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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
ASCEND EDUCATION AND CLOSE EDUCATION JOIN FORCES WITH THE EDUCATIONAL SERVICE CENTERS OF INDIANA TO BRING ONLINE MATH INSTRUCTION RESOURCES TO INDIANA STUDENTS

Shreveport, LA (February 2, 2021), Ascend Education announced a partnership with the Educational Service Centers of Indiana (ESC's of I) through their Indiana partner, Close Education, LLC to bring Ascend Math to Indiana School Districts.

"Our mission aligns closely with that of the ESC's of I in that we offer high quality instructional resources that help teachers and students succeed," said Kevin Briley, CEO, Ascend Education. "We are extremely pleased to begin work with the ESC's of I to provide targeted instructional resources to Indiana teachers and students. This partnership will offer ongoing support of ESC's of I member school districts, ensuring the success of implementations and increased student math scores in Indiana. An additional benefit of our partnership, especially in these challenging economic times, is our ability to pass along cost savings to member districts on Ascend Math purchases".

Ascend Math meets the needs of diverse student populations and offers differentiated learning paths for students in General Education, High Ability Programs, MTSS, Response to Intervention programs, Special Education, Title I, Exceptional Learning programs, Alternative Education and Credit Recovery programs. Ascend's proven approach to providing targeted math instruction utilizing adaptive technology provide a tool that will enable the ESC's of I to help their member districts meet the rigorous demands placed on them.

Focused specifically on accelerating learning to address math skill gaps quickly, Ascend Math is successfully implemented in a wide range of instructional settings, including before/after school programs, classrooms, blended learning classrooms, alternative learning environments and for at home use including synchronous and asynchronous learning environments. Achievement gains across were recently reported:

LOWELL MIDDLE SCHOOL LOWELL, IN Ascend Math is used as a supplemental resource with students 2 or more levels behind their actual grade level. Between September 2020 and March 2021, over 62% of students completed 1 or more grade levels, with 25% completing 2 or more levels between in 6 months. Before using Ascend, teachers were challenged to locate and fill gaps for each student. Now students are able to work at their own level and learn only the material needed before moving forward to the next objective. The school reported a positive increase in NWEA scores with some students increasing by 10 points compared to the common growth of 5-6 points.

Close Education, our Indiana partner, will host a series of webinar events to introduce Ascend Math to administrators and teachers. Indiana schools may also preview Ascend Math at the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics Conference in Indianapolis, March 16 to 18.

About Ascend Math

ASCEND MATH IS PERSONALIZED ONLINE MATH INSTRUCTION THAT PROVIDES EACH STUDENT WITH A UNIQUE STUDY PATH THROUGH SKILL GAPS AT EACH LEVEL. INDIVIDUAL STUDY PLANS ARE PRESCRIPTIVE, ADAPTIVE, AND AUTOMATICALLY ASSIGNED.

Ascend Math® has demonstrated results that enable students to grow two or more grade levels in one semester. This research-based program is an online individualized instructional resource which identifies skill gaps, prescribes targeted instruction and motivates students to succeed. Schools may use Ascend Math as a Core Math Curriculum or a Supplemental Math Curriculum to target the needs of special populations including Tier II and Tier III Interventions, Special Ed, High Ability, Algebra Readiness, Acceleration and Credit Recovery.

Ascend's fully automated solution reduces the demands on teachers' time. Ascend's approach supports improved math achievement regardless of students' reading levels. This resource provides important support for ELL and students with special needs through the use of video, audio, and multimedia components. Ascend's real-time reports will assist in simplifying progress monitoring and helping meet Federal audit guidelines.

Study plans align by grade level to Indiana standards. Instruction is delivered in a logical math sequence and students can progress at their own pace and track their own progress and success. Ascend Math is currently used by hundreds of schools and districts serving tens of thousands of students throughout the U.S. and Canada. Visit www.AscendMath.com and www.closeeducation.com.

About Close Education

Close Education is a local Indiana certified WBE founded in 2007. Close Education, LLC partners with industry leaders and Indiana schools and organizations, providing the most effective online learning tools in Reading, Math, and Social-Emotional Learning.

Cutting edge online solutions enable teachers to utilize data to inform teacher-led instruction making it easy to teach every individual through tailored, focused learning. All students can and want to learn. It's merely a matter of finding the right tools coupled with the power of a compassionate teacher. We believe in the power of personalized adaptive instructional technology and delivering teachers tools that enable them to provide extended learning time and data to accelerate learning for all.