

Summary of Results Regarding Advanced Placement Courses

As the block schedule and IMP curriculum were implemented, a larger number of students enrolled in AP courses. In part, this was possible because a new AP statistics course was offered under the semestered block schedule. But improved AP participation is not explained by the new statistics course alone. Compared to students in previous years, among students who were enrolled in a semestered block schedule throughout high and who used IMP as their core mathematics curriculum, a larger number of students enrolled in the most advanced AP mathematics course (Calculus BC), a larger number of students completed the Advanced Placement Calculus BC exam, and their scores on that exam were higher. In 2000-01, the first year in which all students had used the IMP curriculum and all students had been enrolled in a semestered block schedule throughout their years at Suburban High School, twenty students took the Advanced Placement Calculus BC exam. Eighteen of those students achieved a grade of 5 and two students achieved a grade of 4, for an average score of 4.9. That year, there were only seven other public schools in the United States where at least 20 students completed the Advanced Placement Calculus BC exam and achieved an average score of 4.9 or higher.