

# Heritage High School

## Loudoun County Public Schools, Leesburg, Virginia

**Location type:** Rural

**District enrollment:** 70,759 students

**School enrollment:** 1,192 students

**Percentage of students at school eligible for free and reduced price meals:** 22

### Key Takeaways

Heritage High School has leveraged the OECD Test for Schools to engage in ongoing discussions with staff about rigor and critical thinking skills. After analyzing the school's results, the leadership team identified mathematics and teacher-student relations as areas for improvement. The school is committed to continuing to use its results from subsequent administrations of the OECD Test for Schools as part of an ongoing improvement cycle that translates data from the OECD Test for Schools and other assessments into actions, especially regarding professional development for the faculty.

### Actions Taken

- ✓ The principal presented the school's results at an instructional leadership meeting as well as a faculty meeting to build understanding of students' progress, the areas for improvement, and the need to take further action.
- ✓ The principal also created and facilitated a professional development session focused on analyzing the mathematics questions and results. Teachers reviewed the assessment format and questions themselves, the mathematics achievement data, and the relevant student survey results to better understand the level of rigor that the school must meet in order to effectively support student acquisition of critical deeper learning skills.
- ✓ To promote stronger teacher-student relations, Heritage implemented an advisory program that provides greater opportunities for teachers and students to form positive relationships outside the classroom.

- ✓ In order to continue learning from their OECD Test for Schools results, Heritage High School has participated in the 2014 Convening of World-Leading Schools and the 2015 DC-Virginia-Maryland regional meeting.

Heritage participated in the OECD Test for Schools again in 2015 and was pleased to see an improvement in the students' perceptions of teacher-student relations. Most notably, the percentage of students agreeing with the statement "I get along well with most of my teachers" increased by 9%. The school also saw improvement in math with 1% more students now performing at the highest levels (5 and 6). Finally, the proportion of students performing below level 2 decreased by 6% reading and 7% in science.

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