Texas District Improves STAAR® Performance with Increased Use of McGraw Hill's *Actively Learn*™

Overview

The purpose of this study is to examine the test scores in a medium-sized school district in Texas before and after an increased use of *Actively Learn*, a rich, standards-aligned ELA supplemental program for students. *Actively Learn* brings interaction and deep engagement to student's understanding of classic literature and other complex texts.
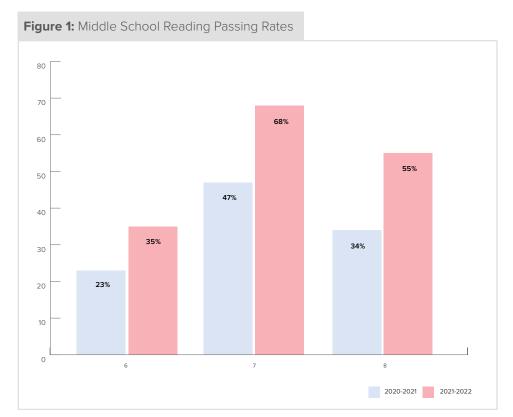
Method

Across the grades examined, the percentage of students who passed the English and reading portions of the State of Texas Assessment of Academic Readiness (STAAR) increased from 38% to 49% from 2020–2021 to 2021–2022 (Figure 1).
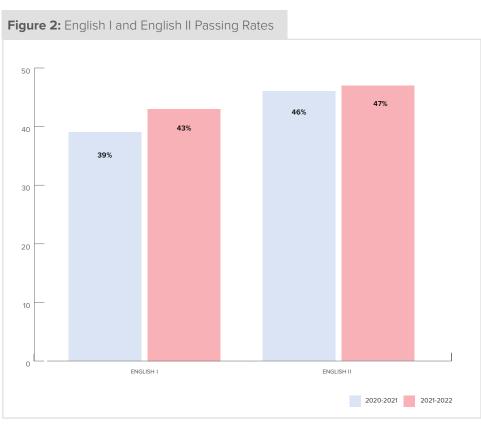
Student data from grades 6–8 were examined separately (Figure 1). Overall, a similar pattern emerged, in which the overall percentage of students who passed increased across the years.

Passing rates for students who completed English I and English II exams were also explored (Figure 2). Once again, a greater percentage of students met and mastered grade level requirements across the school years.

Conclusion

2020–2021 to 2021–2022. This was observed in grades 6–7 and in English I and II courses. During this time, the number of *Actively Learn* active users also increased. While causal claims cannot be drawn regarding the improvement in student performance, the association between student improvement and greater *Actively Learn* usage in the district is a trend worth noting.

Figure 1: Middle School Reading Passing Rates

Grade 6: 2020-2021 = 23%, 2021-2022 = 35%
Grade 7: 2020-2021 = 47%, 2021-2022 = 68%
Grade 8: 2020-2021 = 34%, 2021-2022 = 55%

Legend: 2020-2021, 2021-2022

Figure 2: English I and English II Passing Rates

English I: 2020-2021 = 39%, 2021-2022 = 43%
English II: 2020-2021 = 46%, 2021-2022 = 47%

Legend: 2020-2021, 2021-2022

To learn more about our programs, visit:

mheducation.com/activelylearn