

## Bethel-Tate Middle School Wins 2020 Pacesetter Award

*School honored for creating a culture of high expectations*

June 30, 2020 — Bethel-Tate Middle School in Bethel, Ohio, is the winner of a 2020 Gene Bottoms Pacesetter School Award from the Southern Regional Educational Board. Bethel-Tate will be honored on July 6, 2021, at SREB's Making Schools Work Conference in Nashville, Tennessee, due to the cancellation of the 2020 conference in New Orleans, Louisiana.

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 to increases in student graduation rates, readiness for college and careers, and credential attainment.

Bethel-Tate Middle School implements the [Making Middle Grades Work](#) framework, SREB's school improvement design for the middle grades. The school creates a culture of high expectations for each student and ensures that students have equitable access to resources and opportunities to complete rigorous course work and reach their full potential.

BTMS provides an exceptional academic learning environment along with support for students' social and emotional well-being. BTMS has individual student computers in every classroom along with interactive televisions or Smart Boards. Students are engaged in completing hands-on, project-based assignments that require students to apply academic, technical and workplace skills to solve real-world challenges. The school has also implemented Positive Behavior Intervention Supports, which has led to increased student attendance rates and fewer disciplinary incidents.

Despite the struggles that Bethel-Tate students face in a community plagued by high poverty and drug addiction, BTMS is the highest performing middle school in Clermont County. The school received an A in Closing the Gap in English language arts, math and graduation rate on its Ohio School Report Card. It also received an A component grade, which looks closely at the growth all students are making based on their past performance.

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](http://sreb.org).*

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