

## SIGNIFICANT INCREASES IN MATH AND ENGLISH

- ▶▶ **Bedford Middle School, Bedford, Virginia**, has a current enrollment of 472 students in grades 7–8. Serving four elementary schools in an urban setting, the school’s free and reduced lunch rate is approximately 44%, with an average daily attendance rate of 94%. An analysis of the data for the past two years shows a significant increase in student achievement for both English and math.

### English

7th and 8th Grade	2008–2009 Proficiency	2009–2010 Proficiency	Gain
All Students	78%	88%	10%
Black Students	56%	75%	19%
White Students	81%	91%	10%
Students w/Disabilities	49%	62%	13%
Economically Disadvantaged	69%	84%	15%

### Math

7th and 8th Grade	2008–2009 Proficiency	2009–2010 Proficiency	Gain
All Students	67%	73%	6%
Black Students	54%	60%	6%
White Students	69%	76%	7%
Students w/Disabilities	65%	74%	9%
Economically Disadvantaged	54%	68%	14%

### ▶▶ Strategies for Success at Bedford Middle School

Strategies that have assisted with creating a climate of success include the following:

- ♦ A Framework for Understanding Poverty training for all staff members
- ♦ Building positive relationships with students
- ♦ Monitoring test data on data trackers and disaggregating the data of at-risk students
- ♦ Administering common assessments to analyze student progress per subgroup
- ♦ “Prove it” strategies
- ♦ Using graphic organizers



*“Bedford Middle School’s staff has been successful because of the professional development they have received on understanding the needs of the students from various backgrounds and utilizing instructional methods that fit the students’ learning styles. The staff has implemented researched-based reading and math strategies, analyzed test data, and used the data to make informed decisions about instruction. We have a wonderful staff committed to helping our students reach their fullest potential.”*

–Rhetta Watkins  
Principal, Bedford Middle School  
Bedford, VA