



# RTI AT WORK™

EVIDENCE OF EFFECTIVENESS

## Hallsville Independent School District

HALLSVILLE, TEXAS

“As a result of our focus on every student, our district earned the highest accountability rating offered by the state of Texas.”

—Paula Rogers, deputy superintendent and Solution Tree RTI at Work™ associate



## DEMOGRAPHICS

---

- 4,566 Students
- 40.12% Free and reduced lunch
- 4.23% Limited English proficient
- 9% Special education
- 78.08% White
- 7.5% African American
- 11.06% Hispanic

- 0.57% Asian/Pacific Islander
- 0.54% Native American/Alaska Native
- 2.5% Multiracial

Hallsville Independent School District is located in the western part of Harrison County, Texas, near the Louisiana border. Its six campuses cover approximately 188 square miles and serve preK/Head Start, elementary, intermediate, junior high, and high school students.

## CHALLENGE

---

In 2006, Hallsville ISD began a significant school improvement initiative to ensure high levels of learning for all students. “We had a committed staff, but no system to support and coordinate their efforts,” recalls Deputy Superintendent Paula Rogers. “This required a change in the culture of every school from ‘my kids’ to ‘our kids’ and the implementation of systematic practices to ensure that all classrooms had a guaranteed and viable curriculum.

It was critical for us to have a systematic process to provide prescriptive interventions to support learning. We needed to change how we worked. Every aspect of curriculum, instruction, and assessment had to be addressed, including the necessary structures to support this change.”

## IMPLEMENTATION

---

In order to implement PLC at Work™ and RTI at Work™ practices into one cohesive system, district, building, and team leaders studied the book *Simplifying Response to Intervention* (Buffum, Mattos, and Weber) and used the four critical questions of a PLC as their framework. The district committed to working as a high-functioning PLC at every campus and embedded RTI practices into daily work.

Each campus developed a systematic process so that team meetings and data review meetings were built into the schedule. Frequently reviewing data on all students, beginning at Tier 1, allowed staff to monitor and change instruction before students failed, and assign and change interventions as needed. All campuses altered their schedules to provide intervention during the school day. Various options such as enrichment periods and shared tutorials were utilized for students needing academic support.

**An inclusive Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS) program was put into place to provide support, beginning at Tier 1, to students with behavioral challenges. All interventions are now provided in addition to core classroom instruction.** Utilizing data to improve instruction and to assign, monitor, and change interventions for students became part of the daily work throughout the district.

“The true change in how we work came from having RTI experts from Solution Tree visit our district on several occasions,” says Rogers. “This allowed us to personalize the training and engage in valuable coaching conversations. Our relationship with Solution Tree is very much a partnership. Our success would not have been possible without the ongoing training each of these experts has provided. They have been available to support us every step of the way.”

“This journey started in 2006, and it is absolutely amazing to see the accomplishments of the students and staff of our schools. I do not believe that this would have been possible without the training and continued support offered by the experts at Solution Tree.”

—Paula Rogers, deputy superintendent and Solution Tree RTI at Work™ associate

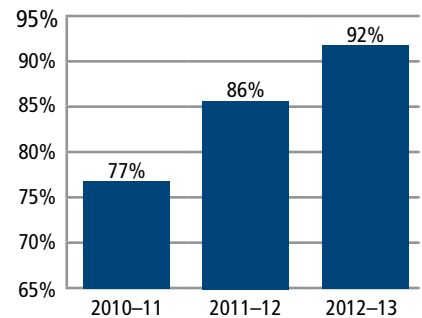
## RESULTS

Hallsville ISD has earned recognitions of achievement that are directly tied to the implementation of RTI practices for both academics and behavior. The district has been selected to participate in a research study supported by the United States Department of Education on effective RTI practices for reading. They are also featured in the DVD, *Pyramid Response to Intervention: Four Essential Guiding Principles* and recognized as a model PLC on [allthingsplc.info](http://allthingsplc.info).

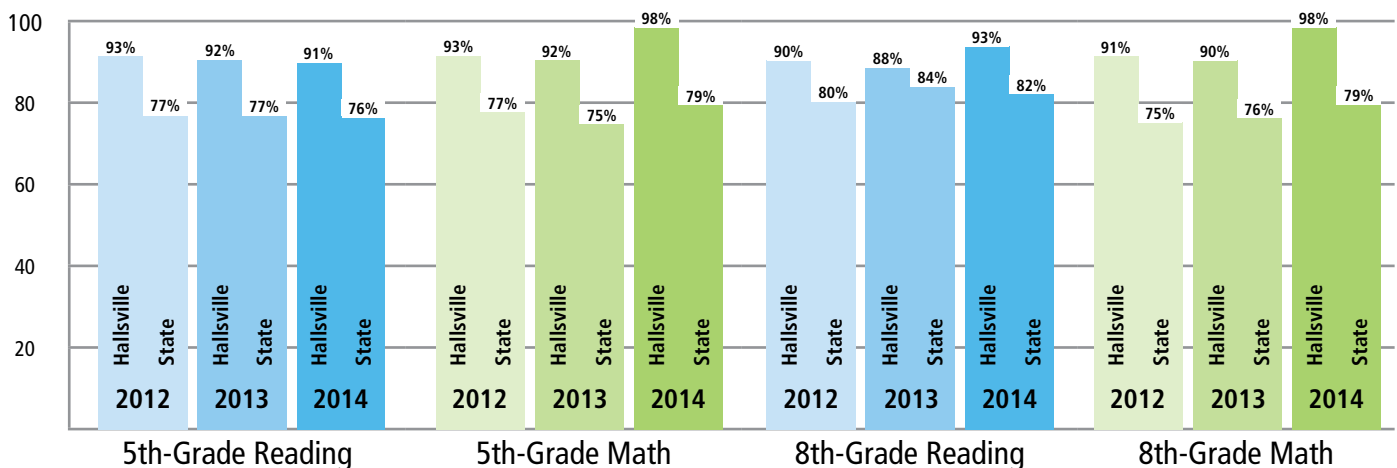
“As a result of our focus on every student, our district earned the highest accountability rating offered by the state of Texas in 2010,” says Rogers. The accountability and rating system in Texas has changed, but the district has sustained high achievement. “The intense focus on high achievement for every student that is present in our district today is a result of having RTI embedded into the daily work of a PLC,” shares Rogers. “RTI is not a separate system in our school; it is who we are and how we work!”

Percent of kindergarten students meeting end-of-year reading level targets

Source: DRA Scores



Three-Year Comparison: Hallsville vs. State Test Average Percent Meeting Standard



# Reach new heights of student learning

You're dedicated to helping your students succeed. At Solution Tree, our experts are committed to equipping you with solutions that directly impact student achievement. We invite you to explore the best of content-rich, research-based professional development and discover just how rewarding the journey can be.

Here are just a few ways we can work together:

## Customized Workshops

Bring an expert to your school! Plan a dynamic one-day session or a series of trainings. Just tell us your goals, and we'll customize an experience for you and your team.

## Standard Workshops

Ever attended one of our workshops and wished you could bring it back to the rest of your team? Now you can! Let our experts come to you.

## Keynotes

Bring a keynote speaker into your school, and inspire your team to take the next steps on your professional learning journey! Keynotes typically include a slide presentation and a general question-and-answer segment.

## Interactive Web and Video Conferencing

Get top-notch PD from the comfort of your office or classroom! Discover personalized, research-based support from our experts on more than 100 topics, including Common Core, RTI, and 21st century skills.

## Long-Term Sustainable Plans

Let us put you on the path to long-term success. We'll partner with you to develop a comprehensive and sustainable professional development plan based on your most critical challenges.

**Find your rep!**  
[solution-tree.com/Director](http://solution-tree.com/Director)