



PSJA Area School Readiness Efforts Pay Off for Children and Teachers

Texas School Ready (TSR) is an innovative program that aims to increase children’s school readiness through five evidence-driven components: research-based curriculum, technology-driven child progress monitoring, facilitated teacher professional development, ongoing teacher coaching, and sustainability. The model has been praised nationally by early education leaders such as Robert Pianta, Bruce Fuller, and Sara Mead to name a few.

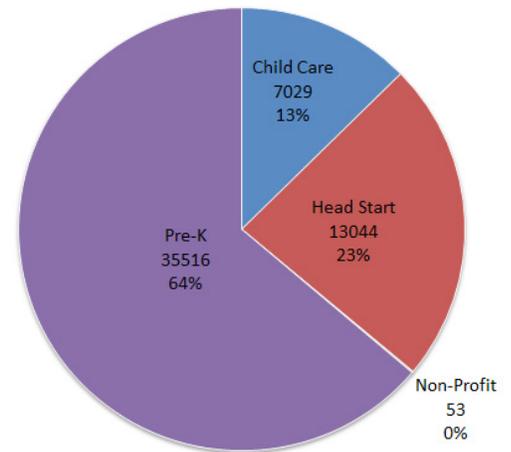
TSR focuses on teacher behavior in the classroom, the quality of instruction, and importance of the environment early education takes place in. As such, the Texas School Ready Project ensures that the vehicles that have the greatest potential for positive impact on child outcomes (teachers and environment) receive attention and proper resources in order to improve the quality of early childhood programs.

Since the beginning of the project in 2003, TSR has partnered with sites across Texas to implement the program with preschool teachers. In fact, TSR has served approximately 55,000 children and 3,100 teachers in a variety of settings in the Rio Grande Valley since 2008. We are proud to continue working with Pharr-San Juan-Alamo Independent School District as a TSR Lead Agent for 2015-2017!

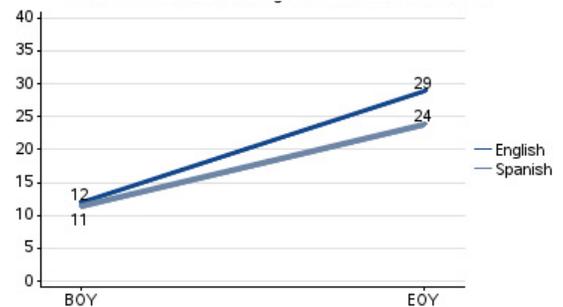
The graphs on this page show data from Pharr-San Juan-Alamo ISD TSR classrooms last year. Children show steady growth in key predictors of literacy development like identifying letters in the alphabet and understanding phonological patterns like rhymes and alliteration. These are important school readiness skills that help children be more successful when they get to kindergarten.

As illustrated in the charts to the right, children in Pharr-San Juan-Alamo ISD TSR classrooms show considerable gains in skill development in both English and Spanish from the beginning of the school year (BOY) to the end of the school year (EOY)!

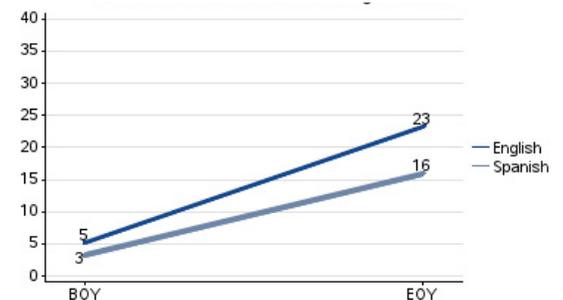
Rio Grande Valley Students Served in TSR Since 2008



Student Gains in Phonological Awareness PSJA, 2014-2015



Student Gains in Letter Knowledge PSJA, 2014-2015



For more information about the Texas School Ready project, visit texaschoolready.org





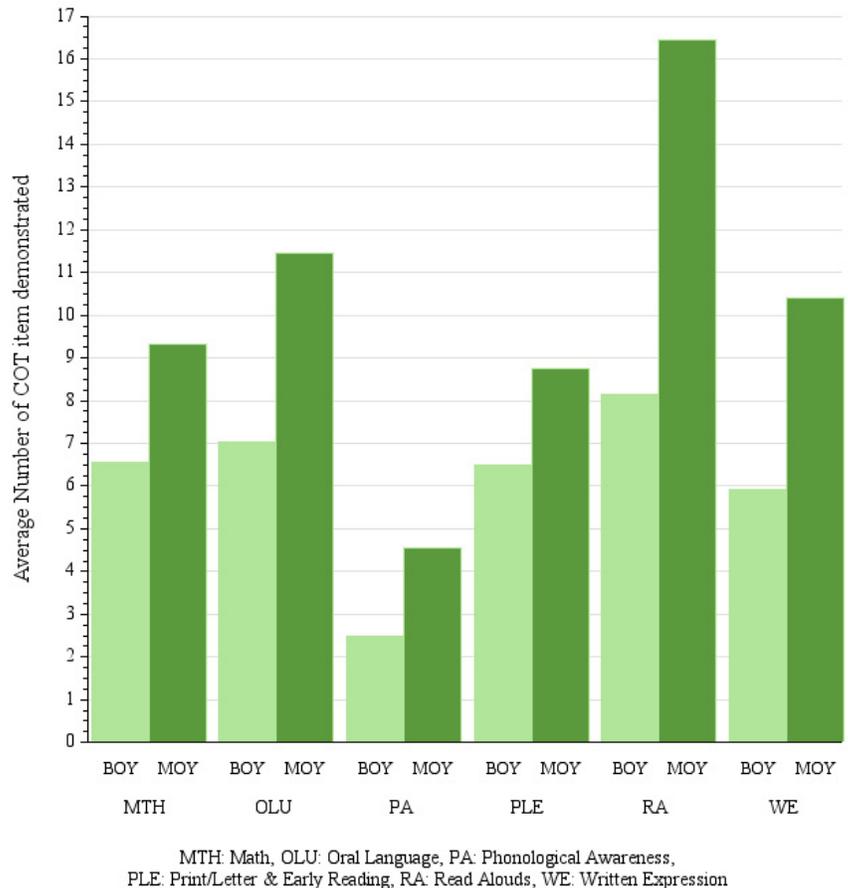
PSJA Area School Readiness Efforts Pay Off for Children and Teachers

At the heart of TSR is the desire to increase teachers' use of evidence-based practices and improve the quality of teacher-child interactions. Using cutting-edge techniques like data-driven coaching in the classroom, TSR is able to move outcomes in a positive direction. Pre-k teachers in Pharr-San Juan-Alamo ISD have shown dramatic changes after just a few months of participation in the project. Improvements have been documented across all content areas related to key early childhood indicators!

Teachers who have participated in TSR have expressed the tremendous impact the project has had on their classroom instruction and professional growth. Lydia Hernández-Savedra, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction at PSJA ISD, spoke about the district's experiences in TSR:

"Our district has been participating in the Texas School Ready Project since 2011. Through, TSR, the environments in the classrooms have made a dramatic difference from a three group rotation model where all students basically received instruction of the same skills and concepts in a small group setting, to teachers providing instruction to meet individual student needs. Learning centers were transformed from areas of tasks to keep students quietly busy, to areas of learning directly aligned to individual and small group needs. This has provided the children with optimal and multiple learning opportunities for them to experience success. The professional development has not been a "one-shot deal" for the teachers, but an on-going process of the development of human capital. TSR has transformed the teaching and learning in the District from an attitude of 'just teach the curriculum' to a system that is developmentally appropriate, consistent and coherent to help yield the best learning results, helping our students be more ready for Kindergarten."

Teacher Gains in the Use of Instructional Strategies
Pharr-San Juan-Alamo ISD, 2014-2015



As illustrated in the graph above, Pharr-San Juan-Alamo ISD TSR teachers increase the quality of their practices from the beginning of the school year (BOY) to the middle of the school year (MOY)!

For more information about the Texas School Ready project, visit texasschoolready.org

