



A ReadTheory Story



# From Struggle to Triumph: Mitchell High School's Transformation



## The Challenge



Mitchell High School faced a significant hurdle, struggling to lift itself out of School Improvement Status as designated by the State of Colorado. Fall benchmark reading data painted a grim picture: the average student was reading at a 5th-grade level, a clear impediment to academic success.



The day after I saw the data, I immediately began implementing an intervention for the students. Having seen ReadTheory's success in another district, I was confident it could be quickly and effectively introduced



Robert Elder  
Educator, Mitchell High School



## The Solution

Robert swiftly engaged his students with ReadTheory and communicated its benefits to the rest of the English Language Arts (ELA) team. The initiative started with 9th-grade students, who soon began reaping the benefits of the ReadTheory platform. The students exhibited noticeable individual growth, and the increasing practice hours hinted at substantial improvements. **"Our building administrators quickly recognized the growth and supported the initiative,"** Robert reported. The winter benchmark results were outstanding, directly correlating with the ReadTheory usage.



## The Impact

Classes that fully implemented ReadTheory demonstrated the highest growth rates, with Robert's four 9th-grade classes **averaging nearly 70% growth**, and the entire 9th grade achieving a Median Growth Percentile (MGP) of 69%. Students in the 10th and 11th grades also showed significant growth, averaging in the low 50% range. The winter benchmark average MGP across grades was 58%. With this clear evidence of ReadTheory's effectiveness, the ELA team expanded the program to include grades 9-11. Mitchell High School invested in ReadTheory's Premium level license, enhancing data collection and student performance management. This investment paid off as the school now regularly ranks among the top performers.



**"Spring benchmark scores were outstanding, with students achieving an average MGP of 67% in reading, far surpassing our growth goal of 53% MGP for this year and 63% for next year," Robert shared.**



**For the first time, Mitchell High School has met its learning growth goals, largely due to the implementation of ReadTheory.** "The purchase of the Premium License and the continuation of this intervention next year have already been approved," Robert confirmed.