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Wednesday, July 22, 2009

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Thu, Jun 04, 2009

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Champions Announces Availability of Online Tutoring Program for School Districts Nationwide

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Denver, Colo. – June 2009 – Champions® has announced the availability of its newest academic intervention program for school districts nationwide: Champions Online Tutoring, an interactive web-based offering that addresses the unique math needs of children in grades 4-8. The program is designed with convenience and flexibility for schools in mind, with the ability to determine the length of program based upon their individual student needs, and to host 60-minute sessions directly on-site, or at a distance.

"We're not your traditional distance learning offering," says Pete Cassidy, Director of online programs for Champions. "Champions offers live, synchronous events in which instructors and students can easily communicate in real time. And, while other programs focus on either academic intervention or accelerated learning, Champions can address either need. Whether for a student who wants to brush up on their math skills before the new school year, or one who is struggling in a particular subject area, our program creates learning plans customized for every student to follow at their own pace."

Customized lessons for remedial or accelerated needs

Upon enrollment, every student completes an adaptive pretest, which accurately pinpoints skill gaps and areas of strength. Results are compiled to determine individualized learning plans. These learning plans are taken from Champions' research-based curriculum; seventy-five lessons have been modified for the online program. These lessons provide a proven scope and sequence for grade levels 4-8. Alignment reports to state standards are available for lessons on every instructional level. Student progress is measureable throughout the duration of the program and with the completion of a post-test at the program's conclusion, which outlines skills developed and continued areas for growth.

Live, interactive sessions led by qualified instructors

To assist students during the program, qualified educators lead tutoring sessions via an interactive Web portal. "With an online offering, we've been able to tap into a pool of talented instructors from across the U.S.," says Cassidy. "This enables us to hire the right instructors with the credentials needed to effectively coach students in all areas of math."

The program's teacher-to-student ratio is 4:1 with instructors providing individual attention and support to each student including English language learners or those with special needs. Verbal interaction is encouraged through headsets over a voice-over IP (VIOP) configuration. In addition, there are a variety of on-screen tools available including a chat feature, a whiteboard drawing tool, a "raise hand" option for students to ask questions, and motivational stamps for teachers to provide positive feedback as they monitor students' work. All instructors initially complete significant training upon joining the program in order to prepare to work with students in the online platform. Follow up training sessions are also provided.

Buena Vista students log on to boost math skills

Champions Online Tutoring is a new chapter in Champions' strong history of offering academic intervention programs, which have historically yielded impressive academic gains for a variety of school districts. For instance in the 2007-2008 school year, students in Champions' programs saw math scores rise 61 points as measured by pre- and post-assessment tests created by Champions'.

The Buena Vista school district located outside of Saginaw, Michigan, was the first to sign-up for the Champions online tutoring program. More than 45 students recently completed the program and the district has signed on to offer it again in this summer and fall.

"Champions provides quality service to our district in many capacities," says Dr. Sharron Jenkins Norman, Superintendent, of the Buena Vista school district. "Two of the programs that our district has benefited from – summer school and Champions Online Tutoring – are services that have been personalized to the district based on students' needs, and they have been excellent in execution. These programs have consistently met and exceeded our expectations. So far, the math online program has been very successful for our students. It is with enthusiasm that I recommend that others explore their benefits to your school and community. "

Log on and test your skills

Champions invites people of all ages to test their basic math skills through a fun, interactive quiz at <http://www.championsonlinetutoring.com/quiz/>. With only 10 questions, the multiple choice exercise is a modified version of the Champions Online Tutoring adaptive placement assessment. Quiz results are categorized by grade level proficiency, with a perfect score placing users at the eighth-grade mathematics level, which includes pre-algebra and algebra objectives.

A flexible, affordable solution that drives results

Champions Online Tutoring is available to school districts for a variable fee based upon the number of hours of instruction per child. Average cost is \$600 per child for 30 hours of instruction. For more information about Champions Online Tutoring visit www.championsonlinetutoring.com or call 800-350-5034.

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About Champions®: Champions®, formerly known as KLC School Partnerships®, is the nation's leading provider of extended learning, enrichment and targeted academic intervention solutions that address specific school and community needs. Its customized education programs include Champions Extended Learning™ before and after school programs; Champions Academy™ reading and math tutoring; and Champions Science Adventures™ hands-on science camps and after school clubs for school-age children. Together, these initiatives are offered at more than 650 sites in 20 states, serving nearly 55,000 students annually. Champions® is a division of Knowledge Learning Corporation®, the nation's largest early childhood and school-age education and care provider. Champions' main office is located in Littleton, Colorado.

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