



Student Achievement Data | 2022-2023 School Year

DREAM Charter Schools students—96% of whom are Black and/or Hispanic and 89% of whom qualify for free or reduced lunch—achieved the network’s highest-ever ELA and Math proficiency rates on the 2022-23 New York State Test, effectively closing the Covid learning gap for students in grades 3-8 and substantially outpacing peer schools. **DREAM’s commitment to serving all kids means that the network accomplished these outcomes with a population composed of 29% of students with identified special needs (compared to NYC’s average of 21%), and equitable, inclusive practices that include backfilling every vacant seat in its schools.**

- **Network-Wide Gains.** In grades 3-8, DREAM students outpaced their peers in NYC public schools, performing 7 percentage points higher in ELA and 20 percentage points higher in Math than NYC students.
- **Outperforming Community District Schools.** In Mott Haven, DREAM students scored 26 percentage points higher than their District 7 peers in ELA and 46 percentage points higher in Math. In East Harlem, DREAM students scored 12 percentage points higher than their District 4 peers in ELA and 29 percentage points higher in Math.
- **Increased Subject Proficiency.** DREAM’s middle school Math students demonstrated staggering YoY growth, with DREAM East Harlem Middle School increasing proficiency by 31 percentage points and DREAM Mott Haven Middle School increasing proficiency by 48 percentage points.
- **Access for All Learners.** DREAM’s proficiency rates for students with special needs were 11 percentage points higher in ELA and 18 percentage points higher in Math than NYC students with special needs.
- **Equitable Enrollment Practices.** DREAM backfills every seat in grades PK-10 to ensure access to an excellent education for historically marginalized youth. For students who were new to DREAM in 2022-23 (n=93), 24% were proficient in Math when they arrived and 71% ended the school year proficient on the 2023 NYS Test—ensuring that many more students entered this school year at or above grade level.

Student Spotlight: All Kids Can

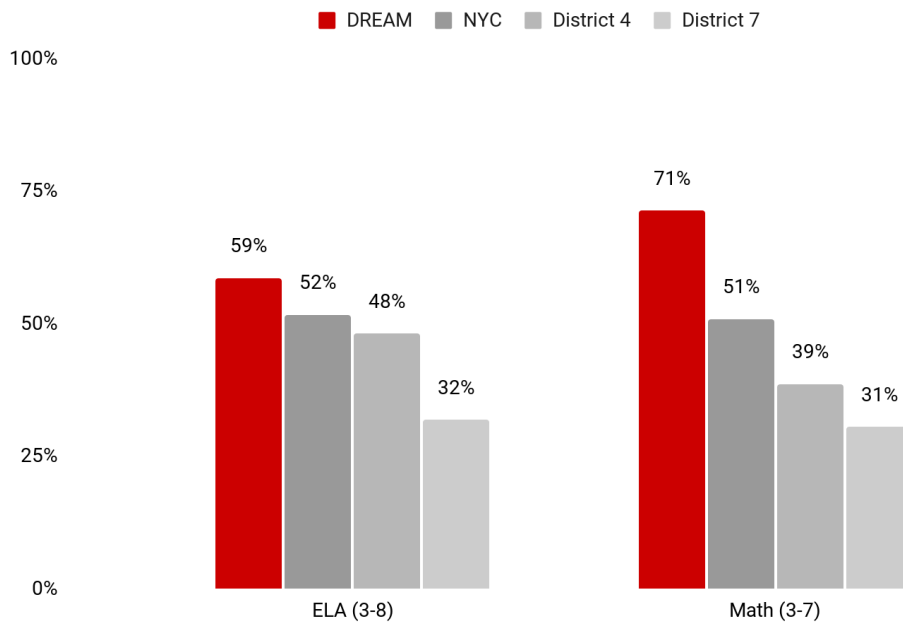


DREAM MOTT HAVEN THIRD GRADER JAVIER seemed unmotivated to his math teacher Jessica Collins. He would hide in the back of the room, slouch in his seat, and respond quietly when asked a question. As the year progressed, she realized the issue was a lack of confidence, and devised a strategy to build up Javier’s courage. Jessica would work with him 1-1, coaching him through problems, and encouraging him to search for the answers on his own. This approach empowered not only Javier, but all of his classmates, as evidenced by their historic results on the New York State math exam. **In their first year taking the test, 80% of the grade achieved proficiency, surpassing NYC school students by 25 percentage points and District 7 students by 43 percentage points.** And Javier grew to become a leader of his grade, tutoring other students who needed help. “Once he was given the courage to keep

going, he started to see that he could do it,” says Jessica. “I told him he is the keeper of his own knowledge.”

Comparison to NYC & District Results

Overall, DREAM schools outperformed **NYC schools**: +7 percentage points in ELA and +20 in Math. DREAM proficiency rates were significantly higher than Mott Haven and East Harlem **district peers**: +26 and +12 percentage points in ELA and +46 and +29 in Math respectively.



The DREAM Difference: All Kids Can

DREAM's NYST results are a testament to our "**All Kids Can. This Kid Can.**" maxim—the belief that every student belongs and every student can achieve. With a rate of students with IEPs that is above the New York City average and well above DREAM's charter school peers, we know that transformative outcomes for youth are possible not in spite of our student population's incredibly diverse learning needs—but in many ways, *because* of them. The same strategies that we've honed for our students with IEPs—small group and one-on-one instruction, two teachers per classroom, deep family partnerships—work to support the success of all our students. It's proof that when students learn in diverse classrooms, they *all* benefit.

- **Culture of Care.** At DREAM, the focus on interpersonal connection and relationships has always served as a foundation for success in the classroom, ensuring safe and inclusive spaces for all learners.
- **Data-Driven Instruction.** Over the past year, DREAM's Data and Curriculum teams created new systems for collecting and analyzing student data, equipping teachers and school leaders with the information and resources needed to more quickly identify learning gaps and implement strategies.
- **Co-Teaching Model.** DREAM's core practice of co-teaching in all classrooms allows for instructional support to be flexible and adaptable, with a responsive curriculum that allows teachers to teach grade-level content while also meeting the needs of individual students. Deep experience in meeting the needs of diverse learners also means that DREAM teachers are more adept at individualized learning, with more tools in their toolkits that better prepared them for combatting the pandemic's effects on *all* students.
- **Summer Learning Strategy.** In 2022, DREAM added a math curriculum to the organization's summer programming and further aligned summer literacy curriculum with school year content—meaning that students didn't just prevent learning loss, they hit the ground running at the start of the new school year.
- **High Expectations, High Support.** At DREAM, every child is our community's responsibility. We have a mandate to meet students where they are, and we do not lower the bar—but in fact work extra hard to help them meet the bar. One conviction powers our mission: That our students have everything they need within them, if only we invest and believe in them.