



Belvidere School District Belvidere, Illinois

SNAPSHOT FROM THE FIELD

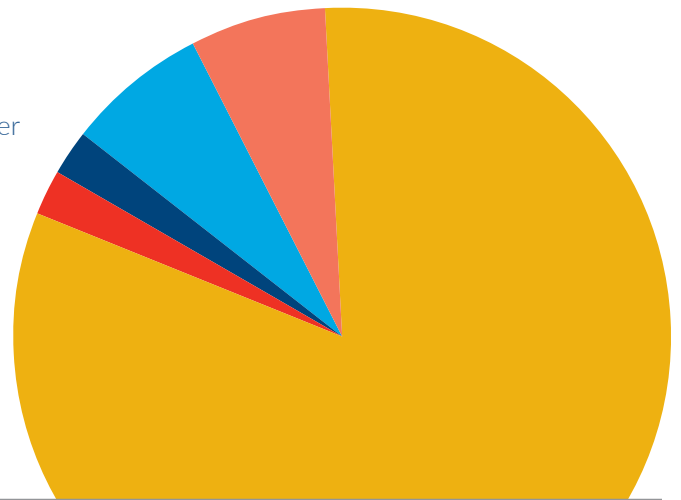
“Belvidere School District transformed teaching and learning using the High Reliability Schools framework.”



DEMOGRAPHICS

- 8,278 students
- 53.8% Free and reduced lunch
- 12% Limited English proficient
- 15.28% Special education
- 3.1% African American
- 36.6% Hispanic
- 1.2% Asian/Pacific Islander
- .6% American Indian or Alaska Native
- 2.6% Multiracial

Belvidere School District in Illinois comprises ten schools (five elementary schools, two middle schools, two high schools, and one STEM academy).



CHALLENGE

Belvidere School District began working with Marzano Resources to build a guaranteed and viable curriculum through the development of proficiency scales. As the school district continued this work, district leaders were

introduced to the High Reliability Schools™ (HRS) framework for school improvement. The design of HRS and its alignment to Belvidere's desire to create a positive culture that promoted student learning led to the adoption of HRS.

IMPLEMENTATION

Members of the district leadership team took the first step by attending the annual HRS Summit, which prepared them to begin implementing the framework in all ten schools.

Adopting the HRS framework provided a common language and a shared set of expectations for their school improvement efforts. While the model is supportive and responsive to the individual needs and opportunities at each school site, using it as a districtwide tool created opportunities for shared learning, collaboration between schools, and alignment of resources, time, and energy.

“Each of the levels are interconnected and lead to a readiness to transform a school from a traditional model to a competency-based system,” explained Dave Carson, assistant superintendent of Belvidere. “Understanding HRS as a system provides clarity about the ‘why’ of this work; it is both to improve the school at each level while preparing the system to move its practice to one that better meets the needs of each student.”

“HRS provides our district with a prioritized road map of school improvement efforts that propels us toward our vision of a student-centered learning environment.”

– Dave Carson, assistant superintendent



RESULTS

Each school in Belvidere School District is now a certified High Reliability School. Through the use of the HRS framework, Belvidere's school improvement teams have a clear set of indicators to guide their efforts, which has transformed their school improvement process. The tools for identifying focus areas and monitoring progress have empowered each school team to improve structures and practices in a manner that builds on the strengths of the school staff while allowing them to design solutions to best meet their needs.



Transform classrooms with research-based practice

Marzano Resources, formerly Marzano Research, is dedicated to helping K–12 educators advance student achievement. Built on the foundation of Dr. Robert J. Marzano’s 50 years of education research, Marzano Resources supports teachers and administrators through customizable on-site professional development, educator events, virtual coaching, books, videos, and online courses. Our associates and authors are thought leaders in the field of education and deliver research-backed guidance for all major areas of schooling, including curriculum development, instruction, assessment, student engagement, and personalized competency-based education.

Here are just a few ways we can help you achieve your goals:

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Browse our specialized K–12 resources to discover proven strategies on the most critical topics in education—from assessment and grading to competency-based education, technology, and student engagement.

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Build deep learning faster. Whether you seek CEU credits for yourself or proficiency in new techniques for an entire staff, our online courses provide affordable, targeted training.

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Learn how you can bring Dr. Marzano and his associates to your school or district. Plan a dynamic one-day session or a series of trainings. Just tell us your goals, and we’ll tailor the experience for you and your team.

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Let our experts energize your efforts toward implementing a guaranteed and viable curriculum. Our proficiency scale services offer a wide range of options, from proficiency scale review to revision to alignment to creation.

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