



Project CRISS would like to extend CRISS kudos to Kenney Middle School in Hannibal, New York. Kenney Middle School received its first CRISS Level I training last fall. Since that initial training in October, the entire staff and all the administrators at Kenney Middle School have been trained, qualifying the school to become the first Project CRISS Demonstration site in New York state.

We recently heard from their CRISS trainer, Jackie Leotta, that scores on the 2004-2005 English/Language Arts part of the 8th Grade New York State Assessment already showed improvement over the academic year 2003-2004.

Jackie attributed the gain to Project CRISS. She commented, "Even though teachers had been using the CRISS principles and strategies for only a few months, we are already seeing a difference in the way students are learning!" She added that the students were already using strategies without being told to do so. Jackie said, "Teachers are once again excited about teaching and students now look forward to learning."

In addition, Kenney Middle School and the Hannibal School District have received accolades in the local newspapers for Kenney's successes. Jackie stated, "There is a much stronger feeling of ownership and school pride within the school body, teaching staff, and the entire district. The major reason for this is CRISS and the common language it brings to every classroom." We would like to congratulate the administration and staff at Kenney Middle School, the District Administration in Hannibal, New York, and trainer Jackie Leotta for their endorsement and support of Project CRISS.

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