

South Redford School District

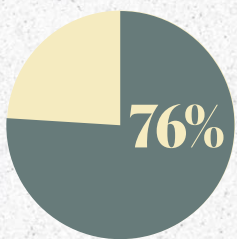
# Thomas Jefferson Elementary School

GRADES PK-5

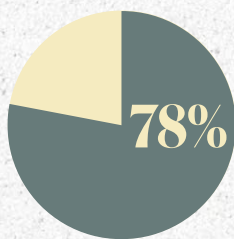


The Education Trust-Midwest is proud to announce the 2021 Building the Hope Award Recipients. At the Building the Hope Schools, **the majority of students are students of color and students from low-income backgrounds.** These public schools are in **the top 25%** for academic proficiency or above average student growth for all Michigan students.

Moreover, their subgroups of students—Black, Latino/a, low-income and English Learner students in particular—also are performing in **the top 30%** among Michigan’s high-growth public schools where data is available. **They also engage in culturally and linguistically-responsive school-wide practices**—including instructional practices—that facilitate students’ outstanding academic progress and growth, making them true outliers in the state of Michigan.



Low-Income Students



Students of Color



*Research shows that acceleration actually boosts kids and closes gaps faster than if you’re just plugging holes. Because if you plug the holes here and then they don’t have the learning now, they’re going to still constantly be behind.”*

—**Kay Shufeldt**  
Instructional Coach



*We talked about the gap that we’ve had between our White students and Black students. We looked at the gap between our social, economics, their resources, financial or what have you. And we had some conversations. There was a lot of reasons that you can put on that ... But we actually sat down and said, ‘Okay, so what are we going to do about it?’”*

—**James Kinsey**  
Thomas Jefferson Elementary Principal

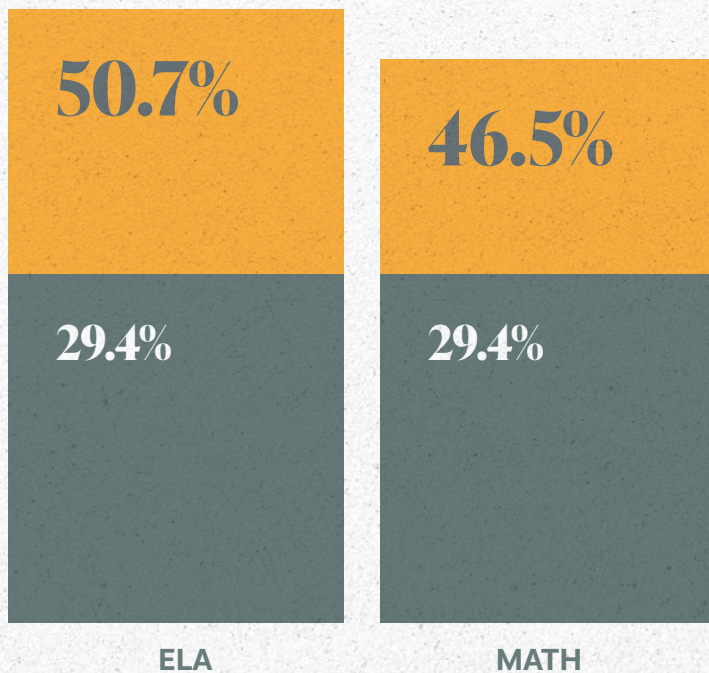
Thomas Jefferson Elementary School was selected as a BTH school because multiple student subgroups, including Black students and students from low-income backgrounds, showed exceptional academic growth as demonstrated by **exceeding the statewide above average growth rate** in both ELA and Math for 3 consecutive years.

**269** Total Enrollment

Moreover, school leaders at Thomas Jefferson value students' growth and efficacy, and demonstrate this by helping each student understand their current academic situation and encouraging goal setting. Teachers and leaders have a strong belief in students' potential and have changed practices and policies over the last few years to eliminate barriers for students and create conditions for academic success. Some of these changed practices and policies include increasing attention and teachers' skill towards accelerating students' learning, decreasing suspension and discipline rates, and pulling all students for targeted instruction to limit the stigma of remediation.

## Black Students'

2019 Above Average Growth Rates



- Black Students at Thomas Jefferson
- Statewide Rate for all MI Students



[buildingthehopeschools.org](http://buildingthehopeschools.org)

**BUILDING  
THE HOPE  
SCHOOLS**

