

Mapleton Middle School Wins 2022 Pacesetter School Award

School honored for helping students successfully transition to rigorous high school programs

July 19, 2022 — Mapleton Middle School in Ashland, Ohio, is the winner of a 2022 Gene Bottoms Pacesetter School Award from the Southern Regional Education Board. The school will be honored on July 19, 2022, at SREB's Making Schools Work Conference in Grapevine, Texas.

Pacesetter School Awards recognize schools that are implementing one of SREB's Making Schools Work school improvement frameworks and are achieving success in meeting bold goals related graduation rates, readiness for college and careers, and credential attainment.

Mapleton Middle School implements [Making Middle Grades Work](#), SREB's school improvement design for the middle grades. In 2018, school administrators accepted the challenge to turn around the struggling school in three years. The school set two goals: increasing student achievement through schoolwide standards-based instruction and grading practices and closing the gap for students with disabilities through engaging, project-based classroom instruction.

In 2018, widespread gaps in achievement impeded student success, especially for students with disabilities. Mapleton had received an overall rating of D on the Ohio report card and was placed on Academic Watch, the state's lowest designation. Administrators immediately sought to make a schoolwide shift to standards-based instruction and grading practices.

By 2019, Mapleton reduced the gap for students with disabilities by 3% in English language arts and 10% in mathematics. Mapleton's use of standards-based mastery instructional and grading practices, student choice lessons and project-based learning is changing the school's culture and opportunities for all students to succeed.

SREB's [Making Schools Work Conference](#) is held annually and provides educators with opportunities to participate in professional development, network with colleagues from across the country, and build school and district leadership capacity.

The Southern Regional Education Board works with states and educators to improve education at every level, from early childhood through postsecondary education. Learn more about SREB at sreb.org. SREB media contact: Alan.Richard@SREB.org, (404) 879-5528.



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