



Our 2020 accomplishments: REL Midwest year in review

Happy New Year from REL Midwest! Despite unexpected challenges in 2020, REL Midwest advanced our mission to help states, districts, and educators use data and research evidence to improve student and teacher outcomes. Check out all we accomplished!

[Read more](#) → [View the infographic](#) →

A year of change: Our top blog posts of 2020

Our most popular blog posts of 2020 highlight educators' focus on remote learning and equity in a year that saw a sea change in how educators work and a national reckoning on racism and social justice:

- [Plan and deliver: Educating students with disabilities in remote settings](#)
- [Guidance for navigating remote learning for English learner students](#)
- [Meaningful online education for our youngest learners: Tips to reconcile the need for e-learning with how young children learn best](#)
- [Back-to-school metrics: How to assess conditions for teaching and learning and to measure student progress during the COVID-19 pandemic](#)
- [Going big to promote racial equity in education: Our expanding Midwest Achievement Gap Research Alliance](#)

New report examines a state professional development program on using culturally responsive practices to support Black students

A recently published REL Midwest study examines participation and outcomes for a Wisconsin professional development program designed to guide schools in implementing culturally responsive practices. Learn about our findings.

[Read more](#) →

Video and webinar: Strategies for creating inclusive workplaces and retaining Black teachers

As we look forward to the celebration of Black History Month in February, we invite you to watch our new video and webinar on creating inclusive school environments to support the retention of Black teachers, a high-level strategy for improving Black students' academic outcomes.

[Read more](#) →

Literacy instruction strategies for success: Multi-tier intervention in primary grades

When students struggle with reading, instead of using a "wait and see" approach, apply the strategies highlighted in our new video, which is based on the recommendations of the What Works Clearinghouse Practice Guide *Assisting Students Struggling with Reading: Response to Intervention (RtI) and Multi-Tier Intervention in the Primary Grades*.

[Watch the video](#) →

REL COVID-19 resources

Support educators and students with the REL Program's [COVID-19 resources](#) page. This page, which covers a range of topics related to teaching and learning, is updated regularly. Check out some of the following latest resources:

- REL Appalachia blog post: [Resources for Implementing Tiered Systems of Support in Virtual or Hybrid Learning Environments](#)
- REL Northeast & Islands FAQ: [What Procedures Do Districts or States Have in Place for Teachers That May Be at High Risk for COVID-19?](#)
- REL Northeast & Islands FAQ: [What Strategies Are States Considering to Address a Possible Increase in Demand for Substitute Teachers?](#)
- REL Southwest blog post: [Taking Off Our Blindfolds. While We Wear Our Masks](#)
- REL West blog post: [Engaging Students and Families from Diverse Populations During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

Ask A REL

Browse the responses to some recent questions submitted to our Ask A REL reference desk, and then [submit a question](#) of your own!

- What research is available on [metrics that can be used to measure student engagement?](#)
- What research is available on the effectiveness of different [restorative justice interventions?](#)
- What research is available on the [effect of school resource officers](#) in schools?
- What research or resources are available on [removing school resource officers](#) from schools?
- What research or resources are available on [indicators of postsecondary institution closures?](#)

Contact Us

Please contact us for more information about any of the items in this newsletter or to speak to a member of our staff. We look forward to hearing from you.

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