

BOOSTING SCORES AND GARNERING SUCCESS WITH PREACT® AND ACT DISTRICT TESTING



EDEN PRAIRIE SCHOOLS IN MINNESOTA BOOSTS SCORES AND GARNERS SUCCESS WITH PREACT AND ACT DISTRICT TESTING

With approximately 3,000 students from varying backgrounds, Eden Prairie (EP) Schools, located in Minnesota, believe that each student has intrinsic value and individuality. These values reflected in the school district's strategic plan set students on the path to success with an inclusive and expansive curriculum.

Ashley Bakke, district assessment coordinator at EP Schools, focuses on what is most important—encouraging students to take every opportunity to have a successful and fulfilling education.

EP recognized a gap in assessment, as Minnesota state assessments do not extend past the ninth grade. Because it focuses on triangulating data through interim, formative, and summative assessments for each student, working with ACT gives students of all grade levels the opportunity to discover their potential and identify areas of improvement.

EP encourages students to take the ACT® test through ACT District Testing—offering the test on a school day, covering the costs, and working with families in nearby metro areas to secure vouchers for their children to take the test. Students feel comfortable and secure taking the ACT in a familiar environment while completing testing during school hours.

The ACT has proven to be an important data point for driving policies and site improvements at Eden Prairie Schools. It also seamlessly aligns with the district's Inspired Journey of Discovery, Exploration,

and Pursuit program, in which students pursue their college or career goals during high school.

By taking PreACT® 8/9, students can recognize their areas of strength and improvement, while educators are put in a better position of support and gain valuable insights into how to change and improve curriculum. Additionally, PreACT filled the assessment gap that highlights EP's 9th-grade students, which allowed educators and parents to understand each student's strengths and weaknesses. Those who took PreACT were able to, on average, increase their score by at least two points when they took the ACT.

To boost participation even further, EP developed its own College and Career Readiness Day. Using resources from ACT, EP created multiple marketing materials to promote the event to students and parents, including a flyer and postcard promoting the benefits of taking the ACT and offering more information. Students of all grade levels were encouraged to attend the event. EP hopes to collaborate with the wider community to encourage students to learn more about local businesses and potential career opportunities.

By allowing each student to experience a standardized test in the comfort of their high school environment, we are opening doors and removing barriers.

— **ASHLEY BAKKE**
DISTRICT ASSESSMENT COORDINATOR
EDEN PRAIRIE SCHOOLS



OUTCOMES

80%

capture rate for
PreACT 8/9

76%

participation rate
for PreACT

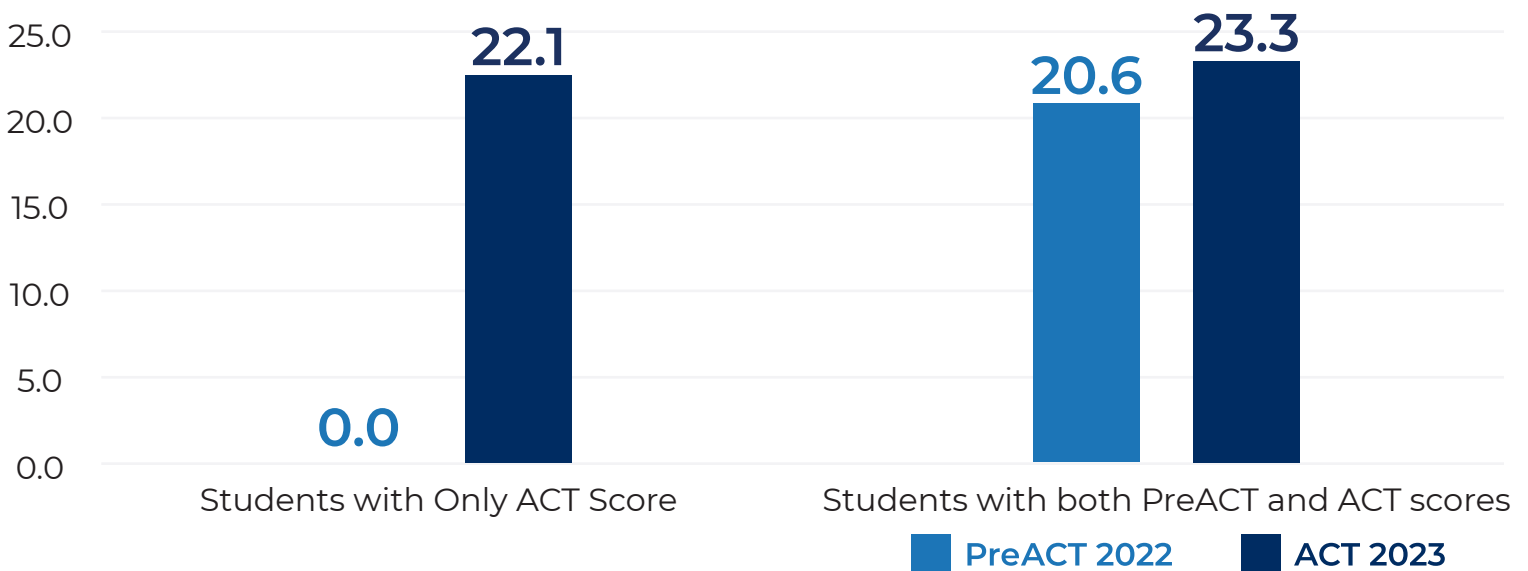
**PRODUCTS
USED:**

Pre **ACT**[®]

Pre **ACT**[®] 8/9

ACT District Testing

ACT and PreACT Correlation



On average, students who took PreACT in grade 10 and then the ACT in grade 11 increased their score by at least two points.

EDEN PRAIRE SCHOOLS PROFILE

Eden Prairie High School has 2,950 students with 43.8% minority enrollment.

Only straight-A school district in the state of Minnesota.

45% of students participated in at least one college-level course.