



Closing Achievement Gaps in Math and Reading with Summit Learning

Aspen Valley Prep
Fresno, California

AT A GLANCE

Aspen Valley Prep is a K-8 urban, charter school with 400 students in Fresno, California. All 200 of its 4th-8th grade students participate in the Summit Learning Program:

- 82% Free or Reduced Lunch
- 11% English Learners
- 8% have an Individualized Education Plan

SCHOOL GOALS

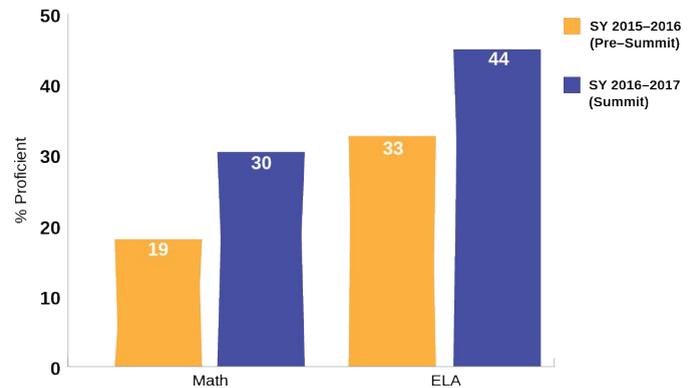
A few years before finding Summit Learning, Aspen Valley Prep faculty implemented personalized learning plans in some classrooms and were impressed by the difference it made in supporting its diverse student body. Soon, leaders sought to implement a personalized learning approach for all middle school students. The biggest challenge was finding a program that allowed teachers to manage curriculum, data, and assessment in one place. In 2016, school leaders learned about Summit Learning from Summit Public Schools Board Member Diego Arambula. They implemented Summit Learning in the 2016-17 school year.

IMPACT

After one year with Summit Learning, students in the Program in 6th-8th grades **showed growth in both Math and Reading** across all grade levels on CAASPP (California's Smarter Balanced test). The school is also closing the achievement gap by bringing students far behind grade level closer to grade level expectations.

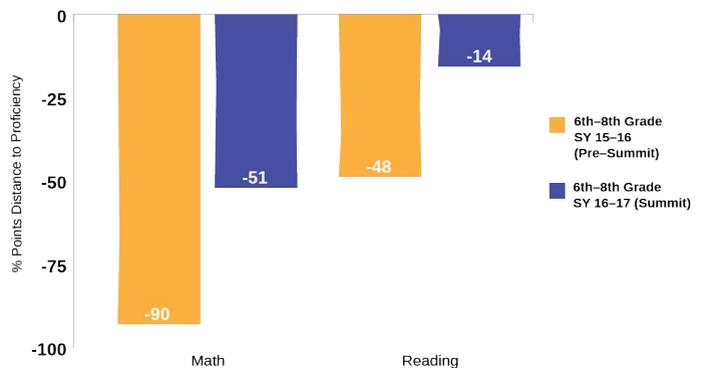
Schoolwide improvements in Math and Reading with Summit Learning

6th-8th Grade CAASPP (California's SBAC test) scores, 2015-2017



With Summit Learning, Aspen Valley Prep is Closing Achievement Gaps

Average Distance to Grade Level Expectations (L3 - Met) on CAASPP



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“We've never seen a program able to make **this big of a leap in just a single year.**”

Hilary Witts
Aspen Valley Prep
Director of Summit
Learning

IMPLEMENTATION JOURNEY

In 2016, Aspen Valley Prep implemented Summit Learning with its 6th-8th grade teams. In its second year of Summit Learning, the school expanded the Program to its 4th and 5th grade classes for a total of 200 students across campus.

Faculty found the Program fulfilled its need for a tool that could help track personalized learning plans, while also offering 1:1 Mentorship and Real-World Projects.

At Aspen Valley, one key to success with Summit Learning has been fully embracing all three Summit Learning pillars: 1:1 Mentoring, Real-World Projects, and Individualized Pathways. “We see the benefit in every single one, because each pillar is necessary for stability,” says Hilary Witts, Aspen Valley Prep’s Director of Summit Learning.

Equally important for Witts and her Summit Learning teachers, the support and motivation provided by Summit Learning has been essential: “Our mentors, the trainings, and access to all the materials to run in-house trainings is super helpful,” says Witts, “and the [teacher training] convenings are so motivating and insightful.”

