Tutoring Program Delivers Gains in Math and Reading Performance

Serving Title I schools with significant achievement gaps in math and reading is a challenge faced by many districts across the country. Houston Independent School District (HISD) needed a solution that would address these gaps and work towards improving student performance on the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR). To make this change happen, HISD partnered with Catapult Learning to provide a flexible and targeted tutoring solution for 1487 Title I students in 19 HISD schools serving this largely at-risk student population.

Plan to Meet the Needs of Students

The HISD implementation included small-group instruction and targeted remediation during and after school. Students attended reading, writing and math (including geometry and algebra) tutoring sessions up to five days a week, depending on need. Students were scheduled to attend at least 20 tutoring sessions (up to 90 minutes each) over the eight-week period beginning in February 2016.

Pre- and Post-Test Results Show Double-Digit Gains in Reading and Math

The Catapult Learning-HISD partnership resulted in positive gains for struggling learners based on Catapult Learning’s standardized pre- and post-test scores. In reading, the average score increased by 11 points. Students’ gains in mathematics were even more significant, with an average score increase of 17 points. The higher scores correlate to tutoring participants’ increased understanding of key reading and math skills.

Title 1 Students Average an 11 point increase on Standardized Reading Tests

In reading, students moved from scoring an average of 28 points on the pretest to 40 points on the posttest. The difference between the average pretest and posttest scores in reading was 11 NCE points.

Reading Assessments

Title 1 Students Average a 17 point increase on Standardized Math Tests

In math, students moved from scoring an average of 42 points on the pretest to 59 points on the posttest. The difference between the average pretest and posttest scores in math was 17 NCE points.

Math Assessments
Prepare Students for Success on STAAR
During and After School Tutoring Services Aligned with TEKS

As a contracted provider for HISD, Catapult Learning can help close student achievement gaps for struggling learners. Our effective tutoring programs build confidence, skills, and work habits to help students succeed in the classroom and on test day.

Tutors work with small groups to help students succeed. Content areas include reading, math, writing, High School English, algebra, and geometry.
- Support grade-level objectives and provide targeted remediation
- Develop critical thinking skills and problem-solving strategies
- Provide targeted remediation that is aligned with TEKS

A Solution at Every Level of Need

Our reading and math intervention programs build capacity and deliver unparalleled student success at every level. Students increase self-confidence through a supportive learning environment that includes modeling, as well as guided and independent practice.

- **Focus on oral and written language skills to engage students in ongoing reading and writing activities.** AchieveReading Flex is designed to provide systematic, intensive, and explicit instruction with customized materials. Anthologies and student resource books complement existing materials used in the classroom.

- **Drill down to discrete comprehension and writing skills for effective remediation.** AchieveReading High School is designed to teach literary techniques using lessons that focus on shorter selections, providing a more intensive instruction on one specific skill at a time.

- **Research-based instructional approach strengthens the mathematics skills of students.** AchieveMath incorporates the best research-based practices of teaching mathematics. Our tutors introduce students to new skills built on previous lessons and prior knowledge. Tutors move students towards independent practice of skills in more abstract, real-world contexts.

- **Build foundational math skills and fill gaps.** AchieveMath High School Readiness is a remediation program that helps students stay on track. Targeted for students entering high school, these students struggle with foundational mathematical skills. This program is designed to help students pass their grade-level math classes.

- **High-dosage tutoring model supports those who need it.** AchieveMath High School Success helps students who need more algebra and geometry instruction. 80 scripted lessons cover math content aligned with statewide tests. Students move from concrete knowledge to more abstract understanding.

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Catapult Learning, Inc. is dedicated to improving academic performance for all students, especially those who may be at-risk, including potential dropouts and those with learning and emotional disabilities. The company’s team of 5,600 educators works to achieve sustained academic gains and build teacher and leadership capacity through research-based programs that include intervention, alternative school education, special education, assessment, and professional development solutions.