

Levered Learning Pilot Study Brief

PRODUCT INFO

Product Name: Levered Learning Math

Product Description: Levered is a Common Core online math curriculum, combining whole class instruction, an adaptive online curriculum, and pencil & paper group activities in an integrated program.

Learning Focus: 4th Grade Math (Fractions and Decimals, all CCSS standards)

Teacher Training: Onsite training was provided at the start of the pilot through classroom visits in the first week of implementation. Additional on-site support was provided

two or three more times as students progressed through the curriculum, and teachers had access to remote support via email and the support videos on the teacher dashboard.

Student Usage Minimum: Recommended usage was 45-75 minutes per day.

Device Specifications: The program is supported on desktop or laptop computers running Chrome, Firefox or Safari browsers.

Cost: There was no cost for the pilot. Regular price was quoted as \$59.95 per student/per year.

DISTRICT CONTEXT

District demographics: Chula Vista Elementary School District is the largest K-6 district in California, with approximately 30,000 enrolled students in 2017-18. Student demographics in the district in 2017-18 were reported as: 70% Hispanic or Latino, 11% White, 9% Filipino, 4% African American, 2% Asian, and 0.5% Pacific Islander. 31% of the district's students were English Learners, and 53% qualified for free or reduced meals.

Pilot demographics: 181 4th grade students participated in the pilot in 2017-18 in two elementary schools. 59 students were enrolled at Montgomery Elementary, in 2 classes. All students, and both teachers participated in the Levered pilot. The program was also piloted at Salt Creek Elementary, in

all 5 fourth grade classrooms with 122 4th graders. This was the 2nd year of piloting the program at Salt Creek.

Student demographics at Montgomery Elementary in 2017-18 were reported as: 92% Hispanic or Latino, 4% White, 1% Filipino, 1% African American, and 1% Asian. 62% of students were English Learners, and 97% qualified for free or reduced meals. At Salt Creek, student demographics in 2017-18 were reported as: 49% Hispanic or Latino, 22% White, 14% Filipino, 5% Asian, 3% African American, and 5% two or more races. 22% of Salt Creek's students were English Learners, and 16% qualified for free or reduced meals.

PILOT GOAL

The goal of the pilot was to measure the impact of Levered's 4th grade math program on student learning across a wide range of student subgroups in the district.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Duration: January 9th through the end of the school year.

Quality of Support: The P.D. offered was in the form of the on-site school visits described above, as well as through periodic email communications. All pilot teachers reported that Levered was easy to use compared to other teaching tools, and strongly agreed that it was easy to learn how to use the basic features of Levered's teacher dashboard.

Implementation Model: Levered was used as the primary curriculum for instruction in fractions and decimals standards at both sites, which follows the developer's

recommendations. For the bulk of the pilot period, teachers used Levered in their classrooms daily. There was some variation in implementation of the pencil and paper group activities, and the balance of daily instructional time devoted to class openers and the online curriculum.

Data collected: The primary basis for evaluating Levered's impact on student learning was the students' growth on their CAASPP (Smarter Balanced) scores in math from 3rd grade to 4th grade, as well as post-pilot questionnaires completed by pilot teachers and students.

FINDINGS

Actual implementation model: Implementation of the core curriculum followed the developer's guidelines fairly closely, with teachers generally using the program for a minimum of 30 minutes and a maximum of 75 minutes daily, 4-5 times per week for the duration of the pilot. As mentioned, some teachers used the group activities more regularly than others.

Educator engagement: Educators used the program on a daily basis for core instruction, intervention, and enrichment during the pilot period.

Educator satisfaction: 100% of participating teachers strongly agreed that they would like to use Levered in their classrooms the following year, and that they would recommend Levered to their colleagues. All pilot teachers also reported that Levered saved them time in planning and preparation, made it easier to provide intervention for struggling students, made it easier to provide challenge for students who had mastered grade level standards, and improved math achievement for English Learners in their classes.

Student engagement: Students used the tool regularly for core math instruction in fractions and decimals. 100% of pilot teachers reported that students were excited about learning when using Levered.

Student satisfaction: 76% of students reported that Levered made it easier for them to learn new ideas in math class, and 78% reported that they wanted to use Levered again the following school year. 100% of teachers reported that their students developed more confidence in math while using Levered.

Student learning: Overall CAASPP growth in math from 3rd to 4th grade was 67.5 scale score points, which represents 170% of the state average growth. Salt Creek had the best overall 4th grade CAASPP scores in math in a district of 48 elementary schools, including charters. (Salt Creek also had the best 4th grade math scores the previous year, in their first year of piloting.) Salt Creek and Montgomery had the 3rd and 4th highest CAASPP growth for 4th grade math in the district.

Average math growth for economically disadvantaged students in the pilot group was 70 pts, or 184% of the state average for that subgroup. Math growth for English Learners was 252% of the state average for that subgroup, and overall 4th grade math CAASPP scores for English Learners (2488.7) was 12 scale score points higher for the pilot group than the statewide average for the native English speaking (English Only) subgroup.

OUTCOME

Purchasing Decision: Based on the high level of enthusiasm for Levered's math program from teachers and students, and the clear impact on student learning as measured in CAASPP growth for all students, including English Learners and economically disadvantaged students, principals at both schools elected to join the 2018-19 pilot, and signed letters of intent to purchase student licenses for Levered's 4th grade math program for the 2019-20 school year.