

Benefits of the California Cadet Corps

This document summarizes Chapter 12 of *Innovative Management Education Pedagogies for Preparing Next- Generation Leaders*, 2016 by Shalini Rahul Tiwari and Lubna Nafees from the Institute of Management Technology, India. The chapter discussed was authored by Dr. Mark Patrick Ryan in from Loyola Marymount University.

Cadet Corps cadets demonstrate quantitative increases in performance when compared to non-cadet corps youth, in the following areas: Attendance, graduation rates, expulsion and suspension rates, disciplinary referral rates, grade point average, STAR testing results, physical fitness, college attendance rates, patriotism, and leadership confidence.

Attendance:

- Statewide student attendance: 89.4%.
- Cadet Corps attendance: **94.6%**.
- Cadets were about twice as likely to have perfect attendance (defined as zero whole day absences in a school year) than their non-cadet counterparts
- 20% fewer tardies to class than their non-cadet counterparts.

Graduation Rates:

- Statewide Graduation Rate: 80.4% (12-13 SY)
- Cadet Corps graduation rate 90% (12-13 SY)

Expulsion and Suspension Rates

- Statewide Suspension Rate 4.1% and expulsion rate was 0.1%. (12-13 SY)
- Cadet Corps Suspension rates 2.8%. No expulsion data were available.

Disciplinary Referral Rates

- In ten of the fourteen schools polled the rates of disciplinary referrals for cadets was statistically significantly lower when comparing cadets to schoolwide averages. In other words, in most of the cases, cadets are behaving better than their non-cadet counterparts.

Grade Point Average

- In eleven of the fourteen schools, the cadets had a statistically significantly better grade point average than their non-cadet counterparts.

STAR Testing

- Cadets statistically performed better than non-cadets in 50% (17/34) of the measured locations. The other locations indicated statistically insignificant differences.

Physical Fitness

- Statewide 61.6% of students are in the Healthy Fitness Zone (2014 Fitnessgram Results)
- Cadet Corps 72.3% of cadets are in the Healthy Fitness Zone

College Attendance

- % of Students entering a 4-year college: StateWide: 20%, Cadet Corps: **56%** (3 fold increase)
- % of Students who complete a degree in four years: Statewide: 34%, Cadet Corps: **46%**
- % of Students who complete a bachelor's degree within six years. 64%, Cadet Corps: **72%**

Leadership Potential

- Students who have completed more than three years of membership in the California Cadet Corps exhibit statistically significant differences in their perceptions about their possession of all 14 leadership traits from the time they initially enrolled.

Patriotism

- Cadets universally reported the feeling that the California Cadet Corps had a major impact on their lives in terms of promoting a sense of patriotic spirit.