

Achieve3000®

IMPACT REPORT

CARLSBAD, CA

Boosting CAASP Performance in Carlsbad Community Unit School District with Achieve3000 Literacy



Introduction

In January 2014, Achieve3000 and Carlsbad Unified School District started a partnership in which the Achieve3000 Literacy platform would be available to the students for literacy acceleration. After several successful years of usage, Carlsbad and Achieve3000 initiated a study to assess the impact Achieve3000 Literacy has had on student performance on the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) test. Achieve3000 Literacy is powered by a patented methodology that delivers grade-appropriate lessons to the entire class, and simultaneously tailors them according to each student's Lexile® reading level. Achieve3000 Literacy has been proven to accelerate reading comprehension, fluency, writing proficiency, and vocabulary development.

Carlsbad Unified School District, located about 30 miles north of San Diego, serves approximately 11,500 students. District wide, fifty-six percent of the students identify as White, twenty-eight percent identify as Hispanic or Latino, eight percent identify as two or more races, six percent identify as Asian, one percent identify as Black or African American, one percent identify as Filipino, and less than one percent identify as American Indian, Alaskan Native, Native Hawaiian, or Pacific Islander. About 25% of students receive free or reduced lunch and 6% are students learning English as a second language.

In 2018-2019, 5,685 students in grades 1 through 8 used Achieve3000 Literacy. Of these, 3,589 students were enrolled in grades 4 through 8.

Methodology

This report relies on internal Achieve3000 Literacy usage and Lexile data as well as CAASPP ELA data for grades four through eight from Spring 2018 and Spring 2019. To examine the impact of Achieve3000 Literacy usage on Lexile growth, a sample group of 3,589 students in fourth through eighth grades who met the following inclusion criteria were identified:

- ✓ Had valid pre-test and end-of-year Lexile scores during the 2018-2019 school year
- ✓ Had CAASPP data from Spring 2018 and Spring 2019
- ✓ Had at least 60 days between the date of their most recent Lexile assessment and their pre-test
- ✓ Completed at least 10 multiple-choice activity sets following an article in Achieve3000 Literacy



Measures

LevelSet

Developed by Achieve3000 in partnership with MetaMetrics®, the LevelSet™ assessment identifies each student's Lexile reading measure and is a reliable means of matching student reading levels to informational text. The LevelSet assessment can be administered up to three times per year—a pre-test at the beginning of the school year, an interim test in the middle of the school year, and a post-test at the end of the school year—to measure student progress and provide a summative measurement of student growth in English or Spanish. Achieve3000 and MetaMetrics developed four grade specific achievement level descriptors for college and career readiness: falls far below, approaches, meets, and exceeds. Achieve3000 considers students performing in the higher two achievement levels (meets and exceeds) to be “on track” for college and career readiness, whereas students performing in the lower two achievement levels (falls far below and approaches) are considered to be “not-on-track.”

Achieve3000 uses a Bayesian scoring algorithm, also developed by MetaMetrics, to provide continually updated measures that reflect the students' progress in reading development. As the student reads and responds to nonfiction and fiction text during their reading lessons, the Bayesian approach continually refines each student's Lexile measure. By using multiple measures over time, the Bayesian scoring algorithm improves the accuracy of measurement as students learn. With this approach, Achieve3000's proprietary engine is able to improve its ability to match students with appropriate texts and to forecast student readiness for college and career benchmarks.

CAASPP

On January 1, 2014, the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) System was established. The primary purpose of the CAASPP System is to assist teachers, administrators, students, and parents by promoting high-quality teaching and learning through the use of a variety of assessment approaches and item types.

Student Participation: All students at the designated grade levels are required to participate, with the following exceptions:

- ✓ Students who participate in the alternate assessments.
- ✓ ELA only—English learners who are in their first 12 months of attending a school in the United States.

In grades 3 through 8, the CAASPP consists of the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments English Language Arts assessment. The Smarter Balanced ELA assessment is delivered by computer and consists of two sections: a computer adaptive test and a performance task (PT) based on the Common Core State Standards for ELA. The computer-adaptive section includes a range of item types, such as selected response, constructed response, table, fill-in, graphing, and so forth. The PTs are extended activities that measure a student's ability to integrate knowledge and skills across multiple standards—a key component of college and career readiness.

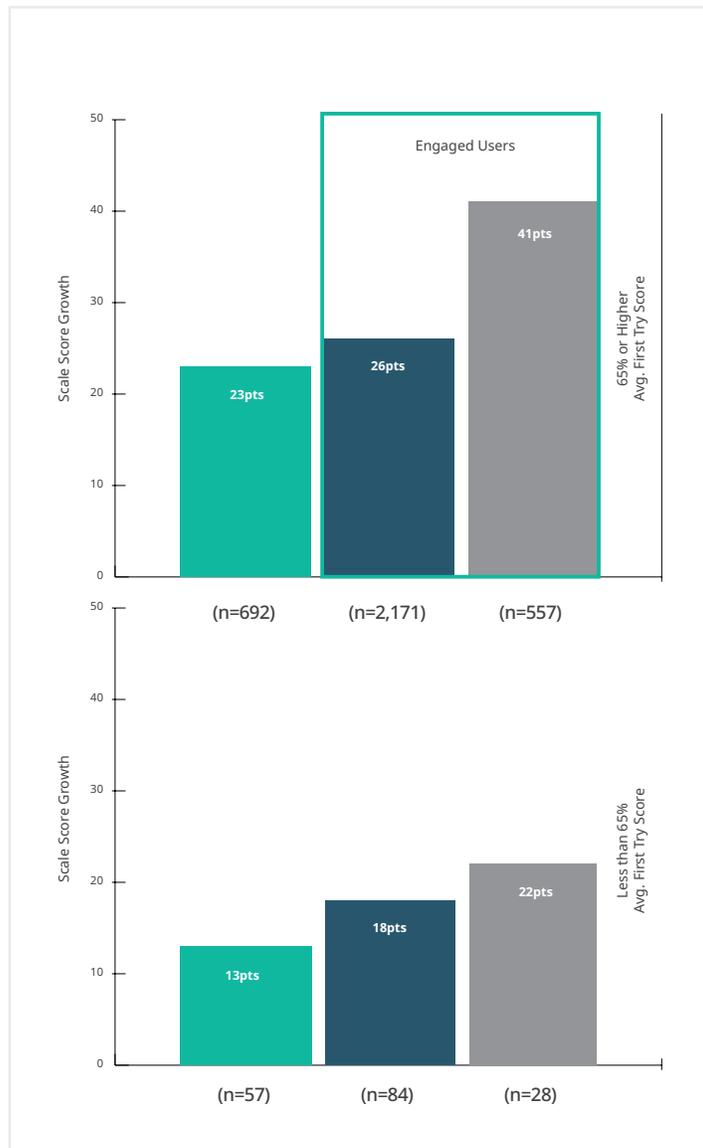
Results

CAASPP ELA Performance

On average, students who completed 40 or more lessons with an average score of 65% or higher gained 26 scale score points from 2018 to 2019. Students who completed 80 or more lessons with an average score of 65% or higher gained 41 scale score points, on average. The correlation between students' spring Lexile measure and 2019 CAASPP ELA scale score was strong and positive ($r = 0.82$, $p < .0001$). Overall, 79 percent of students in Carlsbad who used Achieve3000 Literacy met or exceeded standards in 2019, compared to 51 percent statewide.

Conclusion

The improvements made by Carlsbad students on the CAASPP are encouraging and suggest the powerful impact of implementation of Achieve3000 Literacy. These results are evidence that a strong partnership between Achieve3000 and educational institutions can lead to significant acceleration of learning and better performance on measures of student achievement.





To learn more about **Achieve3000® Literacy**,
please contact **1-800-838-8771** or visit **achieve3000.com**

About Achieve3000

Achieve3000 delivers a comprehensive suite of digital solutions that significantly accelerate and deepen learning in literacy, math, science, social studies, and ELA. Using personalized and differentiated solutions, Achieve3000 enables educators to help all students achieve accelerated growth. For more than five million students in grades PreK-12, Achieve3000 improves high-stakes test performance and drives college and career readiness.

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