



Dear Administrator:

You are likely receiving this letter from an educator in your school/district who is interested in introducing universal number sense screeners. The Universal Screeners for Number Sense (USNS) are free, open-source assessments.

Since 2007, the Universal Screeners for Number Sense (USNS) project has supported over 23,000 educators to assess foundational math skills. The skills, concepts, and developmental milestones assessed with the USNS assessments not only indicate which students need additional attention, they support teachers in knowing how to respond instructionally.

The USNS assessments target the most essential skills necessary for success in mathematics. One study (Bostic, 2023) confirmed that the USNS assessments provide valid, reliable, and useful information about K-5 students' number sense¹. Another recent study (Wilkins, 2020), including more than 5,700 students, found that students who performed poorly on the 2nd grade fall USNS had only a 7.3% chance of performing at the proficient level on the end of 3rd grade state assessment. Meanwhile, those who performed well had an almost 80% chance of passing the state test two school years later².

The Universal Screeners for Number Sense:

- Help districts build teacher/student relationships. Watch how [here](#)³.
- Are fully transparent (in contrast to adaptive digital assessments.)
- Include detailed rubrics with explanations to ensure consistent scoring.
- Are teacher-developed and teacher-tested.
- Are developmentally appropriate for young children.
- Are both criterion and norm referenced with a Forefront® implementation.
- Are used in over 9,000 schools in the US and internationally.

The USNS Project is a free, open-source project hosted by [Forefront Education](#)⁴. Forefront offers data collection and visualization software to support MTSS/RtI and PLC practices. Using Forefront, teachers can also access the USNS instructional “next step” documents and generate customized family letters for each student.

All new schools and school districts that adopt Forefront can include USNS professional development modules at a 50% discount with any subscription plan. Contact Forefront Education at (720) 818-4277 or sales@forefront.education to request a conversation and demo.

Thank you for considering this request to help students across all tiers of instruction.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Woodward".

David Woodward, Founder & President
Forefront Education

¹ Bostic, Jonathan, PhD, and Folger, Timothy, M.Ed. Bowling Green State University. Publication forthcoming. Summary linked [here](#).

² Wilkins, J. L., Woodward, D., & Norton, A. (2020). Children's number sequences as predictors of later mathematical development. *Mathematics Education Research Journal*.

³ Video link: <https://youtu.be/KXkUVZ5UnPk>

⁴ Demo link: <https://forefront.education/watch-demo/>