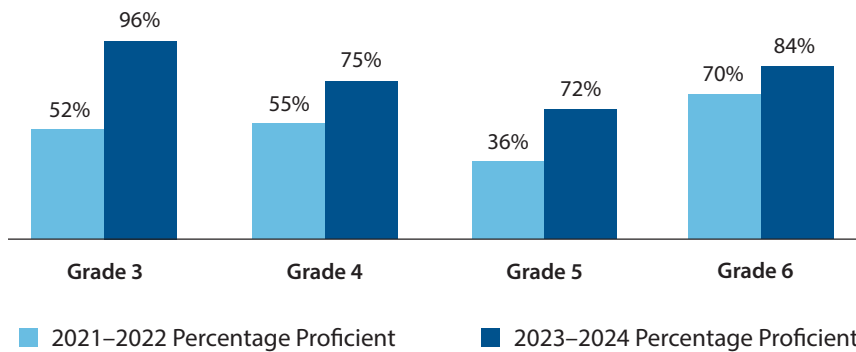


More Seton Students Achieve Grade-Level Proficiency through Discourse-Based Mathematics

Since implementing *i-Ready Classroom Mathematics* across Grades K–6, the number of Seton students scoring proficient or above on the state assessment **grew by an incredible 48 percent overall from 2022 to 2024**. Growth in Grades 3 and 5 was particularly remarkable, increasing by 83 percent and 69 percent, respectively.

Performance on the New York State Testing Program (NYSTP) Next Generation Mathematics Test: Seton Catholic School



Finding a Better Way Forward

Located in Brighton, a suburb outside of Rochester, NY, Seton Catholic School serves almost 200 Grades Pre-K–6 students and is well known for its commitment to academic success and strong sense of community.

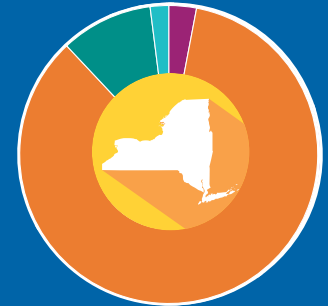
For more than a decade, Seton relied on a mathematics curriculum that prioritized repetition and recall. Students managed homework and quizzes but often struggled to retain concepts, creating frustration and disengagement as they advanced to middle school. They needed a better way forward.

“In 2022, 53.3 percent of our Grades 3–6 students tested proficient or above, and in 2024, 79.15 percent of our Grades 3–6 students tested proficient or above. Of course, our focus at Seton is not exclusively on accountability measures, but these scores show that our students’ deepening understanding of mathematical concepts transfers well and can be demonstrated on state assessments.”

—Mary Kate Koehler, Principal, Seton Catholic School

Seton Catholic School
Diocese of Rochester,
New York

Grades Pre-K–6 Breakdown¹
196 Students



White African American
Hispanic Other

5%
Multilingual Learners

15%
Students with Disabilities

5%
Students with Socioeconomic Disadvantages



¹SetonCS.org

After considering several curricula, Seton adopted the rigorous, standards-aligned *i-Ready Classroom Mathematics*, a research-based program that prioritizes higher-order thinking, discourse, and deep conceptual understanding.

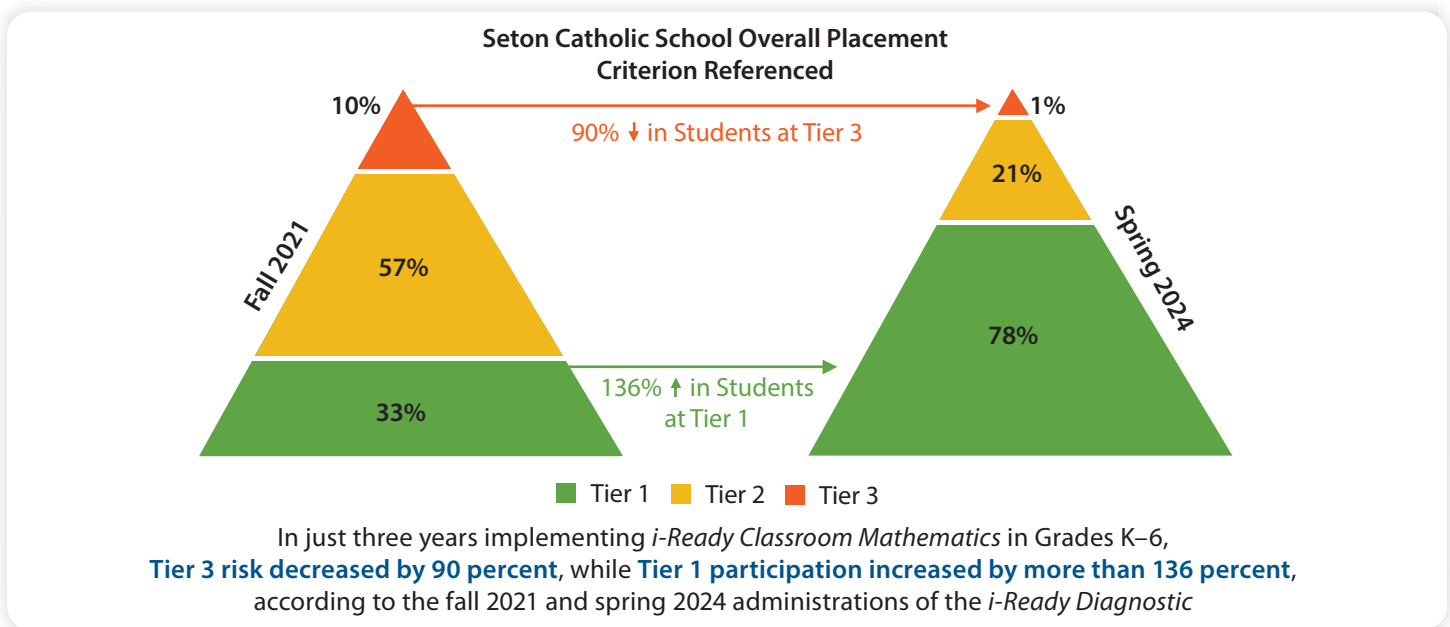
The first mathematics program to receive perfect scores for all Grades K–8 from EdReports, *i-Ready Classroom Mathematics* has comprehensive resources and student-centered practices that Seton teachers found to be a turning point. The program creates and nurtures connections essential for inquiry and growth, allowing students the time and space to build a strong foundation.

Teachers remain at the center of learning, supported by well-organized, point-of-impact, evidence-based strategies as well as actionable, domain-specific *i-Ready Assessment* data.

Proficiency Increases When Math Is about Meaning, Not Mnemonics

In fall 2021, at the inception of Seton’s *i-Ready Classroom Mathematics* implementation, 10 percent of students were at risk of needing Tier 3 support in mathematics, while 33 percent were engaged with Tier 1 instruction.

After three years of implementing *i-Ready Classroom Mathematics* in Grades K–6, **the need for Tier 3 support dropped to just one percent**, while those served by Tier 1 instruction increased to 78 percent, according to the final *i-Ready Diagnostic* in 2024.



Seton Principal Mary Kate Koecheler underscored the mindset shift with discourse-based curricula. “In elementary school, we were told to memorize and plug numbers into formulas. We just mirrored our teachers, not knowing why or how it was connected to what we were learning. Therefore, math was difficult for many of us. *i-Ready Classroom Mathematics*’ discourse-based approach allows students to think, visualize, and communicate. It connects authentic practice, so students cement their mathematical learning.”

She emphasized that finding the best way forward takes commitment: “This was a completely different way of teaching, and it took some getting used to. With trust and effort, we were able to stick with the program, and we have been very pleased with the results ever since.”

“i-Ready’s discourse-based mathematics has had a big impact on my teaching and on my students’ growth, engagement, and understanding. My students share ideas, broadening their language and reasoning skills. Personalized and data-driven lessons motivate them through engaging activities. This powerful duo helps foster their critical thinking. Overall, my students have become more confident, capable, and happy problem solvers.”

—Eve Fiorica, Grade 1 Teacher, Seton Catholic School, Curriculum Associates Extraordinary Educator™