



BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF METRO ATLANTA

LEVEL UP DATA REPORT

October 2025-March 2026



LITHONIA MIDDLE SCHOOL

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What is Level Up?

Level Up pairs students (Littles) with trained professionals (Lead Mentors). Littles meet with their mentors during the school day for group mentoring and 1:1 session, fostering conversations, connection, and the enhancement of social-emotional skills and mental health within a structured school schedule.

This report will review our impact on student attendance and discipline data, review program highlights, and entail an impact story of a match from your school.

Students Served

For the 2025-2026 school year, Level Up served 400 Littles at Lithonia Middle School. The mentors that served our 6th and 7th graders last school year looped up to the respective grades to provide a continuum of mentoring services. The Level Up Team hired 2 Lead Mentors for the incoming 6th grade and began serving 100 Littles. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Metro Atlanta raised additional funds to continue serving an additional 100- 7th graders this school year due to the larger enrollment at Lithonia MS. Programming began October 2025 for the 2025-2026 School Year.

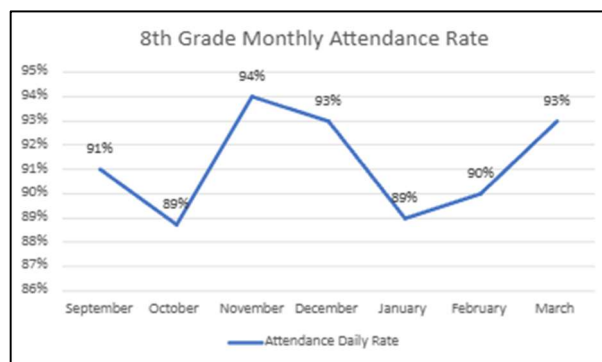
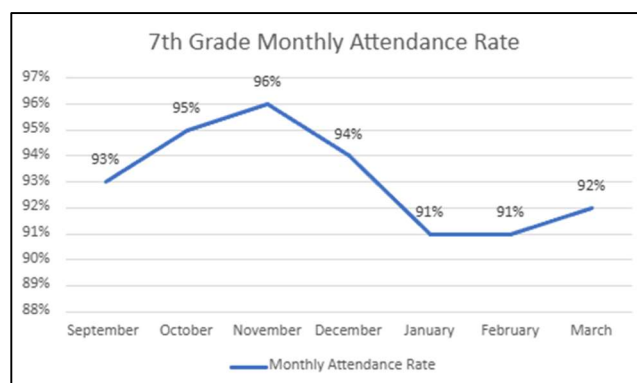
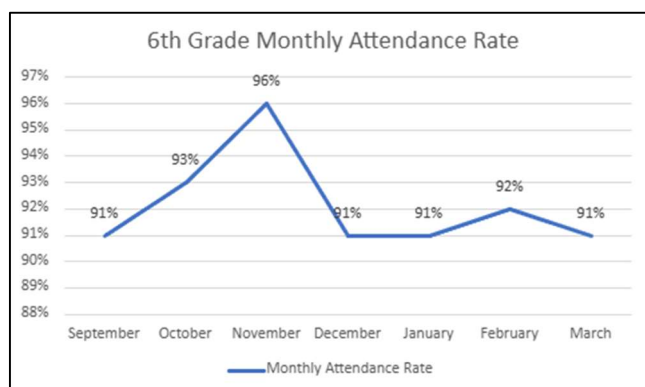
Total School Enrollment	1,014 students
Total Number of Littles served in Level Up Program	400
Breakdown of Littles Served in the Level Up Program	6 th Grade- 100 Littles 7 th Grade- 200 Littles 8 th Grade- 100 Littles

Summary of Results

- Attendance data from September through March shows that students across all grade levels maintained relatively strong attendance rates, with most months ranging between 89% and 96%. Both 6th and 7th grade students demonstrated their highest attendance rates in November (96%), while 8th grade students peaked at 94% in November. Although attendance dipped during the winter months, particularly in January and February, all grade levels showed signs of stabilization or improvement by March. Notably, 8th grade students demonstrated the strongest rebound, increasing from 89% in January to 93% in March. These trends suggest consistent student engagement throughout the school year, with attendance remaining above 89% across all grades despite seasonal fluctuations.
- Student behavior outcomes remained positive throughout the school year, with suspension rates generally staying low across all grade levels. Through March 2026, 7th and 8th Grade students-maintained suspension rates at or below 4%, while 6th Grade reduced its suspension rate from 10% in September to 3% in March, reflecting notable behavioral improvement over time. Overall, the data suggests that students participating in the Level Up Program demonstrated positive behavioral growth and increased school engagement throughout the school year.

Attendance Data

Little's in the Level Up Program Attendance Data Average Daily Attendance Rate per month



Observations:

Attendance Trends & Comparative Analysis (6th–8th Grade)

Across all three grade levels, student attendance remained relatively strong throughout the school year, with most monthly attendance rates staying between 89%–96%. While each grade level experienced some fluctuations, several clear trends emerged when comparing performance across grades and months.

Overall Trends

- 7th Grade demonstrated the strongest and most consistent attendance overall, maintaining rates primarily between 91%–95% throughout the year.
- 6th Grade showed the highest single-month attendance rate, peaking at 96% in November, but experienced more fluctuation during the second semester.
- 8th Grade began the year with the lowest attendance rate (89% in October) but showed gradual recovery and improvement by March (93%).

Grade-Level Analysis

6th Grade Trends

- Attendance steadily increased from 91% in September to a high of 96% in November.
- A noticeable decline occurred after November, dropping to 91% in December and January.
- Attendance rebounded slightly in February (92%) before dipping again in March (91%).
- The data suggests strong engagement early in the school year, followed by attendance challenges during the winter months.

7th Grade Trends

- 7th Grade maintained the most stable attendance pattern across all grades.
- Attendance peaked at 95% in October and November.
- A gradual decline occurred from December through February, reaching 91%.
- The grade level recovered during the spring months, increasing to 92% in March and 93% in April.
- Overall, 7th Grade showed the strongest consistency and resilience across the school year.

8th Grade Trends

- 8th Grade started with the lowest attendance rate among all grades at 89% in October.
- Attendance improved significantly in November (94%) and remained relatively strong in December (93%).
- Another decline occurred in January (89%), likely aligning with post-winter break attendance patterns seen across grade levels.
- Positive improvement resumed in February (90%) and March (93%), showing encouraging upward momentum by the end of the reporting period.

Comparative Insights

Strongest Attendance Performance

- 7th Grade demonstrated the strongest overall attendance performance due to its consistency and limited fluctuation.
- 6th Grade achieved the highest single monthly attendance rate (96%), indicating strong engagement potential when supports are fully leveraged.

Most Significant Growth

- 8th Grade showed the greatest improvement trajectory, rising from 89% in October to 93% in March, reflecting increased stabilization over time.

Common Trends Across Grades

- Attendance rates were generally strongest during the fall semester (October–November).
- All grades experienced declines during the winter months (December–January).
- Improvement trends re-emerged during the spring semester, particularly in February–April.

Key Takeaways

- Attendance across all grade levels remained above 89%, demonstrating overall positive student engagement.
- Winter months appear to be a consistent challenge area across grade levels.
- The upward spring trends, especially in 7th and 8th grade, suggest that continued mentoring support and relationship-building efforts may positively influence student attendance and school connectedness.

Mentoring Session Attendance Data

Littles in the Level Up Program Session Attendance Data

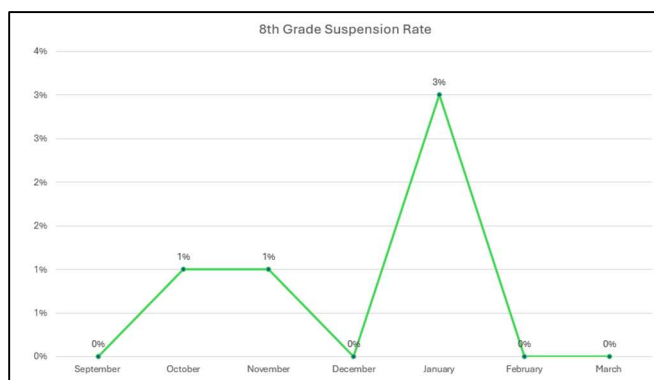
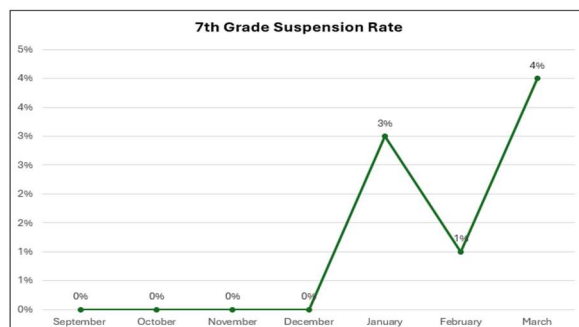
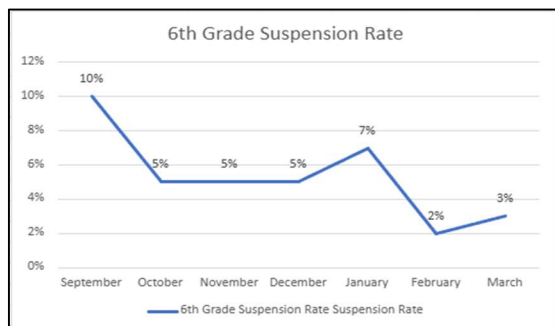
Goal: Level Up Team will have a 75% or higher attendance rate for sessions

	Number of Session Hours Offered	Number of Session Hours Attended	Percent of Session Hours Attended
6 th -8 th Grade Lead Mentors	5,192	4,375	84.3%

Behavior Data

Littles in the Level Up Program Suspension Data

Suspension Rate per month



Observations:

Suspension Trends

The suspension data across 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students reflects generally low suspension rates throughout the school year, with several grade levels demonstrating positive behavioral trends and reductions over time. While isolated increases occurred during select months, overall suspension rates remained relatively low across all grade levels.

Grade-Level Analysis

6th Grade Trends

- 6th Grade began the year with the highest suspension rate across all grade levels at 10% in September.
- Suspension rates significantly decreased to 5% from October through December.
- A temporary increase occurred in January (7%), followed by continued improvement during the spring semester.
- By April, the suspension rate declined to 0%, representing the strongest behavioral improvement among all grade levels.
- Overall, the data reflects substantial progress in reducing behavioral incidents over time.

7th Grade Trends

- 7th Grade maintained the lowest suspension rates during the first semester, recording 0% suspensions from September through December.
- Behavioral incidents increased during the second semester, with suspension rates rising to 3% in January, decreasing to 1% in February, and increasing again to 4% in March.
- Although fluctuations occurred later in the year, suspension rates remained relatively low overall.

8th Grade Trends

- 8th Grade demonstrated consistently low suspension rates throughout the year.
- Suspension rates remained at 0% in September, December, February, and March.
- Minor increases occurred in October and November (1%) and peaked briefly in January (3%).
- The grade level quickly rebounded after January, returning to 0% for the remainder of the reporting period.
- Overall, 8th Grade displayed strong behavioral stability across most months.

Comparative Insights

Strongest Behavioral Improvement

- 6th Grade showed the greatest overall behavioral growth, reducing suspensions from 10% at the start of the year to 0% by April.

Most Consistent Behavioral Performance

- 8th Grade maintained the most consistently low suspension rates overall, with most months at 0%–1%.

Common Trends Across Grades

- All grade levels experienced an increase in suspension rates during the winter months, particularly in January.
- Suspension rates generally improved or stabilized moving into the spring semester.
- Overall suspension rates across all grades remained relatively low, indicating positive student behavior and school engagement throughout the school year.

Key Takeaways

- Behavioral outcomes across the Level Up Program remained encouraging, with suspension rates staying low overall.
- The data suggests that consistent mentoring, relationship-building, and student support strategies may positively contribute to reductions in behavioral incidents

Session Snapshots

Session Snapshots serve as our daily progress monitoring measure for Littles to identify what was learned and give Littles an opportunity to provide feedback on sessions. This information provides our Lead Mentors with the information needed to adjust and adapt their lessons to the needs of the Littles. We review Session Snapshot Cumulative Averages weekly.

Goal: Lead Mentors have a monthly and yearly cumulative average of a 3 or higher (scale 1-5).

Eight closing questions are asked after each session. Please look at the questions below:

1. I feel more hopeful or positive after today's session
2. I know my mentor will be there for me when I need them
3. I feel in control of my emotions after today's session.
4. Being in this program helps me feel like I belong and that I am a part of a community
5. I learned something today that will help me prepare for the future.
6. Today's session helped me think about how to make good decisions.
7. Being in this program helps me believe I can do well in school
8. After today's session, I feel confident that I will make good behavior choices this week.

Lead Mentor/Cumulative Session Snapshot Average for the Month	October 2025- April 2026
Zachary Cook- 6 th	4.57
Isis Goodwin- 6 th	4.56
Dorian Britt- 7 th	4.68
Jeremiah Nealy- 7th	4.72
Tamiya Lawrence- 7th	4.77
J’Kari Willingham- 7th	4.76
Nicholas Turner- 8th	4.80
Jeffelyn Martinez- 8th	4.86

15 Quotes from Littles from Session Snapshots

1. I feel confident in myself.
2. I feel confident about my feelings and emotional well-being
3. Yes indeed. I have questions to ask; my question is when I go to the next grade will I still be in the program?
4. I am grateful to be here
5. I would like to thank you because without this program I wouldn't have changed my ways
6. I would like to say thank you for helping me grow and succeed.
7. Today I learned that if you don't get out of your comfort zone you will never grow.
8. I feel good about today
9. LOVE YALL!!
10. Thank you for helping me find myself and helping me to just be myself. I have learned a lot so far and I hope that I learn more and have fun while learning.
11. I like to thank my mentor for being a part of my life and being the person that they are.
12. He's the best mentor I could ask for.
13. You helped me set life goals and your outfit was overly teaaaaaaa today.
14. Find another way to track us and make sure we are here, and next year find a way to make sessions either longer or be on multiple days a week.
15. I would like to tell y'all the session was good and I learned a lot about MAP testing skills, like process of elimination and different types of ways to help me out with MAP



2025-2026 Highlights from the Level Up Program

- All mentors maintained a caseload of 50 Littles during the school year.
- Hunter Camp, 6th Grade Little won Fuel for Your Future Competition May 2026. He earned a \$1,000 Check from Fifth Third Bank
- Serenity Scott, 8th Grade Little came in 3rd place for Fuel Your Future Competition May 2026. She earned a \$100 Gift Card and 2 New Clients for her business.
- Thirty 8th Grade Littles participated in the SIFMA Stock Market Competition against 3 other Level Up Sites 8th Grade Littles. Following the 2-month competition, one of Mr. Nick's 8th grade groups took 1st place. Each of those Littles earned a medal and a \$25.00 Amazon Gift Card.
- Lithonia Level Up Littles had a completion of 86% for Future Planning Projects for 2nd Semester.
- Mikhel Blair & Hayala Watson won spots in the Steve Harvey Mentoring Camp this Summer.
- Level Up Team hosted the first 8th Grade Prom/Celebration Ceremony (May 2026).
- 200 7th Grade Littles participated in the 4-week Hands-On Banking Module through Wells Fargo.
- 2 Littles attended a Braves Game and experienced dinner in the Club Suite
- Several Littles participated in an interview focused on mentoring for DeKalb County School District
- Spotlight on Level Up Program during House and Senate Committee Meeting September 2025. Dewanda Chambers, Assistant Principal and 2 Littles attended to discuss the positive impact of the Level Up Program on student attendance.
- 2 Littles from Lithonia Middle School attended Capitol Hill Day January 2026 and served as pagers for the day.
- 10 Littles participated in BBBS Holiday Gift Giveaway
- Hugh Walthall, III earned Supervisor of the Month for December 2025
- Dorian Britt, earned Mentor of the Month for October 2025

