



Catapult Learning
Literacy First

A Teaching, Learning and Leading Framework

Performance Results

September, 2013

Literacy First

A Teaching, Learning and Leading Framework

Literacy First is not a program; it is a research-based framework of **best practices** and strategies designed to create a **literacy rich environment** that **motivates** and **ENGAGES** students in their own learning.

What Does Literacy First Do?

1. Closes the reading gap of all AYP subgroups as demonstrated on nationally normed assessments
2. Molds teachers to be more “consciously competent” about the reading process
3. Refines teachers’ instructional skills
4. Strengthens principals’ instructional leadership skills
5. Offers flexible models to scale from individual schools to larger school districts
6. Customizes to meet the needs of any school no matter needs or size



Literacy First in Oklahoma

Oklahoma Commission for Teacher Preparation (OCTP)

| | |
|----------------------------|---------|
| School Years | 2009-12 |
| Type of Schools | Public |
| Grades Served | K-8 |
| Number of Schools | 43 |
| Number of Teachers Trained | 15,000 |

Literacy First Framework implementation began in 2009

Goals:

- Develop and sustain teacher preparedness and effectiveness
- Impact student success through knowledgeable quality teachers
- Build an infrastructure and culture to support improved reading achievement

OCTP conducted a large independent study to ascertain the effectiveness of the Literacy First Program. Based on their findings, OCTP stated, “*Literacy First has made a difference for many students, teachers, and schools across Oklahoma, as evidenced by the data.*”

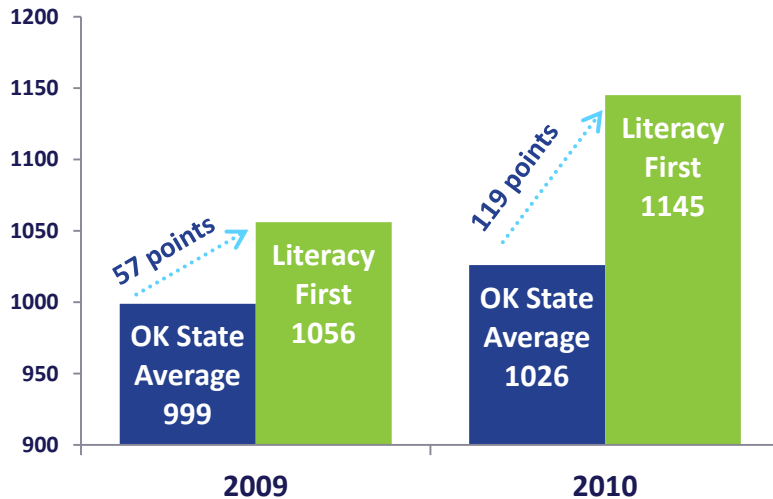
Literacy First Schools Outperformed State Control Group

In one of the largest independent statewide reading studies ever conducted, Literacy First schools significantly outperformed the state's control group in both teacher performance and student outcomes.

Literacy First Schools API Scores Exceed State's

The Academic Performance Index (API) is an Oklahoma State Department of Education testing series that measures the percentage of students performing at proficient levels in reading and math. Literacy First Elementary schools performed higher than the state in both 2009 (by 57 points) and 2010 (by 119 points).

Oklahoma Elementary API Scores

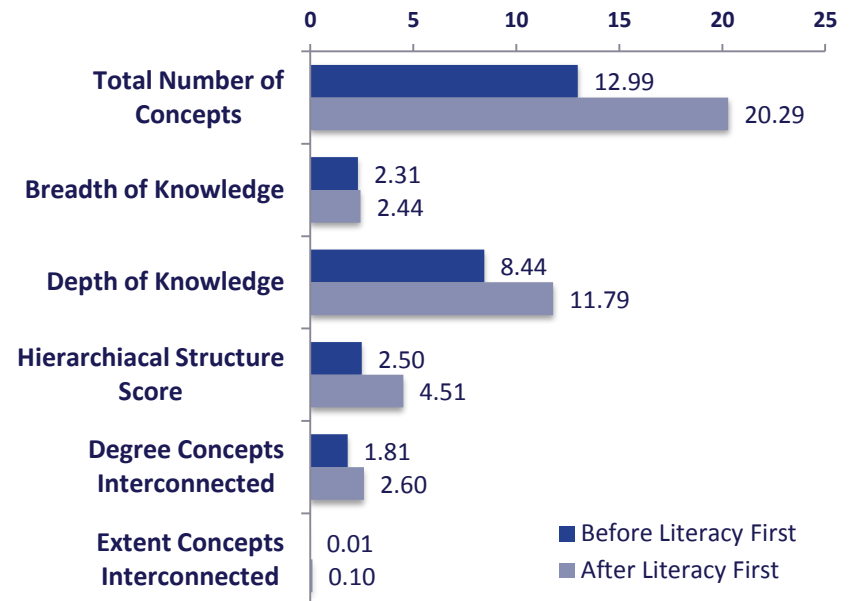


Literacy First Schools score:
57 points higher than the state avg in 2009
119 points higher than the state avg in 2010

Teachers Demonstrate Significant Growth

Teachers demonstrated statistically significant growth in the depth of their understanding of the reading instruction process. They also demonstrated more knowledge about the five essential elements of reading instruction and the strategies associated with those elements.

Teacher Knowledge: Structural Analysis of Concept Maps Before & After Literacy First



Literacy First in Bronx, NY

PS 219 New Venture Academy Bronx, NY

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| School Years | 2012-2013 |
| Type of School | Public |
| Grades Served | 6-8 |
| Enrollment | 412 |
| Special Education | 25% |
| Economically Disadvantaged | 96% |
| Hispanic | 57% |
| African American | 43% |

Literacy First Framework implementation began in 2012

Goals:

- Strengthen classroom practices
- Create a common instructional language among school leaders and teachers
- Engage students in content learning
- Position students for success in high school

Increased Student Engagement at PS 219, Bronx, NY

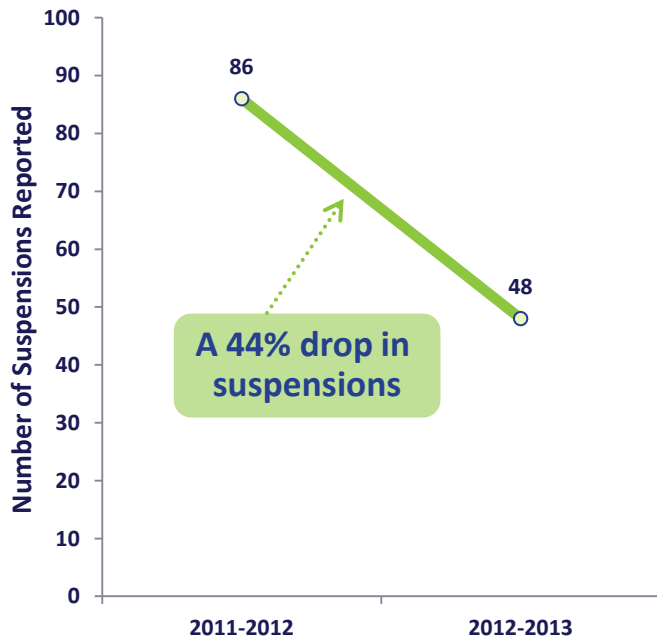
Suspensions Drop Across All Student Groups

In 2011-2012, there were a total of 86 student suspensions at New Venture Academy. After one year of Literacy First, overall school suspensions decreased from 86 to 48, a 44% decrease.

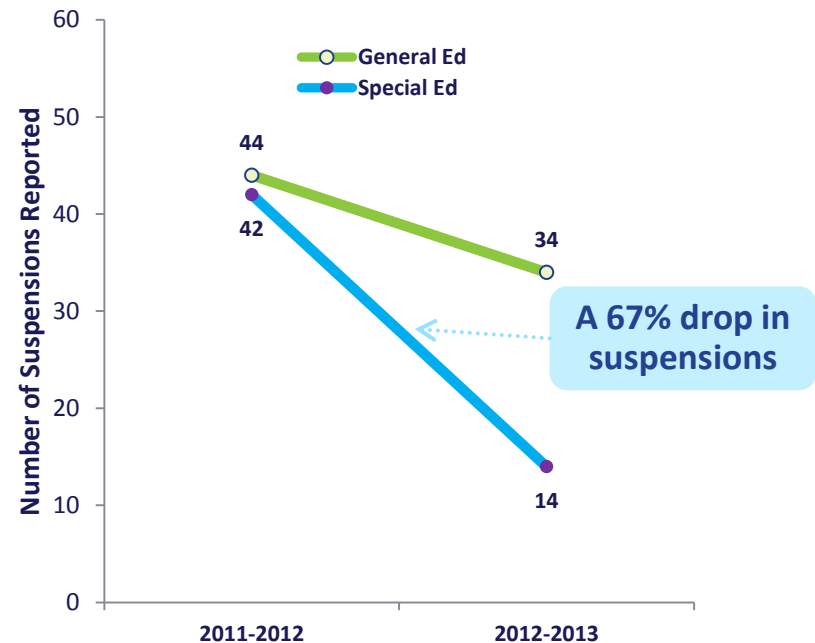
Dramatic Decrease in Special Ed Student Suspension Rate

Suspensions reported for Special Education students dropped from 42 in 2011 to 14 in 2013, a 67% decrease compared to the 23% decrease experienced by the general student base.

All Students Suspensions
New Venture Academy
PS 219 Bronx NY



Special Ed vs. All Student Suspensions
New Venture Academy
PS 219 Bronx NY



Literacy First in Arkansas City, KS

Arkansas City School District Profile

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| School Years | 2003-04 through 2012-13 |
| Type of School | 6 Elementary Schools 1 High School 1 Middle School 1 Head Start Facility |
| Grades Served | Pre-K-12 |
| Enrollment | 2,821 |
| Econ. Disadvantaged | 69% |
| African American | 4% |
| Hispanic | 24% |
| White | 60% |
| Other | 12% |

Literacy First Framework began in 2003-04

Goals:

- Increase number of students meeting literacy standards
- Close the achievement gap for all student populations
- Create consistency in literacy instruction district-wide

Sustained Literacy Achievement in Arkansas City, KS

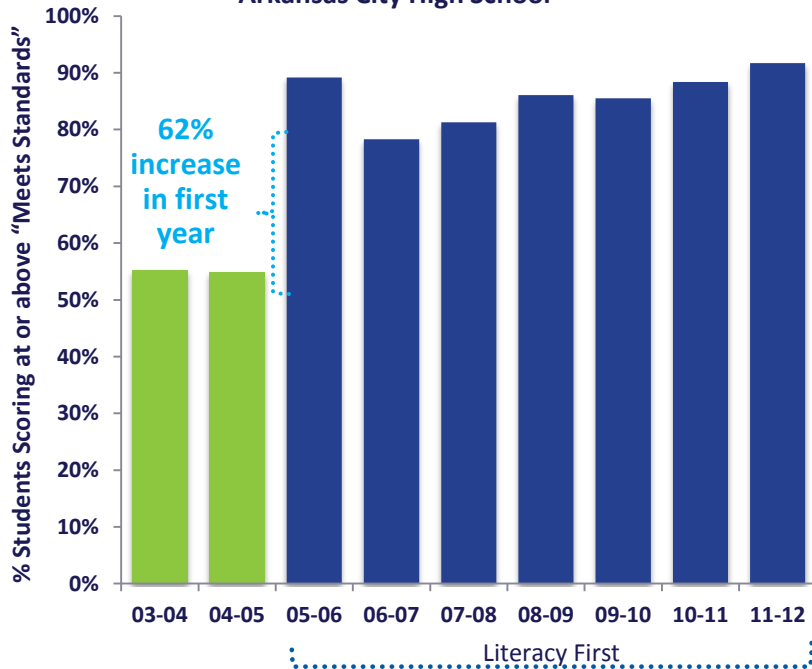
After one year of implementation, High School student performance increased by 62%

When Arkansas City High School began Literacy First only 55% of students were scoring at “Meets Standard” or above on the KRA. After the first year, that number increased to 89%. In the seven years since ACHS adopted Literacy First, more than 80% of students have continued to “Meet or Exceed” the state standards.

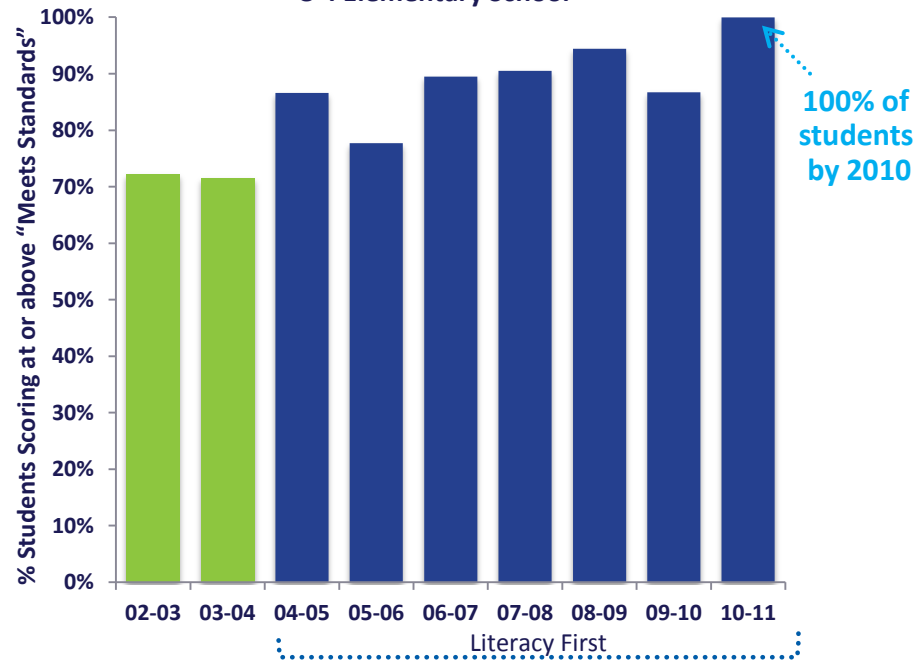
100% of Elementary students scored at or above standard by the 7th year of service

When C-4 ES began Literacy First 70% of their learners were meeting the state standards in reading, however 10% of learners were in “academic warning.” With Literacy First, C-4 Elementary accomplished their goal in 2011 when 100% of their learners met the state standards in reading.

11th Grade Kansas Reading Assessment Results
Arkansas City High School



5th Grade Kansas Reading Assessment Results
C-4 Elementary School



Students Scoring at “Meets Standards” through “Exemplary”

Literacy First in Emporia, KS

Emporia High School Emporia, Kansas Demographics

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| Three Year Process | 2007-2012 |
| Type of School | Public |
| Grades Served | 9-12 |
| Enrollment | 1,434 |
| English Language Learners | 34% |
| Economically Disadvantaged | 68% |
| Hispanic | 51% |
| African American | 3% |
| White | 41% |
| Other | 6% |

Literacy First Framework began in 2007-08

Goals:

- Make Adequate Yearly Progress
- Perform Above State Average

Emporia High School Performs Above State Average

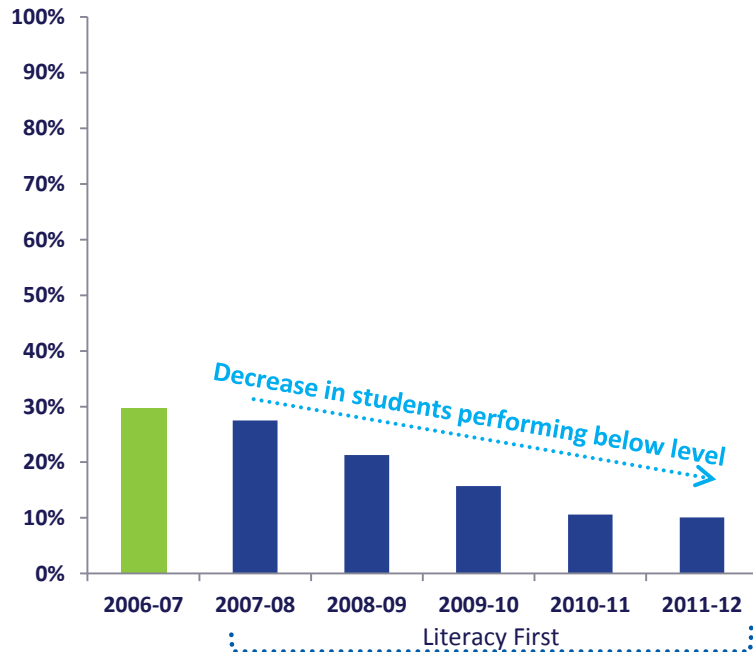
Major Decrease of Low Performing Students

After the first years of the Literacy First Framework, the percentage of students scoring below the “Meets Standard” level on the Kansas Reading Assessment began a steady decline. In 2006-07, 30% of students were performing below level; by 2011-12, only 10% were struggling below level.

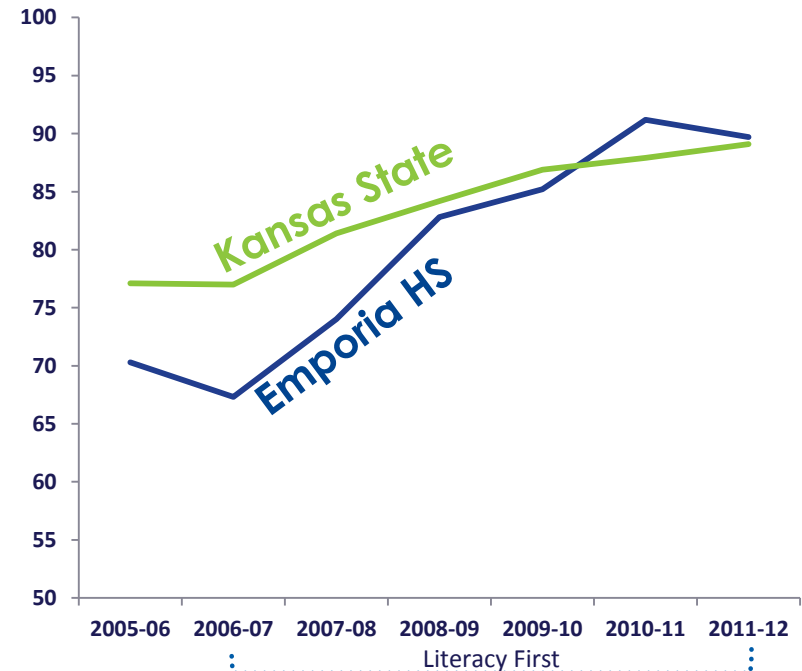
Emporia High School Exceeds KS State Average

Emporia High School progressed from performing 10 percentage points below the state average in 2006-07 to exceeding the state’s average. The percentage of students performing at or above standard has climbed a total of 12 percentage points in five years relative to the state.

Emporia HS Students Performing Below Standard on 11th Grade Kansas Reading Assessment



11th Grade Kansas Reading Assessment



Literacy First in Liberal, KS

| Liberal High School Liberal, Kansas Demographics | |
|---|-----------|
| Three Year Process | 2009-2012 |
| Type of School | Public |
| Grades Served | 9-12 |
| Enrollment | 1,193 |
| Special Education | 25% |
| English Language Learners | 35% |
| Economically Disadvantaged | 71% |
| Hispanic | 69% |
| African American | 3% |
| White | 21% |
| Other | 6% |

Literacy First Framework began in 2009-10

Goals:

- Improve performance ranking within district
- Close achievement gap across all groups of students
- Strengthen instruction across all subject areas

ELLs Close Achievement Gap at Liberal High School, KS

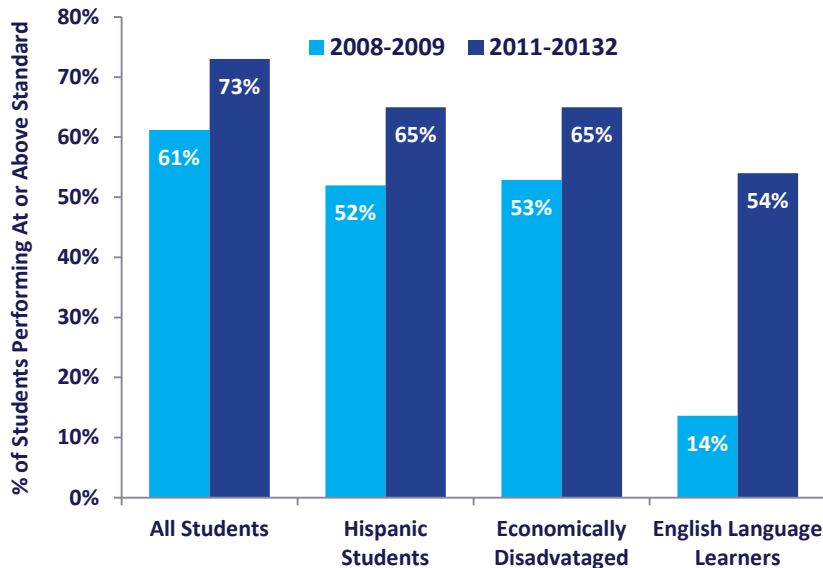
Percentage of ELL Students Performing At or Above Standard Increased 40.4 Percentage Points in 3 Years

After three years of Literacy First, the percentage of students scoring at the “Meets Standard” level or above on the Kansas Reading Assessment increased by at least 10 points for all student groups. As the achievement gap between the different groups continued to close, ELLs improved the most, with the percentage of students achieving at or above standard increasing by 40 points.

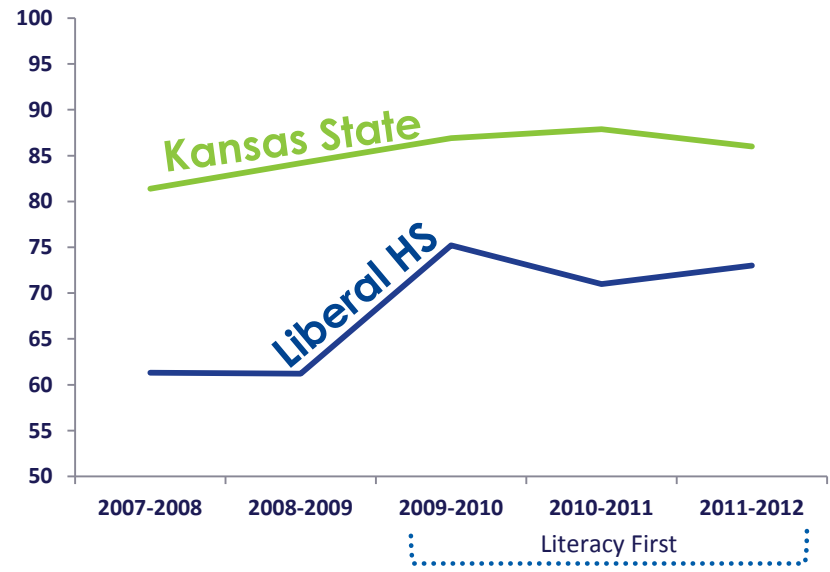
Liberal High School Closes in on State Average After One Year

The percent of Liberal High School students scoring at or above standard increased by 14 percentage points after just one year of Literacy First. Students maintained this increased level of performance so that by the third year of Literacy First, they were performing just 13 percentage points below the state average.

Kansas Reading Assessment Comparison by Student Groups



Liberal High School vs. Kansas State 11th Grade Kansas Reading Assessment



Literacy First in Bartlesville, OK

| Bartlesville Public Schools Bartlesville, Oklahoma Demographics | |
|--|-----------|
| Three Year Process | 2008-2012 |
| Type of School | Public |
| Grades Served | 9-12 |
| Enrollment | 5,983 |
| English Language Learners | 1% |
| Economically Disadvantaged | 42% |
| White | 67% |
| American Indian | 16% |
| Hispanic | 9% |
| African American | 6% |
| Asian | 2% |

Literacy First Framework began in 2008-09

Goals:

- Improve standing on the state’s Academic Performance Index (API)
- Increase test scores on Oklahoma Core Curriculum Test (OCCT)
- Establish balanced reading programs across the district

Bartlesville API Scores Outweigh Peers

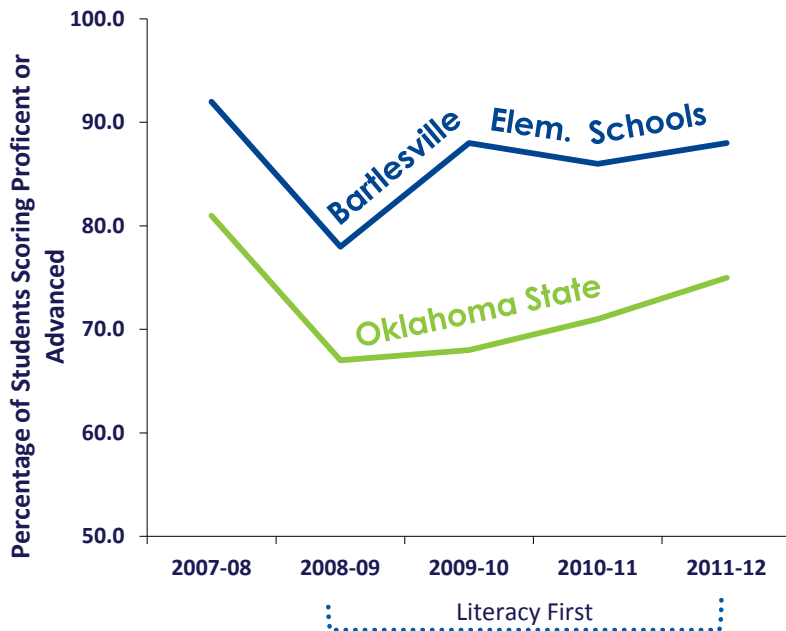
Bartlesville Schools Continue to Outperform the State Average on Oklahoma State Tests

After the first year of Literacy First, students of five Bartlesville public elementary schools drastically increased their performance on Oklahoma Core Curriculum Tests (OCCT). These schools continued to score above the state average over the subsequent three years—in 2011-12 the percentage of Bartlesville students scoring proficient or advanced was 17 points higher than the state average.

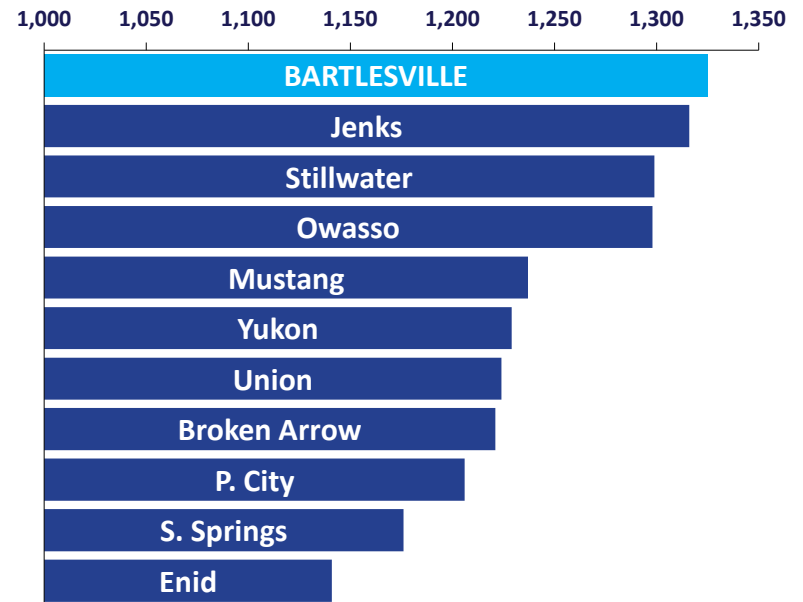
Bartlesville Achieves Top API Score Among Peer Districts

The Academic Performance Index (API) is an Oklahoma State Department of Education testing series that measures the percentage of students performing at proficient levels in reading and math. Bartlesville Public School District received a top API score in 2011 compared to 32 of the largest school districts in Oklahoma.

Oklahoma Core Curriculum Test Results
Bartlesville Elementary Schools vs. the State



2011 Oklahoma API Scores



*API data furnished by Bartlesville Public School District

Literacy First Snapshot Results for Hispanic Students

Broadview Middle School Alamance-Burlington, NC

The percentage of Hispanic students performing in the top two categories on North Carolina's End-of-Grade tests was 8.6 points less than the school's total percentage of high performing students.

After three years of Literacy First, the percentage of Hispanic students performing in the top categories grew by 13.7 points, 3.0 percentage points higher than the total percentage of students.

Southern Middle School, Alamance-Burlington, NC

After three years of Literacy First, 62.5% of Hispanic students were performing in the top two categories on North Carolina's End-of-Grade tests, compared to 51.2% in 2008 –an increase of 11.3 percentage points.



Literacy First Snapshot Results for Hispanic Students

Campus High School, Hayesville, KS

72.8% of Hispanic students were “meeting or exceeding” the state standard on the Kansas Reading Assessment. After just two years of Literacy First, 100% of Hispanic students were performing at or above standard, an increase of 27.2 percentage points.

Southwest Elementary School, Hickory, NC

After just two years of Literacy First, Hispanic students performing in top two categories on North Carolina’s End-of-Grade test jumped by 20.9 percentage points, increasing from 47.4% to 68.6%.



Emporia High School, KS

Hispanic students are only 5.4 points behind all students. Hispanic students at Emporia High School closed the achievement gap after five years of Literacy First. Beginning with a 17.9 point difference in the total number of students performing at or above standard on the Kansas State Reading Assessment, by the fifth year there was only a 5.4 point difference between Hispanic student performance and all students.

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To **learn more**, visit us at

www.catapultlearning.com/literacyfirst

or call 1-800-841-8730