



**Bulloch County Schools  
Bulloch County, GA**

**Emergent Reader Results**

**Technology Learning Challenge Fund Grant Results**

“The OpenBook software has had a significant impact in raising reading scores in our county.”

*Diane Bath, Assistant Superintendent*

Bulloch County received a Technology Learning Challenge Fund grant for four of their elementary schools. Then current testing of first graders indicated an average literacy score at the 44<sup>th</sup> percentile on the Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS).

The goal of the grant was to raise the student benchmark by 5 percentile points on the ITBS to the 49<sup>th</sup> percentile by the end of the school year. The grant provided each 1<sup>st</sup> grade classroom with five computers, the OpenBook program, and extensive training. The following table demonstrates the remarkable results:

<b>School</b>	<b>Pre - OpenBook Percentile</b>	<b>Post - OpenBook Percentile</b>	<b>Percentile Improvement</b>	<b>Percent Improvement</b>
Sallie Zetterower Elementary	38%	78%	40 points	105%
Portal Elementary	41%	75%	34 points	83%
Brooklet Elementary	44%	72%	28 points	64%
Julia P. Bryant Elementary	51%	69%	18 points	36%

At the end of the first year 1<sup>st</sup> grade reading test scores for the four schools improved to the 74<sup>th</sup> percentile, or an average of 30 percentile points. This translates into a 68% overall improvement in student reading scores and 500% above the original goal of the grant. Following these results Bulloch County implemented OpenBook in the remaining five elementary schools. Since then scores similar to these have been maintained in all nine schools. Furthermore, mathematics test scores have also risen as a result of better reading comprehension.