PUBLIC SCHOOLS of BROOKLINE

John D. Runkle School

School Improvement Plan Update (SIP)

October 20, 2025

Runkle School Council Membership

PUBLIC SCHOOLS of BROOKLINE

Caregiver Reps: Jeremy Redburn, Celia Green, Leena Mittal, and Lynne Chuang

Teacher Reps: Marian Voros, Rebecca Sneider, Jenny Murphy, Kathleen Kane, and Donna Finnegan

Budgetary Impact

PUBLIC SCHOOLS of BROOKLINE

- The John D. Runkle School takes into consideration the budgetary needs of the District and with the funds provided by the Town, State, and federal government. All funding decisions are made with the best interest of children in mind and under the constraints set forth the the Town Managers and our School Committee
- Any funds dedicated to the school itself and are at the discretion of the principal go directly towards professional development and stipends for adults who support extra activities such as Homework Center, GSA, Young Scholars, school plays/musicals, and athletic coaching positions. Runkle's discretionary budget may also support some materials/supports for our RISE program.
- Our percentage of high-needs students (English-learners and students with academically-based disabilities) continues to grow. Although Runkle is well-staffed with Special Educators and over 35 paraprofessionals, the need for supports continues to grow.

SIP Goal #1

District Goal: Increase achievement for all students by establishing, implementing, and regularly assessing a consistent, high-quality, and challenging curriculum delivered using evidence-based practices

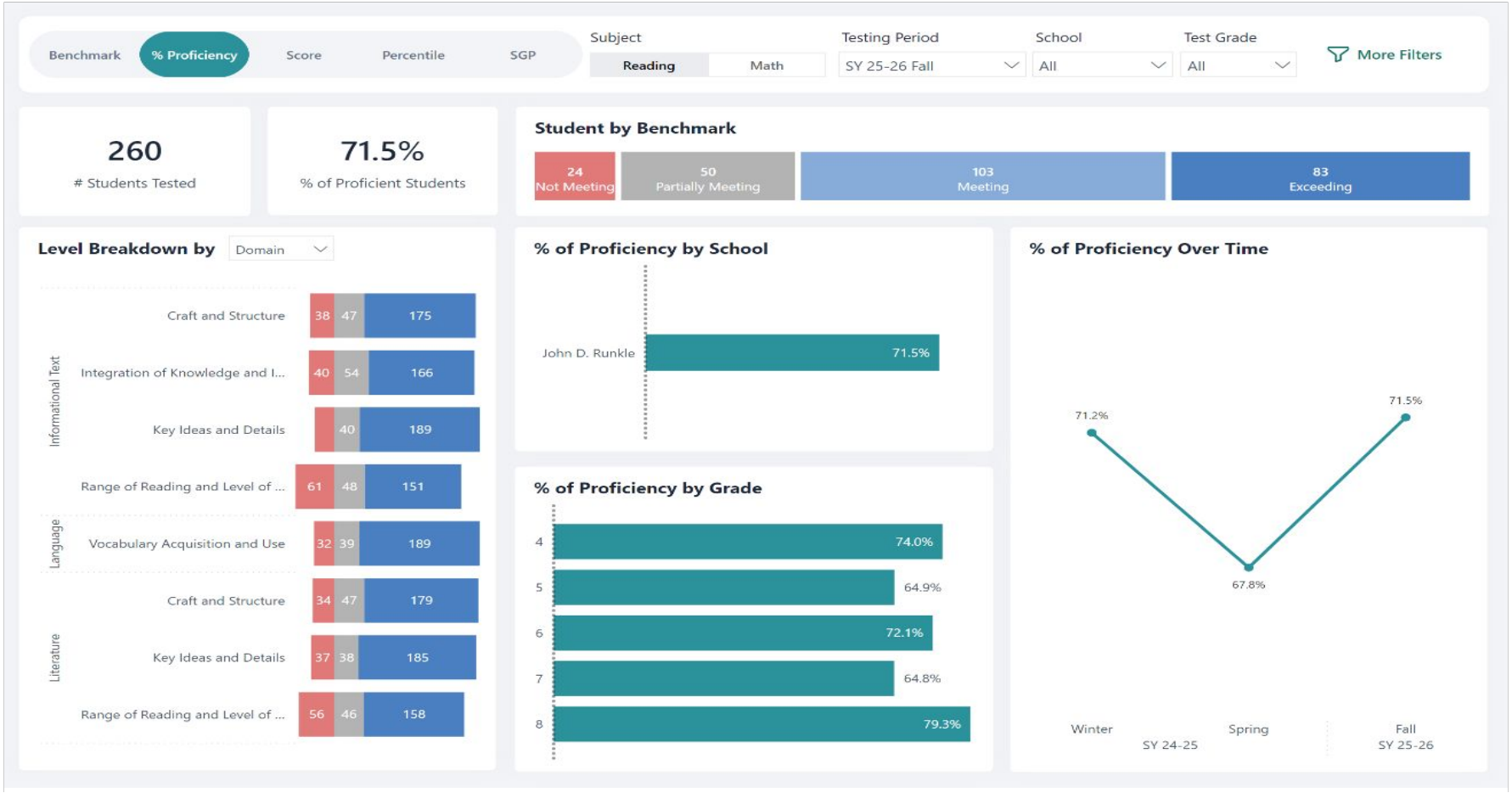
Our Strategic Objective:

Increase achievement for all Runkle students by implementing Tier 1 and Tier 2 interventions that support a consistent, high-quality, and challenging curriculum in literacy and math using evidence-based practices.

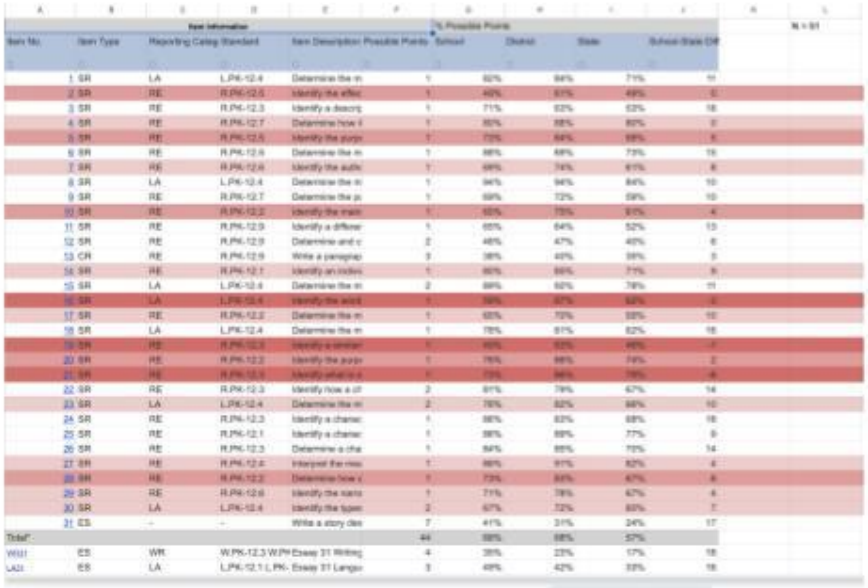
Monitoring Goal #1

Strategic Initiatives	Dates of Implementation	Goals and Benchmarks
• Continued implementation of Heggarty and Fundations.	September 2024-June 2026	Evidence on aligned curriculum and standards in literacy and math during class observations.
• Integrate evidence-based Tier 1 interventions into daily classroom instruction in literacy and math.	September 2024-June 2026	All K-5 Staff participate fully in Literacy Training Sept-Jan, 24-25. New curriculum training beginning in Feb. ‘25
• Develop and implement a system for identifying students who need Tier 2 interventions based on assessment data.	September 2024-June 2026	All students K-5 assessed using mClass and STAR tools.
• Engage families and the community in supporting literacy and math achievement through workshops, communication, and resources.	September 2024-June 2026	Hold community meetings for families about literacy initiatives and instruction in math. Our MCAS Story

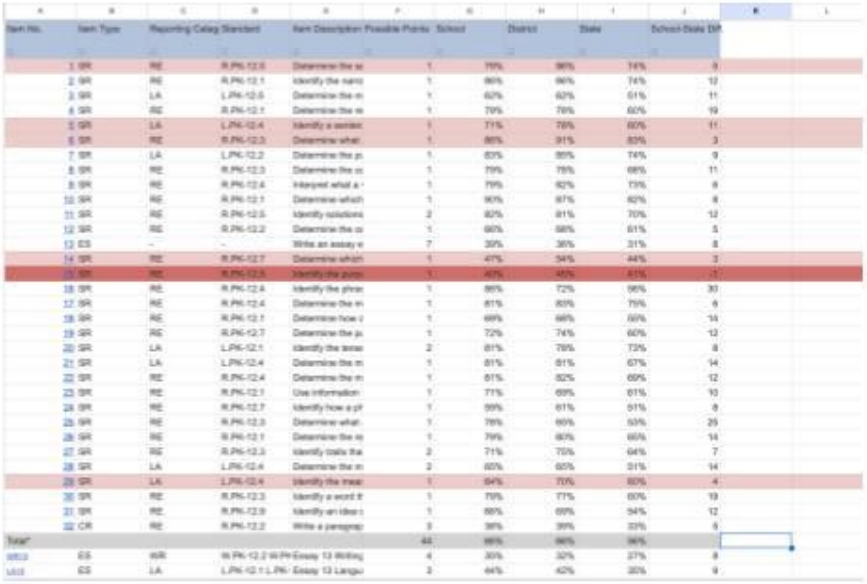
STAR Date Example



Example: 3rd Grade ELA 2022 vs. 3rd Grade ELA 2023



3rd Grade ELA 2022



3rd Grade ELA 2023

Note: Pink: 5<x<10 (School vs. District %)
Darker Pink: x>10 (School vs. District %)
Red: x< 0 (School vs. State -%)

[Our MCAS Story]

District Goal Goal: Develop and implement a culturally responsive community engagement plan to foster connections among caregivers, schools, the district, and the community.

Our Strategic Objective: All Runkle educators are given opportunities to engage in cultural proficiency training and implement culturally proficient learning to decrease implicit bias and foster a community for understanding differences.

Monitoring Goal #2

Strategic Initiatives	Dates of Implementation	Goals and Benchmarks
• Name Runkle Equity Leader, possibly 2 staff (K-5, 6-8, facilitator/coaching)	September 2024-June 2025 September 2025-June 2026	Hold monthly meetings with Equity Team and OEE directors. Culture and Climate Committee has taken this role and is working with our PTO and ROAR group.
• Work with PTO to create plan for METCO students to attend events (after-school activity before evening events).	September 2024-June 2026	Coordinate with ROAR and METCO staff to address event attendance. Teachers will reach out families to support this effort.
• Coordinate with OEE staff around trainings for teachers. Runkle will be an OEE Pilot School this year.	September 2024-June 2025	Completed Equity Cycle for Grade 6-8 Staff 2024-2025

Runkle's Culture and Climate Committee has partnered with ROAR (Runkle Organization Against Racism) and our PTO to hold our first annual Ruby Bridges Walk on November 14th.

Other schools in Brookline do this as well. This was a collaborative effort between three groups at Runkle that have previously worked independently of each other. We are excite to see this come to fruition.

Town-wide Cross-Country Meet.

Runkle has consistently been successful in including students from our RISE program in both Cross-Country and Track programs. It has been particularly inspiring to see students start practices with mentors/paras…then run independently in the final events.

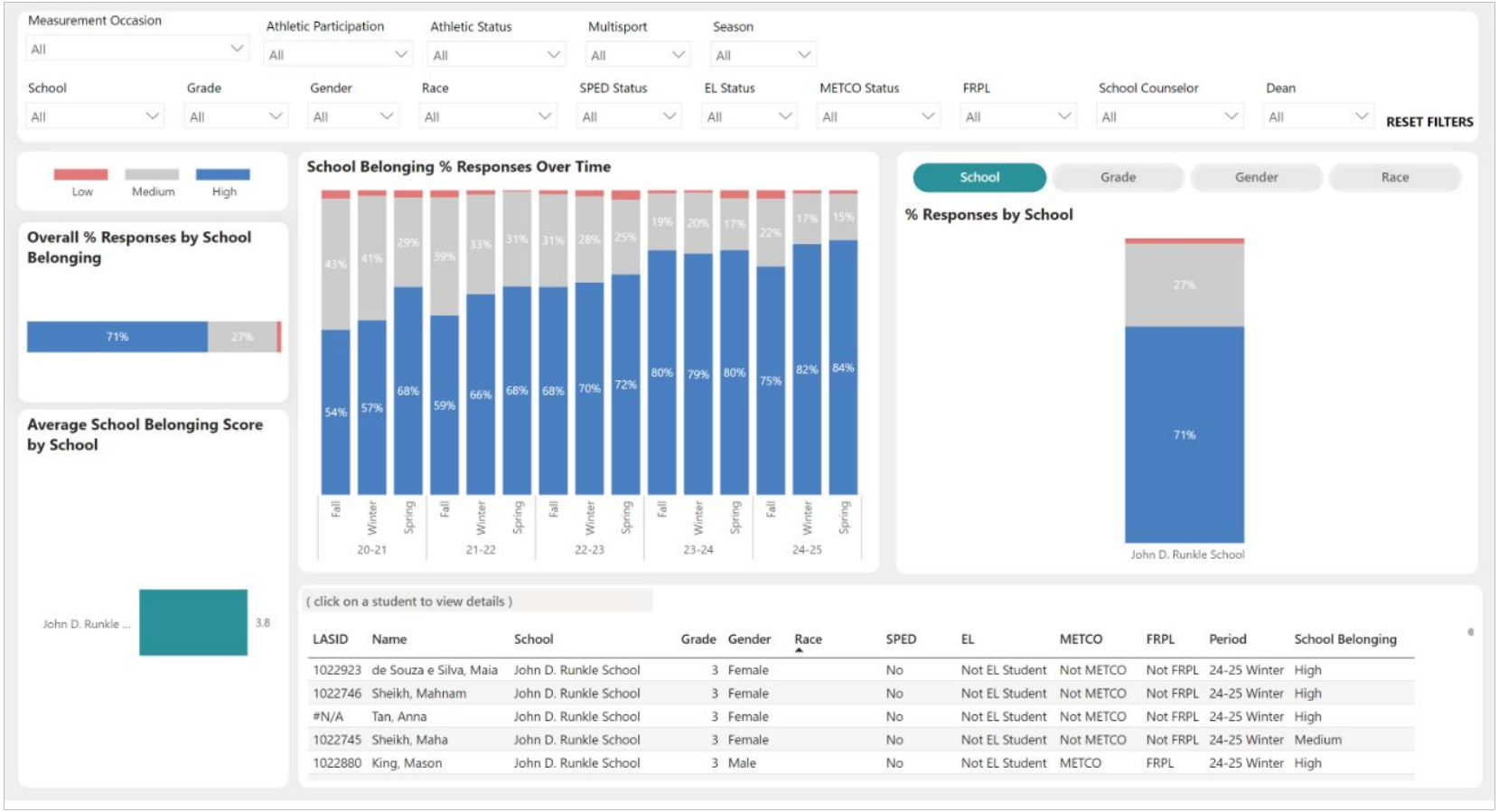
District Goal: Partner with families and the community to create safe environments that promote belonging

Our Strategic Objective: Enhance Family and Staff Engagement to Foster a Safe and Inclusive Environment and Positive Climate and Culture.

Monitoring Goal #3

Strategic Initiatives	Dates of Implementation	Goals and Benchmarks
Organize monthly coffee mornings and evening Zoom sessions for parents to discuss school updates, share concerns, and provide feedback.	September 2024- June 2026	Improved feedback in Panorama Survey.
Develop a communication plan that includes regular newsletters and a dedicated section on the school website for family engagement resources.	September 2024- June 2026	Improved feedback in Panorama Survey. Increased family attendance at Runkle events.
Continued implementation of Second Step (K-5), Wayfinder (6-8), Social Thinking (all grades) for SEL/anti-bullying in classroom meetings and Advisories.	September 2024- June 2026	Maintain/increase in students' responses to feelings of belonging and safety at Runkle.
Seek feedback from staff through monthly meetings, morning coffees with Administrators, and Exit Tickets.	September 2024- June 2026	Increase staff reporting a positive climate from 63% to 80% on the Panorama survey.

Panorama Belonging Data



LASID	Name	School	Grade	Gender	Race	SPED	EL	METCO	FRPL	Period	School Belonging
1022923	de Souza e Silva, Maia	John D. Runkle School	3	Female		No	Not EL Student	Not METCO	Not FRPL	24-25 Winter	High
1022746	Sheikh, Mahnam	John D. Runkle School	3	Female		No	Not EL Student	Not METCO	Not FRPL	24-25 Winter	High
#N/A	Tan, Anna	John D. Runkle School	3	Female		No	Not EL Student	Not METCO	Not FRPL	24-25 Winter	High
1022745	Sheikh, Maha	John D. Runkle School	3	Female		No	Not EL Student	Not METCO	Not FRPL	24-25 Winter	Medium
1022880	King, Mason	John D. Runkle School	3	Male		No	Not EL Student	METCO	FRPL	24-25 Winter	High

[Runkle's School Improvement Plan '24-26]

Thank you!