State of the District Address 2026-2027

Rockdale School District 84

@RockdalePride

Angela Stadler, President

Josefina Reyes-Garcia, Vice-President

Amanda Guidera, Secretary

Geralyn Wyke, Treasurer

Steve Chamblee

Jolene Chamblee

Sandra Ortega

Board of Education

Rockdale School District 84 - Organizational Chart 2026-2027

Board of Education

Dr. Michael Merritt
Superintendent

Marilyn Conger Full Charge Bookkeeper	Janet Rande Board Secretary / Executive Assistant	Elizabeth Darlin Rockdale School Principal	Shaun Mooney Director of Technology	Chuck Puckett Director of Building and Grounds
Manager of Accounting Accounts Payable Accounts Receivable Payroll Coordinator	Human Resources Coordinator Finger Print Coordinator Personnel District Receptionist	**Hannah Kirk** Director of Students Services Certified Educators Social Workers Interventionists Athletic Director Paraprofessionals Office Staff Nurse	Coordinator of Instructional Technology Technology Systems Specialist Network Operations Specialist Manager of Technology Support Technology Repair	Facility Supervisor Maitnenance Custodial Evening Cleaning Supervisor



Dr. Michael Merritt
Superintendent



Ms. Elizabeth Darlin
Principal



Ms. Hannah Kirk
Director of Student Services

Organizational Flowchart

To provide an opportunity for our community to capture a better understanding our our current reality with regards to our academic, social/emotional, facilities, and financial landscape.

To offer our community the opportunity to ask questions and to provide feedback about their experiences in our district.

Key Points

As Rockdale Rams, we ***cultivate the individual academic growth*** of our learners while ***facilitating and encouraging their social-emotional growth***. Rockdale School District 84 ***promotes a diverse educational environment*** focused on learning while ***involving its community*** and maximizing their positive influence.

Mission

Rockdale School District 84 is passionate about ***preparing its learners to be citizens who will make a positive impact*** on their community.

Vision



Core Values

Enrollment

Sub Group Trends

Class Size

Staffing

Rockdale SD 84 Enrollment Trends

2026-2027										
Early Childhood	Kindergarten	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	Total
6	25	18	27	20	25	24	26	20	25	**216**
2025-2026										
Early Childhood	Kindergarten	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	Total
12	20	28	19	27	30	27	23	27	27	**240**
2024-2025										
Early Childhood	Kindergarten	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	Total
9	28	19	26	32	27	30	27	23	27	**248**
2023-2024										
Early Childhood	Kindergarten	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	Total
10	21	28	35	28	25	26	22	22	27	**244**
2022-2023										
Early Childhood	Kindergarten	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	Total
7	26	40	29	21	27	20	22	21	28	**234**

Enrollment Trends

Demographic	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
All	245	240	239	214	236	247
Am. Indian	No Data	No Data	Redacted	No Data	No Data	No Data
Asian	Redacted	Redacted	Redacted	Redacted	No Data	No Data
Black	29	37	36	26	18	20
Hispanic	157	137	123	114	119	122
MENA	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data
Pacific Islander	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data
Two or More	Redacted	14	13	11	16	16
White	43	51	65	62	83	89

Sub Group Trends

Level	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
District	16.3	15.2	16.8	14.4	13.9	17.9
State	20.7	20.8	20.8	20.9	20.3	21.7

Class Size

47 Staff

- 5 District Staff
- 27 Certified Staff
  - 15 - K-8
  - 3 - SPED
  - 1- ELL
  - 3 - Specials
  - 1 - Specialist
  - 2 - Social Workers
  - 2 - Administrators
- 8 Non Certified Staff
- 7 SOWIC



Staffing

Current FY27 Budget

State Comparison

Financial Trends

Student Spending

Tax Rate Trends

Financial Profile

Financials

FY 27 Budget Summary

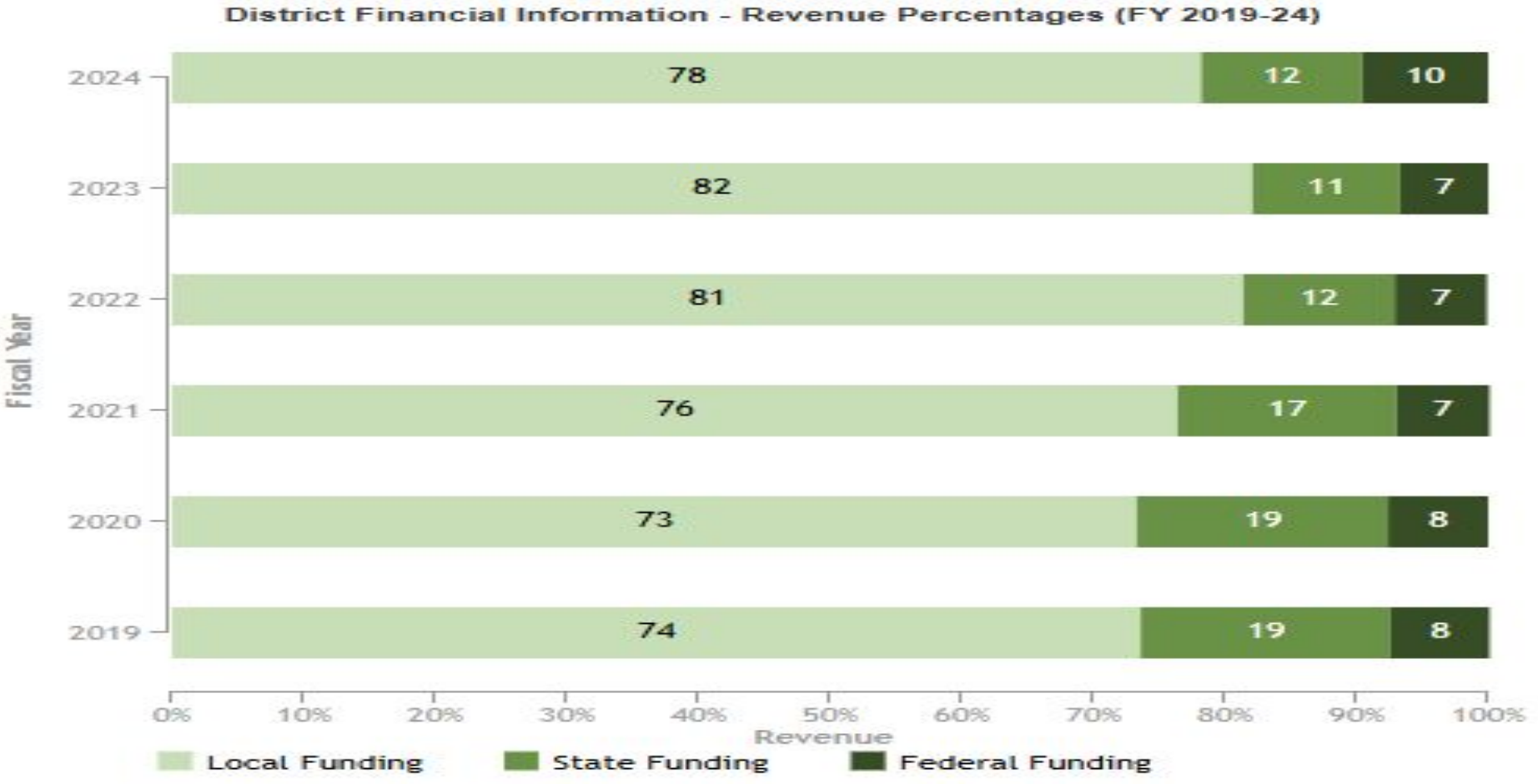
FUND	FY26 FUND BALANCE	FY27 Est Revenues	FY 27 Est Expenditures	FY27 Est Differences	FY27 Est Fund Balance	FY27 FUND BALANCE OF 2027 EXPENDITURES (GOAL OF 25%)	$$$ NEEDED
10	$853,692.28	$ 5,016,714.23	$ 4,967,581.10	$49,133.14	$902,825.42	$1,241,895.27	-$339,069.86
20	$270,865.61	$ 386,970.12	$ 386,017.53	$952.59	$271,818.20	$96,504.38	$175,313.82
30	$69,186.64	$ 103,088.76	$ 99,928.80	$3,159.96	$72,346.60	$24,982.20	$47,364.40
40	$271,465.22	$ 134,139.42	$ 247,500.00	-$113,360.58	$158,104.64	$61,875.00	$96,229.64
50	$65,458.30	$ 149,703.02	$ 152,999.37	-$3,296.35	$62,161.95	$38,249.84	$23,912.11
60	$0.00	$ -	$ -	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
70	$3,995.74	$ -	$ -	$0.00	$3,995.74	$0.00	$3,995.74
80	$145,320.03	$ 64,713.60	$ 104,294.00	-$39,580.40	$105,739.63	$26,073.50	$79,666.13
90	$678,366.34	$ -	$ 678,288.63	-$678,288.63	$77.71	$169,572.16	-$169,494.45
	$2,358,350.16	**$ 5,855,329.15**	**$ 6,636,609.42**	**-$781,280.27**	**$1,577,069.89**	**$1,659,152.35**	**$3,236,222.25**

FUND	FY26 FUND BALANCE	FY27 Est Revenues	FY 27 Est Expenditures	FY27 Est Differences	FY27 Est Fund Balance	OF 2027 EXPENDITURES	$$$ NEEDED
10	$853,692.28	$5,016,714.23	$4,967,581.10	$49,133.14	$902,825.42	$1,241,895.27	-$339,069.86
20	$270,865.61	$386,970.12	$386,017.53	$952.59	$271,818.20	$96,504.38	$175,313.82
40	$271,465.22	$134,139.42	$247,500.00	-$113,360.58	$158,104.64	$61,875.00	$96,229.64
70	$3,995.74	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	$3,995.74	$0.00	$3,995.74
	$1,400,018.85	**$5,537,823.77**	**$5,601,098.62**	**-$63,274.85**	**$1,336,744.00**	**$1,400,274.66**	**$2,737,018.66**

Current FY27 Budget

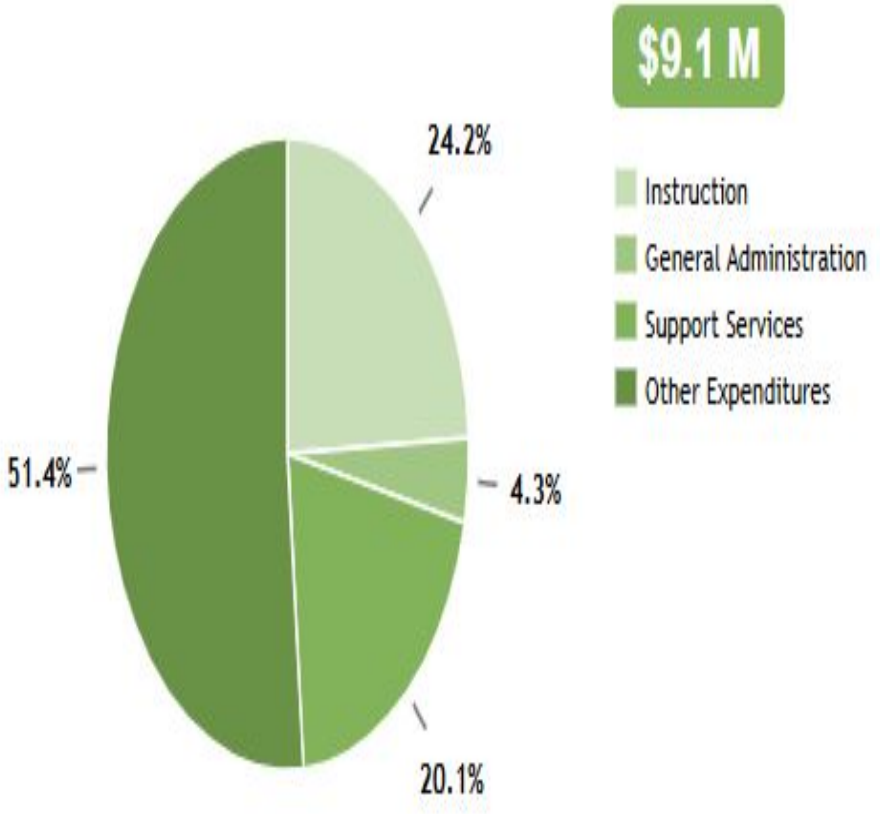


Per Student Expenditures

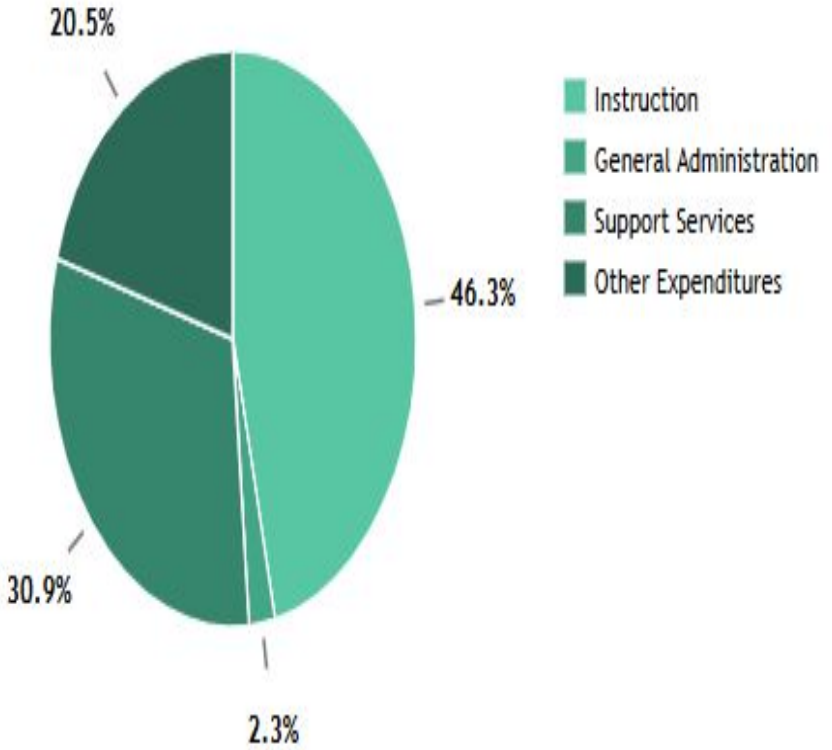


Financial Revenue Trends

District Financial Information - Expenditure Percentages By Function (FY 2024)



Illinois School District Averages - Expenditure Percentages By Function (FY 2024)



Expenditure Comparisons

2025-2026 - 2.29

2024-2025 - 2.33

2023-2024 - 2.33

2022-2023 - 2.35

2022-2023 - 2.25

Tax Rate Trends

2024-2025 - 3.9

2023-2024 - 4.0

2022-2023 - 4.0

2021-2022 - 4.0

2020-2021 - 3.9

Financial Profile

Recent Renovations

Future Needs

Facilities

Summer 2023 - $3.6M Renovation

Water Supply and Water Filling Stations
Storm Sewer
Gymnasium Roof
Courtyard / Staff Workroom

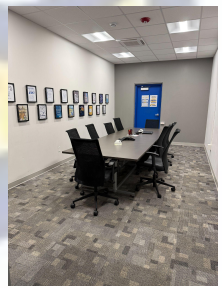












Recent Renovations

Summer 2024 - $1.9M Renovation

Gang Washrooms
Gymnasium HVAC







Recent Renovations

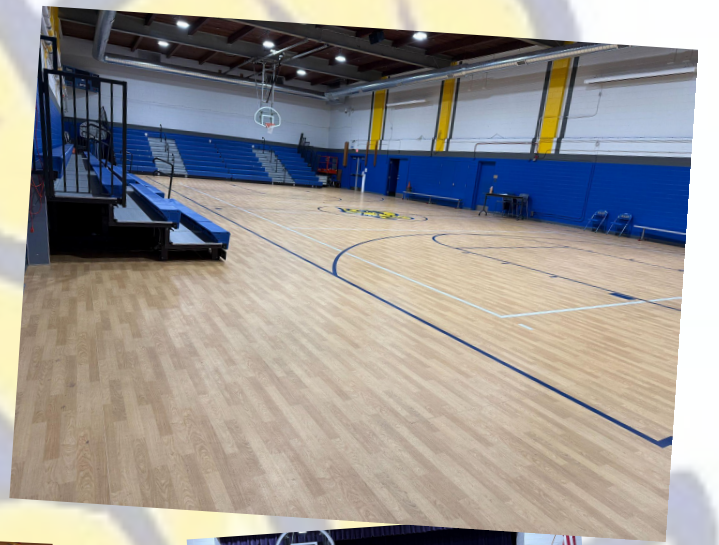
Summer 2025 - $600K Renovation

Gymnasium Floor and Padding











Recent Renovations

Summer 2026 - $750K Renovation

Cafeteria Wall
Lighting
HVAC
Interior Door Replacements









Recent Renovations

Facilities Committee (2023-2023)

Bathroom renovations including plumbing infrastructure

New flooring / asbestos mitigation

New ceilings and lighting

New windows

Adjacent property

New Gym floor

AC in hallways

Potential solar panels on roof

Mitigation of old univents

Possible preschool

Future Needs

IAR Trends

ELA Comparison

Math Comparison

Illinois Science Assessment

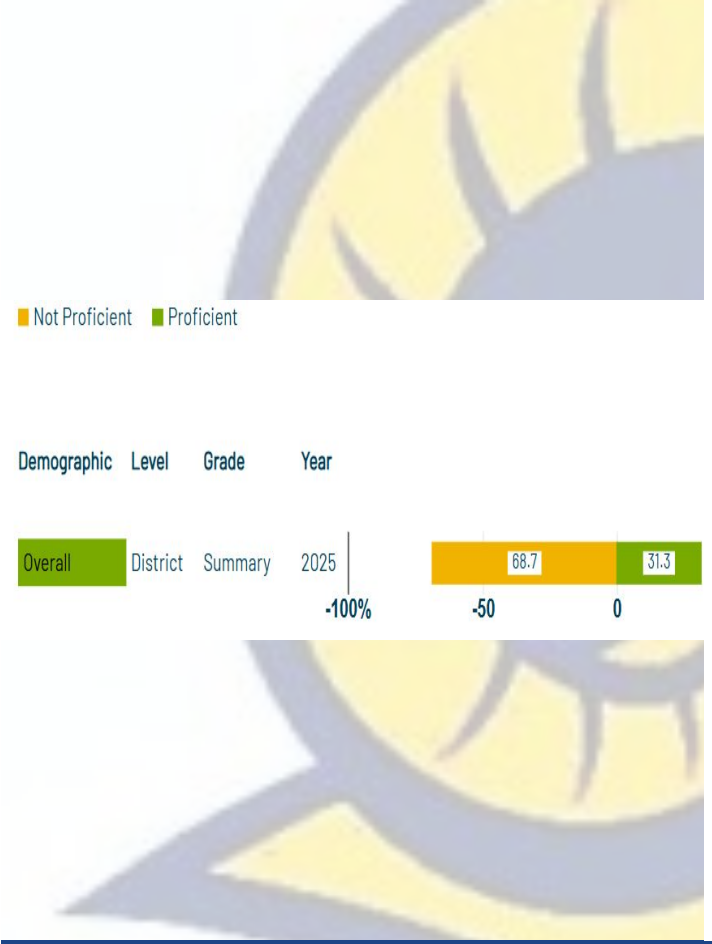
5 Essentials

The Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR) is a federally required measure of student mastery of the Illinois Learning Standards in English language arts and mathematics in grades 3 through 8 – and their readiness for what's next.

The Illinois Science Assessment (ISA) tests are designed to measure performance against rigorous science standards. The tests require students to apply their science skills to answering questions. These skills are necessary in order for students to be successful in the real world. The science tests are given to students enrolled in grades 5, 8, and 11.

5 Essentials - All district schools, including alternative schools that fall under the district's domain, are required to participate in a survey of learning conditions annually; results are displayed below.Survey data/indicators resulted from an anonymous administration of the instrument.

5 Essentials

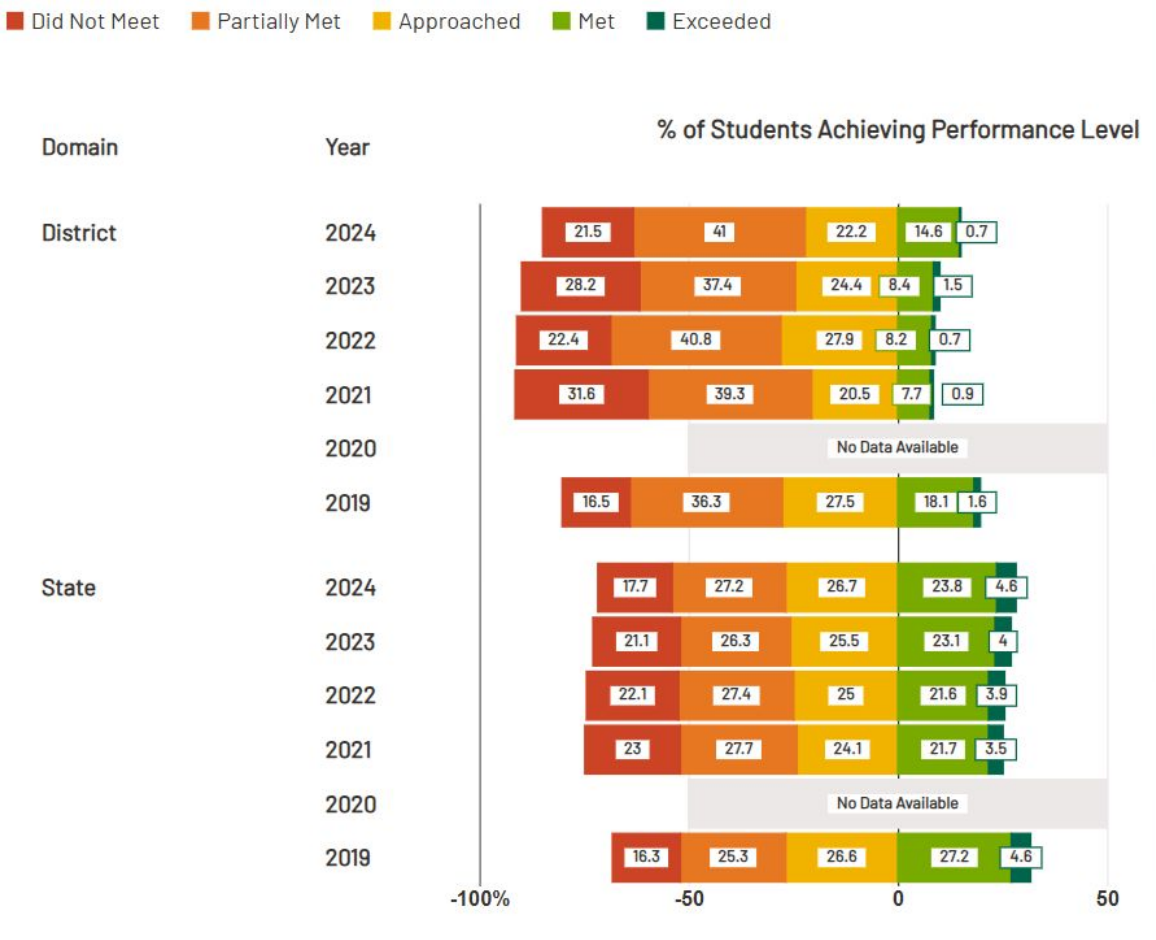




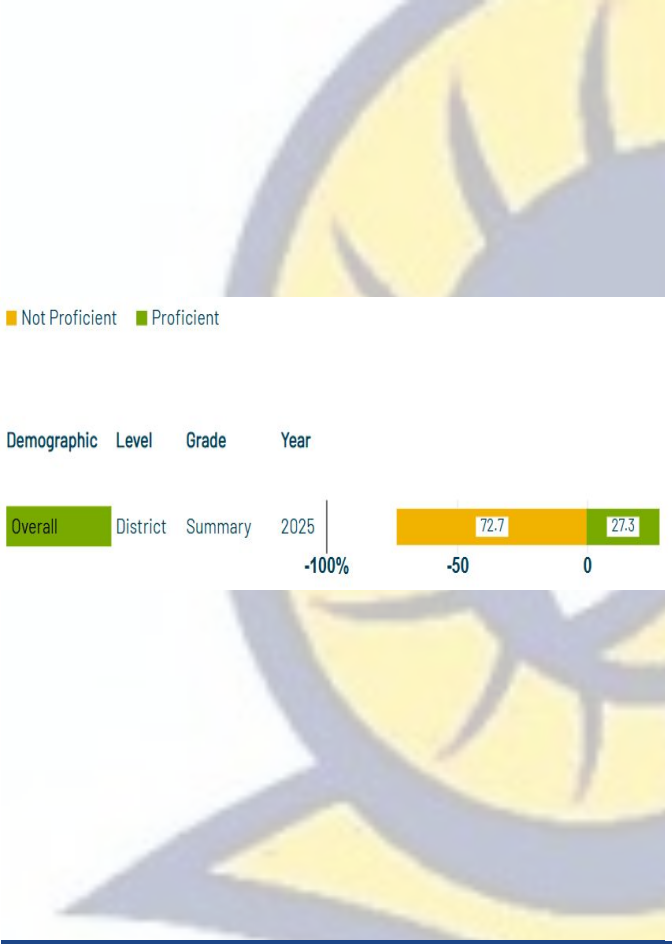
IAR ELA Trends

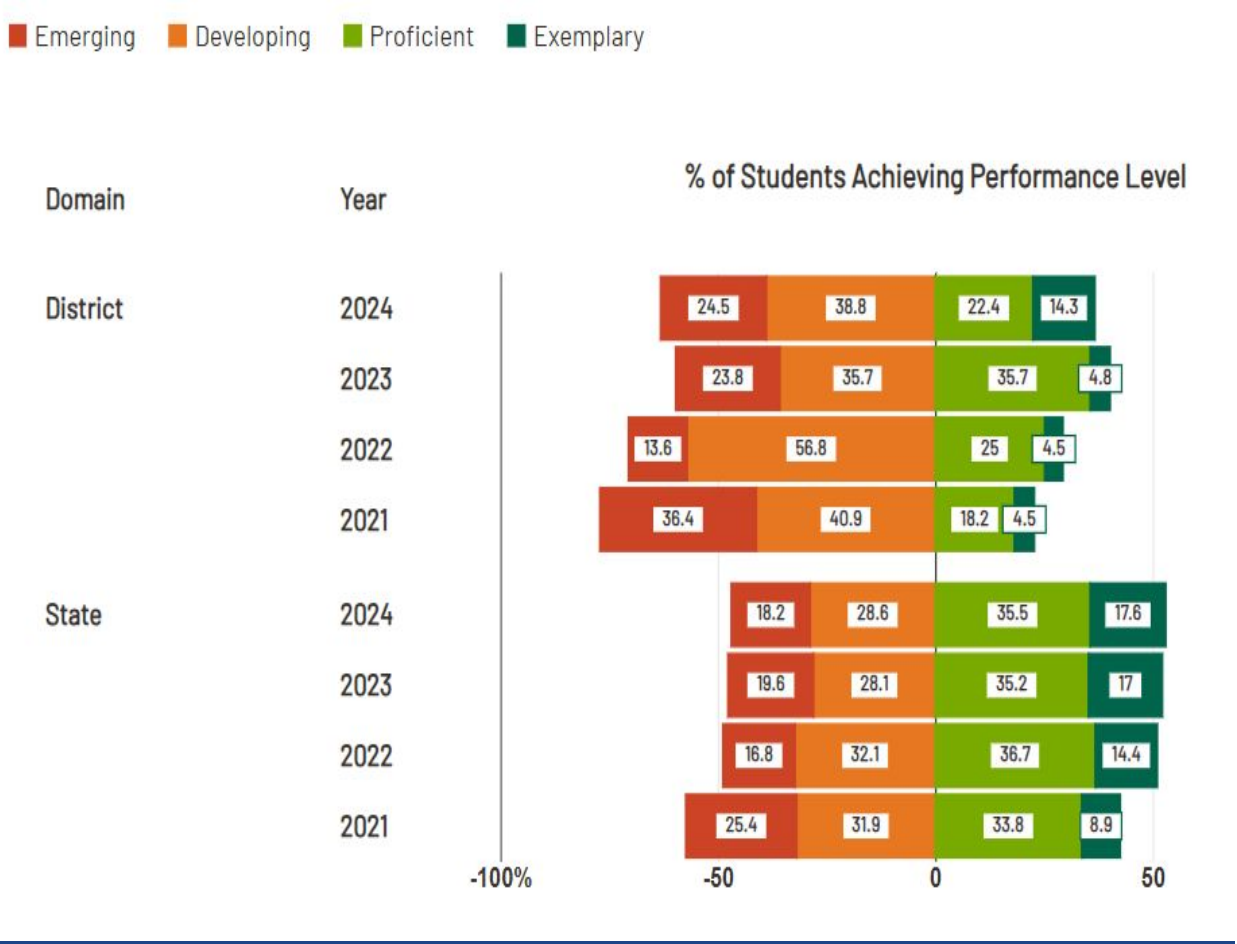






IAR MATH Trends





IL Science Assessment

Illinois Science Assessment (ISA)

Content Area(s)	Grades Assessed	Testing Window
Science	Grades 5, 8	March 1-April 30, 2027

Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR)

Content Area(s)	Grades Assessed	Testing Window
ELA/Math	Grades 3-8	Online: March 1-April 16, 2027
ELA/Math	Grades 3-8	Paper: March 1-April 2, 2027

IL Assessments

Climate Survey

All district schools, including alternative schools that fall under the district's domain, are required to participate in a survey of learning conditions annually; results are displayed below.Survey data/indicators resulted from an anonymous administration of the instrument.NOTE: If the 5Essentials results graphic is blank, the response rate was too low to display results. **Learn More**

2023

Very Weak **Effective Leaders**
Do principals and teachers implement a shared vision for success?

Weak **Collaborative Teachers**
Do teachers collaborate to promote professional growth?

Neutral **Supportive Environment**
Is the school safe, demanding, and supportive?

Neutral **Ambitious Instruction**
Are classes challenging and engaging?

Weak **Involved Families**
Does the entire staff build strong external relationships?



VERY STRONG
STRONG
NEUTRAL
WEAK
VERY WEAK
NO DATA
LOW RESPONSE/NOT APPLICABLE

	Response Rate	IL Average
Students	87.4%	86.2%
Teachers	56.7%	75%

For a more detailed look at this school's 5Essentials report, please visit www.5-essentials.org.

Attendance

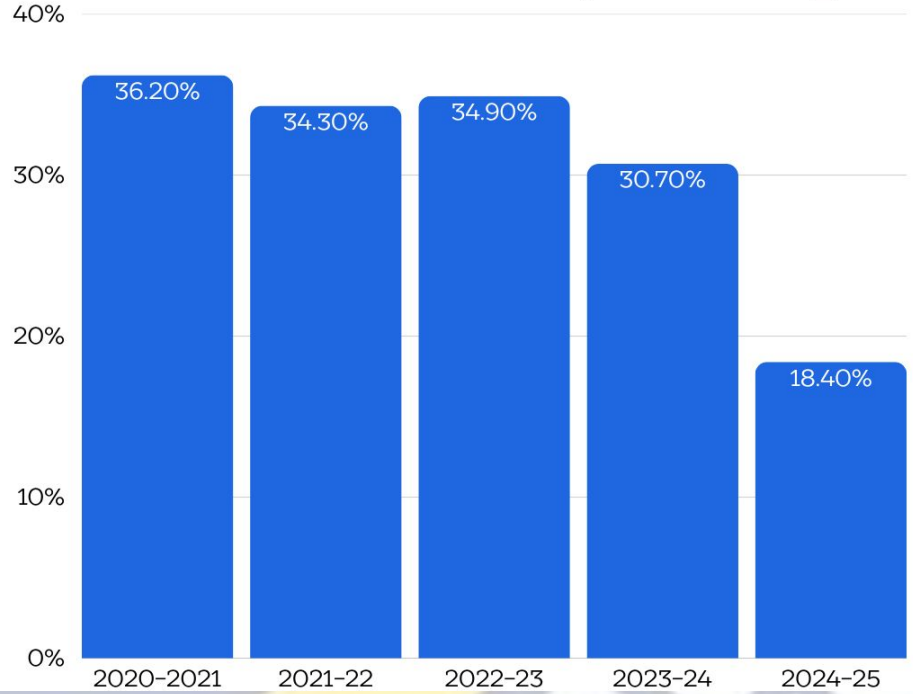
Behavior Trends

Behavior Approach

Social/Emotional Learning

School Climate/Culture

Chronic Absenteeism (IL Report Card)



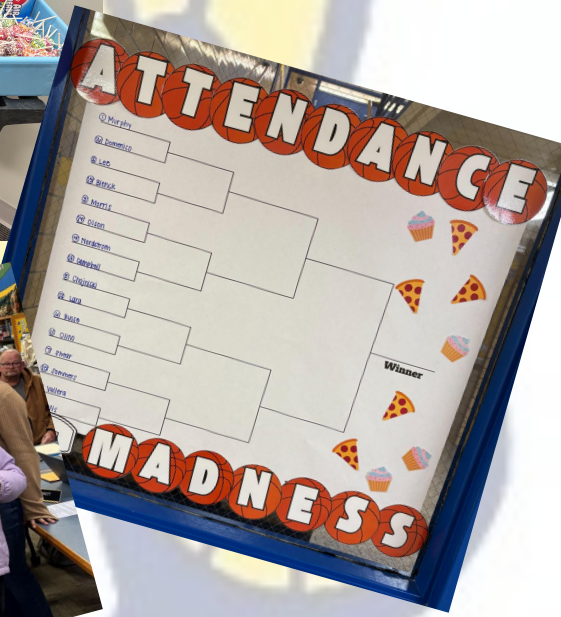
Increased Communication with Families

Partnership with Will County Regional Office of Education

Celebration of Perfect Attendance by Month/Semester/Year

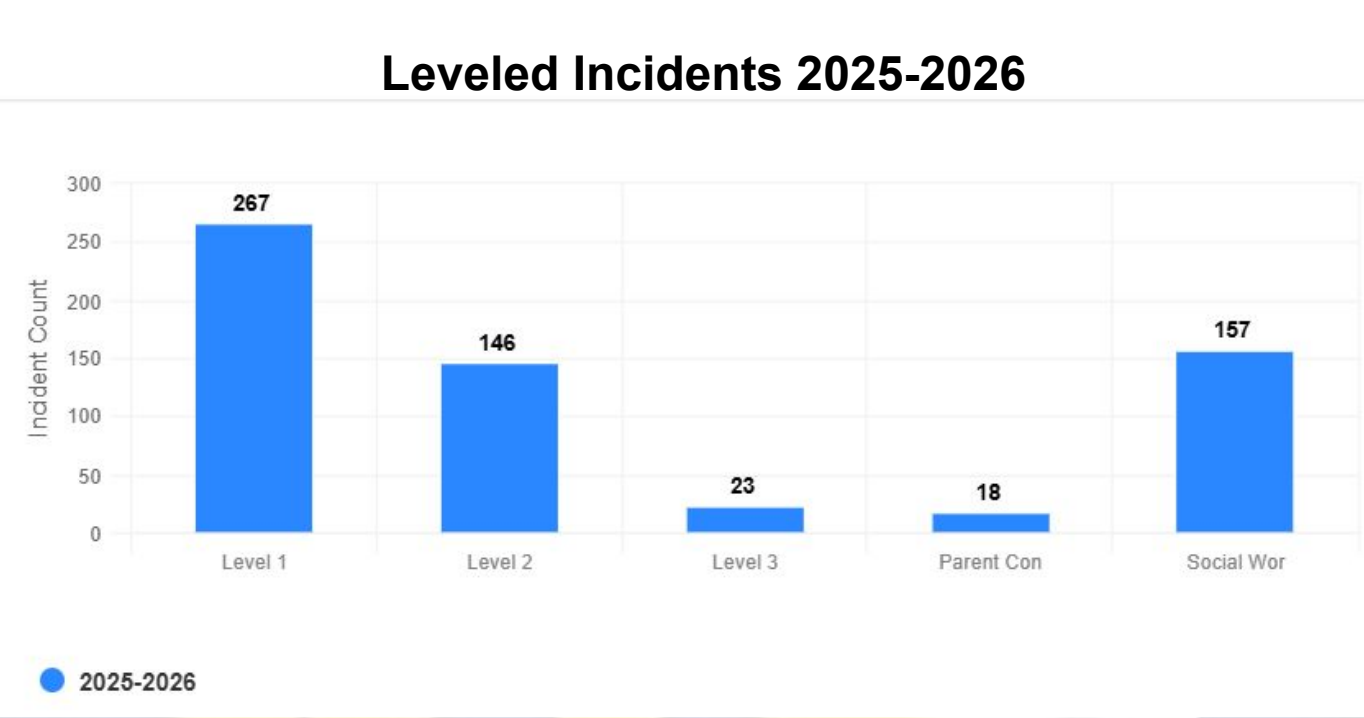
Attendance Madness in Spring







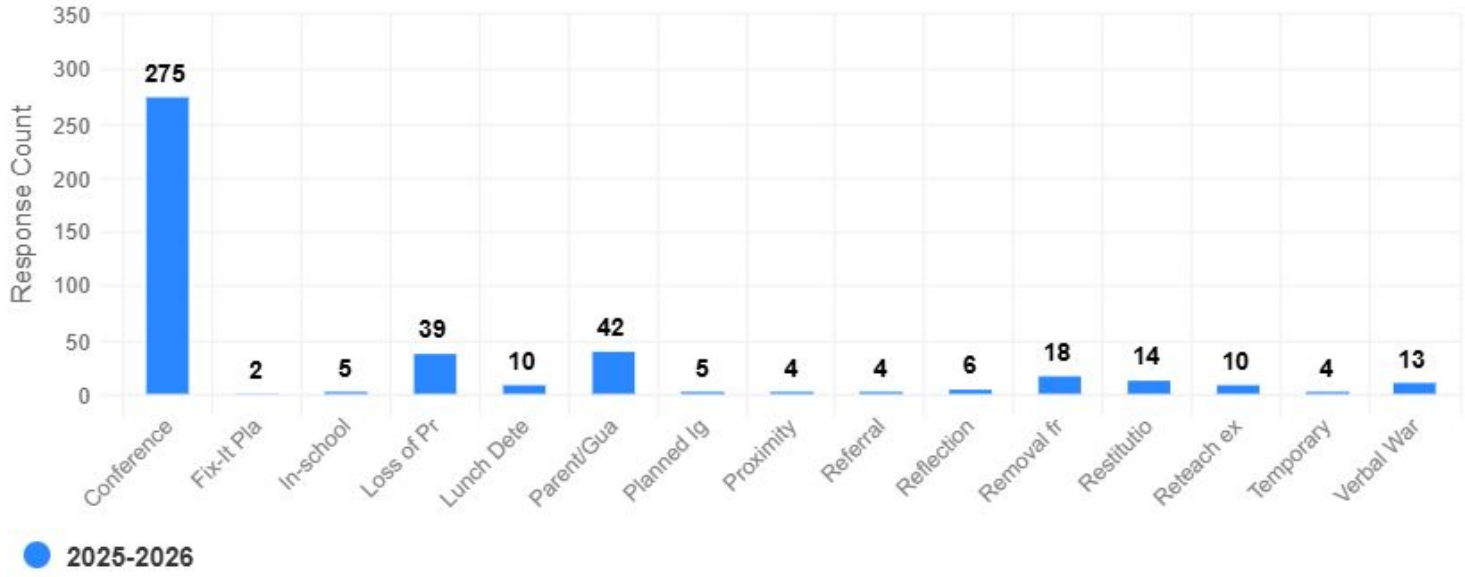
Student Attendance



*Data retrieved from eduCimber

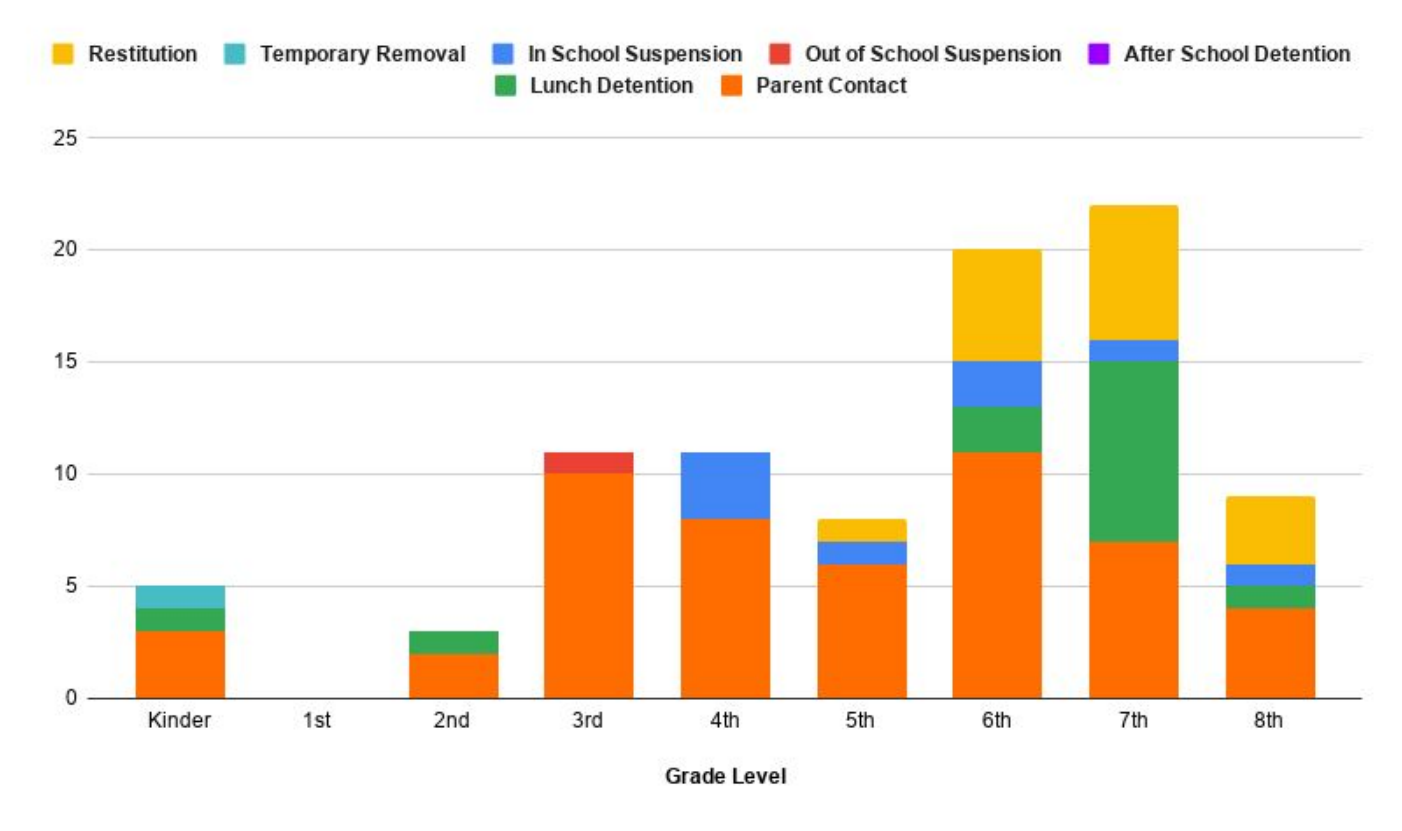
Behavior Trends

Incident Response Types
2025-2026



*Data retrieved from eduCimber

Behavior Trends



*Data retrieved from eduCimber and TeacherEase

Behavior Trends

Creation and Hiring of Director of Student Services in 2023-2024

Implementation of eduClimber in 2025-26 School Year
- Shift Toward Trauma Informed Practices, with a Focus on Function of Behavior

Use of Positive Reinforcement
- PBIS-Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports
- RAMS Bucks
- Rockdale Rockstars
- Thank a Friend Thursdays

Use of Progressive Discipline as outlined in Parent-Student Handbook

Look at Individual Students through the MTSS Process (Multi-Tiered System of Supports)

Behavior Approach

Building-wide Recognition of Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs and Creation of Care Closet

Creation and Hiring of 2nd Social Worker in 2023-24 School Year

Implementation of Character Strong Program K-5, Recess Reset K-2, and Botvin 6-8

Use of Needs Assessment to Create General Education Social Work Groups

Implementation of Will County Health Department IRIS Referral Network and Will County Social Work Services

Continued Focus on Individual Student Mental Health



Social / Emotional Learning

Thank you for allowing us to tell a portion of our story!

We’re happy to take questions!