

## Acellus – Technology that’s making a difference

*The Acellus Learning System made graduation possible for students who otherwise would have fallen through the cracks*



*The Blue Springs School District is located on the eastern edge of the Kansas City metro area – one of the fastest growing areas of the state. Annual enrollment is approximately 13,500 with an increase of 400 to their student body each year. The District is widely recognized for its commitment to quality education. Blue Springs Schools have received numerous awards including the national Blue Ribbon Award for academic achievement.*

### Challenge: Zero Tolerance

Blue Springs School District’s Valley View High School is a newly opened alternative school for students deemed to be at risk of educational failure. Because of challenges facing today’s schools, Blue Springs was looking for a place to send these kids – rather than having them drop out. It was this that prompted them to put together the alternative program.

The students enrolled at Valley View are on widely diverse levels. In addition to normal classroom activities, Blue Springs wanted a technology solution that would work one-on-one with these students – building their self confidence and helping them retrieve credits needed for graduation.

### Solution: Acellus

School board member, Dale Walkup, discovered the Acellus Learning System and brought it to the attention of the district.

Acellus is a self-paced interactive education tool that combines time proven methods of teaching with the latest advancements in technology. Acellus delivers brief video lectures taught by some of America’s most highly recognized teachers to each student over the school’s computer network. After the lecture, students are presented with problems to test their mastery of the concepts. Based on their responses, Acellus moves them on to the next lesson – or gives them more instruction and more practice. Acellus is designed to find and fill the gaps in students’ understanding, enabling them to move forward with confidence.

“I asked our Director of Curriculum, Dr. Annette Seago, to go over and have a look at it,” recalls Dale. “She looked at it and said, ‘You know, Dale, you might be onto something’, She took the entire math cadre over, and they looked at it and were very impressed.” Based on their positive evaluation, the Blue Springs School District purchased the FUNDamental Math and Algebra I Acellus Courses for installation at Hall McCarter Educational Center for use with the alternative school program. The courses are also accessible for adult education and after school classes.

### Features of Acellus

- Self-paced, interactive learning customizes to the level of challenged and gifted students
- Video lectures taught by America’s greatest teachers
- Gives additional video instruction and practice problems in a student’s particular area of weakness
- Covers visual, auditory, and tactile learning styles
- Daily course updates
- Browser-based application for multiple platform support

### Result: Graduation

“We have been using Acellus for two years now and have seen kids graduate that would have completely fallen through the cracks,” Dr. Seago says. “It is such a different type of tool – different than anything any of us have ever seen.”

Mary Ghasemi, a teacher at Valley View, reports, “A lot of schools are using Acellus as a supplementary course to help the teacher – giving students more practice in an area of study. We’re using Acellus to get those needed credits for graduation. That’s our big goal.” Blue Springs awards credits to those who successfully complete the Acellus courses.

Due to the success in their alternative school, Blue Springs is now implementing Acellus district-wide. In addition to the Acellus Courses, they have recently installed complete Acellus Diskless Computer Labs at Blue Springs High School and the Blue Springs Freshman Center, with expectations of more installations before the new school year.

***“Acellus is so successful because it is such a different type of tool...we are now installing full-blown labs in all of our secondary schools.”***

*– Dr. Paul Kinder, Superintendent*

To receive a free information package about the Acellus Learning System please visit: [www.acellus.com/ES](http://www.acellus.com/ES) or call (816)220-0300.