





Perry Township Schools

Perry Township's success is rooted in the district's decade-long approach to teacher excellence. The adoption and implementation of the NIET Teaching Standards Rubric has allowed every educator to speak from a common language, and district leaders have prioritized instructional support and career growth opportunities.

As a result of its work to put teacher leaders at the forefront of school improvement, Perry Township's students have narrowed achievement gaps, increased graduation rates, surpassed the state average on the state test, and made double-digit gains on the WIDA exam, which measures the abilities of multilingual readers. Southport Elementary School, where Mentor Teacher Heather Smigielski (pictured on the left) teaches, is an example of this success. Nearly 50% of the school's population are English language learners, and 85% of students classify as economically disadvantaged, but teachers have never settled for less than excellence. Southport students outperform the state average on the annual assessment, and the school has been rated as an A or B by the state every year since 2013. ●



NIET's framework is a game-changer for our district. It confirms that success is achieved when educators are trained to adapt their teaching methods to reach children regardless of nationality, socioeconomic background, learning disabilities, and personal challenges. NIET has empowered our educators to give their very best and be a catalyst for students to do their best."

Patrick Mapes

Superintendent | Perry Township Schools, Indianapolis, Indiana