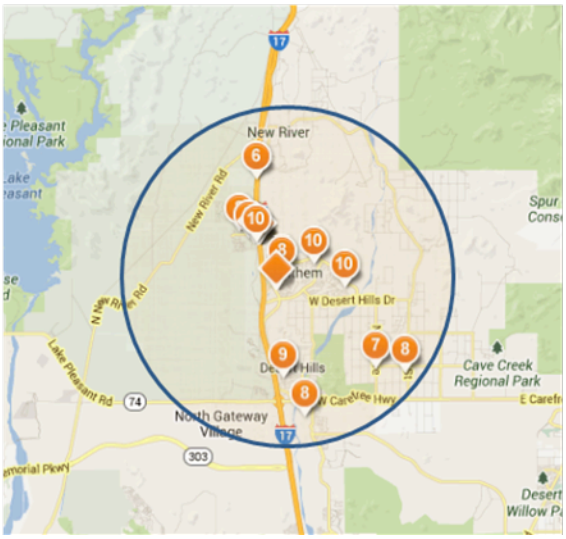
A.2 Target Population

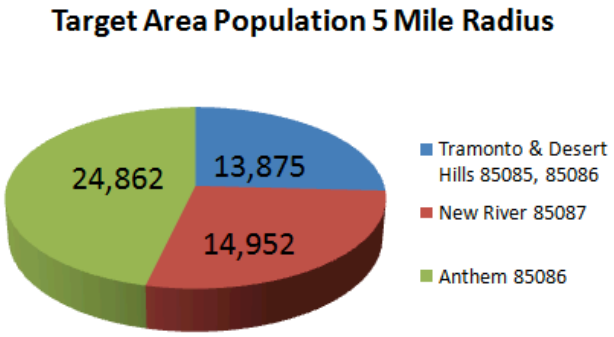
The Anthem community was founded in 1999 as a Del Web Master Planned Community. It is recognized as one of the most family friendly places to live. According to the 2010 U.S. Census Bureau, Anthem is the 40th most populated area in the in state of Arizona housing over 21,000 individuals. The population of Anthem continues to grow and now has less than 200 homes for sale. In 2007 active real estate listings were well over 800.[1] The median age is 36.8 years with an annual average income of $82,000. The Caepe School believes families attracted to this community are invested in their children and looking for this same connection and depth of relationships in the extended school community that is afforded in a small setting.

Diagram 1 : Location of all Public/Charter, and Private schools in a five mile radius of The Caepe School



13 Schools located in a 5 mile radius

1. Gavilan Peak K-8 DVUSD
2. Anthem School K-8 DVUSD
3. Diamond Canyon K-8 DVUSD
4. Sunset Ridge K-8 DVUSD
5. North Valley Christian Academy K-8 Private
6. Great Hearts Academy Anthem Prep K-9 Charter
7. Caurus Academy K-8 Charter
8. Desert Mountain Middle School K-8 DVUSD
9. Canyon Springs K-8 DVUSD
10. Ridgeline Academy K-8 Charter
11. Stepping Stones Academy K-8 Charter
12. New River Elementary K-6 DVUSD



Target Population Ethnicity	
White	83.30%
African American	2.00%
Asian	0.70%
Hispanic	9.70%
Native American	2.20%
Hawaiian/Pacific	0.10%
Mixed Race	1.90%
Other	0.10%

Given research about schools in Anthem, when you click on the Anthem Website there is a picture of a Caepe classroom our very first year in operation.[2] We can't help but wonder: *why is one of our classrooms pictured?* Of all the schools in Anthem and all the classrooms, we believe this picture is on this website page representing schools in this area because it depicts an affirming learning environment where small groups instruction and small class size is valued, and

each child gets to be seen as a **total individual**. We have no doubt that The Caepe School fills a need in the Anthem community.

The Caepe School has been serving the Anthem community for 5 years. Our current population is comprised of those families that came to us looking for more for their children and understand the power of a small class size and the influence faculty and staff can have on mentoring our youth as they grow up. After our first year in operation, The Caepe School was accredited by NCA CASI AdvancEd.[3] We are committed to remaining a small school that builds relationships knowing the students and families that we serve. We were serving students and families in Anthem for three years prior to the other two successful charter schools in the area. Therefore our enrollment is testament that there is a need for The Caepe School to serve a portion of the Anthem community at large. We have always believed that if The Anthem community was going to support The Caepe School then it would. We want to become a charter school so that we can offer a Caepe education to more students. Much in the same way that we embraced the accreditation process in 2009, we believe that the expectations required of a charter school, holds us accountable to examine every principle and practice of our school to make us better. We value the depth of learning provided by this charter application process regardless of the outcome.

Margaret Mead said: *Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.*

This is the community we currently serve and intend to serve moving forward. We believe this population is underserved. There are many more in our community that want a Caepe School education. An Arizona State Charter would provide The Caepe School the ability to do a better job meeting the needs in the larger part of our community.

Our staff and Governing Board interactions with the community and potential enrollee families are evidence of this position. This is further confirmed from stories from our current families. This anecdotal data is confirmed by quantitative data. **There are currently 55 students enrolled at The Caepe School with an additional 17 intent to enroll forms completed for additional students.**

Caepe education includes the education of the mind and the heart, balances intuition with intellect and mastery with mystery, and cultivates wisdom over the mere accumulation of facts. This is very difficult to accomplish in a large school setting and requires the small class sizes that we offer at The Caepe School. Our class sizes in our three-year plan range between 18-24 students. This class size is the smallest available in our area schools.

The Caepe School maximum enrollment capacity by year 3 is 120 students. This enrollment number falls FAR below any other school in the area. The small class size and attention to the total individual is what allows us a unique education for the target population.

Who do we serve?

The Caepe School serves students in grades K-8
Information about students who attend The Caepe School

Lower school student population- Grades K-4:
30% participate in the gifted education program
19% participate in our E3 program to receive learning support

Middle school population- Grades 5-8:
42% participate in our gifted education program
28% participate in our E3 program to receive learning support
Other information:
89% of our middle school students participate in the Mountain Valley Athletic League.
100% of our K-8 students participate in intramural sports at some level.
20% of our middle school students participate in Performing Arts programs outside of school in addition to our program available at TCS for all students.

Target Population District Schools (DVUSD)

	Gavilan Peak	Anthem School	Diamond Canyon	Sunset Ridge	Desert Mountain	Canyon Springs	New River
School Type	District	District	District	District	District	District	District
Zip Code	85086	85086	85086	85086	85086	85087	85087
Grades Served	K-8th	K-8th	K-8th	K-8th	K-8th	K-8th	K-6th
Number of Students	880	855	1014	1212	943	845	275
AZ Learns Rating	Excelling	Excelling	Excelling	Excelling	Highly Performing	Highly performing	Performing Plus
Free or reduced lunch	8%	10%	10%	10%	16%	20%	26%

Target Population Charter and Private Schools

	North Valley Christian	Anthem Prep	Caurus Academy	Ridgeline Academy	Stepping Stones Academy
School Type	Private	Charter	Charter	Charter	Charter
Zip Code	85086	85086	85087	85085	85086
Grades Served	K-8th	K-9th	K-8th	K-8th	K-8th
Number of Students	200	413	330	546	220
AZ Learns Rating	Not Available	Excelling	Performing Plus	Performing	Performing Plus
Free or reduced lunch	Not Available	Not Available	27%	Not Available	Not Available

We believe that the current levels of academic performance of the student population that enrolls in The Caepe School is similar to the academic performance of the student population in other schools within the community. We believe that the **smaller class size** and attention to the individual at The Caepe School allows these students to make more progress than was possible in a larger school setting. Individual students have consistently shown significant growth given several years of data on the CTP4 standardized test.

Current Levels of Academic Performance of TCS students:
The CTP4 tests assesses individual achievement and is used by independent schools and a select few suburban public schools; the testing results from these schools are the basis of the

independent norms used with when reporting CTP4 results. According to Educational Records Bureau, the CTP4 is the only standardized achievement test designed specifically for high-achieving schools focused on setting high standards.[4] In addition to providing results for individuals and grade-levels, the CTP4 provides relevant information to help guide decision-making in curriculum analysis and development.

There are seven subtests and results are given as (national) percentile ratings; that is, a score of 63 means that the actual test score was higher than 63% of everyone who took that test nationally. In the results below, we give the median score and approximate headcount for various groups. (We don't give the exact count in order to preserve anonymity.

2012 results								
Grade	approx. count	Reading Comprehension	Quantitative Reasoning	Writing Mechanics	Vocabulary	Writing Concepts and Skills	Mathematics	Verbal Reasoning
5	14	69	83	66	79	74	81	66
6	7	58	62	84	85	62	81	44
7	12	66	83	65	85	87	69	77
8	10	91	89	75	86	82	80	86

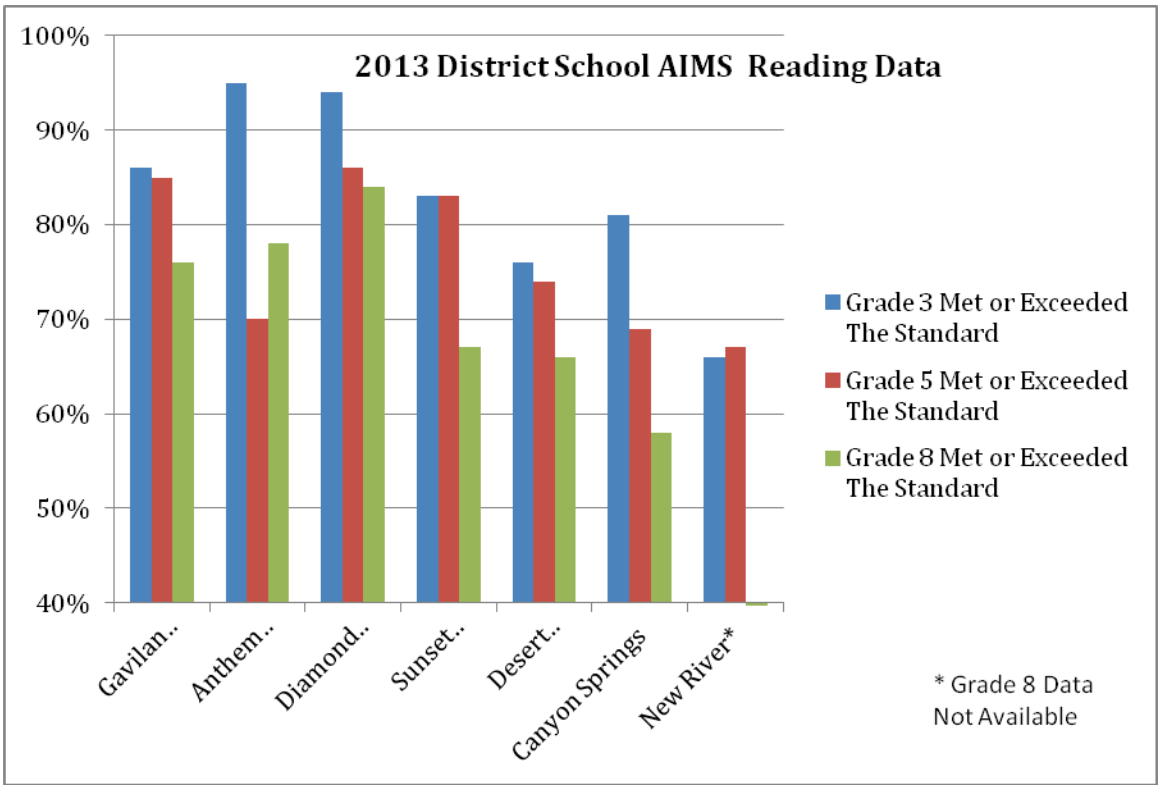
These are outstanding scores!! Our typical student ranks above the national average in every subtest but one.

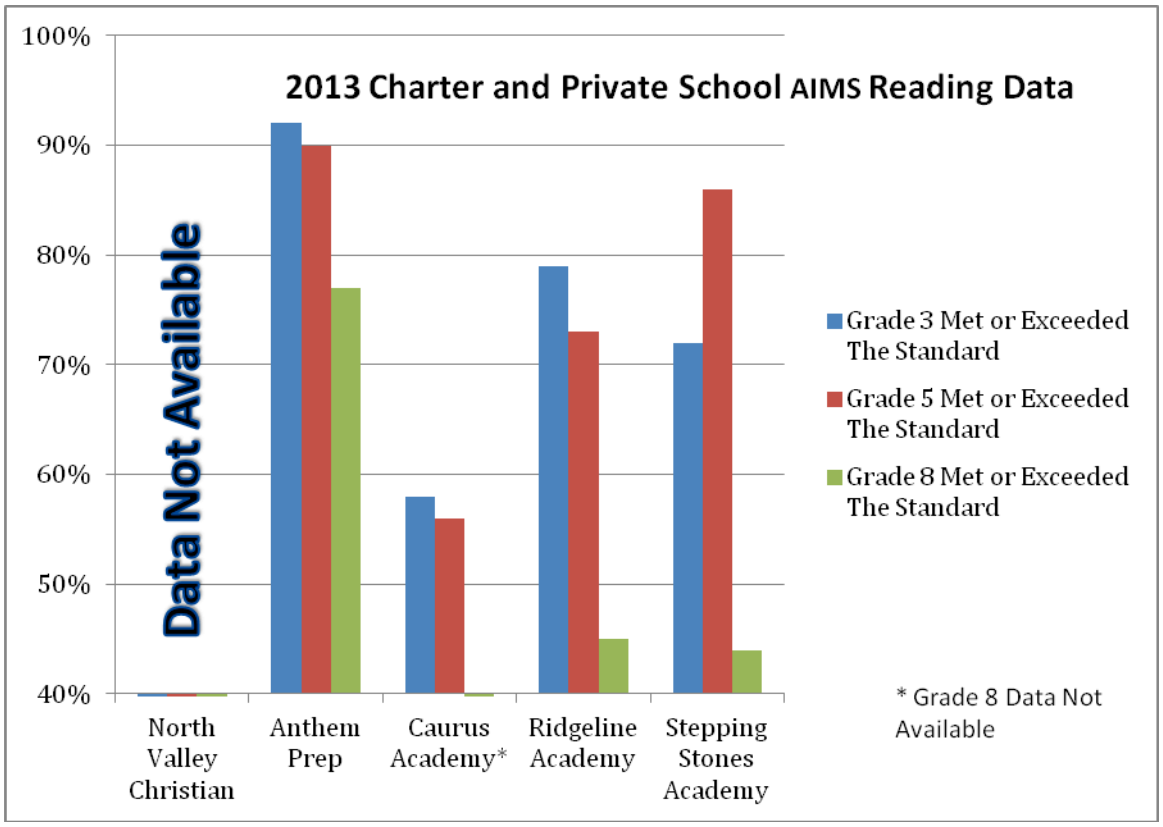
We can also compare the combined results for Grades 6, 7 and 8 between 2011 and 2012:

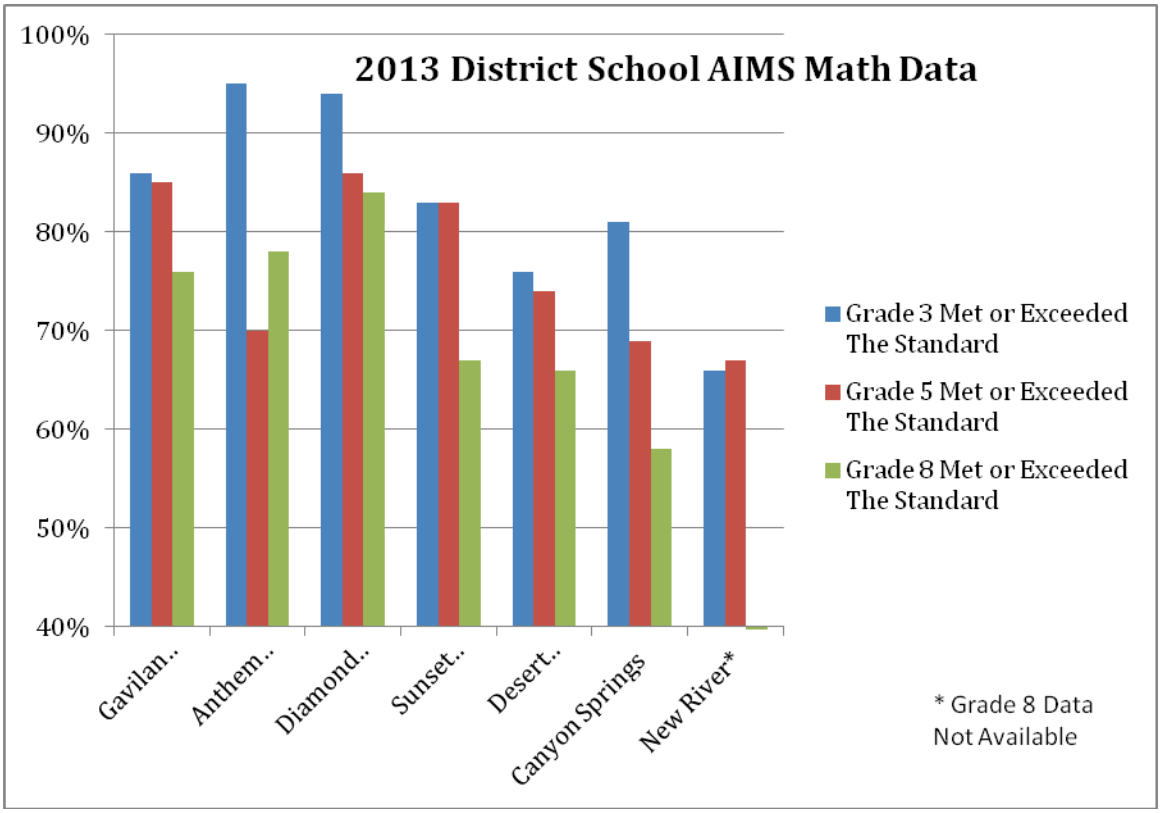
Grades 6, 7, 8 combined								
Year	approx. count	Reading Comprehension	Quantitative Reasoning	Writing Mechanics	Vocabulary	Writing Concepts and Skills	Mathematics	Verbal Reasoning
2011	30	74	87	74	80	86	74	62
2012	29	71	86	69	85	82	76	75

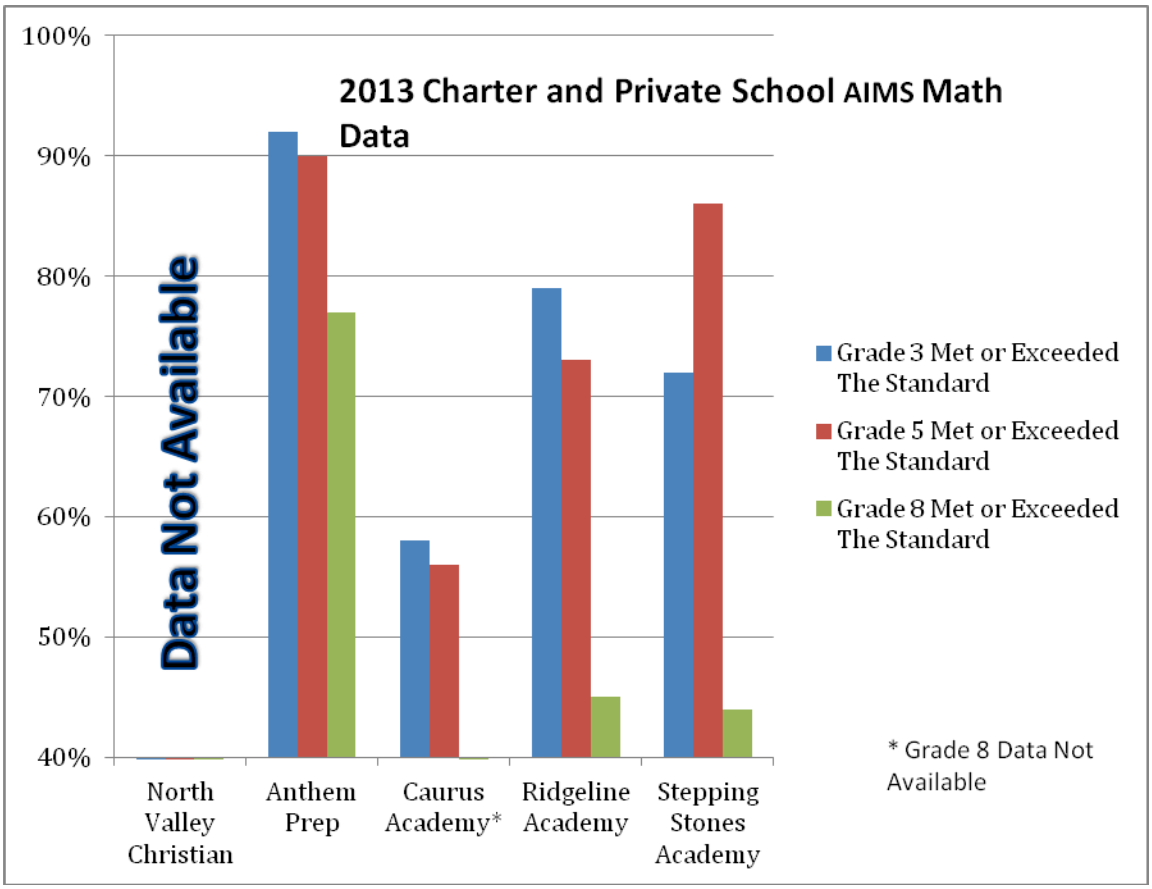
Martha Groves, the Los Angeles Times Education Writer, wrote the following about the ERB tests in her article "Relax It's Just a Test":

The ERBs are geared for college-bound high achievers, most of whom have had every advantage in life. "It's a little more rigorous than a nationally normed test," said Thomas Maguire, president of Educational Records Bureau. "We don't see it as appropriate for urban or rural schools." To say that the ERBs are a little more rigorous is like saying it's a little colder in January in Anchorage than in Miami. "[5]


2013 District School AIMS Reading Data
100%
90%
80%
70%
60%
50%
40%
Gavilan..
Anthem..
Diamond..
Sunset..
Desert..
Canyon Springs
New River*
Grade 3 Met or Exceeded The Standard
Grade 5 Met or Exceeded The Standard
Grade 8 Met or Exceeded The Standard
* Grade 8 Data Not Available


2013 Charter and Private School AIMS Reading Data
Data Not Available
100%
90%
80%
70%
60%
50%
40%
North Valley Christian
Anthem Prep
Caurus Academy*
Ridgeline Academy
Stepping Stones Academy
Grade 3 Met or Exceeded The Standard
Grade 5 Met or Exceeded The Standard
Grade 8 Met or Exceeded The Standard
* Grade 8 Data Not Available


2013 District School AIMS Math Data
100%
90%
80%
70%
60%
50%
40%
Gavilan..
Anthem..
Diamond..
Sunset..
Desert..
Canyon Springs
New River*
Grade 3 Met or Exceeded The Standard
Grade 5 Met or Exceeded The Standard
Grade 8 Met or Exceeded The Standard
* Grade 8 Data Not Available


2013 Charter and Private School AIMS Math Data
Data Not Available
100%
90%
80%
70%
60%
50%
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North Valley Christian
Anthem Prep
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Stepping Stones Academy
Grade 3 Met or Exceeded The Standard
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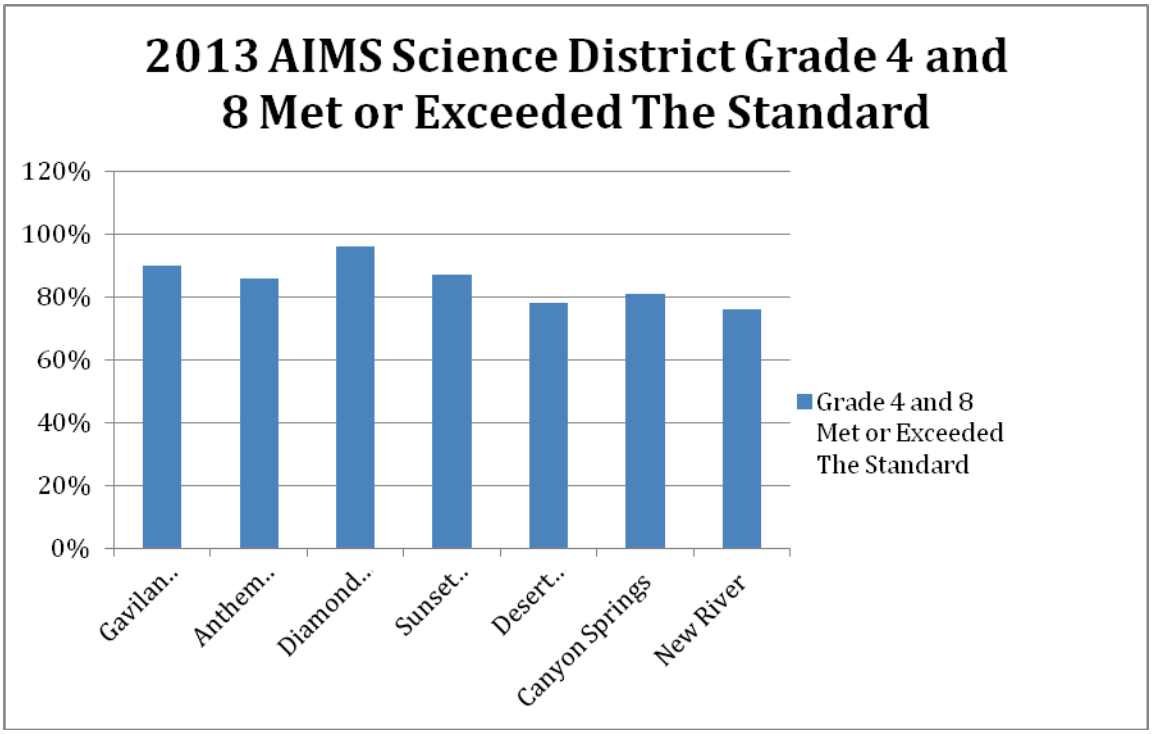
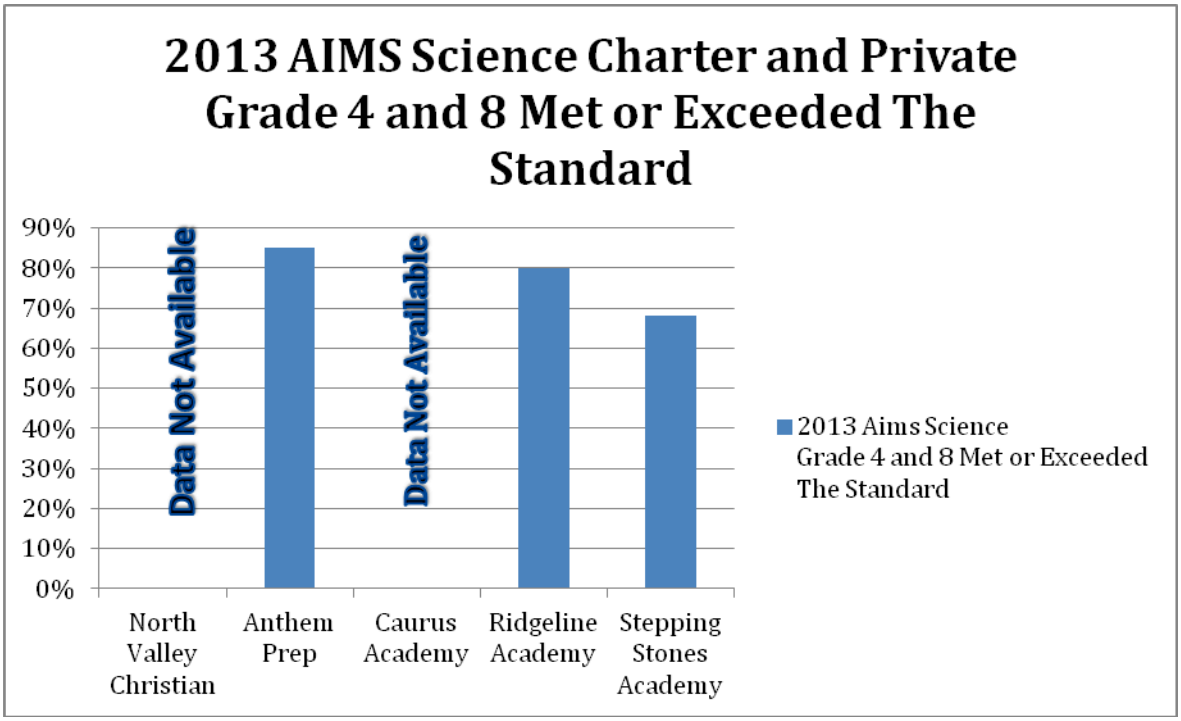




This AIMS data shows the current academic performance of students in the target population that The Caepe School intends to serve. What we have seen given the AIMS scores and data of incoming students, as well as the ERB testing data that we collect is that in our small school setting, students that were not successful on standardized tests in their past become confident and

capable of achieving their potential in the small class sizes and attention to the core family values available at The Caepe School.

Programs that target the Academic Development and Success of the Target Population:

In order to meet the needs of our population and improve pupil achievement while encouraging students to develop **intellectual acuity and independence,** we differentiate our instruction and have additional programs that support the needs of our population. Throughout all of our teaching and learning groups and lessons, teachers integrate Bloom's Taxonomy of high-level thinking. Our teachers are committed to serving both ends of the bell curve of intelligence. We believe all of our students possess a beautiful blend of diversified strengths and challenges.

The E^3 Program: Enrich, Empower, Elevate

The E^3 program targets the needs of students who are overlooked in almost every other school setting. Sometimes, these students have glaring needs that go unaddressed due to a lack of resources and funding. Other times, these are students whose academic needs aren't great enough for anyone to notice until they reach the middle grades when coursework starts to build on previously acquired knowledge. In almost every case, these students come from caring, involved families who value education but don't know where to turn for help. This program also offers support for students with IEPs.

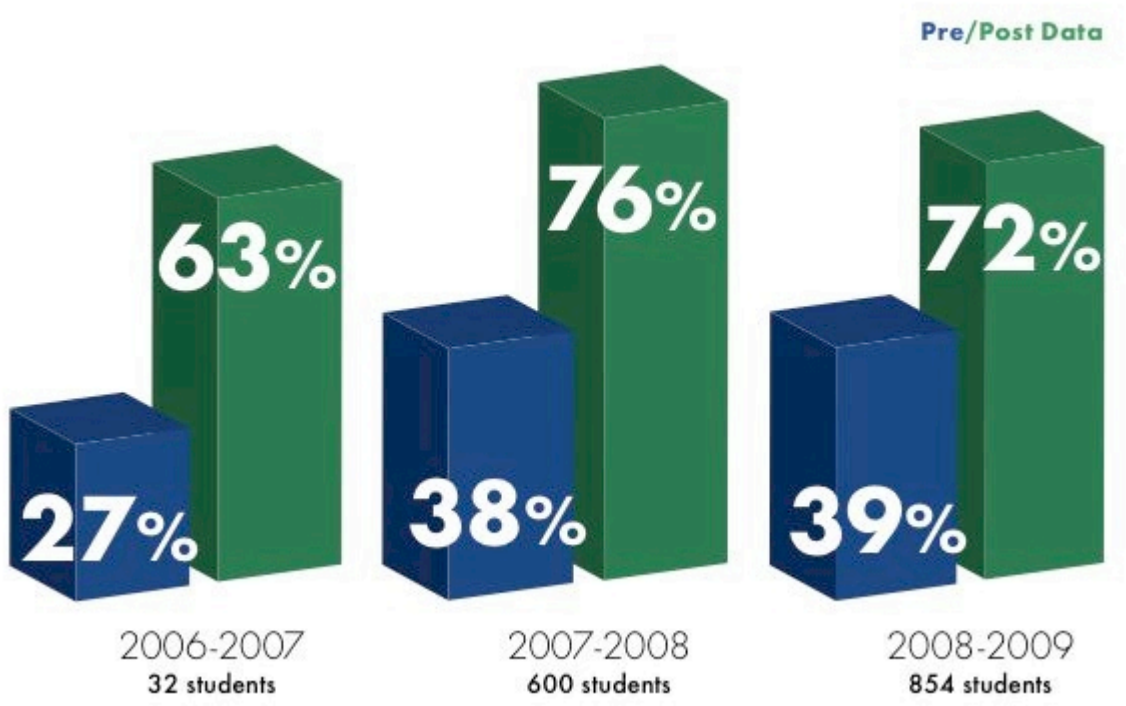
A disheartening but common trajectory for these children is one of sitting in classes that present material flying over their head year after year as they become increasingly frustrated. They may even give up. They may even think that they are not intelligent when really they are! If only teachers and parents had caught it sooner and paid attention to their needs. Imagine their potential?

At The Caepe School, we believe it is our job to advocate for these children and to give them all the opportunities and resources they need to succeed in school and in life. We believe that they are intelligent and just need things presented to them a little differently than some of their peers. The E^3 program is that program. It is a life-changing program that alters the trajectory of their education and life because they meet success rather than frustration and failure. It will help them develop the desire to learn and to continue seeking knowledge and understanding.
The E^3 program helps children build the essential skills that are challenging for them by providing intense individual and small group instruction on concepts critical to educational growth and success.

Curriculum used for this program:

Math-U-See

Math-U-See focuses on the individual student and their specific needs.[6] Each lesson is introduced in a logical sequence and is presented in an organized manner that addresses a particular area of need. The skills are intended to be built upon as the student progresses in the program. Since the skills are sequential, once the student has shown mastery of a skill, he/she can proceed to the next without repetition. This is an explicit, **structured**, **systematic**, and **cumulative** program using **multi-sensory teaching techniques**. The following graph represents gains realized with this program in an Albuquerque school district:



Wilson Language Training

Wilson language Instruction will be delivered 3-5 times per week for 60-90 minutes in 1:1 or in a small group (up to 6 students). [7] This is a research-based program with twenty years of data collected and analyzed from school districts implementing the program. It provides a systematic and cumulative approach to teach total word structure for decoding and encoding. Following a ten-part lesson plan that addresses decoding, encoding, oral reading fluency, and comprehension, it is viewed by most service providers as sensible and logical. All instruction is multisensory and interactive and it takes advantage of a unique "sound tapping" system. Because it is a comprehensive program that can follow students from grade to grade it has one of the most extensive collections of controlled and decodable text (word lists, sentences, stories) for students beyond the primary grades. Criterion-based assessments are built into the program to measure student progress and success.

Inspire: Gifted and Talented Education

Our gifted education teacher moves into the classrooms in an integrated model of small group instruction to serve the needs of our students. This approach not only targets children who have demonstrated evidence of exceptionally high achievement, but also it raises the achievement expectations of all students in the class. These kids require something unique and a program like this is not ordinarily provided giving them unique challenges while benefiting all students in all grade levels exposing them to gifted education strategies.

The Gifted Education Program will challenge students through thematic learning going deeper and broader on topics while keeping a keen eye on learning outcomes. The Program will be completely integrated while following Common Core Standards. Gifted children are fast learners and require little repetition of information; therefore it is imperative to offer unique, in-depth

studies of particular topics to keep the gifted children engaged and learning at a pace that's comfortable for them.

Gifted children often feel isolated or "different". They sometimes don't feel like they fit in socially with the other children. At The Caepe School, we embrace our differences and practice knowledge and acceptance school wide – this program is an extension of this philosophy. By creating a rich environment where Gifted and Talented Children are embraced, the children are motivated both socially and academically by their gifted peers allowing each child to blossom while teachers foster their natural talents.

This program will also allow children to explore advanced teachings in Science and Social Studies, in addition to small group and enriching instruction during Math & Reading classes. This integrated program at The Caepe School allows students to explore through a window of their own interests. Caepe's unique approach has less emphasis on scientific facts and information and has more emphasis on understanding scientific concepts and developing abilities of inquiry. Students identified as gifted also have the opportunity to participate in an after school club.

The real world technical applications continue to evolve and the school stays current in teaching these applications so that our students are up to date with as many resources available to them to prepare them for college and beyond. We felt it necessary to address the needs of our gifted children with the Inspire program and specific tools which will allow these students an additional opportunity to progress at a rate comparable to their talents and interests.

When operating as a Charter school, the Caepe will be in compliance with all Arizona laws and statutes regarding identification and service of both special education students and gifted students.

Our Unique and Impactful Science Program Component- Experiential Learning
The Outdoor Classroom and Serving the Greater Good

The purpose of The Caepe School Experiential Educational Element (EEE) is to develop and promote student's educational experience by offering engaging and interactive excursions that bring classroom learning to life. Leonard Sax has done extensive research attending to gender differences and the needs of students. In his books *Boys Adrift* and *Girl's on the Edge,* Sax offers ample data to support helping students build a strong sense of self and independence by providing opportunities and experience outside of the classroom to empower students and promote leadership.[8,9] We believe providing these opportunities for children inspires them to seek knowledge and understanding and promote higher level thinking as life long learners. Providing community service to others in our immediate community, the greater Phoenix community as well as the international community in Haiti and Abaco Island enriches our lives and the lives of others. The chart page the next page shares many components of our EEE program.

Target Population District Schools (DVUSD) Specialized Science Programs

	Gavilan Peak	Anthem School	Diamond Canyon	Sunset Ridge	Desert Mountain	Canyon Springs	New River
Specialized Programs Emphasizing Science	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES	NONE

Target Population Charter and Private Schools Specialized Science Programs

	North Valley Christian	Anthem Prep	Caurus Academy	Ridgeline Academy	Stepping Stones Academy
Specialized Programs Emphasizing Science	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

This data shows that there is only 1 school in our target population that specializes in a science program. Our program at The Caepe School is unique and targets the academic needs in our target population.

TCS EEE Learning Outside the Classroom
& Bringing the Outside Learning IN!

Special Guest Presentations	K-2	3-4	3-8	5-6	5-8	7-8	Service Trips
Water For our World Eva and Patrick from Uganda	Desert Outdoor Center @ Lake Pleasant	Desert Outdoor Center @ Lake Pleasant	Ski Trip Flagstaff	Desert Outdoor Center @ Lake Pleasant	Camp Surf Running Club Tent Camping	Shakespear e Company Play	Port Au Prince, Haiti The Apocolypse School
Holocaust Survivors	Theatre (Child's Play, Phx Theatre Cookie Company)	Theatre (Child's Play, Phx Theatre Cookie Company)	Karchner Caverns & Tombstone	Prescott Retreat		Prescott Retreat	Abaco Island Every Child Counts School
Richard Steele H2O Magic Show	Phx Zoo	McDowell Sonoran Conservancy	Italy Family Trip	Grand Canyon		Catalina Island Marine Institute	Feed the Homeless
Arizona Game and Fish Department		Phx Art Museum	Buddy Reading Program	Phx Art Museum		Phx Art Museum	
Author Visits				Exchange City		Relevant Movies Ex:Lincoln	
Evelyn Brumfield Keep Phx. Beauitiful	Recycle-asaurus		From Landfills to Compost				
SRP Powering Our Future			Energy Bike Program				

The TCS Science Program not only has a focus on experiencing the outdoor classroom but also has an emphasis on Environmental Science. In 2012, we launched The EDEE Program to supplement the experiential learning environment and the culture at TCS. Our students have been recycling and composting since 2010 and this year we added a garden to our campus. Our students provided information and feedback to the Producer and Director of STEM Journals currently airing on Cox TV as he launched this program.[10] Our 8th grade students are participating in an energy audit. Along with our science teacher, community volunteer, John Panfil who is a professional in this area with experience reducing the carbon footprint of several national restaurant chains, guided this audit. It is our goal to not only educate our students and community through this process, but also to eventually be granted capital funds based on our energy savings and make improvements to reduce the carbon footprint of our campus. At the Caepe School, we prepare our students to be college and career ready.

The Bureau of Labor and Statistics reports:
Employment of environmental scientists and specialists is projected to grow by 19 percent from 2010 to 2020, about as fast as the average for all occupations. Heightened public interest in the hazards facing the environment, as well as the increasing demands placed on the environment by population growth, are expected to spur demand for environmental scientists and specialists.[11]

The unique programs and experiences provided at The Caepe School target our student population and contribute to guiding each **total individual** to **develop intellectual acuity and independence, self discipline, self confidence, and sound moral and ethical values including a focus on behaviors that reflect positive energy, ownership and pride, being a team player, bringing your best, remaining open minded, as well as relational and community minded, and honest, candid, forthright and proactive in their communications** with others.

The Caepe School serves families who want their children educated in a nurturing environment that encourages creative freedom of expression along with rigorous academic standards. These families want their children to love learning and grow as a total and complete individuals. Caepe parents seek and value the development of curiosity, imagination, initiative, entrepreneurship, and social skills focused on in a school setting. Healthy balanced lifestyles as well as scholarly growth are at the **core family values** of our community. The TCS community embraces modern technology; "real world" hands on experience, teamwork, confidence, prudent risk taking and self-esteem. We value an educational approach and workload that stretches but does not stress each child to their full potential and leaves room for family time, sports, the arts, joyful play, and other leisure activities.

Small class size and student teacher ratios:
Our highly effective teachers differentiate instruction and work in small groups and small class sizes with attention to individual needs. Lower school class sizes are a maximum of 20 students and middle school class sizes are a maximum of 24 students. Instructional groups for Math and Reading include additional teaching staff and the teacher student ratio is 1:10 in lower school and 1:12 in Middle school. Our classroom learning and programs are not only driven by the Common Core Standards, but also include data driven instruction. A teacher with a gifted education endorsement implements our Inspire program and our E3 program will be taught by a special education teacher. We recruit, hire, develop and retain teachers with a proven record of leading students to high academic achievement as evident by our standardized test results. Our teachers form partnerships with students and parents to effectively equip, inspire and empower each total individual to develop and succeed—academically, physically, socially, culturally and emotionally.

A.2 Sources

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