

School Improvement Plan | 2017-18

For the 2017-18 school year, our community at Bethune Community is dedicated to working together toward our school-wide goals, focused on increasing the academic achievement of all students and ensuring that our school is a great place for all learners.

This year we are striving to achieve the following goals:

- Goal 1:** Based on data taken annually through standardized testing, the percentage of students that have met or exceeded annual growth in mathematics in grades fourth and fifth will increase from 62.9% in SY 2017 to 75% in SY 2018.
- Goal 2:** Based on data taken annually through standardized testing, the percentage of students that have met or exceeded annual growth in reading in grades fourth and fifth will increase from 64.2% in SY 2017 to 75% in SY 2018.
- Goal 3:** Based on data collected through behavior referrals identified as level 3 and higher, the number of overall referrals per school day will decrease from 1.159 (204 total) to 1.000 (176 total).

In order to reach these goals, we'll be using the following strategies:

Visual Thinking Strategies	It is a very simple activity designed to build students' background knowledge and develop thinking skills that use detail to enhance understanding. Many educators have used this method as a precursor to working on a literary passage because the thinking skills used to analyze artwork can be transferred to literature as well. The Visual Thinking Strategies (VTS) method was created by Abigail Housen, a cognitive psychologist in the Harvard Graduate School of Education. VTS is targeted at developing creativity and thinking skills. It also presents a very effective method for tapping into students' background knowledge.
Data Based Guided Math Groups	Data based guided math group based on data collected from multiple forms of assessment (both quantitative and qualitative) leads to better differentiation and scaffolding based on student needs leading to an increase in student growth.
CASEL Guide	The 2013 CASEL Guide: Effective Social and Emotional Learning Programsâ€™ Preschool and Elementary School Edition has four goals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide a systematic framework for evaluating the quality of classroom-based social and emotional learning (SEL) programs; • To apply this framework to rate and identify well-designed, evidence-based SEL programs with potential for broad dissemination to schools across the United States; • To share best-practice guidelines for district and school teams on how to select and implement SEL programs; and • To offer recommendations for future priorities to advance SEL research, practice, and policy.