Encouraging School Planner Use to Improve the Academic Performance of Secondary Students

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Abstract

➢ Previous research has suggested that planner use can improve homework completion for students who fail to turn in their assignments
➢ The study’s first phase examined the effects of planner use and materials organization on the grades of 7th and 8th grade students in student advisory classes
➢ The second phase investigated the effects of planner use and a peer-mediated self-management procedure on the grades of low-achieving students enrolled in a 9th grade algebra class
➢ Current results suggest that students who are capable but low-achieving may simply lack the organizational skills to turn assignments in on time

Research Aim

To improve students’ time management, homework completion, and academic grades as a result of using the planner and applying organizational skills

Results & Discussion

Phase One

The Classwide Intervention didn’t appear to help students over the long term, but may have prevented a decline in performance

Phase Two

Low-achieving students who received the Individualized Intervention experienced improved outcomes

Participants & Setting

➢ Phase One
  • Classwide Intervention - Forty-two 7th or 8th grade students in 3 advisory classrooms; approximately 20 students participating from each class
  • Individualized Intervention - Two students in each advisory classroom received intensive intervention including 1:1 adult support and behavior contracting at least two times per week
➢ Phase Two
  • Three Caucasian males in 8th or 9th grade, capable of doing the work but receiving D’s and F’s in math class
  • Selected for participation by their teacher
➢ School
  • Located in rural community of approximately 12,000 residents
  • Low SES < 40%
  • ELL - 5%
  • Caucasian - 85%
  • Hispanic - 11%
  • Other - 4%

Data Sources

➢ Phase One
  • Periodic Access to Academic Grades
  • Written Narratives
➢ Phase Two
  • Self-Management Card
  • Daily Access to Teacher’s Grade Book Retrieved Online
  • Student Assignments
  • School Planner
  • Teacher’s Behavior Ratings

Contact Information

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