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NEWS RELEASE

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All Renaissance Solutions Meet the Requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act

North Carolina School Raises Academic Performance by over 44% *Valmead Basic School Earns Exemplary and School of Distinction Honors*

MADISON, Wis – (November 1, 2002) Valmead Basic School, in Lenoir, N.C. has shown significant growth in academic performance from 1996-2002.

A low-income school where almost 80% of its students qualify for free or reduced lunch and 10% are classified as special education students, the school has made astounding gains in academic performance over the last seven years with the help of Reading and Math Renaissance™.

This year Valmead Basic was honored as a North Carolina Exemplary School and a North Carolina School of Distinction.

According to Jennifer Greer, the school's Renaissance Consultant and Media Specialist for the last eleven years, it wasn't long after the school implemented Accelerated Reader® (AR) during the 1996-1997 school year that teachers started noticing dramatic improvements in student reading performance.

"AR began to make a difference immediately in the children's excitement about reading," Greer says. "They just love taking those AR tests, and they love the instant feedback which lets them know immediately how much they have retained from the book."

Vast improvements were made in the school's library circulation as well. Circulation statistics indicate that during the 1995-1996 school year (the year before AR was implemented) there were only 11,000 books on the shelves at Valmead library. In 2002, however, the circulation number rose to 37,011 books and continues to rise.

Reading isn't the only area where Renaissance has helped improve student performance at Valmead. Instructors also use Math Renaissance, which includes Accelerated Math, STAR Math and MathFacts in a Flash.

"When we got Accelerated Math in the spring of 2001," says Greer, "We were excited about developing as strong a math program as we had in reading. Now that we can individualize instruction in Math as well, we have already seen a difference in our children."

Renaissance Learning[™], Inc., is a leading provider of research-based learning information systems software, school improvement programs, teacher training, and consulting. The Company's learning information systems software products give students and teachers continuous constructive feedback that helps motivate students, dramatically accelerate learning, improve test scores, and help students master all standards, while reducing teacher paperwork. Adopted by over 62,000 schools, these software products are among the most popular in schools nationwide, including Accelerated Reader[®], Accelerated Math[®], Fluent Reader[™], and STAR Early Literacy[®]. The Company's Renaissance[™] school improvement process has been adopted by school districts across the country, and over 400,000 pre-K-12 educators have received Renaissance training. The Company also provides electronic assessment products and services to educational publishers, and sells enterprise software for training and knowledge management. The Company has six U.S. locations and subsidiaries in Australia, Canada, India, and the United Kingdom.

This press release contains forward-looking statements made pursuant to the safe harbor provision of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, including statements regarding future financial and operating results, and the introduction of new products and services. Any such forward-looking statements may involve risk and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from any future results encompassed within the forward-looking statements. Factors that could cause or contribute to such differences include those matters disclosed in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q and the Company's other Securities and Exchange Commission filings which factors are incorporated herein by reference.

Source: Renaissance Learning, Inc.

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