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# Closing The Achievement Gap The Zenith Case Study

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**Summary :** Free closing the achievement gap the zenith case study pdf download - educators throughout the country are struggling to eliminate the academic achievement gap and to meet the mandates of the no child left behind act this case study explored perceptions of self-concept and academic achievement of students while attending a district-wide pull-out program for 10th graders who scored the lowest level on the florida comprehensive assessment test fcats the purpose of the zenith program was to raise academic achievement of the 410 students in the study 87 were minority students qualitative data from the interviews were analyzed to identify patterns and themes surrounding student perceptions of self-concept and academic achievement a chi-square test indicated that student responses and gender and ethnicity were not related in the population from which the data were selected however based on the interview data students believed that their self-concept and achievement had improved beginning and end-of-year quantitative lipsitt self-concept survey data measured self-concept changes and beginning and end-of-year quantitative fcats results measured student academic achievement by examining and comparing data to identify trends in student attitudes and performance collectively data indicated white students self-concepts increased while their performance on high stakes testing decreased overall further both self-concepts and performance on high stakes testing decreased for all other student groups it appears that if ability grouping is to be used to raise the academic achievement of secondary school students failing to achieve high stakes testing expectations curriculum must be energized and instructional methods adjusted while still maintaining a focus on self-concept this study will influence positive social change by further illuminating the complexities between self-concept and academic success two important factors in eliminating the achievement gap

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