



**WILMINGTON
LEARNING
COLLABORATIVE**

FY2027 Budget Hearing Presentation

Dr. Laura Burgos

March 3, 2026

Our Three Big Shifts | 2023-2026



Students First



Connected Schools



Purposeful Partnerships

Our Three Big Shifts | 2023-2026



Students First



Connected Schools



Purposeful Partnerships

Programming Highlights: **Students First**



Educator Leader Teams (ELTs) have redesigned the school day, i.e. Wildcat Wednesdays

- Increased exposure to STEAM
- Community partnerships
- Tailored professional learning

4 of 9 WLC schools offer the model.



Students First: House System

Adapted from educator visits to Ron Clark Academy in Atlanta, GA, the **House Model** features:

- School-wide system of cross-grade communities with specific colors and values
- Promotes a culture of belonging
- Strengthens student, peer, and staff relationships



Students First: The Chill Project

Chill Rooms are carefully designed spaces supported by an evidenced-based behavioral health curriculum.

- Preventative care for students & staff
- Coping strategies and calming skills
- Whole-school professional learning to advance trauma-informed practice

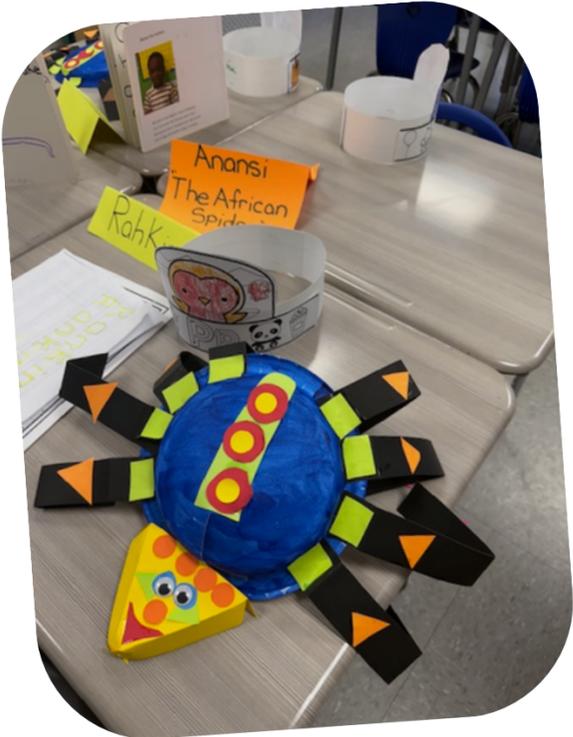


- Over **160 student encounters** to date
- 70+ staff encounters
- **100 lessons** facilitated

Students First: Summer Learning



# of Programs	18
Total WLC Funding	\$1,472,436
Students Served	1109
Program Staff	239
Average Length	5.1 weeks



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Purposeful Partnerships

Programming Highlights: **Connected Schools**

- Monthly learning communities
- **Inspiration visits** expose teachers to best practices
- Onsite **coaching** allows for customized support and capacity building

Our signature suite of programs include:

- **Teacher Innovation Lab (Yr 1)**
- **Teacher Leadership Design Fellowship (Yr 2)**
- **Teacher Assessment Preparation Program**
- **College Unbound**



Data Snapshot: Educator Pathways

2025-2026 TLDF Year 2 Cohort

Maurice Pritchett Academy	4
The Bayard School	3
Stubbs Early Education Center	1
Pulaski Early Education Center	1
Warner Elementary	4
Lewis Dual Language Elementary	3
Shortlidge Elementary	2
Johnson Elementary	2
Harlan Elementary	2
Eastside Charter School	2
Cohort Total	24

College Unbound Bachelor's Degree Cohort

2025-2026 Teacher Innovation Lab Cohort

Kuumba Charter School	2
Eastside Charter School	2
Harlan Elementary	5
Johnson Elementary	2
Warner Elementary	2
Shortlidge Elementary	1
Lewis Dual Language Elementary	3
The Bayard School	2
Maurice Pritchett Academy	3
Stubbs Early Education Center	1
Cohort Total	23

Christina School District	7
Kuumba Charter School	2
Cohort Total	9

Fall TAPP Praxis Prep Cohort

Christina School District	13
Red Clay Consolidated School District	5
Kuumba Charter School	6
Eastside Charter School	1
PS. DuPont Middle School	1
Cohort Total	26



Data Snapshot: Educator Pathways

T.A.P.P. (Praxis Preparation)

Between Fall 2024 and Spring 2025:

- **63%** of 2024-2025 participants either passed or met the qualifying passing score for “multiple measures”.
- A total of **11** T.A.P.P. participants have successfully passed the Praxis .

Teacher Leader Design Fellowship

- **79%** program retention rate – 26 of 33 fellows continuing on to year 2 of program.
- **29** of 33 remaining at current school or promoted to leadership role.



Connected Schools: Library of Congress Initiative

The goals of this project are to support early childhood literacy, build young students' background knowledge in civics and history and provide teachers with professional development and instructional materials related to HB 198.

- Full-day professional development sessions, bringing together **K-3 educators from Brandywine, Christina, and Red Clay School Districts.**
- Creation of **primary source-based activities** for K-3 social studies. Materials emphasize the development of literacy skills and **focus on the experiences of African Americans in Wilmington.**
- Creation of **KidCitizen** episodes.



Connected Schools: Monthly Learning Walks

All WLC school leaders work in partnership with a Learning-Focused coach to advance implementation of the **Delaware Teacher Growth and Support System (DTGSS)**.

- School-specific focus designed to **strengthen instructional practice.**
- Tailored instructional leadership support to school leaders.
- **Monthly WLC Principal convenings** offer follow-up professional learning, i.e. short-term improvement cycles.



Connected Schools: Community Councils

Each WLC school has a **Site-Based Community Council** made up of parents, teachers, students and community members who care about students.

- Councils **meet monthly** and discuss **solutions** to issues impacting the school community.
- All 9 Councils **convene quarterly** to build community and share emerging practices.
- Council members receive training to build members' capacity to serve as advocates.

What We Did	School Year 2024-25	School Year 2025-26
School Meetings	11 meetings	17 meetings
Retreats Held	2 retreats	2 retreats
People at Retreats	92 people total (42 adults + 50 children)	89 people total (57 adults + 32 children)
Training Sessions	Not yet started	6 sessions
Trained Advocates	0 parents	77 parents

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Purposeful Partnerships

Purposeful Partnerships: Out of School Time

Designed to serve 750+ students

- After-School
- Spring Break
- Saturdays

Multiple locations

- WLC and Wilmington Schools
- Partner sites
- Community Centers

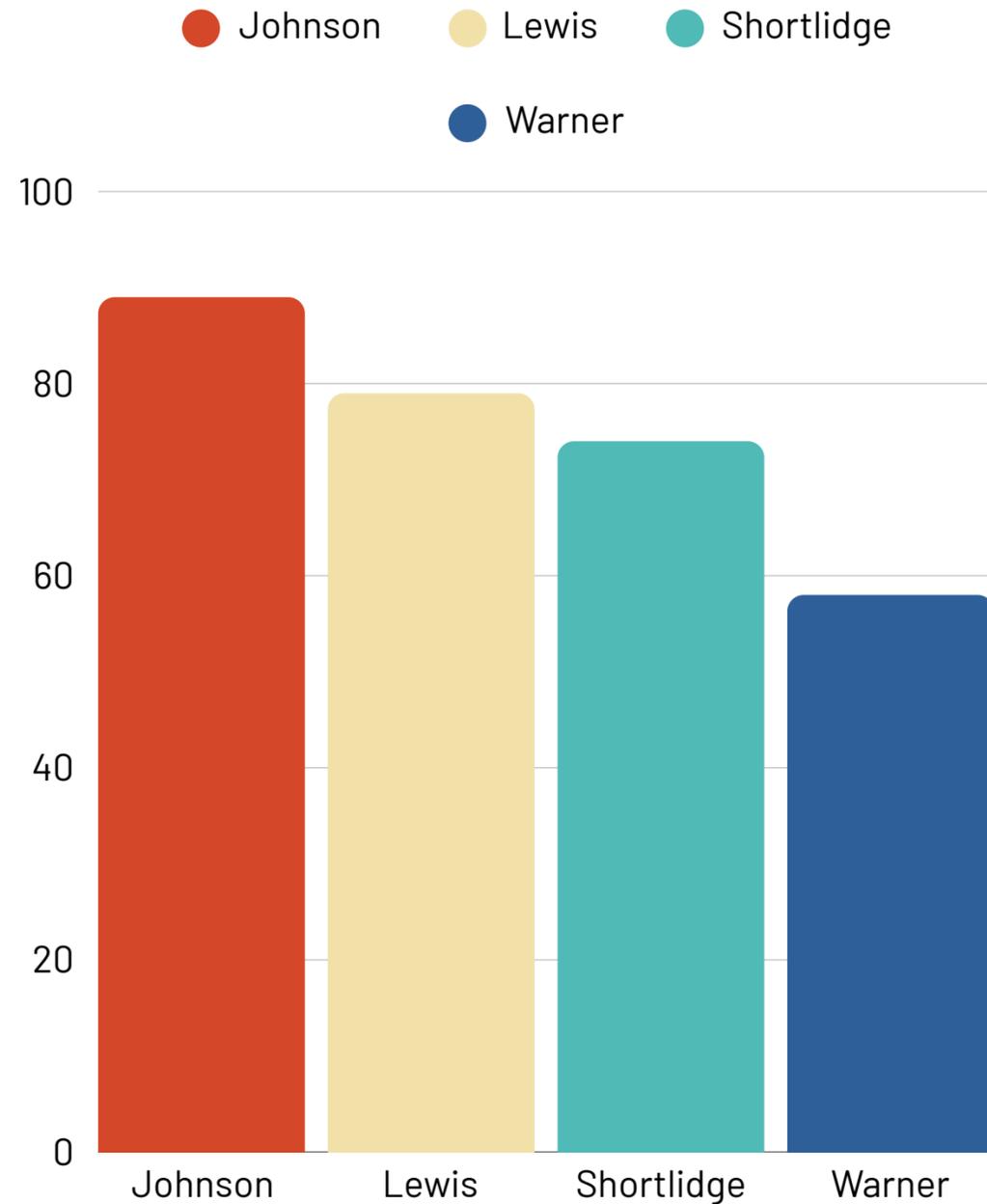
Emphasis on multidisciplinary learning

- STEAM – LEGO Robotics, Media Production
- Literacy & Mathematics
- Sports & Recreation

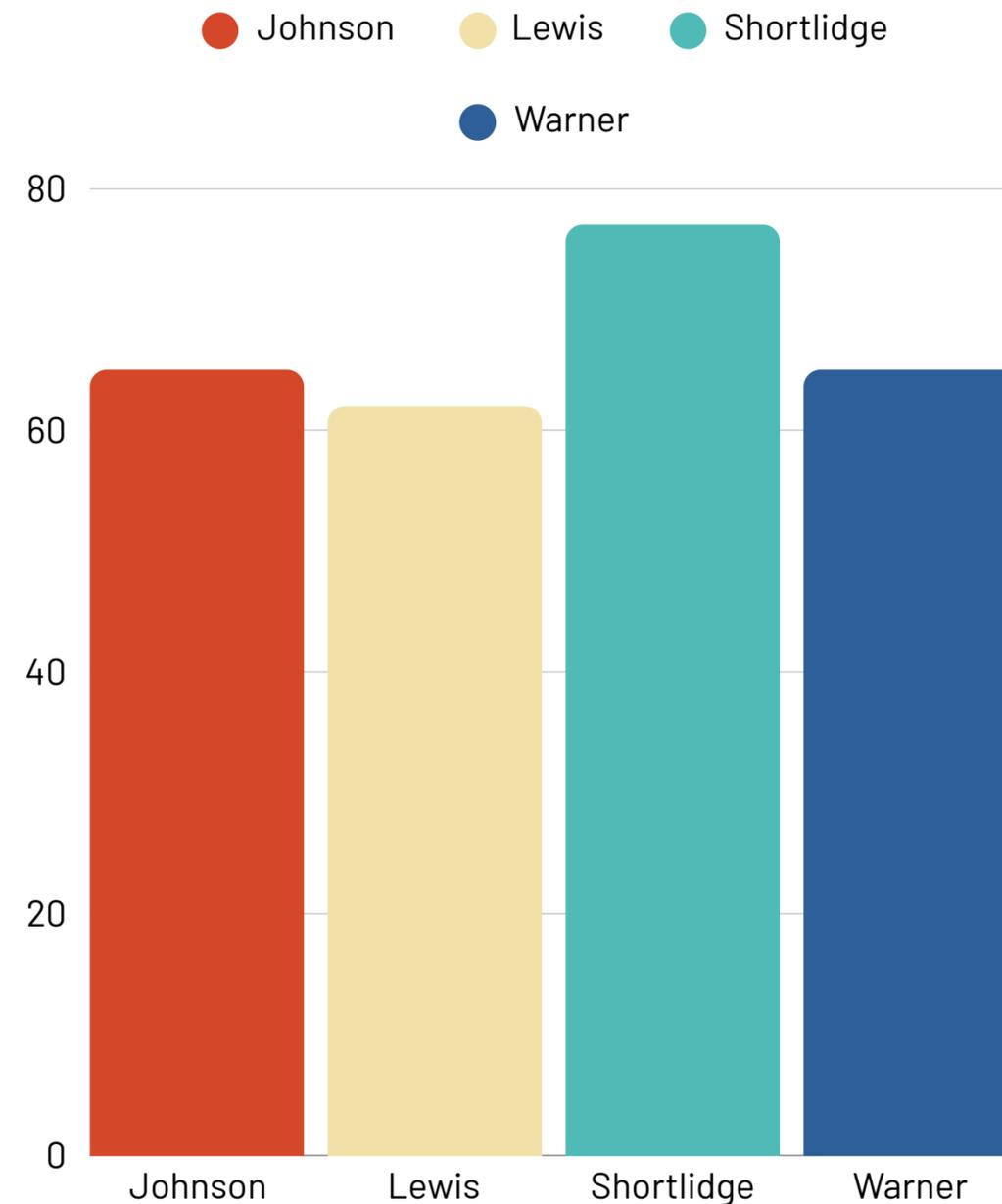


Data Snapshot: Red Clay

Progress Towards Typical Growth (iReady, Winter 2026)



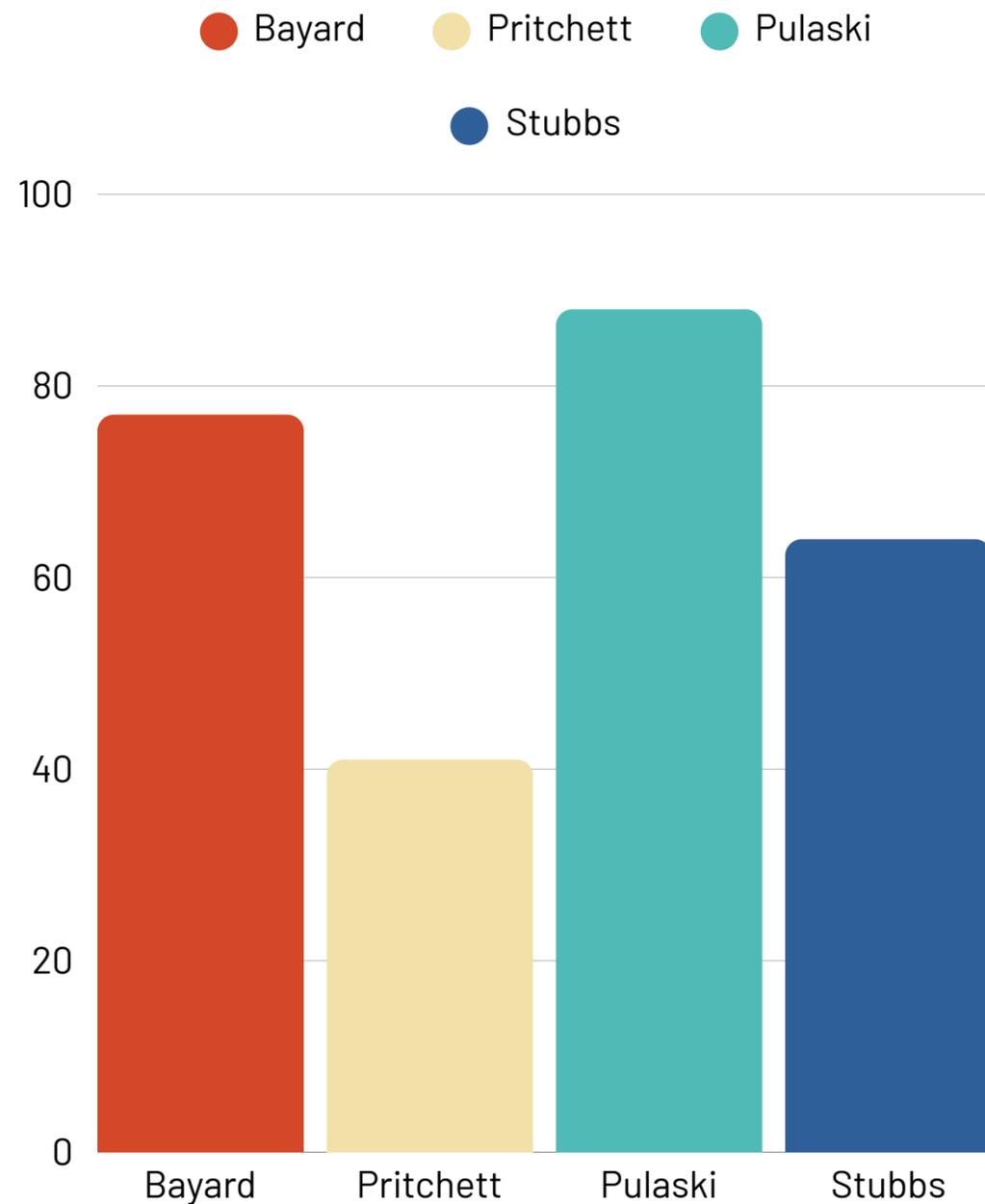
Reading



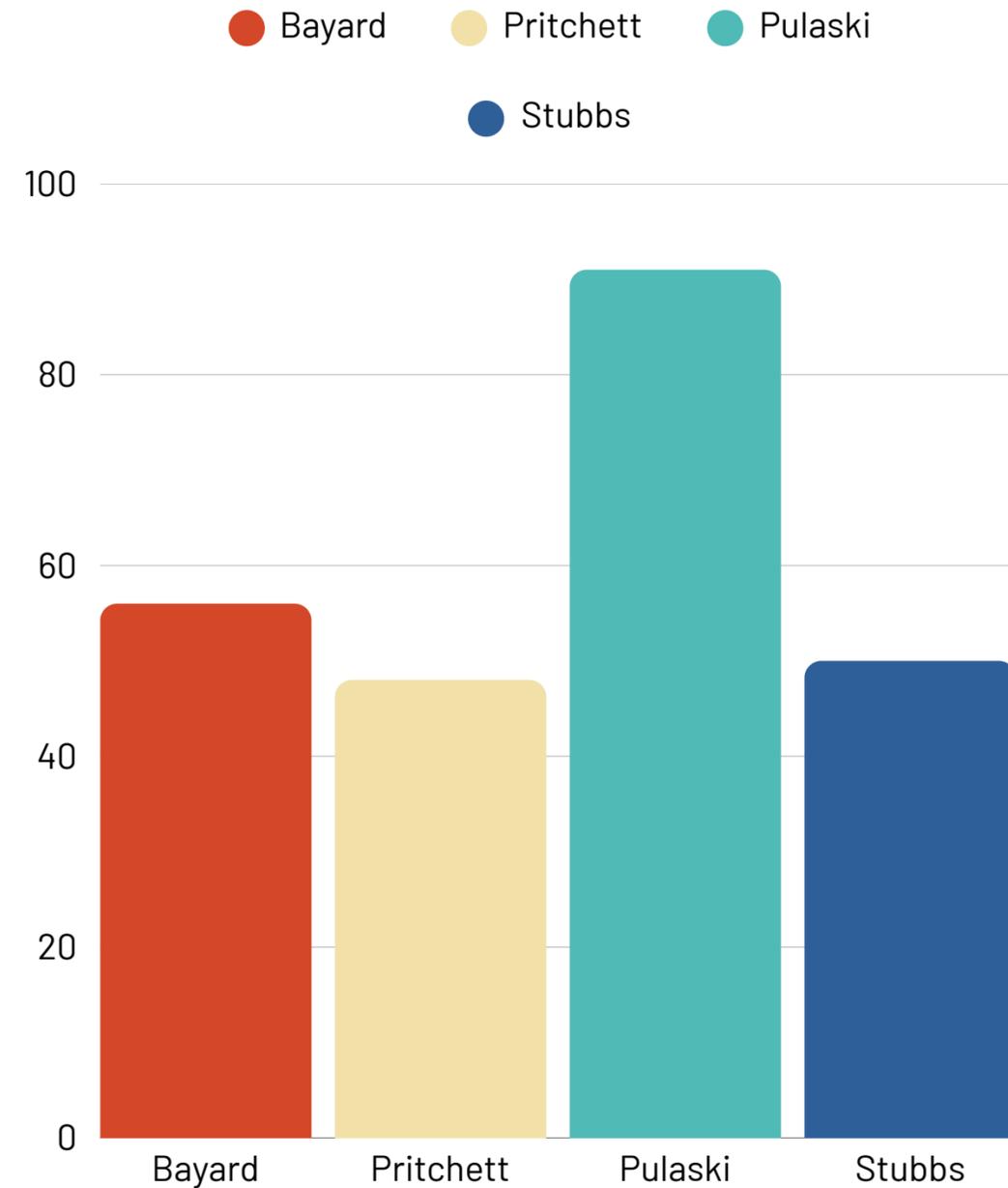
Math

Data Snapshot: Christina

Progress Towards Typical Growth (iReady, Winter 2026)



Reading

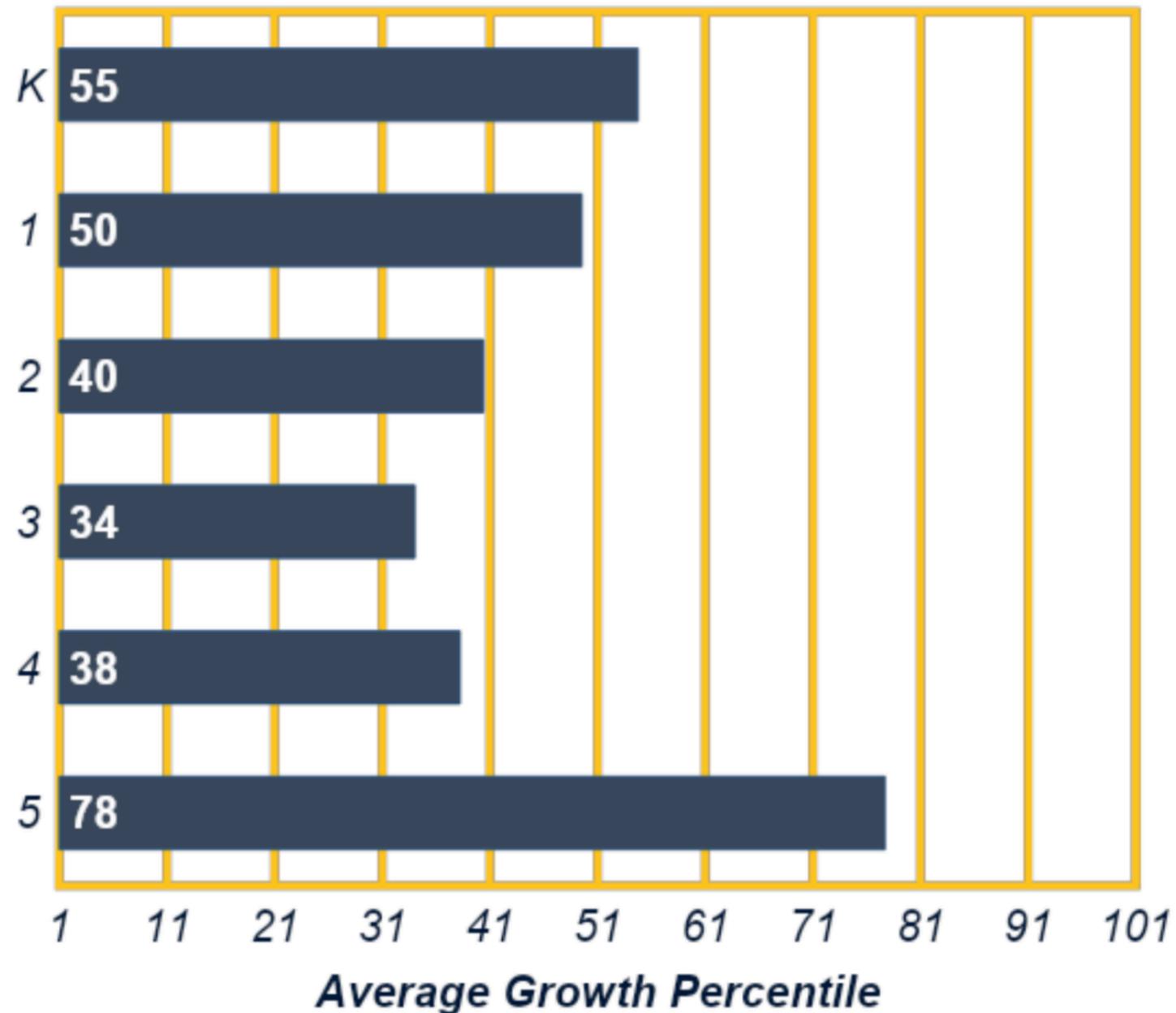


Math

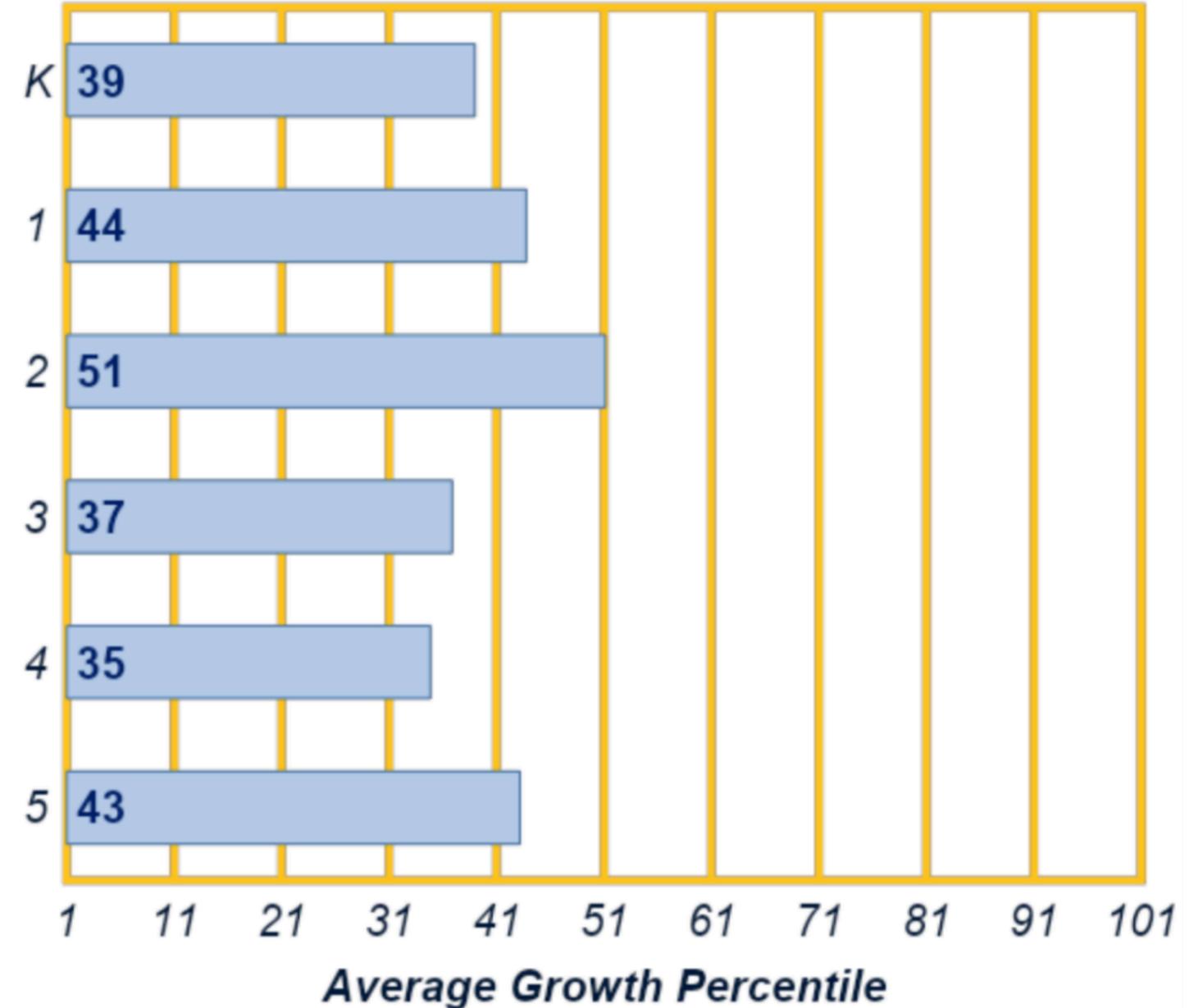
Data Snapshot: Brandywine (Harlan Elementary)

SY26 Fall to Winter Growth Percentiles on NWEA MAP Assessment By Grade

Reading



Math



Looking Ahead

- Scaling of successful initiatives
- Continued educator support and capacity building
- School-driven teaching and learning solutions

WLC FY27 Budget Overview

Budget Allocation	Total	Areas Supported
05403 - Curriculum Supports	\$140,000	Curriculum extensions and supports
05405 - Family Advocacy & Engagement	\$55,000	Family literacy nights, community building events
05407 - Professional Development	\$140,000	Professional learning and capacity building
05408 - School-Driven Innovation	\$420,000	Expansion of successful program models
05410 - Educator Pathways	\$110,000	Teacher Innovation Lab stipends, Praxis tutoring, Communities of Practice
Flexible Staffing	\$135,000	Additional staffing support
Programmatic Budget Total	\$1,000,000	
Operational Budget Total	\$1,000,000	Salary & benefits, vendor contracts, general operating expenses
Grand Total (FY27)	\$2,000,000	



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