

State Personnel Development Grant

Impact Story

Cleveland Metropolitan School District



District Demographics

Students Impacted	500
Families Impacted	--
Teachers Impacted	100
Administrators Impacted	15

Successes

A success we would like to highlight is Whitney Young Elementary. Whitney Young Elementary, under the leadership of Carlisha Bias and Jeanne Petarra-Weeks, have taken an all-in approach. Every K-5 teacher and selected middle school staff have participated in supports around reading science. As a result, the school completely revamped the curriculum/program choices and monitored implementation through the Ohio Improvement Process using AIMSweb data. This school has seen student growth, as well as an increase in teacher capacity to support all kids.

“ As a coach it has been exciting to see my teachers really embrace the changes to their instructional practices based on the LETRS training and science research. The teachers have been motivated to go above and beyond to acquire materials and supplies to support phonemic awareness and phonics instruction, as well as going outside their comfort zone implementing these new strategies. Last year 2019-20 our first year of implementation we were rewarded with our K-3 students demonstrating more growth than ever before. For example, Kindergarten students went from 24% on track in Fall to 44% on track for the Winter Benchmark in Aimsweb Plus. (We did not test in Spring). We are in our second year of implementation, and I am still being asked by staff members to join LETRS training.”

Sustainability

In addition to the building-level work, Cleveland Metropolitan School District has worked at the district level to use reading science to support all kids. This includes the creation of decision rules in K-3 and preK. These decision rules help link the district's AIMSweb scores to additional diagnostic tools — helping all building principals and teachers, especially in teacher-based teams or state support teams.