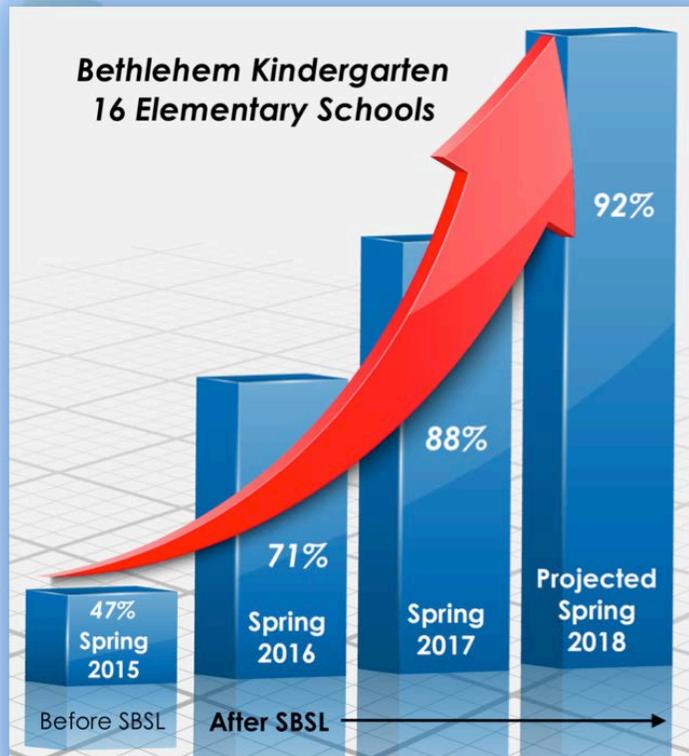


# BETHLEHEM AREA SCHOOLS MAKE STUNNING STRIDES IN READING



**KINDERGARTEN BENCHMARKS  
INCREASE FROM 47% TO 92% IN JUST  
THREE YEARS!**

*Sixteen elementary schools, in the 6th largest district in Pennsylvania, soar to success in raising their kindergarten benchmark scores to an unprecedented level of achievement by implementing a comprehensive MTSS process with Step By Step Learning®.*

Bethlehem Area School District (BASD), PA's 6th largest school system and the #1 Most Diverse District in PA has chosen Step By Step Learning (SBSL) to be their MTSS implementation partner as they continue to usher in reforms that have dramatically improved literacy in their district. The end of year assessment scores in Kindergarten rose from 47% in 2015 to a projected 92% in 2018 with the help of Step By Step Learning's team of trainers and advisor-literacy coaches. BASD is excited to engage SBSL district wide in pre-K through grade 5.

When BASD administrators set a goal of having ALL students reading on grade level by the end of third grade, they knew they needed to start with their youngest students. After three years of intensive literacy training conducted by Step By Step Learning® for teachers, principals and administrators, everyone is floored by the results they are witnessing.



Contact Step By Step Learning® at [info@sbsl.org](mailto:info@sbsl.org)  
or by phone at 610-398-1231



At the end of the 2015 school year, and prior to SBSL involvement, 47 percent of district kindergarteners tested on grade level for literacy. By the close of the 2017 school year, that score had grown to 88 percent and it is projected to be 92% in 2018 . Now that's improvement worth noting!

West Bethlehem's Calypso Elementary School, which began the year with 64 percent of kindergarteners testing on grade level, finished the year with 100% of every single kindergartner on grade level.

**"I have been an educator for 30 years and the gains are astounding. I've never seen anything like this.", said Assistant Superintendent Dr. Jack Silva.**

**"In over 31 years in education, I've never seen such clear results. When we talk about excellence through equity, this is a great example of how instruction can get to that," Superintendent Dr. Joseph Roy said.**

**"These are spectacular, they really are. We never see gains like this... ever"**

**EUGENE MCKEON,  
SCHOOL DIRECTOR**

The district is also focusing on ways to ensure more students enter kindergarten ready to learn. Bethlehem has held Teach Me To Read At Home® events, developed by Step By Step Learning® and evaluated by Lehigh University, for parents and pre-K providers on a monthly basis. These events include open houses, pre-K literacy training sessions conducted by district teachers and guided by Step By Step Learning® early childhood consultants. The district will offer parents and pre-K providers face to face opportunities and online tools, such as Teach Me To Learn at Home®, that are designed to be easy to use, and host real life literacy strategies parents can incorporate into their daily life from their child's birth, explained Dr. Jodi Frankelli, district supervisor of early learning, grants and development.

***If you have questions about the results, please feel free to contact:***

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