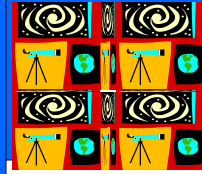


(3) Pennsylvania CAN

accelerate the closure of racial achievement gaps

Frequently Asked Questions



1. Why should our nation care about closing racial achievement gaps?

This is not simply an educational matter: Lower educational attainment is associated with diminished lifetime earnings, greater emotional and physical stress and illness, and higher risks of teen pregnancy, welfare participation, child abuse and neglect, gang involvement, and drug and alcohol abuse. Thus, quality of life of students and their families and communities as well as our nation depends on the timely closure of racial achievement gaps.



2. Does Pennsylvania CAN accelerate closure of racial achievement gaps?

Yes. Accelerative effects of *Pennsylvania CAN* on student achievement have been empirically evaluated and validated in published studies and documented reports. Relatedly, *Pennsylvania CAN* is associated with reductions in student tardiness, absenteeism, and problem behaviors requiring disciplinary action. Members of our core design team have been recognized nationally and internationally for their contributions to what we now refer to as the science of acceleration. With further application, we expect this work will uncover invaluable insights on how to accelerate achievement of students of whatever race, ethnicity, or gender.



3. How does Pennsylvania CAN close racial achievement gaps?

Pennsylvania CAN is a value-added reform which integrates Curricular, Axiological, and Normative components that accelerate math and science achievement through instructional enrichment, character education, and community empowerment, respectively.



4. Does Pennsylvania CAN mobilize community as well as school support of academic excellence?

Yes. As a package, *Pennsylvania CAN* not only increases teacher and student expectations of academic excellence but also mobilizes churches, organizations, parents, and peers in support of this aim.

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5. What happens when there's a problem in implementation?

Pennsylvania CAN uses a self-checking system to identify and repair actual and potential problems that crop up during implementation. Using various types of feedback, these problems are quickly identified and remedied. Yes, problems will arise, but our self-checking system is designed to pinpoint and resolve these problems in a temporally efficient manner.



6. Does Pennsylvania CAN replace your district's current academic programs?

No. *Pennsylvania CAN* does not uproot the implementation of currently selected academic texts. As a value-added strategy, *Pennsylvania CAN* works by supplementing without replacing curriculum already being used by your district.



7. How much will it cost per student to implement Pennsylvania CAN?

We are currently working on the per capita cost required for successful implementation of *Pennsylvania CAN*. In this regard, the developers of this reform are well aware of budgetary constraints that Superintendents face. Although we are unable to provide hard numbers at the moment, it is our hope and goal to place *Pennsylvania CAN* within the reach of districts expressing serious interest in it.

Pennsylvania CAN

accelerate the closure of racial achievement gaps in math and science

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