Istation

Diverse district sees academic progress with Istation

*Using program resources, Bernalillo Public Schools
targets instruction based on adaptive tests*

Challenge

Bernalillo Public Schools in New Mexico started using Istation over seven years ago when the state chose to pilot its assessments. The following year, every district in New Mexico began using Istation's Indicators of Progress (ISIP™) assessments for testing all K-3 students. Before Istation, teachers hand-scored assessments. Additionally, the district previously had trouble finding products with a Spanish component for its dual-language classrooms. Without an assessment tool that provided data, teachers struggled to determine which students needed help in which language.

Solution

With Istation, Bernalillo teachers had immediate data at their fingertips once a student finished testing. Teachers analyzed data, changed how they delivered instruction, and increased small-group interaction to tackle a skill that most students struggled with. This approach totally changed outcomes and scores went up.

"We saw a big difference in test scores once we purchased the instructional component — and when students use Istation more often," said Jennifer Trujillo, district assessment and school improvement coordinator. The district saw improvements in English and Spanish ISIP scores, which provided the information teachers needed to predict student success.

Some recent results:

- The number of English readers in kindergarten who were assessed as "at risk" decreased 16 percentage points during the school year.
- The number of English readers in kindergarten who were assessed as on target to meet end-of-year grade-level expectations increased seven percentage points during the school year.
- The number of Spanish readers in kindergarten who were assessed as "at risk" decreased 15 percentage points during the school year.
- The number of Spanish readers in kindergarten who were assessed as on target to meet end-of-year grade-level expectations rose seven percentage points during the same time period.

Learning Impact Outcome

Not only were teachers getting the data, but Bernalillo students were receiving instruction and practice in their native language where they needed it the most. Istation is adaptive, providing a very individualized plan for each student while they are working online. Students were engaged with what they were learning online, which made classroom instructional time more meaningful.

"You can't go wrong with more instruction that's targeted to each student based on their level and the skills they need more support in," Trujillo said.

Istation resources made communicating with parents much easier as well. Parents understood their children's results better and felt supported at home.

Return on Investment

In Bernalillo Public Schools, teacher buy-in came

> " We know the ongoing assessment, progress monitoring and instruction have made a difference because scores continue to go up. "

quickly with technical support, differentiated professional development, and a solution that helped teachers as much as it helped students.

Teachers can now easily access their data on a more frequent basis to use for determining next steps. Trujillo helps monitor classroom usage and sends reports to principals and the superintendent. This helps keep everyone accountable.

The district has found success in differentiating their professional development for teachers by offering sessions based on whether they are advanced, average, or novice users .

"The feedback I have received is that [teachers] get more and appreciate the levels," Trujullo said. "Comments have been 'this is the best training I have ever received,' especially for our advanced users who are ready for way more."

ABOUT ISTATION

Istation's computer-adaptive intervention and instruction for reading, math, and Spanish literacy helps thousands of schools predict student success and more. Research-based and aligned to state standards, Istation's computer-based diagnostic and screening programs, progress monitoring, and interactive lessons provide formative data that give teachers the insight to prioritize interventions, differentiate instruction, and reveal student potential.

Learn more at www.istation.com

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