

California Academy of Math and Science

Long Beach Unified School District, Carson, California

Location type: Small city

District enrollment: 81,155 students

School enrollment: 670 students

Percentage of students at school eligible for free and reduced price meals: 35

Key Takeaways

The California Academy of Math and Science (CAMS)'s 2013-2014 OECD Test for Schools results showed that although the school's students largely showcased high self-efficacy and instrumental motivation in math, there were still students who struggled with those elements in math. Further, the results demonstrated the connections among self-efficacy, instrumental motivation, and student performance in math, prompting CAMS to focus on self-efficacy and instrumental motivation.

Actions Taken

- ✓ CAMS began to look at students in terms of student engagement metrics (self-efficacy and motivation) in addition to academic measures.
- ✓ CAMS redesigned its student interventions to better address the student engagement element.
- ✓ Additionally, in an effort to more effectively identify struggling students, the school added self-efficacy questions to the student survey that is administered to students in grades 9 through 11.
- ✓ Finally, CAMS created a tutoring program that partners older student tutors with younger students to capitalize on the idea that witnessing the success of a peer can be more motivating than working with a tutor who does not have a firsthand understanding of the school and the student experience.

- ✓ CAMS continues to use its data to make improvements. Its next steps include determining ways in which to motivate students who demonstrate a lower interest in math.

Those wishing to learn more about the practices at CAMS may visit the school's website [here](#).