



## DeKalb County Public Schools Professional Learning Report

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*June/Spring*

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## Program summary

We are excited to continue our partnership with DeKalb County Schools and support its schools, leaders, and teachers in a greater effort to improve student outcomes in both academic achievement and growth. In its ninth year of its partnership, the district continues with its use of MAP® Growth™ in grades K–12 for Reading, Language Arts, and Mathematics and in grades 3–8 for Science. The proper use of MAP Growth, with its relationship to the state’s standards and Milestones assessment, helps improve proficiency in both literacy and numeracy on state assessments and ensures that students have equitable access to and support for academic programs and courses. Additionally, MAP® Reading Fluency™ has been implemented across the district in grades K–3, with access to Coach (currently) in those Horizon Schools. The use of both MAP Reading Fluency and Coach, with proper implementation, is intended to increase students’ reading fluency and comprehension and, in turn, increase students’ academic success in all areas. The use of MAP Reading Fluency also satisfies recent state legislative requirements: House Bill 538 and Senate Bill 48.

In partnership with DeKalb County Schools, NWEA®-HMH has developed a comprehensive professional learning package for the 2024–25 academic year. This initiative is designed to cultivate high-performing staff and ensure exceptional teaching and learning outcomes. The package includes 178 days of districtwide learning opportunities that engage leadership, academic coaches, and teams from Horizon and Area 3 schools, along with other selected district teams.

To date, we have implemented the following professional learning sessions:

**Pre-Testing Training:** Four days of targeted training were conducted for Elementary Testing Coordinators and Assistant Principals prior to fall testing. This training focused on the effective implementation and administration of MAP Reading Fluency assessments.

**District Data Sessions:** We have provided 21 days of sessions thus far following the testing administrations. These sessions were aimed at principals and their teams, and they primarily focus on MAP Growth instructional data, including:

- The Class Profile report and Learning Continuum in the fall
- A deeper examination of student growth during the winter, utilizing the District Profile, School Profile, and new Projection reports
- Engagement in collaborative small group discussions to envision what “Eutopia” could look like in their schools through the innovative use of data, fostering creative strategies for engaging teachers and students in data-driven conversations and decision-making

- Analyzing district-level growth data more deeply using the Premium Growth report to identify trends and patterns in student growth across the district and among its various areas
- Aligning MAP data and its Learning Continuum with the Milestones assessment and its blueprint to implement best practices that support targeted instruction and preparation before the state assessment
- For Elementary School principals, we continued to review the Benchmark Matrix, Student Profile, and Instructional Planning tools to ensure a robust understanding of how to maximize the insights from these reports. Additionally, we introduced the Benchmark Comparison report and revisited grade-level expectations tables to enhance comprehension of students' progress in their early literacy journeys. With the district's recent acquisition of additional licenses for the Coach platform, we ensured that all participants understood how to access Coach and its role in supporting school initiatives.

**School-Based Visits:** We have completed 153 days for school-based visits to 31 Horizon Schools, 14 Elementary Area 3 Schools, and six district-selected Middle Schools. During these visits, facilitators collaborated with grade-level teams during their planning periods to analyze MAP Growth data, guide instructional planning, and establish student goal-setting best practices. In participating Elementary Schools, we also reviewed MAP Reading Fluency data and addressed any inquiries. Participants further enhanced their understanding of Coach, examining both its practical application and data interpretation.

During our final engagement with participating schools this spring, educators completed a structured reflection questionnaire designed to evaluate their work over the academic year. The reflection prompted them to identify instructional strategies they implemented, successes achieved, areas where outcomes fell short, and goals for ongoing professional growth. This process fostered thoughtful dialogue and collaboration among colleagues, reinforcing a shared commitment to continuous improvement.

This comprehensive professional learning package is strategically designed to empower educators with the tools and insights necessary to drive student success across the district.

In this communication, we share insights derived from feedback gathered during school visits by our facilitators as well as responses from district participants who engaged in our professional learning programs. We highly value this feedback because it is instrumental in our continuous improvement efforts. Our goal is to deliver professional learning experiences that empower teachers to enhance their skills and, ultimately, drive positive outcomes for all students in DeKalb County Schools.

We look forward to collaborating with you to ensure that our professional development initiatives successfully meet the needs of your educators and students alike.

## Summary of products purchased and delivered

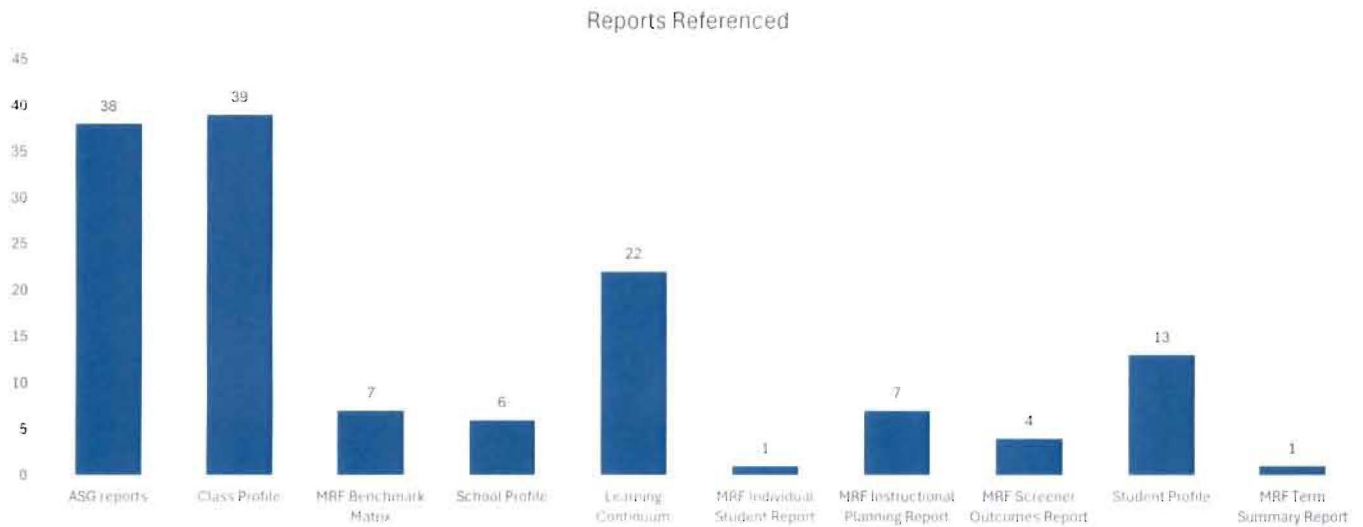
The renewal opportunity facilitated the purchase of various professional learning sessions focusing on MAP Growth, MAP Reading Fluency, and MAP Reading Fluency (MRF) with Coach. Sessions emphasized essential report analysis, responsive planning, and goal-setting strategies for educators across the district.

The district secured 12 additional half-day onsite sessions focused on applying essential reports specifically for teachers. This provided further support for teachers to apply MAP Growth data effectively.

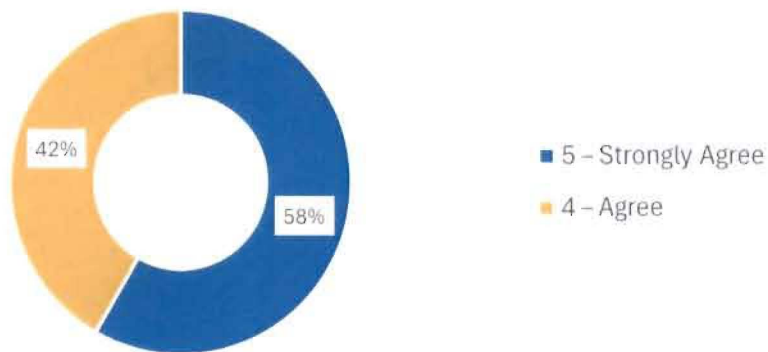
As part of this opportunity, several professional learning sessions have been delivered, focusing on equipping school leaders and teachers with the skills to effectively analyze and apply MAP Growth (MG) and MAP Reading Fluency (MRF) with Coach data. These sessions have provided educators with foundational knowledge and skills to interpret essential MAP and MAP Reading Fluency with Coach reports and to plan responsive instruction. The large volume of teacher-focused sessions, particularly in the “Applying Reports” series, demonstrates significant progress toward reaching the district’s strategic goals for instructional data usage.

Professional learning package Expiration date: July 1, 2025	Quantity		
<i>Professional learning</i>	<i>Purchased</i>	<i>Delivered</i>	<i>Remaining</i>
Pre-Testing Training (days)	4	4	0
District Data Sessions (days)	21	21	0
School-Based Visits (days)	153	153	0
<b>Total days</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total half-days</b>	<b>356</b>	<b>356</b>	<b>0</b>

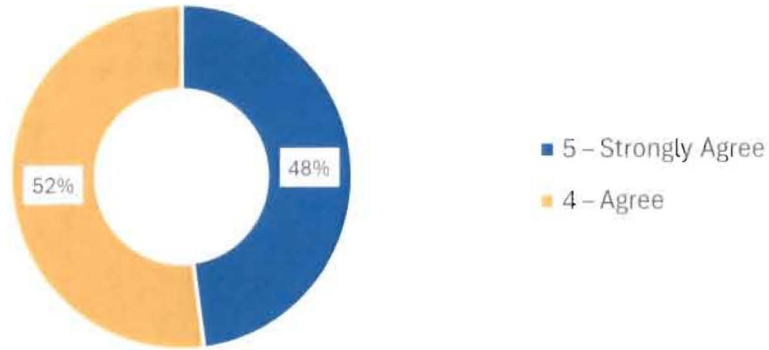
## Consultant survey data



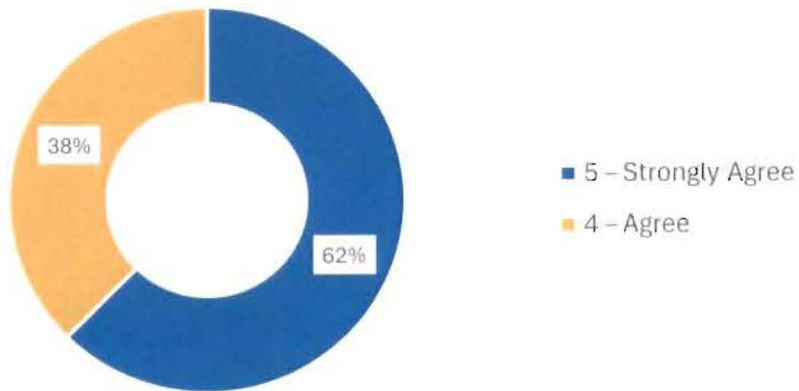
The session facilitated growth for participants in their understanding and use of data



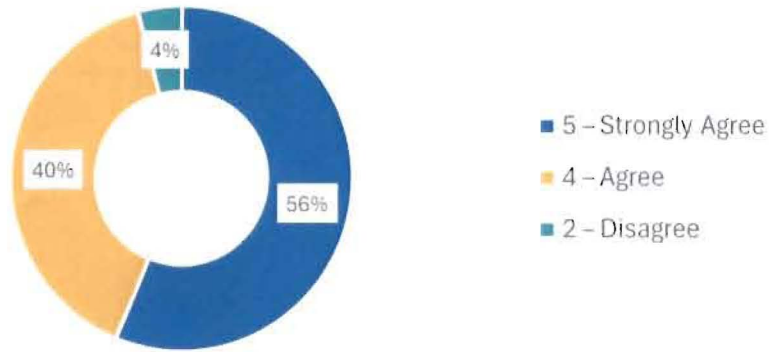
I am confident that my coaching is making a difference for the participant(s)



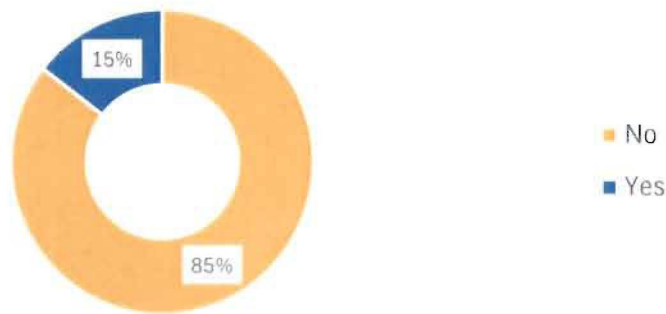
I am developing a rapport with the participant(s)



The session outcomes aligned with the identified goals



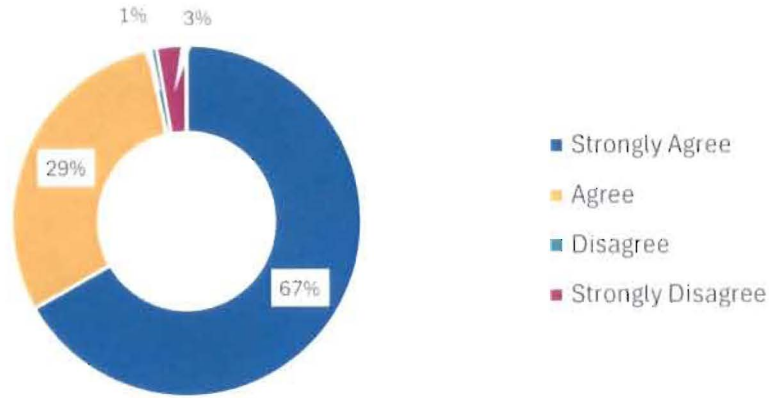
Did you experience any challenges that prevented you from meeting the goals that were identified for the session?



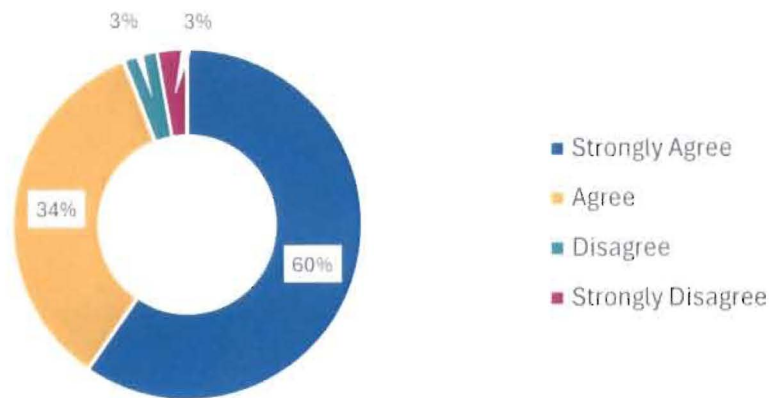
Positive feedback from teachers underscores the value of the workshops. The participation of more coaches and administrators enhanced engagement, collaboration, and focus among attendees. To further strengthen communication and build a more cohesive culture, it remains essential for the district to ensure timely responses to emails and phone calls and to clearly communicate the purpose and expectations of each meeting.

### Participant survey data

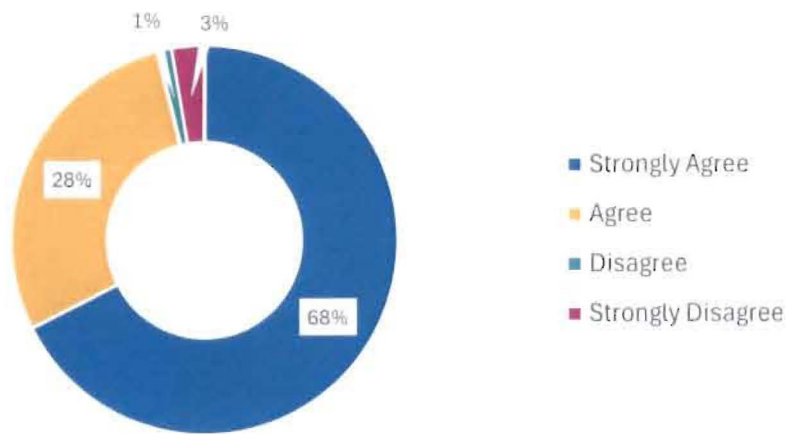
The facilitator was knowledgeable of the session content



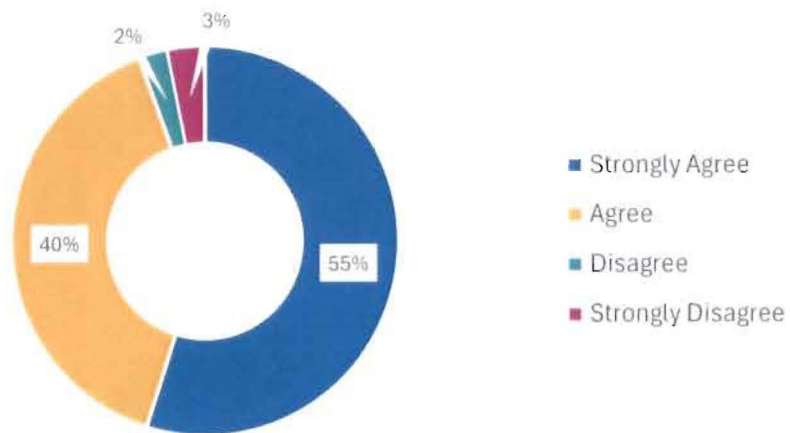
The facilitator managed time effectively during the session



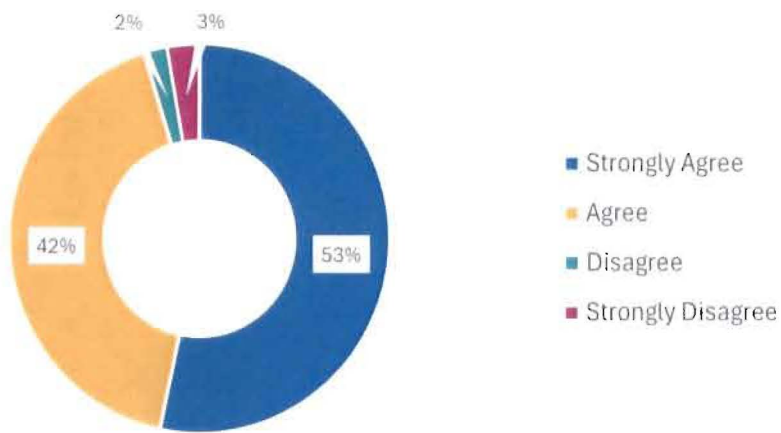
The facilitator was prepared for the session



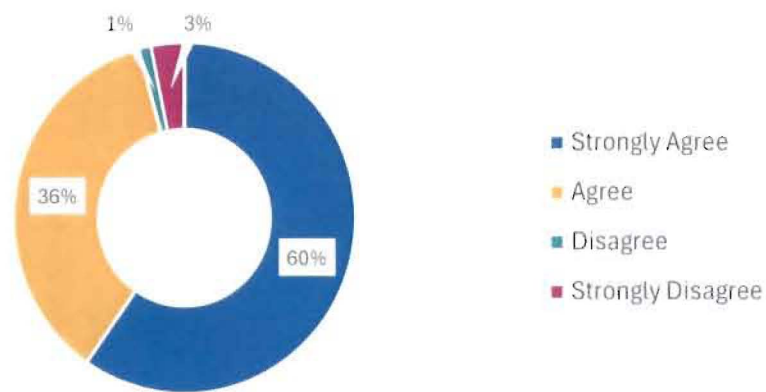
The facilitation strategies supported my learning



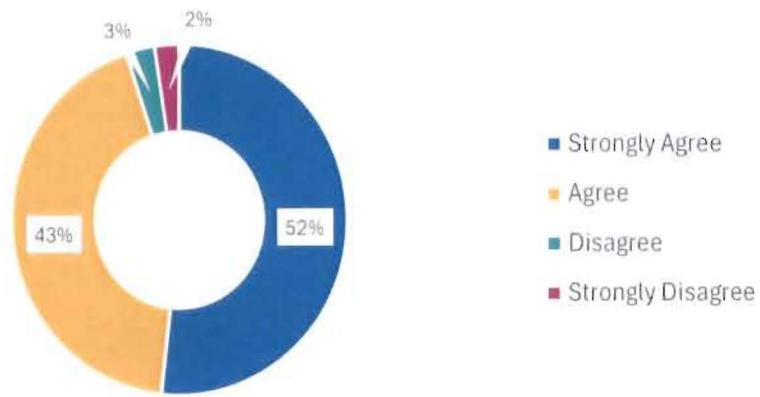
The facilitation materials supported my learning



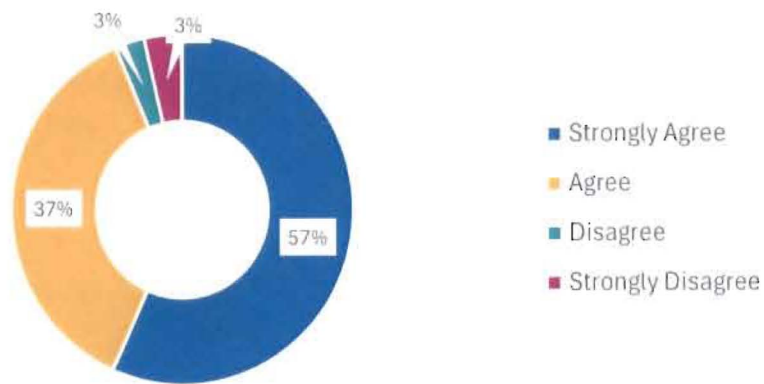
The session's content was relevant to my needs as an educator



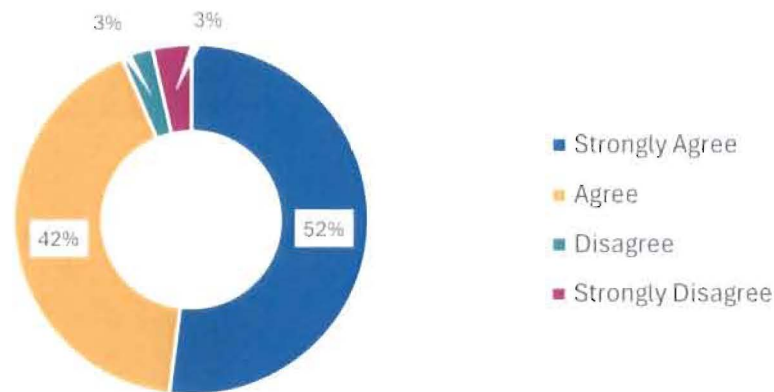
The stated learning targets or outcomes of the session were achieved



I gained new knowledge that I can use in my own professional setting



I gained new skills that I can use in my own professional setting



Most participants found the workshop content highly relevant, reporting significant gains in knowledge and skills related to data usage. The spring session received outstanding scores—97% for facilitation and engagement and 96% for applicability—reflecting the overwhelmingly positive feedback. School leaders continued to express appreciation for the leadership training and valued the opportunity to bring their teams and collaborate with other school teams, highlighting a strong interest in collaborative and targeted professional development in future sessions.

## Recommendations and next steps

We look forward to continued collaboration with key district stakeholders to ensure that we meet the evolving needs of your district. As we begin planning for the 2025–2026 school year, we are committed to developing a cohesive, strategic plan centered around the following shared priorities:

- **Engaging professional learning sessions** at both the district and school levels, designed to be interactive and hands-on, with meaningful, practical takeaways for participants
- **Collaborative learning environments** that support productive, district-wide professional development through spaces conducive to teamwork and active engagement
- **Centralized access to resources** through a dedicated site, ensuring that stakeholders consistently have timely access to essential information and resources, while maintaining compliance with HMH and NWEA intellectual property guidelines
- **Consistent communication** via a regular meeting cadence with key personnel to align on upcoming professional learning events, reflect on past sessions, and address evolving needs to ensure that all initiatives are responsive and impactful.

We are excited to begin this planning as we celebrate your 10th Year Anniversary as a MAP® Partner!

MAP Reading Fluency is powered by LanguaMetrics™.

**nwea**

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