



# How Sadlier Helps Maternity BVM Teachers Cut Lesson Planning Time By 6 Hours a Week and Sets Students Up For Success

## CASE STUDY

**\$440,000**

In high school scholarships

**90%**

Reached on test scores



“I’m a Math teacher; this is my first love. As teachers, we were looking for less work. We were also looking for more hands-on access to resources for our students. We have that with Sadlier.”

**KATHY FAGAN,**

Academic Coordinator, Maternity BVM Catholic School



Maternity BVM is a Pre-K-3 to 8th Grade Elementary Parish School that places emphasis on academic excellence in all subjects and prides itself on keeping up with current technologies and the latest resources for its students.

## Highlights

### Challenges

- Kathy spent 20+ extra hours per month planning lessons
- Textbooks without standards-based alignment didn't give students necessary context
- Teachers needed to bridge the gap between online and classroom learning

### Solution

#### Full Access Sadlier Math

- A comprehensive math program aligned with state standards for K-6
- Includes built-in resources for students and teachers
- Easy to use virtually and in the classroom

### Results

- More comprehensive lessons planned in 65% less time
- Higher test results, due in part to rigorous lesson flows
- Kathy's program resulted in \$440,000 in high school scholarships in one year

# Challenges

## Creating more impactful Math lessons in less time

Kathy Fagan loves teaching. Helping students learn Math and understand its real-world applications is her great passion. She currently serves as Academic Coordinator at Maternity BVM Catholic School in Northeast Philadelphia, and she has taught within the Diocese for over 16 years.

But Kathy had a problem: She was spending over 20 additional hours each month on lesson planning, outside of the regular time required for teaching and grading. The extra time was sapping her ambition and leaving her with no energy to focus on the part of the job she loved.



"I used to spend my entire Sunday lesson planning. Not grading, just planning," says Kathy.

The problem could be traced back to the textbook series.

Before Sadlier, teachers at Maternity BVM Catholic School were using a K-6 Math textbook that wasn't aligned with their standards. These books lacked real-life context that helps students understand abstract Math lessons.

This left Kathy and other educators in a difficult position: Either teach an incomplete lesson that students might struggle with, or spend hours incorporating supplemental material to help students learn. They opted for the latter.



“Using books that don’t follow the state standards, you have to pick and choose where you want to go and what you want to use. We were supplementing it with the standards-based book that gave it more of a real-life atmosphere,” says Kathy.

But working close to the equivalent of two full-time jobs was unsustainable. So Kathy and the other teachers banded together to find a solution that would help them deliver more comprehensive lessons without the extra planning time.

They also needed a series that would be easy to use, both in the classroom and online. In a largely virtual teaching environment, Kathy and her fellow teachers were looking for supplemental, hands-on access to resources. Ease of access for students and educators was a must.

The teachers narrowed down their options and finally arrived at their top choice: Full Access Sadlier Math.



**“I used to spend my entire Sunday lesson planning. Not grading, just lesson planning.”**

# Solution

## All the resources students and educators need in one place

The #1 thing that Kathy and the other teachers love about Full Access Sadlier Math is its real-world applications.

State standard alignment means teachers don't have to hunt for supplemental material or jump between different chapters in different textbooks. Everything they need is in one place.



“You’re not searching for what you’re going to use each day—using part of one chapter and then jumping to the next. You’re following along with the book,” Kathy explains.

The ease of access is another major benefit. Full Access online gives students and teachers site-wide access to all the components they need, including Student Edition eBooks, Workbook eBooks, and helpful digital resources.

Kathy opts not to use the physical textbook in her classroom, but the option is there if she wants it. Kathy’s preference is to assign work directly through Sadlier’s one-stop learning platform, [Sadlier Connect](#).



“Each student has a Sadlier login. With it, they can find the textbook, the assigned work, and all of the resources that go with it. Whenever I want, I can check progress, assign new practice activities, or review assignments. Ease of access is definitely the biggest benefit,” Kathy explains.

Sadlier Connect gives everyone—administrators, teachers, students, and parents—access to free digital resources, eBooks, online assessments, and interactive elements anytime, anywhere, on almost any device.



“It was never my favorite thing to teach from the textbook. With Sadlier, I can pull up specific material and the children are more attentive to me instead of the book,” Kathy says.

Sadlier’s flexible platform also delivers the unexpected benefit of being incredibly adaptable to different teaching styles. Kathy can teach the way she wants, and switch up how she uses the platform for different classes if she wants.



Kathy says, “All the teachers use it differently. For some of my classes, I rely on the practice page and the homework page. For my sixth-grade class, I use the textbook more. Other teachers like some of the worksheets on the resources page and they’re able to upload it to the smartboard, so the kids can see it and work from there instead of in the textbook.”



**“Whenever I want, I can check progress, assign new practice activities, or review assignments. Ease of access is definitely the biggest benefit.”**

# Results

## 75% less time spent on lesson planning per week

Full Access Sadlier Math for grades K-6 sounds great on paper: ease of access and resources for students, teachers and administrators. But it begs two questions:

### 1. Does it actually reduce the burden on teachers?

Kathy's answer is a resounding "Yes!" Lesson planning still takes time, but it used to consume an entire day each week. Now planning a week's lessons takes under two hours.



"If teachers use it properly, Sadlier makes life so much easier. I definitely find that I spend a lot less time on lesson planning. It used to be an entire day, now it might take two hours at most," says Kathy.

### 2. What impact does Sadlier have on student education?

Maternity BVM Catholic School is one of the top schools in its region. It maintains that status in part thanks to its incredibly rigorous Math and English programs. Sadlier is now an integral part of those rigorous programs.



"Sadlier has enabled us to work across the curriculum to improve student English and Math skills. Getting students to describe what they do and explain how they got an answer—doing the rote work—is important, especially for Math skills," Kathy explains.

Full Access Sadlier Math, especially, has had a big impact on student performance. According to Kathy, the program’s natural flow requires students to go the extra mile and tackle problem solving that other programs don’t make time for.



“I believe Sadlier is a big part of setting our students up for success. It prepares them for life—teaches them skills they’ll need after they’re out of school—and also helps them earn scholarships and get into better high schools,” says Kathy.

Between Sadlier’s increased focus on excellence, and the teachers’ ability to invest more time on student success, the results have been outstanding.



Kathy says, “I see the difference in my scores since two years ago. They’re pulling the nineties. My program alone resulted in \$440,000 in high school scholarships last year.”

The early results have been more than encouraging. But Kathy believes, as more teachers become comfortable with Sadlier, those numbers will only improve.

**“I spend a lot less time on lesson planning. It used to be an entire day, now it might take two hours.”**



# Sadlier is committed to ensuring that children have the right educational materials.

To learn more about Sadlier's Math programs, please contact your local sales representative or visit us at [www.sadlier.com](http://www.sadlier.com).

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