

Success Story



CLEVELAND MIDDLE SCHOOL

Albuquerque, NM

Highlights

- SpringBoard is the schoolwide curriculum in both English Language Arts and Mathematics for general education students and is being piloted in inclusion classes.
- Cleveland Middle School teachers participated in a thorough review of the SpringBoard program and were unanimous in their decision to use the curriculum schoolwide.
- Professional development and ongoing support from the SpringBoard team were essential to making the implementation successful from the start.

Demographics

Enrollment by Ethnicity	
Asian	2%
Filipino	11%
Hispanic/Latino	56%
Multiracial	4%
Native American	4%
White	26%
ELL	6%
Free/Reduced-Price Lunch	57%
Special Education	17%

Collaborating for Success in an Innovative Learning Environment

Cleveland Middle School is a developmentally responsive school in Albuquerque, N.M. During the 2008–09 school year, Albuquerque's Public Schools (APS) superintendent for curriculum invited the school to investigate using the SpringBoard® curriculum in both English Language Arts and Mathematics for implementation in the district's new School of Choice, the Nex+Gen Academy. APS leaders were interested in SpringBoard because of the program's project-based learning approach, its strategic integration of technology, and its emphasis on the higher-order thinking skills students would need for success at the Nex+Gen Academy.

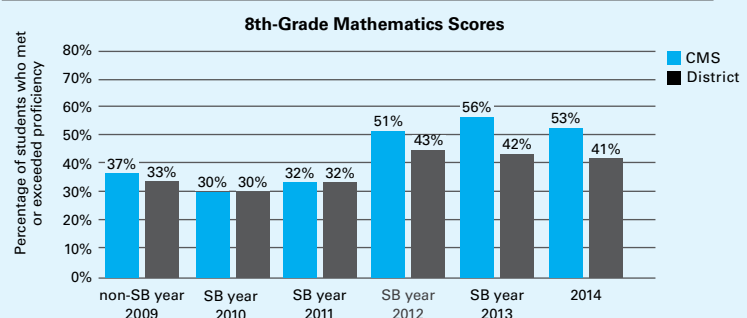
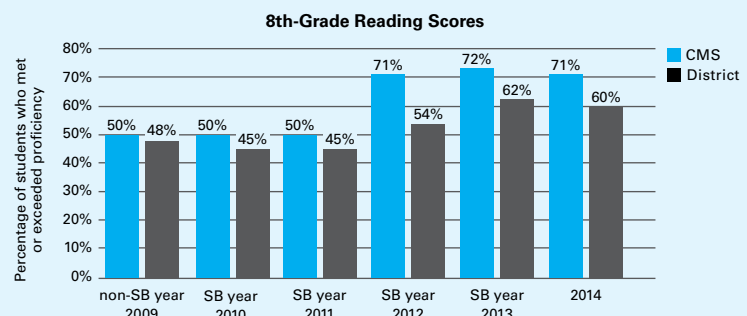
Cleveland Middle School focuses on the total development of the adolescent. The school's curriculum and assessments are vehicles by which the staff facilitates the intellectual, emotional, social, and physical development of every student. The school delivers:

- Curriculum that is challenging, integrative, and exploratory
- Flexible organizational structures
- Varied teaching and learning approaches
- Programs and policies that foster health, wellness, and safety
- Assessment and evaluation that promote learning
- Comprehensive guidance and support services

THE RESULTS

Results Tell the Story

In reading and mathematics, SpringBoard helped Cleveland Middle School (CMS) students prepare for the rigors of high school. In reading, the school's eighth-graders outpaced district performance consistently, with significant gains once students were enrolled in the program for two years. In math, students kept pace with the district in the first two years of SpringBoard and then dramatically outpaced district results in years three and four.



Cleveland Middle School (CMS)

Reasons for Choosing SpringBoard®

- Curriculum is aligned to the Common Core State Standards.
- Units are well organized with effective teaching and learning strategies embedded throughout sixth, seventh, and eighth grades.
- Embedded Assessments are thorough and rigorous.
- The consumable text focuses learning, giving students the ability to mark text, take notes, and complete activities and problems.
- The SpringBoard Digital Edition is available both at school and at home, a feature parents enthusiastically support.
- Online resources, assessments, and reports are available for teachers 24/7.

What Students Are Saying About SpringBoard:

Former Cleveland Middle School students report that they are “... better prepared than their non-SpringBoard peers.”

Students also like “.. going over homework as a group” and “having homework time in class to do homework.”

What Teachers Are Reporting:

Teachers involved in the SpringBoard pilot in Inclusion Classes report:

“The structure is organized and orderly, which helps with many of students with disabilities. Overall, this model is very successful.”

“Cleveland Middle School students’ performance in their freshman high school Algebra 1 course outperforms other middle schools for students in the third and top quartile based on their SBA test scores. For the bottom and second quartile, our students have the second highest performance.”

Susan LaBarge

Principal
Cleveland Middle School



In 2011, Cleveland Middle School was honored as a SpringBoard National Demonstration School.

SPOTLIGHT ON COLLABORATION

Teacher Buy-In, Collaboration, and Professional Learning Combine for a Successful Implementation

Prior to the first year of SpringBoard implementation, the Cleveland Middle School team participated in a full year of program introductions and training. As a result, the faculty and staff were unanimous in their support for the implementation.

- SpringBoard was implemented in both English Language Arts and Mathematics, schoolwide, at the same time.
- All General Education and Gifted classes use the SpringBoard curriculum.
- Cleveland Middle School has participated in a range of SpringBoard professional learning programs, including Initial Institutes, Advanced Workshops, refresher programs, online training, and one-to-one coaching. Additionally, the school’s more experienced SpringBoard teachers provide peer-to-peer training for colleagues.
- Recently, the school has started SpringBoard pilots in Special Education Inclusion classes in both Mathematics and English Language Arts.

An Environment and School Culture Centered on “Super” Success

Susan LaBarge, principal at Cleveland Middle School, leads with high expectations, fun, and team building. Staff and students dress up as super heroes on the CMS SuperTeam during Super Bowl week, and LaBarge inspires students daily with quotes or stories on Facebook.

Each member of the CMS learning community knows they matter. It’s no surprise that even though CMS has posted great achievement results, LaBarge continues to build momentum. She’s brought in SpringBoard professional learning programs to give teachers the benefit of “... a fresh reboot” to keep CMS SpringBoard success growing.



For information, visit collegeboard.org/springboard or call 877-999-7723.