

## Red Bank Borough School District, Monmouth County



The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) Lighthouse District Initiative recognizes districts that have demonstrated measurable progress across diverse groups of learners. The NJDOE is proud to welcome the Red Bank Borough School District to the second cohort of Lighthouse Districts.

Red Bank Borough is a school district that has made significant gains in student outcomes with a diverse population. Staff have leveraged data analysis, small group instruction and coaching to increase student learning. Through bilingual/ESL/content supports for English learners, special education co-teaching and Response to Intervention (RtI), the district has been able to work alongside all learners to help them improve their performance.

Students work for a large part of their day independently in various academic centers and small groups. Within small groups, teachers focus on encouraging self-questioning, problem solving, “think alouds”, productive struggle and the opportunity to make mistakes and grow. Key stakeholders meet regularly as part of the RtI process. Each grade level has a minimum of five meetings per year in order to review student data and/or create personalized plans for students that are academically at-risk or are having social emotional challenges that are impacting academic success. Within the RtI model, the opportunity for special education students to effectively integrate into the General Education population has grown exponentially. Within four years they have transitioned from having primarily self-contained classes and pull-out resource to an expanded set of options including in-class resource settings for students in Grades Kindergarten through 8 via a co-teaching environment. In addition, literacy, math and English as a second language (ESL) coaches support instructional staff across the continuum. All teachers are fully trained in Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol (SIOP) and Advancement via Individual Determination (AVID) strategies play an integral role in Grades 4-8.

Red Bank Borough realizes the importance of community partnerships and their administrators and stakeholders continually seek out partnerships to support their students. Community partnerships allow the district to provide students with enriching experiences and opportunities to broaden their horizons. Thanks to the community partners, students participated in the following: mindALIGNED program and Kennedy Center Partnership with the Count Basie Center for the Arts; swimming lessons with the YMCA; creative writing classes with Project Write Now; service learning opportunities at Lunch Break of Red Bank; and a Fresh Fruits and Vegetables program with Chartwells and Sickles Market. Yvonne Lamb Scudieri, Vice President of Education, Count Basie Center for the Arts states, “Understanding the importance of arts experiences, and the impact they make on young lives...we are proud to support Stormy Singers and the dance class – team spirit and collaboration at their finest!”

Family engagement is vital to a student’s success and the district holds Parent Teacher Organization (PTO), Bilingual Parent Advisory Council (BPAC), Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC) and Title I Parent Involvement meetings and events throughout the year. They are dedicated to encouraging positive partnerships between school and parents/guardians in their child’s education. Their annual September Packet Pickup process engages families, improves communication, provides resources and access to services such as health care, uniforms, and supplies, among others.

### Red Bank Borough School District Demographic Information

**Grades Served:** Pre-K to 8

**Number of Schools:** 2

**Total Enrollment:** 1,439

**Economically Disadvantaged:** 86.7%

**Students with Disabilities:** 16.2%

**English Learners:** 32.9%

### Ask Red Bank Borough to Share Their Story

- 1) Response to Intervention
- 2) Co-teaching
- 3) Small group instruction
- 4) Community partnerships
- 5) Family engagement
- 6) Supporting English learners

### Contact Information

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