**Empowerment Academy Students**

**Achieve Faster Learning Gains Than Their Local & Statewide Peers**

*The best measure of a school’s quality is the pace at which its students grow in learning.*

Academically selective schools point to their high proficiency rates, but these rates do NOT tell you about the learning growth students achieve *after* admission.

What DOES measure the comparative pace of student learning at different schools is a metric that the New Jersey Department of Education (“NJDOE”) calls Median Student Growth Percentile.

Empowerment Academy is a free public school that is open to all. It is not academically selective….

But Empowerment Academy’s students*, regardless of demographic subgroup*, are achieving greater average learning gains than their local and statewide peers, as the State data below shows.

**Empowerment Academy, Local, and Statewide Median Student Learning Growth Percentile**

Empowerment Academy Subgroup Outperformance

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **EMPOWER**  **SY24 ELA** | **JCPS**  **SY23 ELA** | **Statewide**  **SY23 ELA** | **Median Student Growth Percentile\*** | **EMPOWER**  **SY24 Math** | **JCPS**  **SY23 Math** | **Statewide**  **SY23 Math** |
| 54 | 47 | 50 | All Students | 55 | 47 | 50 |
| 62 | 52 | 51 | White | 60 | 53 | 51 |
| 55 | 46 | 47 | Hispanic | 51 | 45 | 47 |
| 48 | 38 | 45 | Black | 51 | 39 | 44 |
| 70 | 58 | 60 | Asian | 63 | 63 | 61 |
| 53 | 44 | 46 | Economically Disadvantaged | 57 | 44 | 46 |
| 53 | 33 | 40 | Students with Disabilities | 57 | 34 | 42 |
| 55 | 44 | 47 | English Learners | 55 | 45 | 48 |

White students achieve greater gains... Hispanic students achieve greater gains… Black students achieve greater gains… Asian students achieve greater gains… All students achieve greater learning gains at Empowerment Academy!

This is remarkable because EVERY Empowerment Academy demographic subgroup has a higher percentage of economically disadvantaged students than its matching local or statewide subgroup. In fact, the percentage of Empowerment Academy students who are economically disadvantaged is TWICE as high as the statewide percentage.

This is *hugely* significant. A large “proficiency achievement gap” has existed between economically disadvantaged and non-economically disadvantage students statewide -- *and nationwide* -- for the entirety of the sixty years such data has been tracked. Still today, compared to *non-economically* disadvantaged students, the statewide proficiency rate for economically disadvantaged students is 28% lower in English Language Arts and is 32% lower in Math.

The fact that we are *empowering* our students to beat the odds and make faster learning gains than their local and statewide peers is proof positive that Empowerment Academy’s education program is highly effective…and we note that it has been highly effective for a long time.

Even back in School Year 2017-2018, when Empowerment Academy received less funding per student than 95% of other public school districts in New Jersey (happily, we are receiving more equitable funding now), our students beat the odds and outperformed their demographic peers.

**SY17-18 Academic Performance**

(\*State Did Not Report Data / Empowerment Academy Subgroup Outperformance)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **% Proficient Or Advanced Proficient In ELA** | **EMP** | **JCPS** | **STATE** |
| All Groups | 57.0 | 47.8 | 56.7 |
| White | \* | 55.3 | 65.6 |
| Hispanic | 60.9 | \* | 42.5 |
| African-American | 45.5 | 32.8 | 37.3 |
| Asian | 66.7 | 74.3 | 82.3 |
| Economically Disadvantaged | 54.2 | 43.6 | 38.5 |
| Non-Economically Disadvantaged | 63.0 | 60.5 | 67.5 |
| Students With Disabilities | \* | 14.2 | 21.6 |
| Students Without Disabilities | \* | 54.1 | 63.9 |
| English Learners | 65.0 | 15.1 | 27.3 |
| Non-English Learners | 54.6 | 51.3 | 59.4 |
| SY18 Total Spending Per Pupil | $12,604 | $26,028 | $21,866 |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **% Proficient Or Advanced Proficient In Math** | **EMP** | **JCPS** | **STATE** |
| All Groups | 51.2 | 34.1 | 45.0 |
| White | \* | 45.2 | 54.1 |
| Hispanic | 52.2 | 28.5 | 29.2 |
| African-American | 36.4 | 17.8 | 23.4 |
| Asian | 66.7 | 64.9 | 77.0 |
| Economically Disadvantaged | 47.5 | 30.2 | 26.6 |
| Non-Economically Disadvantaged | 59.2 | 45.9 | 55.9 |
| Students With Disabilities | \* | \* | 17.1 |
| Students Without Disabilities | \* | \* | 50.5 |
| English Learners | 70.0 | 16.6 | 24.6 |
| Non-English Learners | 45.5 | 36.2 | 46.9 |
| SY18 Total Spending Per Pupil | $12,604 | $26,028 | $21,866 |

**If You Want *YOUR* Children to Achieve Faster Learning Gains,**

**Enroll Them in Empowerment Academy**