

One Teacher's Class

1996

4th Grade Class

Class Average: 4.6

2002

3rd Grade Class

Class Average: 6.4

Morrison-McCall Spelling Scale

Sometimes the stories of STEPS are about how a teacher's job changes. In this school, Oakbrook Elementary, teachers were trained in 1997. An average homogenously grouped class before STEPS had a spelling average of 4th grade, 6th month. Four years later children at this school had had STEPS in K, 1, 2 and 3. Their spelling average on leaving third was 6.4. When those children enter 4th grade the definition of 4th grade ability at that school will be fundamentally different. Think of how that fourth grader teacher's job has changed! At that school it became common practice to move class novel sets down 2 grade levels - in other words the second graders were reading what had been the 4th grade class novels. Over time STEPS can change a school.