

Founder's Award Finalist

Despite the challenges created by the pandemic, NIET's partner schools have shown success in outperforming similar schools and increasing retention of effective teachers. The 2022 Founder's Award finalists continued to advance during the pandemic, using NIET's tools and resources to support instructional excellence and learning acceleration, provide coaching from expert leaders and trainers, and engage a large network of educators united around shared learning. NIET is proud to partner with each of these schools, and it was an exciting moment this year to recognize their achievements.

2022 Founder's Award Finalist

Southport 6th Grade Academy

Perry Township Schools, Indiana

Southport 6th Grade Academy, located in Indianapolis, serves 660 students, with Asian students making up more than a quarter of the student population. Of the total of enrolled students, 77% are eligible for free or reduced-price lunch. Principal Jason Wiesmann and his team have fostered an environment where students are engaged and educators are accessible by dividing the school's students into six academic teams. This team structure provides a smaller learning community for students and the foundation for strong family relationships through frequent and meaningful communication and planning. From 2017 to 2020, Southport 6th Grade Academy maintained a state letter grade of A, which evaluates school performance and improvement, growth, and participation.



From 2017 to 2020, Southport 6th Grade Academy maintained an A letter grade

