



## LAS LINKS SUCCESS STORY Allentown School District (ASD)

*“Our EL department is able to make valuable and effective instructional decisions that have already started to positively impact language growth for our students.”*

Andrea O'Brien,  
ESL Facilitator,  
Allentown School District

### Monitoring Progress and Implementing Language Growth Plans for English Learners (ELs)

In this success story, Andrea O'Brien, ESL Facilitator at Allentown School District (ASD) in Pennsylvania, shares how her district uses LAS Links throughout the school year to monitor the progress and skill growth of their EL students in each language domain, and implement data-driven instructional plans that target individual and whole-group language needs.



### **What Emergent Bilingual (EB) challenges do you have in your district/schools?**

Some of our EL students are not meeting their EL growth targets and attainment targets according to the Future Ready PA Index (a collection of progress measures established by the Pennsylvania Department of Education that relate to student and school success).

### **How is LAS Links used in your organization?**

We are currently administering LAS Links to all of ASD's EL students in K–12 three times during the school year.

### **Why did your district select LAS Links?**

We chose LAS Links because we needed a Progress Monitoring tool that would provide us with very specific data pertaining to each of the language domains (Speaking, Listening, Reading, and Writing). We wanted to have ongoing district-wide data discussions (with our EL teams at each of our schools) to help us determine instructional plans that will address the specific language needs.

### **Which features are particularly important to your organization? How do they address specific concerns and needs?**

After reviewing and analyzing data from each testing event, we are beginning to create Individual Language Growth Plans that highlight scale scores/proficiency levels for each of the language domains that will be targeted (and specific skills within the language domain) and the language intervention that will be implemented.



#### **ORGANIZATION SUMMARY**

- Number of schools: 21
- Grade levels: K–12
- Total population: 16,119
- Number of EBs: 3,320
- Percentage of EBs: 21%

#### **STUDENT POPULATION**

- African American: 12%
- Asian/Pacific Islander: 1%
- Caucasian: 7%
- Hispanic: 75%
- Other: 5%

#### **PROGRAM TYPE**

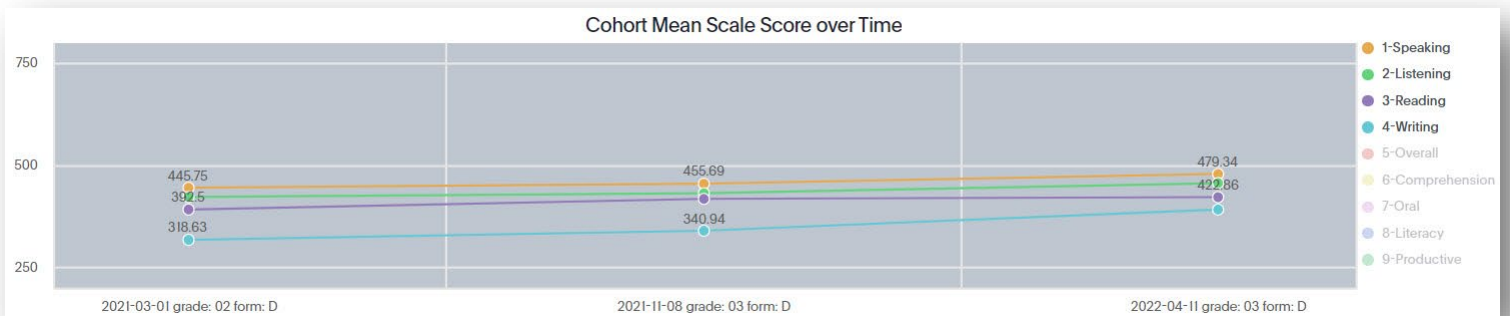
- ESL



## What LAS Links data/report(s) do you find most useful to your organization?

The Longitudinal Report helps analyze individual student growth from testing event to testing event. The Item Roster Report provides item-specific information on how students performed in each skill on which they were assessed. Those specific skills are then targeted during the language intervention.

### Longitudinal Report



### Item Roster Report

Item Roster

Student	LISTENING																		
	Language Arts, Social Studies, History						Mathematics, Science, Technical Subjects						Social, Intercultural, and Instructional Communication						
	09 (1)	10 (1)	11 (1)	15 (1)	16 (1)	17 (1)	12 (1)	13 (1)	14 (1)	18 (1)	19 (1)	01 (1)	02 (1)	03 (1)	04 (1)	05 (1)	06 (1)	07 (1)	08 (1)
ALEJANDRO, ERNESTO   234607   2019-02-19   03   D/2	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1
Alex, EARL   234653   2019-02-19   03   D/2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1
BRADLEY, Britteny   234605   2019-02-19   03   D/2	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

LAS Links reports provide longitudinal data to support educators as they monitor progress for students across different skill areas. The Item Roster report helps educators understand student performance on each test item and skill, supporting targeted language intervention and growth planning. Click [here](#) to see all the reports LAS Links progress monitoring provides.



**What strategic plans do you have in mind as you move forward with LAS Links progress monitoring?**

Our plan is to continue to implement monthly data analysis and discussion meetings with fidelity. We will allow the data to drive instruction and determine individual and whole-group language growth plans.

**Is there anything else you would like to share about your experience with LAS Links?**

Having LAS Links has been an invaluable tool. Our EL department is able to make valuable and effective instructional decisions that have already started to positively impact language growth for our students.

In addition, our DRC LAS Links consultant is absolutely exceptional! She has helped us to thoroughly understand the data found in each report (she makes it so easy!). She has conducted outstanding district-wide and department trainings. I appreciate her professionalism, flexibility, and ability to help us navigate through any situation. She gets back to you right away and is extremely personable.

Visit [www.LASLinks.com](http://www.LASLinks.com) for More Information

Watch Our Feature Video: [LAS Links Online](#)

