Apex Learning®

District Targets High School Readiness with Digital Curriculum

Beaverton School District, Oregon

Challenge

Beaverton School District actively seeks to empower its middle school teachers to be as effective as possible. Teachers are given ambitious annual Student Growth Goals and are tasked with meeting diverse student needs to ensure that all students are performing at grade level and prepared for their next course.

Goal

Enable teachers to adjust their daily instructional goals based on real-time classroom performance data. Target knowledge gaps on the spot, enabling every student to pass the course the first time, without requiring credit recovery. Maximize teacher effectiveness by providing digital resources to individualize learning for each student.

Solution

Partner with Apex Learning to execute a broad digital learning initiative that integrates digital curriculum into the district's core instructional approach. Focus on middle school to ensure that students are performing at grade level and prepared for success in high school and on high-stakes exams.
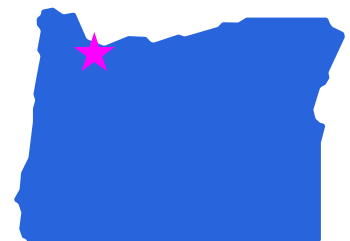
Results

Student motivation and achievement is sparked. Access to real-time data empowers teachers to more effectively support students in passing their courses on time and entering high school prepared for success. On average, student performance is raised by 20 percentile points from pretest to posttest.

Student Achievement

↑ **20**
PERCENTILE POINTS

District Profile

- Large suburban public school district

- Student population: 39,763

- Free and reduced lunch: 37%

- English language learners: 13%

Preparing Students for Success in High School

Paul Ottum, Online Learning Specialist for Beaverton School District, recognizes the importance of preparing students for success in high school. "In many cases, students leave school because they aren't prepared academically for high school," Ottum says. "Students who fail a course during their freshman year are much more likely to leave school before they graduate."

So that they are prepared for the rigors of high school, Ottum wants all middle school students to master grade-level content. If they struggle with a concept, they need extra support on the spot rather than being allowed to fall behind and enter credit recovery. That's why Beaverton implemented Apex Learning Tutorials. "Tutorials are the way to do this right," Ottum explains. "Tutorials enable our teachers to offer each student personalized support and just-in-time remediation, which is precisely what middle school students need."

Leveraging Actionable Data to Drive Success

Teachers use the real-time data from the Test It activities in Tutorials to take the pulse of their classrooms and determine whether students are grasping a concept. "This is the kind of information we used to struggle to get our hands on to help us meet our Student Growth Goals," Ottum says. "As soon as our teachers see the formative Test It data from Tutorials, they know where they have been successful and how to adjust their teaching to improve student outcomes." Because students also have access to real-time data and formative feedback, students are motivated by seeing their own pathway to success.

Keeping Students Interested in Learning

Since the district implemented Tutorials, Beaverton students are visibly taking responsibility for their own learning, gaining confidence, and achieving at higher levels. "Tutorials capture our students' interest," says Ottum. "Students have even asked if they could use them at home on their own time. Think about that: a student asking permission to study more from home!"

> "Tutorials shape how our teachers teach. As soon as our teachers see the formative *Test It* data from Tutorials, they know where they have been successful and how to adjust their teaching to improve student outcomes."
>
> **Paul Ottum**
> Online Learning Specialist

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