

# The Road Goes Both Ways: Mastering ROI Evaluation Forwards and Backwards

Did you know there are two distinct approaches for evaluating the academic resources your district invests in? These strategies not only help gauge Return on Investment (ROI) but also shed light on Return on Instruction (ROI), making sure each and every dollar spent contributes effectively to student success. Which will work the best for your district?

## The Forward Approach

The Forward Approach involves a proactive stance, where districts set clear goals and align resources accordingly.

### DID YOU KNOW?

This type of evaluation tends to coincide with annual budget discussions. Talk about great timing! This can allow for districts to decide to pivot towards new resources or double-down on high-performing ones.

#### Step 1

Select a resource for evaluation.

#### Step 3

Locate the student outcomes that are a result of the resource.

#### Step 5

Ask the big questions: Should you expand the resource? Renew if it's expiring? Choose an alternative?

#### Step 2

Examine all usage data for the resource.

#### Step 4

Determine if the resource is meeting expectations and producing the desired student outcomes.

## The Backward Approach

### DID YOU KNOW?

This approach allows for districts to quickly connect student outcomes with specific academic resources.

The Backward Approach takes a retrospective view, analyzing past student outcomes data to understand which resources worked and which didn't.

#### Step 1

Select a section of student outcomes data to analyze.

#### Step 3

Identify which students are benefiting most from current resources and those who may not be.

#### Step 5

Ask the big questions: Should you continue to invest in this resource? Should you expand or renew a resource?

#### Step 2

Compare and contrast similar assessment results and other performance metrics.

#### Step 4

Determine if the resource is meeting expectations and producing the desired student outcomes.

No matter which evaluation process your district chooses to implement (you can choose both), you can't go wrong. Understanding where best to invest to produce the most ideal positive student outcomes can be accomplished using both techniques.

To learn more about how Glimpse by Level Data can set you up for success, [click here](#).