

San Jacinto Elementary School

GALVESTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
GALVESTON, TEXAS

SCHOOL PROFILE

485 STUDENTS, GRADES K-5
73% Free/Reduced Lunch
54% African-American
35% Hispanic, 10% White,
1% Asian-American

STUDENTS IN GRADE 4 POST SIGNIFICANT GAINS ON TEXAS ASSESSMENT OF ACADEMIC SKILLS IN READING. STUDENTS IN GRADE 5 POST GAINS IN MATHEMATICS.

A COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL REFORM GRANT PROVIDED THE LIGHTSPAN ACHIEVE NOW READING AND MATH CURRICULUM TO SAN JACINTO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.

TEST RESULTS AS MEASURED BY THE TEXAS ASSESSMENT OF ACADEMIC SKILLS (TAAS) REVEALED A STATISTICALLY SIGNIFICANT GAIN ($P < .05$) OF 5.60 TEXAS LEARNING INDEX (TLI) POINTS IN READING AT GRADE 4 BY STUDENTS USING LIGHTSPAN ACHIEVE NOW™. IN MATHEMATICS, STUDENTS USING LIGHTSPAN ACHIEVE NOW™ POSTED A GAIN OF 2.25 TLI POINTS AT GRADE 5.

THIRD GRADE STUDENTS POSTED NEGATIVE GAINS OF -7.61 AND -6.77 IN READING AND MATHEMATICS RESPECTIVELY. FIFTH GRADE STUDENTS POSTED NEGATIVE GAINS OF -1.04 TEXAS LEARNING INDEX (TLI) POINTS IN READING.

LIGHTSPAN ACHIEVE NOW IMPLEMENTATION

Classroom/Family Homework Model
Grades 3-5, Began April 1999
Greater than 50% Home Deployment
Reading/Mathematics Focus
Comprehensive School Reform

RESEARCH INSTRUMENTS

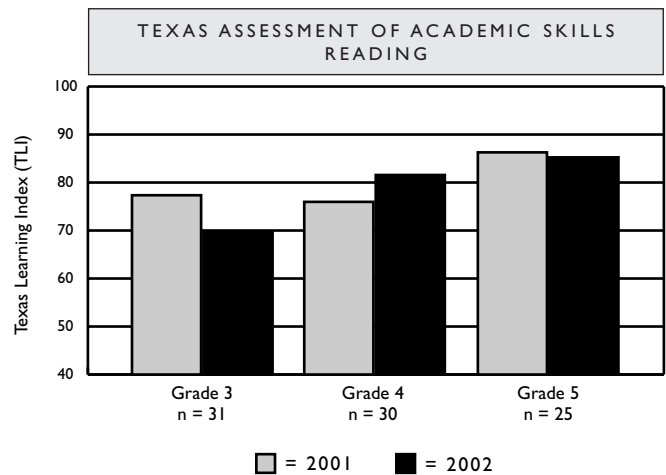
Texas Assessment of Academic Skills (TAAS)

RESEARCH TIME FRAME

2001-02 School Year

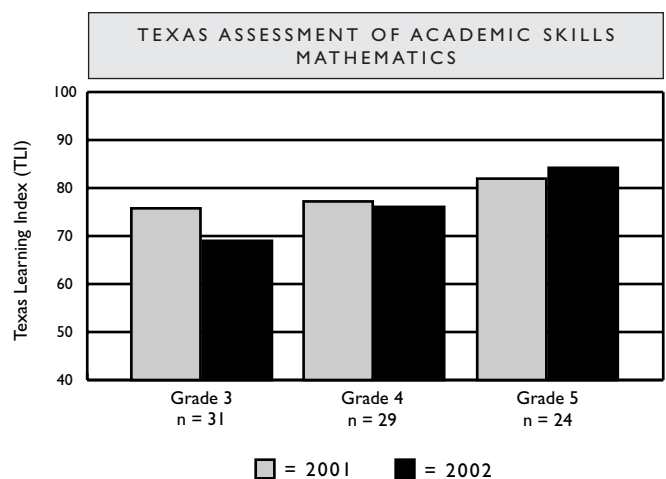
Fourth-grade Lightspan students post a significant gain in Reading on the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills (TAAS) from 2001 to 2002.

Students using Lightspan Achieve Now™ in Grade 4 posted a statistically significant gain ($p < .05$) of 5.60 Texas Learning Index (TLI) points in Reading on the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills (TAAS). Third and fifth grade students posted negative gains of -7.61 and -1.04 respectively.



Fifth-grade Lightspan students post a gain in Mathematics on the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills (TAAS) from 2001 to 2002.

Fifth grade students using Lightspan Achieve Now™ posted a gain of 2.25 Texas Learning Index (TLI) points on the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills (TAAS) in the area of Mathematics. Third and Fourth grade students posted negative gains of -6.77 and -1.14 respectively.



School Implementation Progress

Standards: The Lightspan implementation at San Jacinto Elementary School provides curriculum reinforcement in reading and mathematics in a variety of settings. Teachers and families are supported by professional development sessions. Home deployment begins in October and lasts through April. Families are supported with monthly newsletters. Students are evaluated and progress is measured and recorded at specific intervals. Records are maintained on every child.

Curriculum/Instruction: Lightspan's interactive curriculum was integrated into content instruction at grades 3–5. Classroom use on a regular basis and home deployment of the Lightspan curriculum ensued throughout the school year. The Lightspan curriculum was used to reinforce and extend learning concepts in reading, language arts, and mathematics in the classroom, for afternoon tutorials, and in the home, thereby increasing student achievement and enhancing meaningful family involvement in student learning. Five Lightspan stations were set up in a lab for use weekly.

Assessment/Evaluation: Multiple assessments to monitor student progress throughout the school year included: the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills, TAAS Benchmark Tests, Success for All Assessments, Lightspan Progress Checks, school-developed measures, and teacher-designed assessments along with a CSRD School Self-Assessment. This Self-Assessment instrument was administered at designated intervals during the implementation to help the school evaluate the progress of the implementation and define next steps.

Professional Development: In professional development sessions, the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills was aligned to the Lightspan curriculum. This enabled the teachers to identify and select Lightspan activities and materials related to their instructional objectives. A session devoted to looking at individual student data to select appropriate curriculum materials was conducted, and numerous sessions were delivered during grade level planning times and at district sessions throughout the school year.

San Jacinto Elementary School Background

San Jacinto Elementary School is located in the Galveston Independent School District in Galveston, Texas. It serves over 450 students in grades K–5.

Implementation of the Lightspan Achieve Now standards-based curriculum program in Sydnor Jennings Elementary School began in April 1999, funded by a Comprehensive School Reform Grant. The academic focus was both reading and mathematics.

The project grant was designed to enhance interactive learning opportunities to students and families through the use of motivating curriculum software aligned to the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills. For San Jacinto Elementary School, the grant allowed grades three through five to utilize the Lightspan program as a teaching and learning tool.

Teachers at San Jacinto Elementary School attended professional development sessions to align the Texas Assessment of Academic Skills to the Lightspan curriculum. The teachers were able to identify and select Lightspan activities and materials appropriate to their teaching objectives. Throughout the school year, the Lightspan curriculum is used for direct instruction and individualized learning improvement. The second-grade students worked with Lightspan Achieve Now in reading, language arts, and mathematics in the classroom, for afternoon tutorials, and in the home, thereby increasing student achievement and enhancing meaningful family involvement in student learning. Five Lightspan stations are set up in the computer lab and students use the lab once a week.



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