

SUCCESS STORY

Spoto High School

Getting Started with Pre-AP

MAKING THE DECISION

Dr. Jazrick Haggins, principal of Spoto High School, was looking for high-quality instructional resources to help his students reach their highest potential. After performing research and drawing upon his experience with Pre-AP[®] at his previous school, Dr. Haggins made the decision to implement the Pre-AP Program as a schoolwide initiative to help provide Spoto High School students with the motivating, grade-level-appropriate instructional content they needed to succeed in high school and beyond.

“We are a Title 1 school with 75% of our students on free and reduced lunch. Our school grade has consistently been a C, for the past several years. Here in Florida, schools are rated and graded, but we are moving in the direction of a B, and that is with the support of Pre-AP.”*

PREPARING THE LEARNING COMMUNITY

- School administration held community meetings with students and parents to explain how Pre-AP provides rigorous, grade-level instruction that helps students learn and grow.
- School administration scheduled weekly Professional Learning Community meetings to provide teachers with the opportunity to meet and collaborate as a team to plan and incorporate the Pre-AP shared principles and frameworks into their courses.

“I have a very high minority population, and my students have seen success. So when students see success, I know that what we’re doing in the classroom is working. I had a lot of happy students and a lot of happy parents.”

Implementing Pre-AP

COLLABORATION IS KEY

The team has implemented the Pre-AP shared principles in all Pre-AP courses and applied those instructional practices across all content areas, including electives. Students within the school are having academic conversations, performing close observation and analysis, asking higher-order questions, and producing evidence-based writing in all courses. Pre-AP is helping all students at Spoto, as can be seen in the proficiency results on state test scores.



RIVERVIEW,
FLORIDA

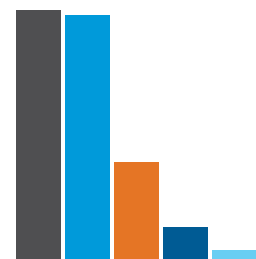
SCHOOL STATS

1,767

Students enrolled

73%

Low income



39.1% Black
38.3% Hispanic
15.4% White
5.4% Multiracial
1.8% Other

PRE-AP COURSE OFFERED AT THE SCHOOL

- Pre-AP Algebra 1
- Pre-AP Chemistry
- Pre-AP English 1
- Pre-AP English 2
- Pre-AP Geometry
- Pre-AP World History and Geography

The Impact of Pre-AP

INCREASED STUDENT PERFORMANCE

The Spoto team noticed that over the past three years, since implementing Pre-AP, there's been an increase in the level of performance of the lowest quartile students. Students were tested in 2018 and 2019. Due to covid-19, there was no testing in 2020.

When reviewing the Florida statewide performance data from 2018–2021, Spoto has shown improvement on their overall test scores from when Pre-AP was initially implemented.

Spoto High School Overall Statewide Performance Data			
2018	2019	2020	2021
24.4%	25.5%	N/A	31.4%

“When test scores came out, we were very pleased. We were No. 16 in the entire district ... we were right there in the middle of the rankings, when previously we were at the bottom of the rankings.”

Top Tips

- 1** As a Leader, you have to define Pre-AP within your institution and take your time implementing it. It's very important that teachers understand that Pre-AP is a framework that they will use and implement with what they're already doing in their classroom.
- 2** It's important to introduce Pre-AP in small steps to help ensure the program is successfully implemented. As a leader, you have to plan ahead and be a forward thinker. Thinking ahead will help with the planning and collaboration.
- 3** Make sure you're open and communicating with parents and students when discussing the benefits of the Pre-AP Program.

“I've noticed as an administrator that we have an increased level of high rigor in all classrooms. Having high expectations is something that I preach every day. Students taking ownership of their learning has been evident and is achieved through the implementation of Pre-AP.”

*All quotations are from Dr. Jazrick Haggins, principal, Spoto High School.

MEET THE IMPLEMENTATION TEAM

Dr. Jazrick Haggins
Principal

Michelle Delisle
Pre-AP Teacher

Hordet Fullard
Pre-AP Teacher

Julia Hauswirth
Pre-AP Teacher

Adria Reyes
Pre-AP Teacher

Learn more about the Pre-AP Program at preap.org.