

Evans Newton Incorporated

Building Instructional Leadership in a Standards-Based World

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Calumet Park School District Focuses on School Reform

Calumet Park, IL (June 19, 2008) – Calumet Park School District is partnering with Evans Newton Inc. (ENI) to address failing reading scores by improving reading instructional practices in the district's three elementary schools: Burr Oak Academy, Burr Oak School and Calumet School.

Under the leadership of the district's new superintendent, Dr. Elizabeth Reynolds, and the district's school board, the district created seven goals, including strengthening the district's curriculum and instruction based on identified needs of students. One aspect of this goal will begin in fall of 2008, when the district will use ENI's TargetAssessment® to identify students' remedial needs and determine their cognitive levels of understanding. TargetAssessment® also incorporates test items aligned to the Illinois Learning Standards (ILS) and the format mimics that of the Illinois Student Achievement Test (ISAT). The district will also begin using TargetFundamentals™ to build or strengthen students' fundamental skills, allowing them to have a foundation on which to build the succeeding skills necessary for successful academic careers. During the 2008-2009 school year, Calumet Park anticipates expanding their TargetTeach® program with additional initiatives to strengthen the district's curriculum and instructional strategies.

By partnering with ENI, Dr. Reynolds hopes to see change in the climate and culture of these schools, "When teachers experience successes in their teaching and see students achieve, they feel better about being in that atmosphere and this snowballs to the entire community. Calumet Park is an urban district in need of school improvement and we are thrilled to team up with ENI to do just that," said Dr. Reynolds, "we aim to mimic the success that other Chicago districts have seen when they have partnered with ENI and to inspire our community with the success that we achieve."

Recently, Evans Newton Inc. partnered with Hazel Crest School District 152.5 and Zion Elementary District 6, both located in the Chicago area. Each district has enjoyed tremendous results and continues to meet AYP each year.

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About Evans Newton Incorporated

ENI is the nation's leading developer of standards-based student achievement programs for primary and secondary schools. ENI partners with school districts around the country to implement research-based approaches that incorporate deep curriculum alignment, state-specific formative assessments, software for monitoring assessments and instructional resources, customized teaching tools, and professional development and coaching to promote teacher effectiveness. The majority of ENI employees are former educators who possess expertise in developing curriculum tools designed to promote student proficiency as measured by state tests. Since its founding in 1973, ENI's mission has been to raise student achievement through customized instructional solutions using proven teaching methods.

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