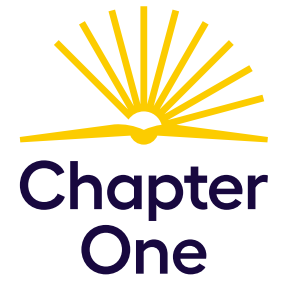


# CASE STUDY



## Kae Avenue Elementary School

When educators at Kae Avenue Elementary School were looking for a solution to improve reading proficiency, they turned to Chapter One for an intervention program that offered a novel approach to reading success. As a result, they saw an increase of 163.5% in reading scores.



### Kae Avenue Elementary School

- 850 students in PreK-1st grade
- 74% minority students
- 53% eligible for free & reduced lunch
- Full day Kindergarten

### Challenges

Located in Whitehall, Ohio, Kae Avenue Elementary School serves approximately 850 students in grades Pre-Kindergarten – 1st grade. Prior to working with IFL, Reading and Language arts proficiency was 39%, well below the state average of 62%. Student enrollment in 2020 – 2021 is 74% minority, and 53% of the students are eligible for free and reduced lunch. Like other educators in low-income schools, the Kae Avenue Elementary staff pursued programs for struggling readers that would have the greatest impact in putting students on a consistent trajectory of success. Working with Chapter One, the staff implemented Chapter One's high impact tutoring in a randomized control trial with 189 kindergarten and first grade students in 2018 – 2020.

### Implementation

The Chapter One High Impact program provides 1:1 tutoring by Early Literacy Interventionists (ELI) who meet with students 1–3 times per week. ELI's are trained specialists who conduct 1:1 conferences of 5-6 minutes each day to check for understanding, introduce new content, and set goals.

“ The 1:1 support was fantastic! It gave my students individual attention, targeted support in literacy, and allowed for growth. Giving students 1:1 support was critical for their growth and development. Every one of my students (excluding one who was tested and placed toward the end of the school year) showed growth. ”

—Kindergarten Teacher

Using Chapter One's innovative software, ELI's help students build a strong foundation in phonics, fluency, sight word acquisition, and comprehension. The students also receive 15 minutes of timely reinforcement practice each day using tablets that are integrated into small

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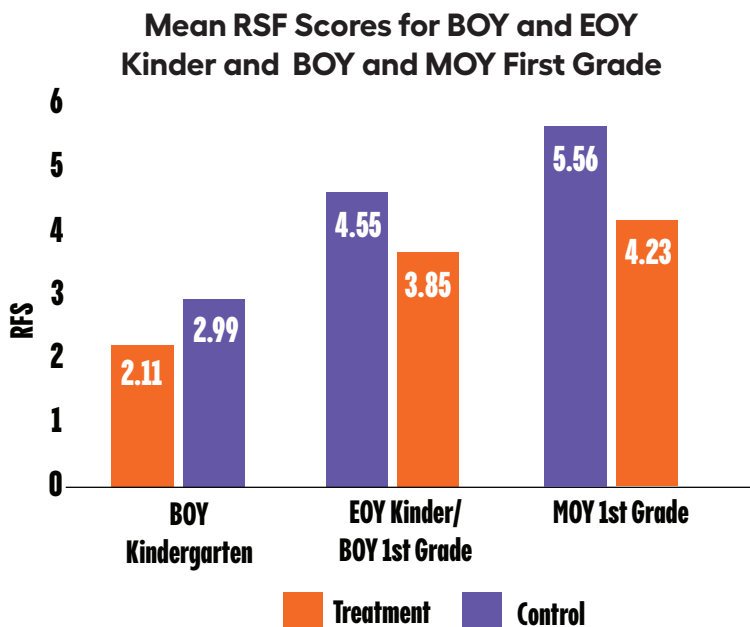
## Kae Avenue Elementary School

group time during the literacy block. The tablets feature a variety of interactive and engaging learning activities.

The randomized control trial used three assessments to benchmark students' reading achievement:

1. Chapter One staff assessed student progress on phonics knowledge based on Chapter One's Reading Foundation Stage (RFS) Assessment.
2. Chapter One staff assessed students' Oral Reading Fluency (ORF) Assessment, which correlates with the DIBELS oral reading fluency assessment.
3. Classroom teachers assessed student reading proficiency using the Fountas & Pinnell Benchmark Assessment.

Data analyzed across the two academic years using repeating measures, indicated statistically significant mean differences in reading achievement from the beginning of kindergarten to the middle of 1st grade for those that participated in 1:1 high impact tutoring with Chapter One.



### Key Findings

Students who participated in the 1:1 high impact tutoring experienced a 163.5% increase in reading scores, in comparison to the 41.5% increase of students who did not participate.

- On average, kindergarten students that received 1:1 high impact tutoring gained 2.33 RFS compared to the .86 gained by non-tutored students.
- 78% of ESL learners that received ELI support at the beginning of kindergarten reached ORF proficiency by the end of Grade 2.
- Students who receive at least 20 sessions gained more than three reading levels.
- Feedback from teachers showed that 100% felt strongly that the ELI support made a positive impact on students' reading performance. 100% would recommend the ELI program to fellow educators.
- The Fountas and Pinnell Benchmark Assessment, administered by the district, shows a positive relationship to the Chapter One ORF Assessment. Students' end of year ORF scores are predictive of end of year Fountas and Pinnell scores.
- Data will continue to be collected through Spring of 2023, providing additional information on the full impact of Chapter One's high impact program and the achievement of struggling readers.

### Summary

The study shows that Chapter One's high impact program is highly effective in helping at-risk students achieve reading proficiency, as

# CASE STUDY

## Kae Avenue Elementary School

evidenced by the 163.5% gain in reading scores.

As a result of the success at Kae Elementary, the district is expanding the Chapter One Program to all kindergarten and 1st grade classrooms in the district.

“We have seen significant gains between kindergarten to 1st grade over the past two years. IFL has been an excellent partner for our school district and we hope to foster the partnership for years to come.”

—Christopher Hardy,  
Director of Assessment and Instruction  
Whitehall City School District

Chapter One is a 501c3 non-profit that was founded in 1993. At Chapter One, we believe learning to read is a basic civil right with the power to transform lives. Fusing technology, corporate volunteerism and intensive support, we enable meaningful human interaction that is proven to improve literacy outcomes, promoting equity for all young children. We work to realize a world in which all children, regardless of background, are confidently reading to learn, grow, and thrive throughout life.

For 30 years, Chapter One has been building community partnerships and developing innovative software and human-powered solutions to advance early literacy. We collaborate with schools, districts, teachers, businesses, and students, and provide customized, technology-based tools for individualized instruction.

[www.chapterone.org](http://www.chapterone.org) • North Chicago School District 187 Case Study 2021

## What we do

### High Impact Tutoring

Our high impact tutoring model provides schools with trained staff who work with students 1:1 each day..



### Online Reading Volunteers

We connect schools with corporate volunteers who read online with first and second grade students.



### Global Free Library

We offer an online collection of stories that celebrate the world's diversity.



**Chapter One** has been transforming children's futures by providing one-to-one support to help them learn to read. Our nonprofit provides schools in the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom with a sustainable, supplemental program that can scale to all kindergarten through second grade students.