

ESSA 2020-2021 Participation Rate Improvement Plan

School Name	Emmet Belknap Intermediate School	Contact Person Name	Paul Kowalski
School BEDS Code	400400010009	Contact Person Title/Position	Principal
District Name	Lockport City School District	Contact Person Phone Number	716-478-4560
District BEDS Code	400400010000	Contact Person Email	PKowalski@lockportschools.net

Indicate the Subject(s) and Subgroup(s) for which a Participation Rate Improvement Plan is Required:			
English Language Arts		Mathematics	
<input type="checkbox"/> All Students <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian/Alaska Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian or Native Hawaiian / Other Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African American <input type="checkbox"/> Economically Disadvantaged	<input type="checkbox"/> English Language Learners <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Multiracial <input type="checkbox"/> Students with Disabilities <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> None / Not Applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> All Students <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian/Alaska Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian or Native Hawaiian / Other Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African American <input type="checkbox"/> Economically Disadvantaged	<input type="checkbox"/> English Language Learners <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Multiracial <input type="checkbox"/> Students with Disabilities <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> None / Not Applicable

Required Plan Component	School Response
<p>Please provide a brief explanation of why the 2017-18 and 2018-19 school year participation rates were below 95%.</p>	<p>There was a high refusal rate in the days immediately prior to both NYS Assessments. In 2018-19, the rate of student participation improved across all subgroups with the exception of the Multiracial subgroup. This plan has been designed to create positive test participation gains across all subgroups in the building with an end goal of achieving “Good Standing by Making Progress” status each year and reaching a 95% participation rate across all subgroups.</p>

Required Plan Component	School Response
<p>Provide a brief description of Consultation and Collaboration process for development of the plan.</p>	<p>Math and ELA teachers met to analyze student performance data from the most recent NYS Assessments. Strengths and focus areas were determined in each subject and instruction adjusted accordingly. Teachers created a series of benchmark assessments to be given throughout the school year on regular intervals. Teachers began to meet regularly after each benchmark assessment to analyze student performance data, identify gaps and adjust instruction well in advance of each NYS Assessment.</p> <p>Student test participation was discussed by the building principal with various stakeholder groups, and specifically at the PTA meeting held on March 2, 2020.</p> <p>A subgroup of the School Climate Team was formed to determine reasons for students not participating in NYS Assessments as well as potential ways to increase participate rate. This team submitted recommendations, which were shared at subsequent faculty meetings and a PTA meeting to form the basis for the plan put into place leading up to the COVID-19 school closure.</p>
<p>List the Stakeholders who consulted and collaborated on the development of the plan, and the dates of meetings held.</p>	<p>11/5/19 (Staff Meeting & NYS Assessment Data Analysis- Superintendent’s Conference Day) 11/20/19 (School Climate Team Meeting) 12/3/19 (School Improvement Team Meeting) 12/11/19 (Staff Meeting) 1/8/20 (Staff Meeting) 1/13/20 (PTA Meeting) 2/12/20 (Staff Meeting) 2/28/20 (Staff Meeting) 3/2/20 (PTA Meeting) 6/10/20 (PTA Meeting)</p> <p>PTA President- Beth Mitchell, parent members in attendance at PTA meetings Principal- Paul Kowalski Assistant Principal- Shawn Murray Assistant Principal- Julie Schiavone Mary Clifton- 6th Grade Teacher (SIT) Loretta DiCarlo- 6th Grade Teacher (Climate Team)</p>

Required Plan Component	School Response
	<p>Kelley Edmunds- 5th Grade Teacher (SIT) Jennifer Govenettio- 6th Grade Teacher (SIT) Raymond Gueli- 5th Grade Teacher (SIT) Charline O’Neil- Physical Education Teacher/Student Leaders Advisor (Climate Team) Lynn Simonian- Special Education Teacher (SIT) Megan Vona- 6th Grade Teacher (Climate)</p>
<p>Describe the chosen strategies and key activities to be implemented to improve Participation Rate at the school.</p>	<p>The New York State Assessments have been presented to students and parents as a necessary component to the student educational program at Emmet Belknap Intermediate School.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The importance of student test participation as well as “test taking tips for students” will be presented to parents during orientations, open house, newsletters and additional communications throughout the year. • Teachers will discuss taking assessments as a “part of their course” from the start of the school year. * • Student participation in testing will be embedded as a part of quarterly assemblies throughout the year. * • Test taking tips and motivation will be provided to each classroom teacher and promoted by visits from TOSAs and principals. * • Announcements will be read daily and signage promoting effort and test taking strategies will be posted around the school building leading up to the assessment period. * • A written/digital communication with option for a parent meeting with Q&A will be sent in Spring prior to the administration of the exams. • Parents that submit test refusal letters in advance will be called by a school administrator to discuss their request. The importance of test participation will be explained during the conversation, while respecting the parent’s choice. * <p>*The starred items were implemented in 2019-20 in anticipation of 2020 NYS Assessments (prior to their cancellation as a result of the COVID-19 closure.) They will be implemented again as part of this plan in preparation for the 2021 NYS Assessments.</p>