

The Gold Standard in Public Education

CABSE October 2019



Dr. Raul Garza, Jr.



Academy



Border Wall

Two elementary schools and 1 middle school within 1 mile distance from the border wall.





Demographics

San Benito CISD Dr. Raul Garza, Jr. STEAM Academy



88.5% Economically Disadvantaged









SANBENITO OUR STEAM Team at CABSE



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Science Technology Engineering Arts Mathematics

Our Journey





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- Decline in student enrollment due to charter schools
- Need for a more rigorous curriculum
- * Need to repurpose the elementary campus



Where do we start?



Why STEAM?

Develops a set of thinking, **Reasoning**, Teamwork, Investigation, and Creative skills that students can use in all areas of their lives. STEAM isn't a standalone class—it's a way to intentionally incorporate different subjects across an existing curriculum, plus it's FUN!





Building a Vision

Focus on building a program that uses STEAM to inspire and excite students as they prepare for college and 21st century careers

Students see themselves as capable problem solvers that can adapt and strategize in the face of challenges, both academic and personal

Students will have a passion for learning and activism that extends beyond the classroom and will believe they have the capacity to make change in their community.

Create a STEAM program that will dramatically transform student engagement, teacher practice, and the school culture as a whole.



National Institute for STEM Education Certification

The certification was a collaborative effort between teachers and leaders to review the needs of the campus and incorporate numerous activities along with continuing the state mandated core curriculum.

In the process, the teachers were required to continually reflect on their practice and compare their practice to the performance levels within each Indicator. They then used the 15 teacher actions to refine their teaching and incorporate STEM opportunities for all students.

There were 3 Domains and 15 teacher actions throughout the process. Domain 1: Creating an Environment for Learning, Domain 2: Building Scientific Understanding, and Domain 3: Engaging Students in Scientific and Engineering Practices.



The training provided a systematic support of teacher understanding and use of high-impact, evidence-based STEM instructional strategies.

Fifteen Teacher Actions

Creating an Environment for Learning	Building Scientific Understanding	Engaging Students in Science and Engineering Practices	
Creating a Positive Classroom Culture	Implementing Inquiry		
Establishing Cooperative learning	Addressing Student Misconceptions	Cultivating Scientific Investigations	
Integrating Technology	Facilitating Questioning & Discourse	Developing Engineering Solutions	
Connecting Learning Outside the Classroom	Utilizing Assessment	Fostering Data Utilization	
	Building Scientific Literacy	Implementing Project Based Learning	
		Developing Scientific Explanations	
		Promoting Scientific Argumentation	

Teachers had a campus coach which met with the NISE assigned coach via Zoom, who then in turn helped teachers achieve their goal. Teachers submitted artifacts per module and an online coach approved each module.







Teacher Training



Continuous and systematic Professional Development was provided throughout the summer prior to starting up STEAM and throughout the year. This Professional Development helped build capacity at the building level. Teachers were trained in the areas of:

- 1. Project Based Learning
- 2. Engineering is Elementary
- 3. Flipgrid
- 4. Google Classroom
- 5. Microsoft
- 6. Minecraft Education
- 7. ICLE

8. NISE





PBL Training



PBL Training

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Minecraft Training

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EIE Training

Closing the Achievement Gap

Weekly PLC Meetings

- Review CFAs
- Track Student Progress
- Provide support on TEKS Resource System (TRS)
- Review Lesson Plans
- Provide PD
- Reshaping the Instruction



Parental Involvement

- 100% of parents are connected to classrooms through Class Dojo
- Digital Portfolios for parents to view
- Monthly activities
- Weekly Parent Centers
- Social Media
- Positive Relationships
- Main Office is Family Friendly

Collaborative Teaching

- Vertical Alignment Meetings
- Grade Level Team Planning
- Reflective Teaching
- Student Reflection
- Teachers Observing Teachers
- Building Relationships
- Tutoring students in need by Strongest Teachers



High Expectations for All

- Mode of Dress
- Behavior Expectations/PBIS
- Challenging Curriculum
- Highly Qualified Teachers
- High Quality Training



Closing the Achievement Gap

Support for Students

- Early Screening: Academic, Visual, Medical
- Identify students who need Additional Support within the first 2 weeks of school
- TIER II and TIER III instruction begins immediately
- Needs communicated to the parent within the first 2 weeks of school

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Extended Learning Opportunities

- Full Day Prekindergarten
- Full Day Kindergarten
- After School Program that focuses on Academics
- Campus Wide Activities that Foster Academic growth



Support in Classrooms

- Reading and Math instruction are prioritized on the schedule
- Reading and Math times are safeguarded-no interruptions
- Use of hands on activities in all subjects
- Strong Team Leaders
- Materials available

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- Use Data to improve instruction
- No Excuses
- EVERYONE is involved in the improvement of the campus
- Work Hard and Persevere
- Celebrate Successes



Vocabulary Development Through Experiences









Science Lab



The Science Lab was remodeled to include new lab tables, flexible seating, a space themed background and numerous science and safety tools for students to use in their labs and experiments.

For the Love of Science





Learning is Always an Adventure



Technology

Science Technology Engineering Arts Mathematics











Epson Projectors One to One Initiative 3 D printers Drones



3D Printing









Minecraft Lab

The computer lab was transformed into a Minecraft Education Lab. Students can build, imagine, and create in a three dimensional environment. They also use their coding skills and incorporate digital activities into their daily lessons. Teachers attended a Minecraft Education Training to prepare for the school year.





Engineering Lab







A multi-purpose room was transformed into an Engineering Lab that included a Lego Table, various work areas, flexible seating, and individual work areas for students to create, use critical thinking skills, and design their products. Students engage in various hands on activities, engineering projects and challenges using the Engineering Design Process.

Engineering Curriculum



190

Teachers utilize the EiE curriculum to incorporate the Engineering Design Process in their classrooms.

EiE Engineering is Elementary.

Developed by the Museum of Science, Boston











Free Resources to get started with Art





STEAM Art Lessons from Tricia Fuglestad's

Elementary Art Room

This resource has HUNDREDS of ideas of elementary STEAM lessons.

Art to Remember STEAM Lessons

This video shows how to create art with a doodle bot and a paint pendulum.

How to Easily Add STEAM to Your TAB Curriculum

This article from our archives has simple STEAM ideas for drawing, collage, origami, sculpture, and ceramics. *Use STEAM Initiatives to Build Art Appreciation*

This article from our archives details a collaborative STEAM project that will allow students to find a deeper appreciation and value of the artistic process.

Five Easy Ways to Gather Steam in Your Art Room

This article from our archives shares five super simple ways to start bringing STEAM ideas into your classroom.

Motivated, Energetic, Enthusiastic, Self Priven, Team Work

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End Results



Grade Level Accountability

		State	District	STEAM Academy
3rd Grade	Reading	76%	74%	82%
	Math	78%	82%	89%
4th Grade	Reading	74%	76%	94%
	Math	74%	77%	91%
	Writing	65%	68%	84%
5th Grade	Reading	77%	84%	89%
	Math	83%	91%	91%
	Science	74%	78%	84%



Closing the Gap



63% 2017 Economic Disadvantaged 2018 76% 2019 86% 2017 65% Hispanic 2018 78% 2019 88% 2017 63% 2018 71% 2019 74%

English Learners

Earned 6 out of 6 Distinctions Academic Achievement Top 25% Student Progress ELAR Academic Achievement Top 25% Closing the Performance Gap Math Texas Education Age Post Secondary Academic Achievement Readiness



Science







Thank You!

San Benito CISD

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Dr. Raul Garza, Jr. STEAM Academy