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In this edition of NIFDI News!

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- Coming Soon from NIFDI Press: *Program Reference Chart*
- There's Still Time to Register for Eugene!

If you have questions or need additional information, you can reach us at 877.485.1973 or info@nifdi.org.

Abused and Impoverished Girls in Kenya Outperform National Averages with DI

Hope Academy, a private boarding school for abused girls in rural Kenya, began using *Corrective Reading (Comprehension and Decoding)* and *Spelling Mastery* in place of the Kenyan English curriculum in 2012. The students, girls in grades three through six whose third language is English, immediately began outpacing national performance on the standardized Kenyan national assessment in Reading.

When comparing student standardized test scores, the Kenyan government posts the country's results with how many pupils are above the mean. At the end of the academic year (November), all Kenyan private and public schools take the standardized achievement test. Scores are released to the public to determine the best private and public schools. Both the students and schools are ranked, and students scoring over 250 marks out of 500 can continue on with their education into secondary or high school.

In 2012, only 51.35% of the eighth grade student population in Kenya, taking the final standardized test, passed the 50% mark required. In the following two years, scores continued to decline nationally with 50.29% of students achieving the 250 cut score in 2013 and 49.71% in 2014. (See Figure 1).

Standardized Test Scores National Average vs. Hope Academy Performance

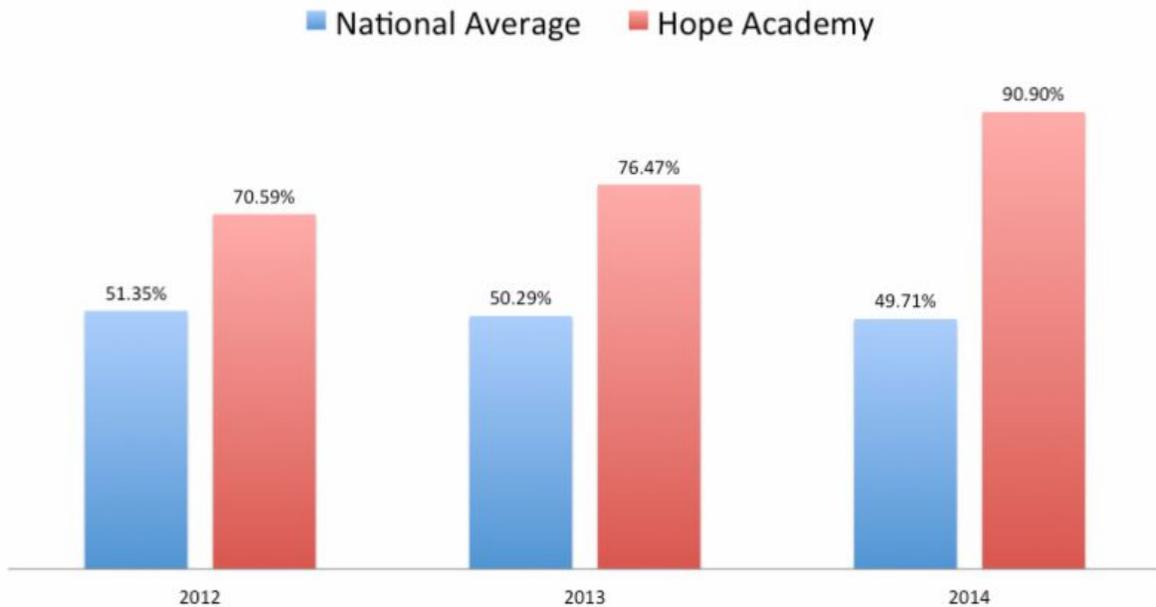


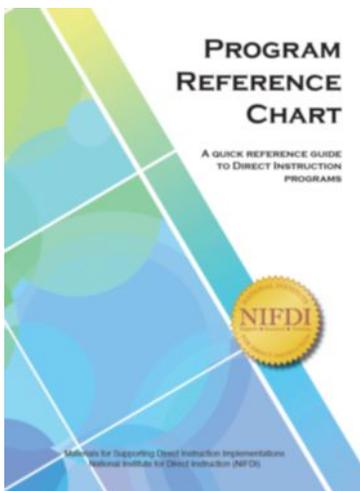
Figure 1

The story is much different for the girls at Hope Academy, though. After just one year of DI, 70.59% of students at Hope Academy achieved the 250-point mark. By last year's testing period, all but one student at Hope Academy exceeded the 250 points required!

Hope Academy continues to see growth in these students' skills and plans to continue using DI. The academy is increasing enrollment and will see its first 8th grade graduating class this year. They have also expanded to two campuses where a mix of nationalities will come together for instruction, including students from South Sudanese, Ethiopian, Somali, Ugandan and Kenyan backgrounds.

The academies run off of donations, including support from the Engelmann Foundation and are registered non-profits in both Kenya and the US. On-going training support from independent consultants and through NIFDI Outreach events has helped to build the academy's success with DI. For more information about Hope Academy, contact Cindi Murphy at worldoutreach.kenya@gmail.com.

Coming Soon from NIFDI Press: *Program Reference Chart*



NIFDI Press will soon be releasing a go-to reference tool appropriate for teachers, administrators, coaches and anyone else who is responsible for the implementation of Direct Instruction (DI) programs. The ***Program Reference Chart*** is a compilation of practical information on Direct Instruction programs, including:

- the targeted student population,
- teacher and student materials needed,
- the number of lessons in each level,
- the frequency of mastery tests and fluency checkouts,
- grouping guidelines, and
- the schedule for daily lessons.

The *Program Reference Chart* offers these details in a quick, easy-to-access format that is helpful for identifying which programs may be appropriate for a given student or instructional group. Administrators will find the charts useful for determining scheduling and staffing needs.

The *Program Reference Chart* retails for \$14.99 and will be available for purchase by August 3rd. Want to be among the first to know when this becomes available? [Become a member of NIFDI](#) and receive Early Release Notices of our new products. In the meantime, you can [get free sample pages](#).

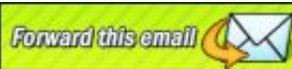
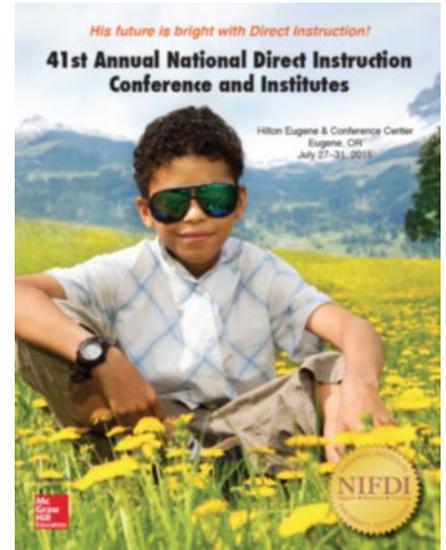
There's Still Time to Register for Eugene!

There is still time to register for the 41st National Direct Instruction Conference and Institutes.

Hundreds of educators from North American and around the world will be meeting in Eugene, Oregon July 27th-31st to participate in the premier Direct Instruction training conference.

We have assembled a stellar group of presenters to provide you with the latest information and training on Direct Instruction programs available. There are new sessions on the Common Core State Standards, Design of Instruction and many others. Come to Eugene this summer to receive the most comprehensive Direct Instruction training available--anywhere!

[Register online now!](#)



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