



## POWERSHOT COMPANION

# Achievement? Growth? The Power of Achievement *and* Growth!

*This document supports the presentation and video Powershot:*

**Achievement? Growth?  
The Power of  
Achievement *and* Growth**

*available on PDE's PA Data  
PowerShot webpage at  
[pa.gov/education](http://pa.gov/education) >*

### Who might use this Powershot?

This Powershot is designed for LEA/district leaders, school leaders, K-12 content leaders, teacher leaders and teachers.

### Why use this Powershot?

Provide a brief overview of the importance of using of both achievement AND growth data to:

- Look at historical trends of where students perform both in achievement and growth each year, across grades and subjects
- Evaluate the impact of instructional programs on both achievement and growth measures
- Enhance understanding of the benefits of using both achievement and growth measures to inform continuous school improvement at the LEA/district, school, and classroom levels

### How might you use this PA Data Powershot in your work?

There are several opportunities to make use of this Powershot! Below are some examples to get started:

- **Discuss the Powershot at an LEA/district administrative team meeting** to ensure an understanding of the power of achievement and growth being used together.
- **Use the video to help establish goals** to address both achievement and growth at the district, program, school, grade, subject, and classroom levels.
- **Use the video to identify grades and/or subjects** where growth measures indicate a need for priority focus.
- **Use the video with individual teachers** in conferencing, to ensure understanding of the differences between achievement and growth and the need for a focus on both.
- **Share the Powershot with school leadership teams** to provide a framework for using achievement and growth measures to look at school, subject, and grade level data to inform effective instructional practices.

## What are possible follow-up action steps?

- **Have each school identify historical patterns** of achievement and growth across grades and subjects. Identify groups of students who consistently gain ground, fall behind, or maintain their achievement.
- **Have each school write achievement and growth goals** at the school, grade, and/or subject levels.
- **Support data teams** in identifying variables that contribute to increases in achievement, as well as increases in growth — using achievement *and* growth data in doing so.
- **Examine the Digging Deeper Guides** at the grade/subject level, including:
  - » Digging Deeper Guides for content areas (ELA, Math, Science)
  - » Digging Deeper Guide for Students with History of Lower Achievement
  - » Digging Deeper Guide for Students with History of Higher Achievement

## Links to Resources

Access the resources referenced in the PA Data Powershot on the [PDE webpage “Root Cause and Digging Deeper”](#) here.

