

Barrington High School

Barrington Public Schools, Barrington, Rhode Island

Location type: Large suburb

District enrollment: 3,334 students

School enrollment: 1,037 students

Percentage of students at school eligible for free and reduced price meals: 5

Key Takeaways

Barrington High School took the OECD Test for Schools during the 2013-2014 school year. The results showed that while Barrington scored very well across math, reading, and science (performing above Korea and Finland in all three content areas), less than one third of the students performed at the highest levels (5 and 6) in reading, math, and science.

Actions Taken

- ✓ The school shared the data, the scoring rubric, and sample questions from the assessment with teachers at the high school and middle school levels to demonstrate what students need to know to become globally competitive. Teachers have used this information to inform their instruction.
- ✓ In addition, the school realized that students were not reading for pleasure as much as the school would have hoped. In response, Barrington allowed students to have more flexibility in selecting books for summer reading assignments; previously, summer reading had been assigned without student voice or choice.
- ✓ Additionally, Barrington Public Schools has provided opportunities for students at the elementary and middle school levels to share their favorite books with their peers through blogs, animated book trailers, and online discussions using VoiceThread to promote a love of reading.

- ✓ Barrington High School attended the 2014 Convening of World-Leading Schools. Several months later, the school also participated in a Global Learning Network virtual convening on reading strategies as a featured presenter to share how the school has used its OECD Test for Schools results to inform improvement efforts.

- ✓ Moving forward, Barrington plans to focus on student motivation in math and science, as the OECD Test for Schools results revealed that a large proportion of students do not recognize the importance of math and science to future, real-world opportunities.

Barrington's 2015 OECD Test for Schools results indicate that progress has been made. The proportion of students identifying as deep and wide readers increased by 7 percent. Additionally, the percentage of students performing at the highest proficiency levels (levels 5 and 6) increased across math, reading, and science, and Barrington no longer has any students performing below Level 2 in reading.

Those wishing to learn more about the practices at Barrington High School may visit the school's website [here](#).