



IMPROVING STUDENTS' ELA PERFORMANCE AT

Innovation High School

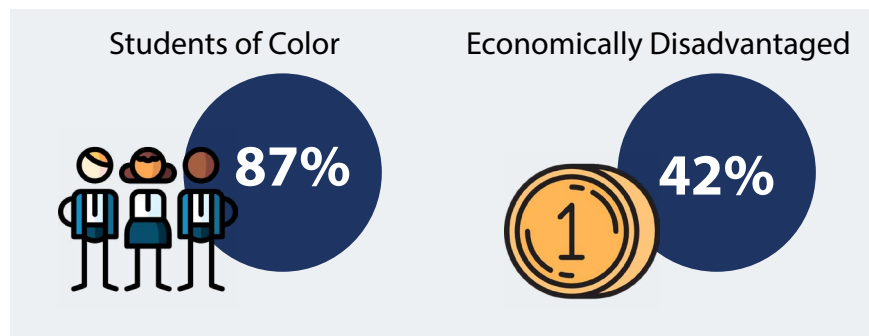
School Profile

Innovation High School is a small public high school located in Jersey City, New Jersey, founded in 2014 in partnership with ISA and New Jersey City University. The school has a curriculum focused on STEAM (science, technology, engineering, the arts, and mathematics). Since its founding, Innovation High School has demonstrated noteworthy achievements in English language arts (ELA) teaching and learning, as evidenced by its students' performance on state ELA tests.

Serving Higher Need and Underserved Students

Like most ISA partner schools, Innovation High School serves a high-need and historically underserved student body. Over three quarters (87%) of its students are students of color, and 42% are economically disadvantaged.

Innovation High School Students

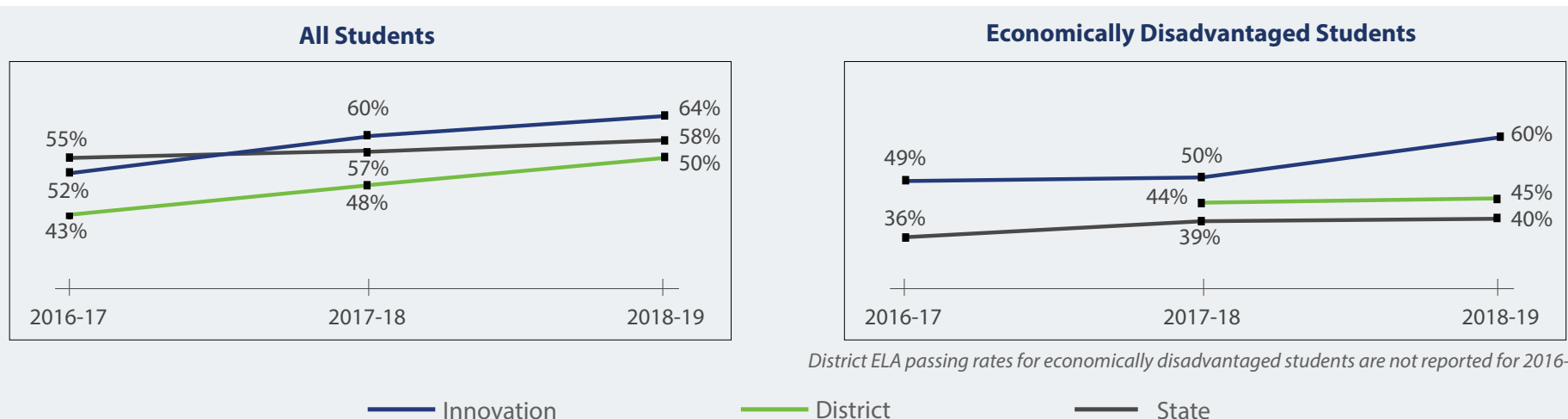


ELA Performance Trends: 2017–19

Students at Innovation High School have shown notable improvements in their performance on state ELA tests. In the 2016–17, about half of the assessed Innovation students (52%) met or exceeded state ELA proficiency standards (i.e., scored at Level 4 or Level 5). This was 9 percentage points higher than the district ELA passing rate for high schools (43%) but 3 percentage points lower than the statewide rate. Dissatisfied with this performance and concerned about the quality of student writing, Innovation and its ISA coaches embarked on an ambitious co-constructed improvement campaign. State test results and reading diagnostic assessment data were closely analyzed to identify specific areas for improvement. Grade teams and departments increased the quantity and quality of writing assignments

across the curriculum with more targeted feedback. Interim assessments were used regularly to track student progress. By the 2017–18 school year, Innovation had surpassed the statewide ELA passing rate of 57%. By the 2018–19 school year, the gap in ELA passing rates between Innovation and the district had widened to 14 percentage points, with nearly two-thirds of Innovation’s students (64%) passing the ELA test compared to 50% districtwide. The school has also seen success improving ELA test scores among economically disadvantaged students. From 2017 to 2019, the ELA passing rates of economically disadvantaged students increased by 11 percentage points (from 49% to 60%), surpassing the district and statewide rates by 15 and 20 percentage points, respectively.

Percentage of Students Meeting or Exceeding State Proficiency Standards 2017–19



District ELA passing rates for economically disadvantaged students are not reported for 2016–17

References

NJ School Performance Report: Innovation High School 2018–19

https://rc.doe.state.nj.us/report.aspx?type=school&lang=english&county=17&district=2390&school=301&schoolyear=2018-2019#Pd5802cb97f754d26960a4309b7b2d8f7_4_4177iS9

NJ School Performance Report: Innovation High School 2017–18

https://rc.doe.state.nj.us/report.aspx?type=school&lang=english&county=17&district=2390&school=301&schoolyear=2017-2018#Pd90ae7bf0c5a41e6ab0647d896af6e29_2_2173iS9

NJ School Performance Report: Innovation High School 2016–17

<https://rc.doe.state.nj.us/report.aspx?type=school&lang=english&county=17&district=2390&school=301&schoolyear=2016-2017>

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