



success story

Besteiro Middle School, Brownsville ISD

WHY THEY LOVE LEAD4WARD

Teresa Nuñez, Principal at Besteiro Middle School, and Doug Tolman, Assistant Principal, point to the partnership with lead4ward that changed the overall culture on their campus. When their team of leaders and teachers identified the need to improve campus culture and academic performance, lead4ward helped them start their journey and guided them along the way.



THE CHALLENGE

Besteiro Middle School's accountability rating was "Needs Improvement." As the lowest performing middle school in Brownsville ISD, they knew they had to focus on growth. Changing the campus culture was the first step. The makeup of the campus included students who were 80% at risk, 96% economically disadvantaged, and 53% English learners.

THE SOLUTION

Principal Nuñez attended a lead4ward training in the district and knew immediately that she needed to bring this framework to her campus. With lead4ward professional learning conducted on campus, leaders and teachers grew in their understanding of data and how to use lead4ward instructional strategies across the curriculum. The team embraced building the instructional capacity of their assistant principals, teacher leaders, and the entire teacher team. Students were encouraged to engage with data and learning at a level that wasn't previously expected.

THE RESULT

Ongoing walk-throughs and state data prove their hard work paid off. Teacher turnover is low, and they've grown to lead themselves with the tools they learned. Teachers know their data and know how to adjust instruction in the moment based on that data. Besteiro Middle School went from a C-rated campus to an A-rated campus in just 4 years with steady and sustainable growth.

"lead4ward helped us understand the need for awareness of data, constant collaboration, support, and praise, THEN monitoring and adjustments."

Teresa Nuñez, Principal
Besteiro Middle School, Brownsville ISD

