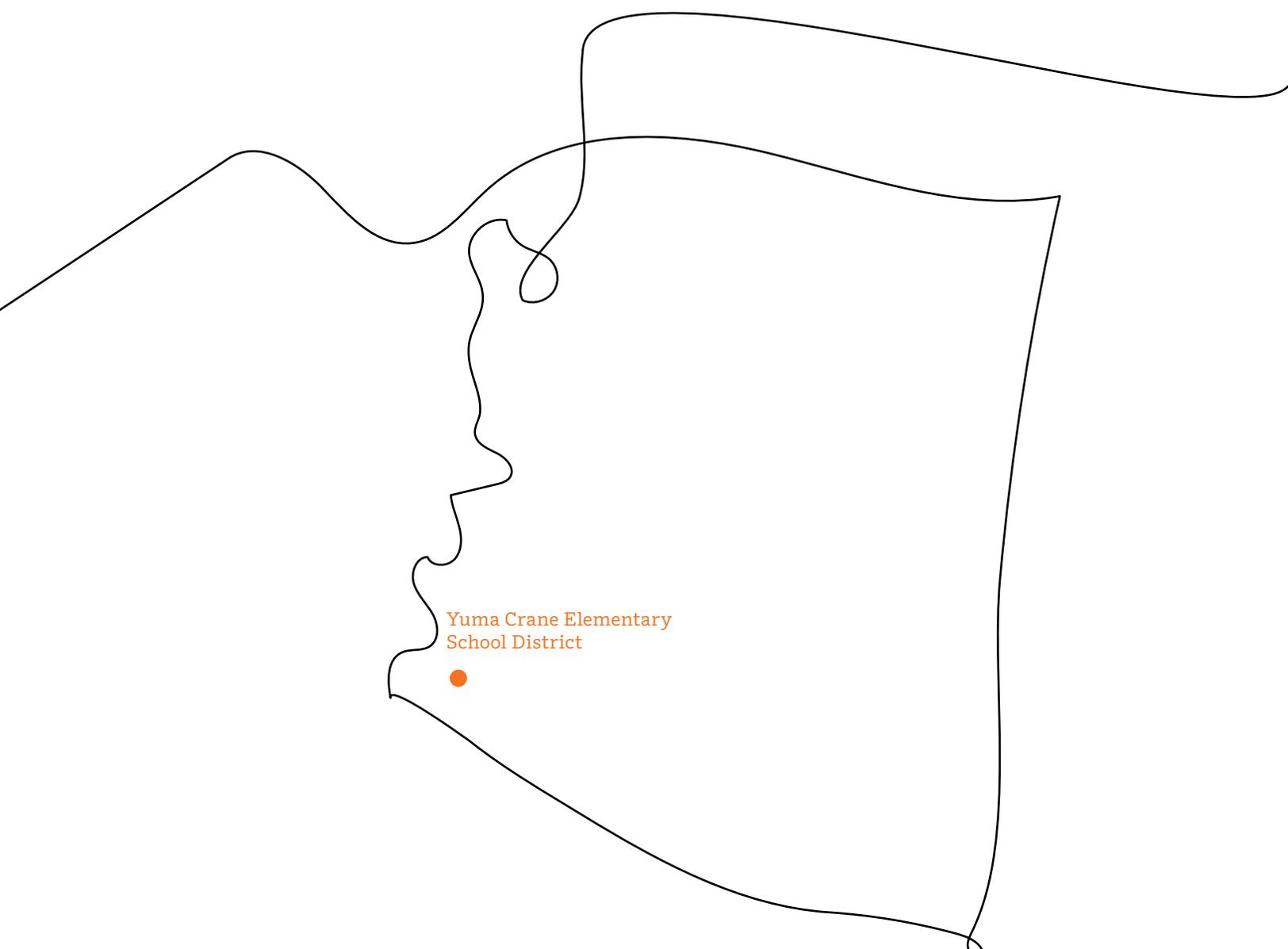


Supporting teachers in successful implementation

How Yuma's Crane Elementary School District transformed math education



Yuma Crane Elementary
School District

Background

Located in Yuma, Arizona, the Crane Elementary School District serves more than 5,000 students in kindergarten through eighth grade. The student population is 84.8% Hispanic/Latino, 11.3% white, 1% Asian/Pacific Islander, 0.9% Black, 0.6% American Indian or Alaska Native, and 0.2% Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, with 1.2% of students identifying as two or more races. In addition, 80.4% are eligible for the federal free or reduced-price lunch program and 15% are multilingual/English learners (ML/ELs).

10
schools

5,000
students

80.4%
eligible for free or
reduced-price lunch

Challenge

Tara Fulton is the K–8 math coordinator for Crane Elementary School District. In 2024, she was also serving as regional director for nine states for the National Council of Supervisors of Mathematics, professional learning chair for the Arizona Association of Teachers of Mathematics, and board member of Arizona Mathematics Leaders. Her experience in educational leadership prompted her to seek a coherent, consistent approach to math instruction across the district. She had seen her students succeed with Desmos Math 6-A1 in middle school, and took note when Amplify added an elementary school curriculum. Fulton proposed using it to align math instruction across all grades. To help guide this change, she formed an adoption committee of teachers and site-based instructional leaders from across the district.

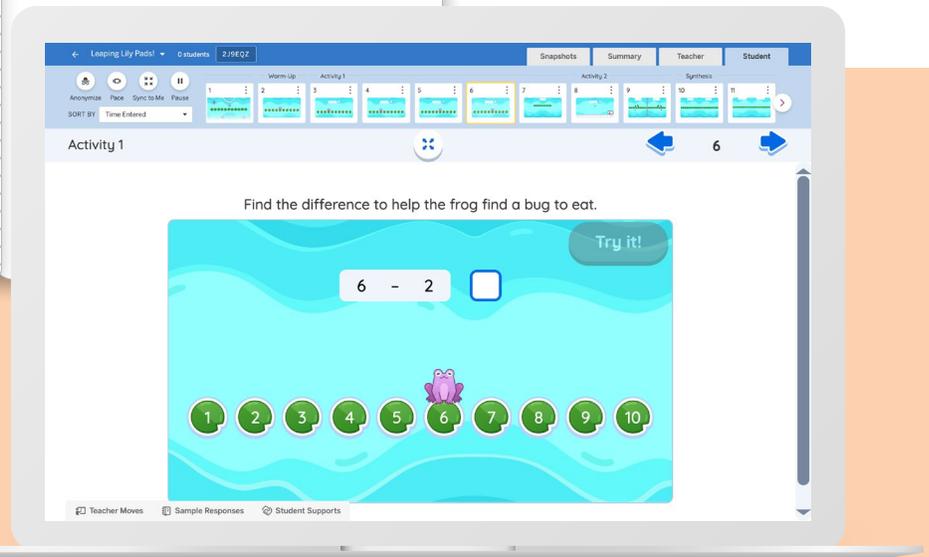
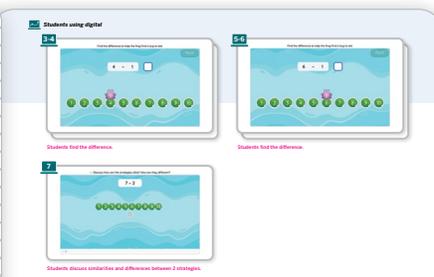
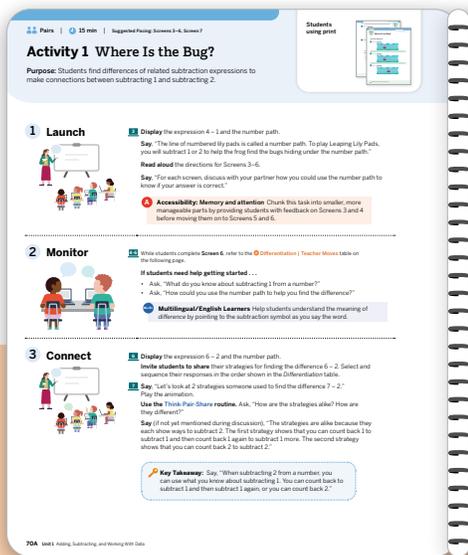
Solution

Fulton initiated a strategic shift in her district's schedule for adopting the new math program. With the support of the adoption committee, Fulton sought board approval to delay the adoption by a year, allowing the district to pilot Amplify's full K–8 offering once the elementary materials became available. Her team showed remarkable focus for the two years it took to implement the changes. "It was the longest math adoption we've ever done," Fulton said. "They showed an extraordinary commitment, and I'm still in awe that they did it," she said.

During the 2024–25 school year, grades 6–8 piloted Amplify Desmos Math for the full year, K–5 teachers piloted one unit, and one elementary school chose to continue through the remainder of the school year. Positive feedback from across grade levels led to a unanimous decision to adopt the program district-wide the following year.

Fulton shared some key product features that led to this decision:

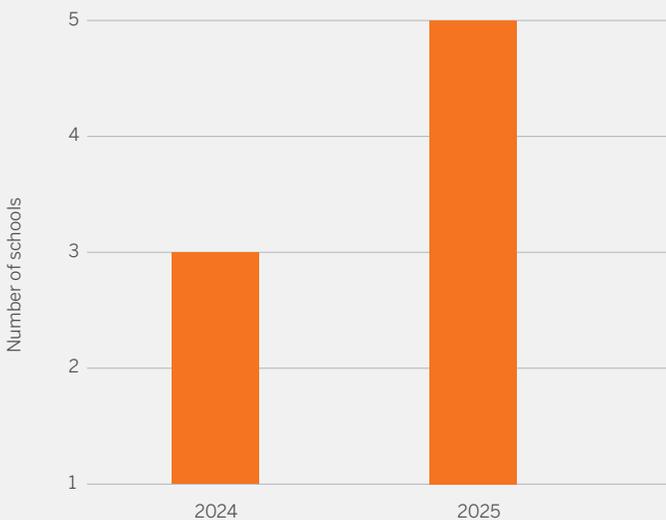
- The differentiation table helped them identify and address students' individual needs.
- Visuals supported comprehension without overloading students with text, benefiting multilingual/English learners.
- The mix of digital and print resources fit well in a district with one-to-one devices.
- Teachers could assign material from other grade levels to support differentiation.
- Mini-lessons, practice pages, and extension activities offered more ways for teachers to meet varied learning needs.
- Pre-Unit Checks gave teachers early insight into students' readiness for upcoming content.
- Boost Personalized Learning activities provided targeted practice, including a virtual tutor for independent work. (Fulton also encouraged teachers to explore Boost by intentionally answering questions incorrectly to see how the program scaffolded learning for students who struggled.)



Impact

Several middle school teachers saw some of the highest categorical growth data in the district. Based on 2024–25 state assessment data, five of the district’s 10 schools earned all possible growth points for math. One school earned 99% of the possible growth points; another earned 95%. For comparison, in spring 2024, only three schools earned all possible math growth points.

Crane Elementary School District Schools earning all possible growth points for Math on Arizona’s Academic Standards Assessment



Two classrooms posted notable gains in Arizona’s Student Growth Percentiles. **One seventh-grade class outpaced 69% of their peers statewide in academic growth, and one eighth-grade class surpassed 62% of students across the state.**

Conclusion

“Great programs are just great programs unless you give the teachers time and training they need for implementation,” said Fulton. That’s why she developed a three-year professional development plan that includes district-wide training sessions, monthly data reviews, targeted support for site leaders, and classroom walkthroughs—all aimed at building teacher confidence with the new curriculum.

Her goal is to raise student proficiency in math by at least two percentage points by the spring of 2026.



For more information about Amplify's comprehensive K–12 math suite, visit **amplify.com/math**.

Amplify.

© 2025 Amplify Education, Inc.
All trademarks and copyrights are the property of Amplify or its licensors.