

## CAMPUS INSTRUCTIONAL PLAN FOR SCIENCE

**CAMPUS**

Bob Beard Elementary School  
*Exemplary 2005-06*

**DISTRICT**

Northside ISD

**INITIAL IMPLEMENTATION**

2004-05

**PROGRAM SUMMARY**

The **goal** of Beard Elementary’s program is to improve student performance in science.

**Key strategies** include implementation of a focused science instructional plan in grades 4 and 5, vertical teams, and use of engaging learning resources and activities.

**Outcomes** include an increase in the percentage of students passing science TAKS.

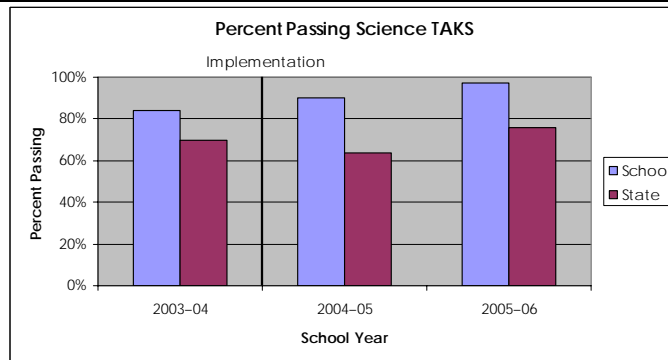
**EFFECTIVENESS**

*Before*

Prior to program implementation, in 2003-04, the percentage of grade 5 students passing science TAKS was 84%, compared to the state average of 70%.

*After*

After implementation, the percentage of grade 5 students passing science TAKS improved. In 2005-06, 97% of students passed science TAKS, compared to the state average of 76%.



Source: AEIS

**CONTEXT/IMPLEMENTATION**

*Demographics (2005-06)*

Grade Levels Served		EE-5	Campus Enrollment		914
<b>Ethnic Distribution</b>			<b>Economically Disadvantaged</b>	94	10.3%
African American	44	4.8%	<b>Limited English Proficient (LEP)</b>	16	1.8%
Hispanic	332	36.3%	<b>At-risk</b>	131	14.3%
White	475	52.0%	<b>Mobility (2004-05)</b>	94	13.0%
Asian/Pacific Islander	60	6.6%			

Source: AEIS

*Background*

- Beard Elementary opened in 2003-04 and was experiencing growing enrollment, with many new students coming from out of state.
- Staff reported that science performance prevented the campus from receiving an Exemplary rating.
- In 2004-05, the campus's new principal and vice principal prioritized improvement in science performance as a school goal.

*Procedures*

- Using two years of grade 5 district benchmark results, staff identified common areas of weakness in science learning.
- Staff researched best practices in science instruction and compiled resources for classroom teachers that emphasized active learning.
- Administrators stressed the importance of positive teacher-student relationships to engage students in learning.
- Vertical teams, including special education staff, reviewed the science TEKS leading up to grade 5.
- Grade 4 teachers incorporated review of the science TEKS from grades K-2 into instruction, and grade 5 teachers incorporated review of the science TEKS from grades 2-4 into instruction.
- Teachers also were required to emphasize broad ideas in science, called unifying concepts, using posters distributed to each classroom.
- Teachers used TAKS-formatted materials to familiarize students with the assessment.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teachers met regularly with administrators to discuss progress of individual students, instructional material needs, and district benchmarking results. Administrators also conducted frequent walk-throughs and observations.</li> <li>• To provide a comprehensive review of the TEKS, science teachers in grade 5 rotated into other science classrooms to present hands-on experiments in their area of expertise.</li> <li>• As a final TAKS review, grade 5 students attended a field trip to the Texas Research Park. Tour staff focused on areas of challenge identified on benchmark tests.</li> </ul>		
	<p><b>CAMPUS/DISTRICT STAFF</b></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td data-bbox="522 581 1230 792"> <p><b>Mark Rustan, Principal</b>                      Bob Beard Elementary School                      Northside ISD                      8725 Sonoma Parkway                      San Antonio, TX 78203                      210-397-6600</p> </td> <td data-bbox="1230 581 1940 792"> <p><b>Dr. John Folks, Superintendent</b>                      Northside ISD                      5900 Evers Road                      San Antonio, TX 78238                      210-397-8770</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p><b>Mark Rustan, Principal</b>                      Bob Beard Elementary School                      Northside ISD                      8725 Sonoma Parkway                      San Antonio, TX 78203                      210-397-6600</p>	<p><b>Dr. John Folks, Superintendent</b>                      Northside ISD                      5900 Evers Road                      San Antonio, TX 78238                      210-397-8770</p>
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*The Texas Education Agency (TEA) is seeking feedback about the best practice summaries.*

*Please take one minute to answer the feedback survey (six questions).*

[Best Practices Feedback Survey](#)