

A transformation strategy + commitment = stunning success



OVERVIEW

How does a small elementary school in rural West Virginia go from below average performance to becoming one of the highest performing schools in the state in five years (with a pandemic in the middle)? The successful transformation of Smithville Elementary School and the vision of Smithville's committed school leaders have inspired the two other elementary schools and the middle school in the county to aim high and do the same, ensuring every student arrives at Ritchie County High School prepared to succeed in their education and life.

This is a story about what can happen when leadership and teachers don't let anything get in the way of making sure every student gets the support needed to succeed.

13_{points}

higher in reading proficiency
over the past 5 years

Ritchie County's
improvement was more
than 2x the state's gain

DISTRICT SNAPSHOT

Ritchie County, West Virginia

STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

- White 99.1%
- Economically Disadvantaged 47%
- Special Education 22%
- English Learners < 1%

COUNTY DATA

- Large landmass: 454 sq. miles
- Population: 8000 and dropping
- 7th highest poverty rate in state
- Foster care rate 8x national average



GRADE
LEVELS

PK-8



YEAR
IMPLEMENTED

2018



PROGRAMS USED

One95 Literacy
Ecosystem: Tiers 1-3



We can't have any preconceived notions about kids because we know their family or things like that. None of that matters. It's just this: Okay, you come in. We believe from day one that you can do it. And what do we need to do to help you get there?

JACOB CLEVENGER

Chief Instructional Leader, Ritchie County School District



Ready to learn more? Contact a literacy specialist.

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