



GO TEAM MEETING #1

9/17/26



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AGENDA

MORRIS BRANDON

Date: **September 17, 2026**

Time: **3:00 PM**

Public Viewing Link:

<https://www.youtube.com/@jacobbland7143/streams>

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Roll Call; Establish Quorum**
- III. Action Items**
 - a. Approval of Agenda
 - b. Approval of Previous Minutes
- IV. Discussion Items**
 - a. School Strategic Plan
 - i. Strategic Plan & Priorities Review
 - ii. SMART Goals
 - b. Data Discussion
 - i. MAP Results
 - ii. 2026 GA Milestones Results
- V. Information Items**
 - a. Principal's Report
 - i. Enrollment and Leveling Updates
 - ii. Staffing Update
- VI. Announcements**
- VII. Public Comment**
- VIII. Adjournment**



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Fill Open Community Seat 9/17

- The new **Community Member** for the open seat will serve for a full two-year term – until June 2027.
- Individuals **cannot** be full-time APS employees.
- Principal nominates the individual for the Community Member seat.

The GO Team votes on the nomination for the Community Member.

Meet Gordon Smith!

I was born and raised in Atlanta and previously lived in Austin, Houston and most recently Athens, GA before moving back to Atlanta 6 years ago. I previously worked in the oil and gas business and am now the Director of Development for Norhaven Partners, a real estate investment and development company. My wife Kristen and I have three children, two of which are at Morris Brandon (Mary Mills - 2nd, and Hutch - Kindergarten). We live in the Springlake neighborhood.





2026-2030 STRATEGIC PLAN



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(School Name) Strategic Plan

Mission

It is the MISSION of Morris Brandon Elementary School to develop students' academic, social, and emotional needs by engaging our entire school community to work collaboratively while fostering international-mindedness and a love for learning.

Morris Brandon Elementary

2025-2030 Strategic Plan

Vision

It is the VISION of Morris Brandon Elementary School to educate the whole child by teaching empathy, open-mindedness, compassion, and critical thinking while giving every student what they need to be successful lifelong learners.

Strategic Goals

1

By 2030, increase the percentage of 3rd grade students scoring proficient or above in ELA from 76.5% to 87%

2

By 2030, increase the percentage of Black students with typical or high end of grade milestone student growth percentiles from 62.5% to 73.2%.

3

By 2030, increase the percentage of students feeling comfortable going to most or all of the adults in the school for help from 54.2% to 75.2%.

4

By 2030, increase the percentage of engaged staff from 64.3% to 77%.

We Are Strengthening Our Instructional Core

Ensure students are reading on grade level (3rd) and showing growth as it pertains to ELA

Make sure subgroups are making academic progress across all content areas

We Are Caring For Every Child

Ensure Exceptional Education Students are making yearly gains in literacy rates and state targets for ELA, Math, and Science

Increase the percentage of ED students scoring proficient and above on Ga ...

We Are Sparking Student Curiosity

Build systems and resources to support the Enhanced IB PYP, DLI and Gifted support

Utilize Specialists and Foreign Language teachers to help increase the IB PYP ...

Our Strength is Our Team

Increase opportunities for student engagement

Increase opportunities for staff engagement and retention

Our Responsibility Is Shared

Ensure all students are comfortable going to most or all adults in the school for help

Establish mentors to support student connectedness to school and with a trusted adult

Our School Is Efficient & Effective

Maximize the school budget to ensure class sizes are efficient and effective to maximize student learning

Ensure there are clear opportunities for all families to increase engagement



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FY27 Ranked Objectives <i>Insert the Strategic Objectives as ranked by the GO Team from Highest to Lowest</i>	What Does This Mean for Morris Brandon in the 2026-2027 School Year?
1- Ensure students are reading on grade level (3rd) and showing growth as it pertains to ELA	90% of 3rd graders demonstrating an EOY lexile of 670
2- Make sure subgroups are making academic progress across all content areas	Sub group targets are met in Closing the Gaps-CCRPI
3- Ensure Exceptional Education Students are making yearly gains in literacy rates and state targets for ELA, Math, and Science	Sub group targets are met in Closing the Gaps-CCRPI
4- Maximize the school budget to ensure class sizes are efficient and effective to maximize student learning	Strategically plan and staff for classrooms between 18-22 students (excluding) DLI in early grades
5- Build systems and resources to support the Enhanced IB PYP, DLI and Gifted support	- Prepare for IB 5 year evaluation - Continue to support and staff DLI K-5 - Staff gifted with two teachers, ensure staff are certified
6- Increase the percentage of ED students scoring proficient and above on the Ga. Milestones	80% target in ELA/ Math for FY26
7- Increase opportunities for staff engagement and retention	Ensure staff stay (excluding retirees)
8- Ensure all students are comfortable going to most or all adults in the school for help	Increase climate survey from 53%
9- Increase opportunities for student engagement	More opportunities for students to participate in school events (Example: FunRun, Clubs etc..)
10-Establish mentors to support student connectedness to school and with a trusted adult	Utilize new mentoring program to support students through Emory and GaTech
11- Utilize Specialists and Foreign Language teachers to help increase the IB PYP overall effectiveness	Evidence of transdisciplinary instruction
12. Create opportunities for all families to increase engagement	More engagement opportunities!

CONNECTING THE STRATEGIC PLAN & CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT PLAN



2026-2030 Strategic Plan Goal

Math

ELA

Schoolwide

2026-2027 CIP SMART Goal

By the end of the 2026-2027 school year, the percentage of students scoring Proficient or Distinguished levels in Math on the Georgia Milestones from 77%-82%.

By the end of the 2026–2027 school year, the percentage of students scoring Proficient or Distinguished levels in ELA on the Georgia Milestones from 74%-80%.

By the end of the 2026–2027 school year, 100% of new 1st–5th grade students at Brandon will be connected to the school community, as evidenced by 95% or higher attendance.

2026-2027 CIP Strategy

Use MAP and unit assessment data to identify student needs and deliver targeted small-group math instruction focused on skill gaps and enrichment, with ongoing progress monitoring to drive growth toward proficiency.

Teachers will effectively implement small group instruction during the Apply and Assess portion of the APS Instructional Framework. Teachers will use flexible grouping structures informed by MAP, DnA, and standards-based assessment data to address individual student needs, monitor mastery of grade-level standards, and ensure all students receive appropriate support or acceleration in small groups.

Whole Child Intervention Team will monitor student attendance on a weekly basis and provide intervention and incentives.



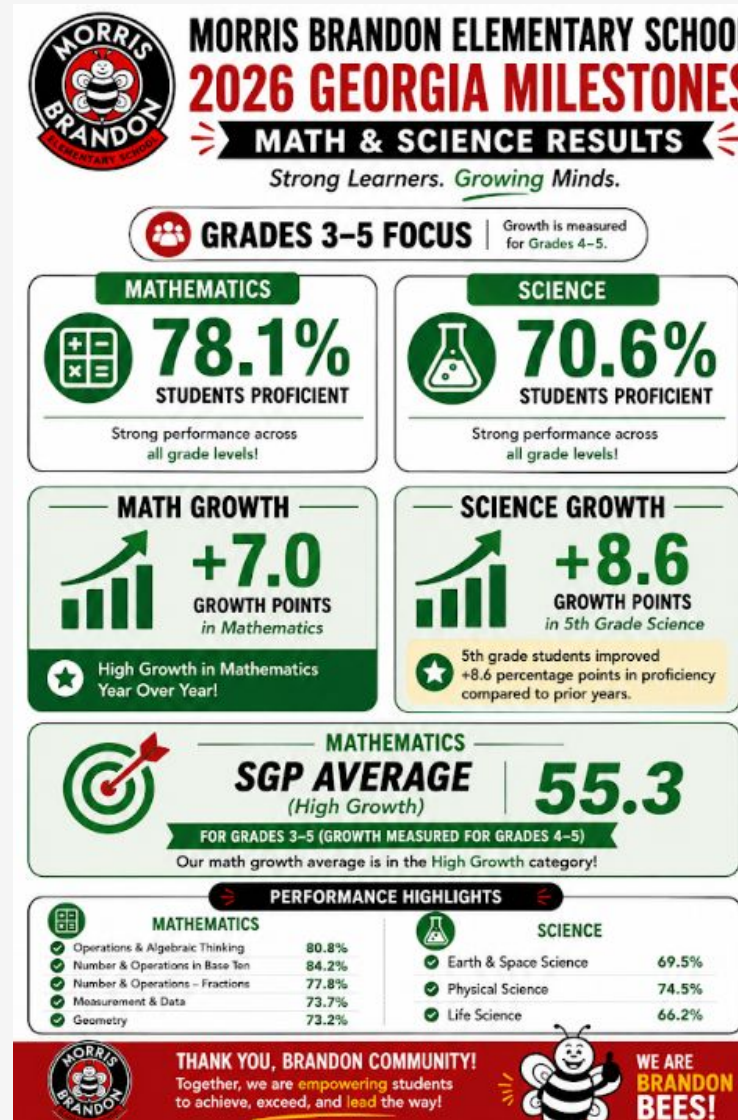
DATA DISCUSSION



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GMAS RESULTS



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2026-27 Fall MAP Summary at Brandon ES



Overall Reading

School	Window	Exams				
DISTRICT	Fall 2026-2027	18,007	30%	30%	28%	12%



Brandon	Fall 2026-2027	576	7%	25%	38%	31%
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Brandon ranked 5th in the district in Fall MAP Reading performance for all grades

School	Grade	Window	Exams				
Brandon	02	Fall 2026-2027	155	8%	38%	30%	24%
	03	Fall 2026-2027	147	7%	19%	29%	45%
	04	Fall 2026-2027	157		29%	39%	26%
	05	Fall 2026-2027	117	7%	10%	56%	27%

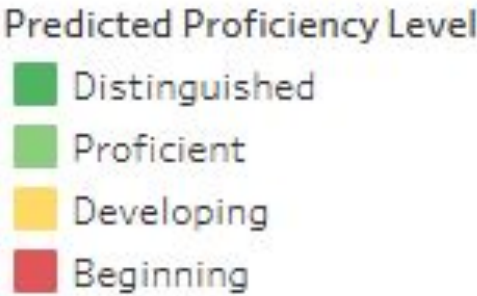
Individual grades rankings:
#5 in 2nd grade
#2 in 3rd grade
#7 in 4th grade
#3 in 5th grade

Overall Math

School	Window	Exams				
DISTRICT	Fall 2026-2027	17,953	21%	42%	26%	11%

Brandon	Fall 2026-2027	575	19%	44%	33%	
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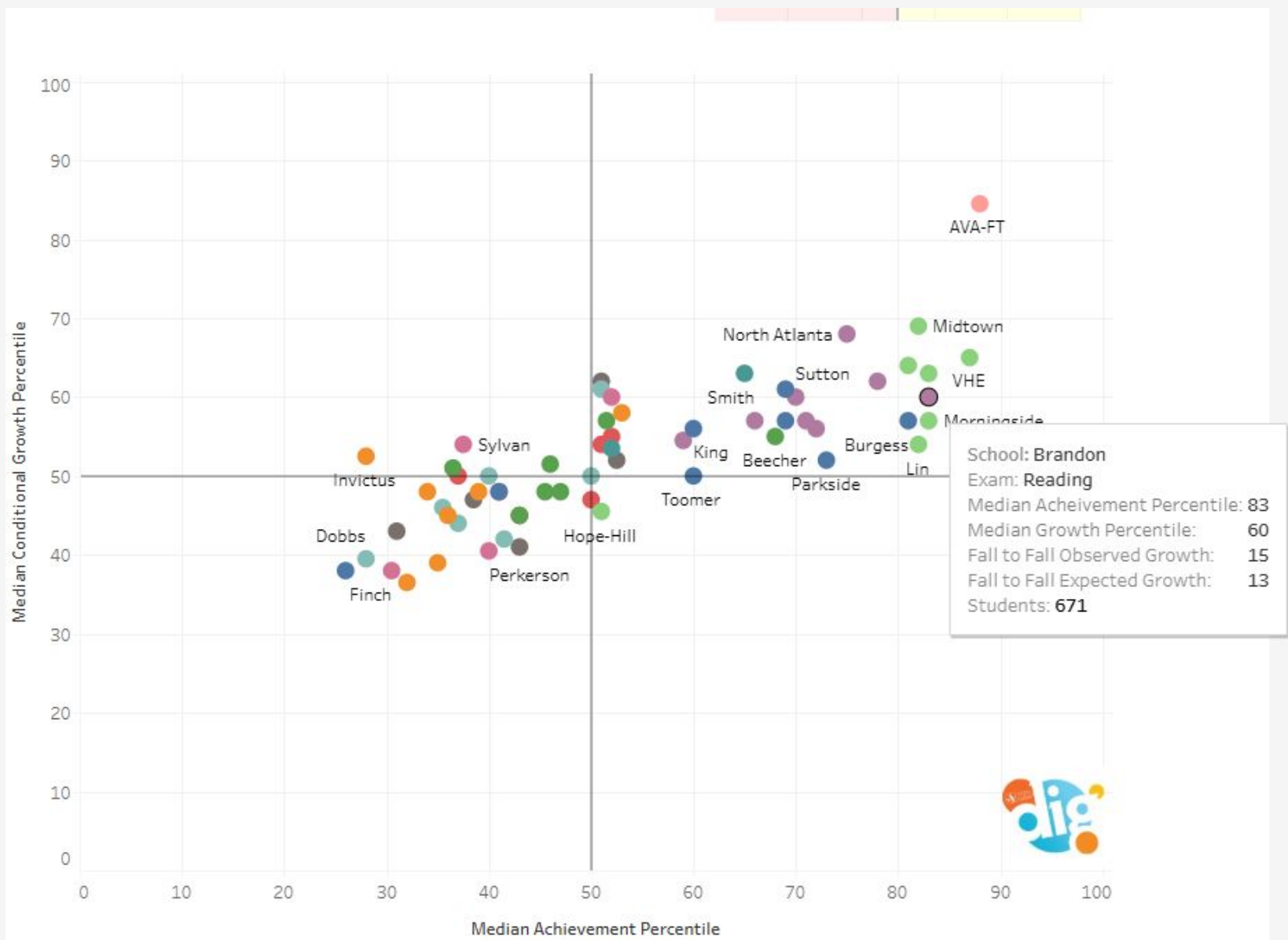
School	Grade	Window	Exams			
Brandon	02	Fall 2026-2027	154	25%	53%	21%
	03	Fall 2026-2027	147	12%	40%	45%
	04	Fall 2026-2027	157	20%	43%	32%
	05	Fall 2026-2027	117	8%	39%	33%



Brandon ranked
2nd in the
district in Fall
MAP Math

Individual grades for
rankings:
all grades
#2 in 2nd grade
#3 in 3rd grade
#2 in 4th grade
#4 in 5th grade

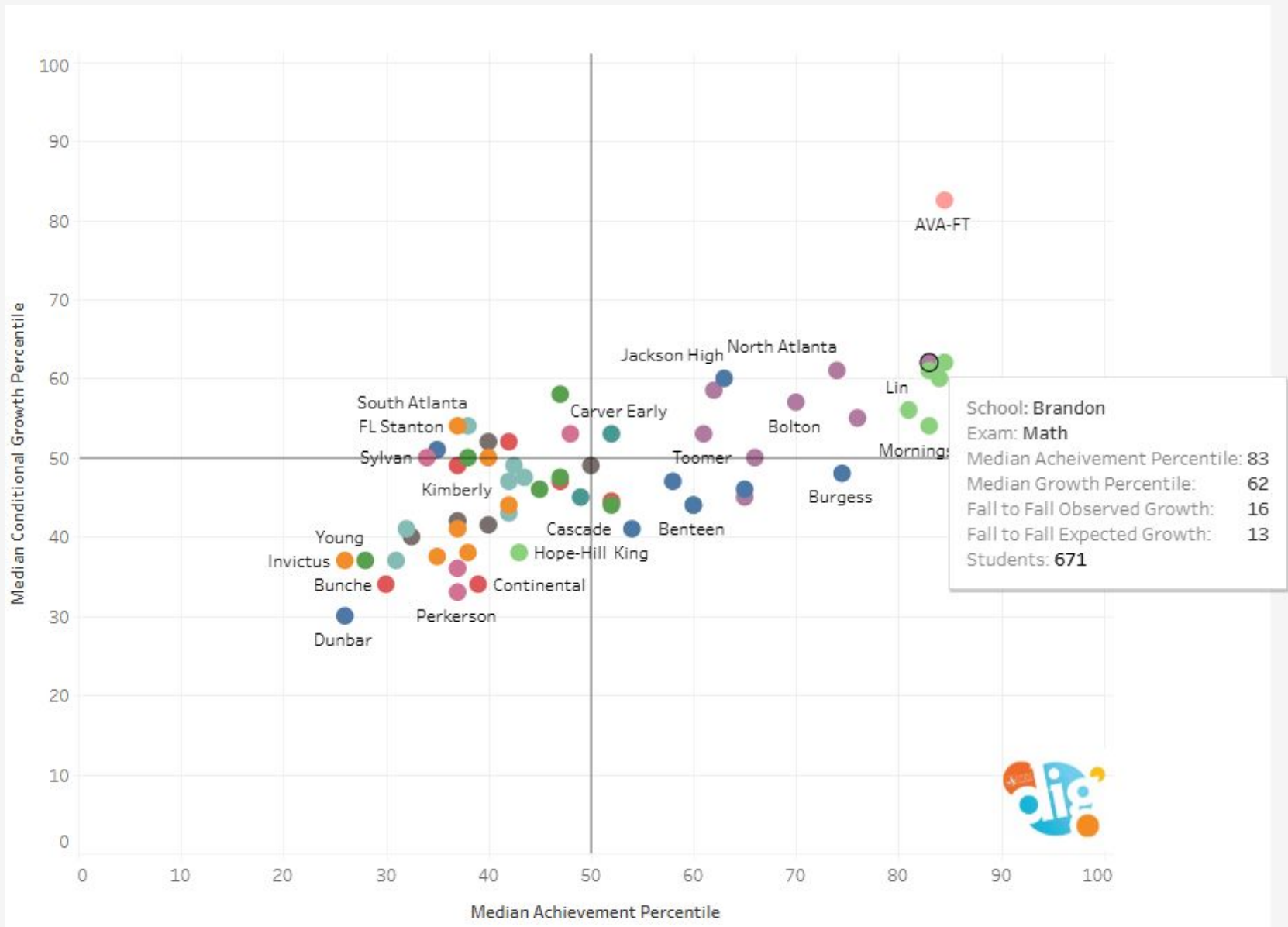
Reading: Achievement vs Growth



Top 5 school in achievement!

For grades 1-5 (Fall to Fall), 61% students surpassed growth target, and 4% met, ranking 4th in the district.

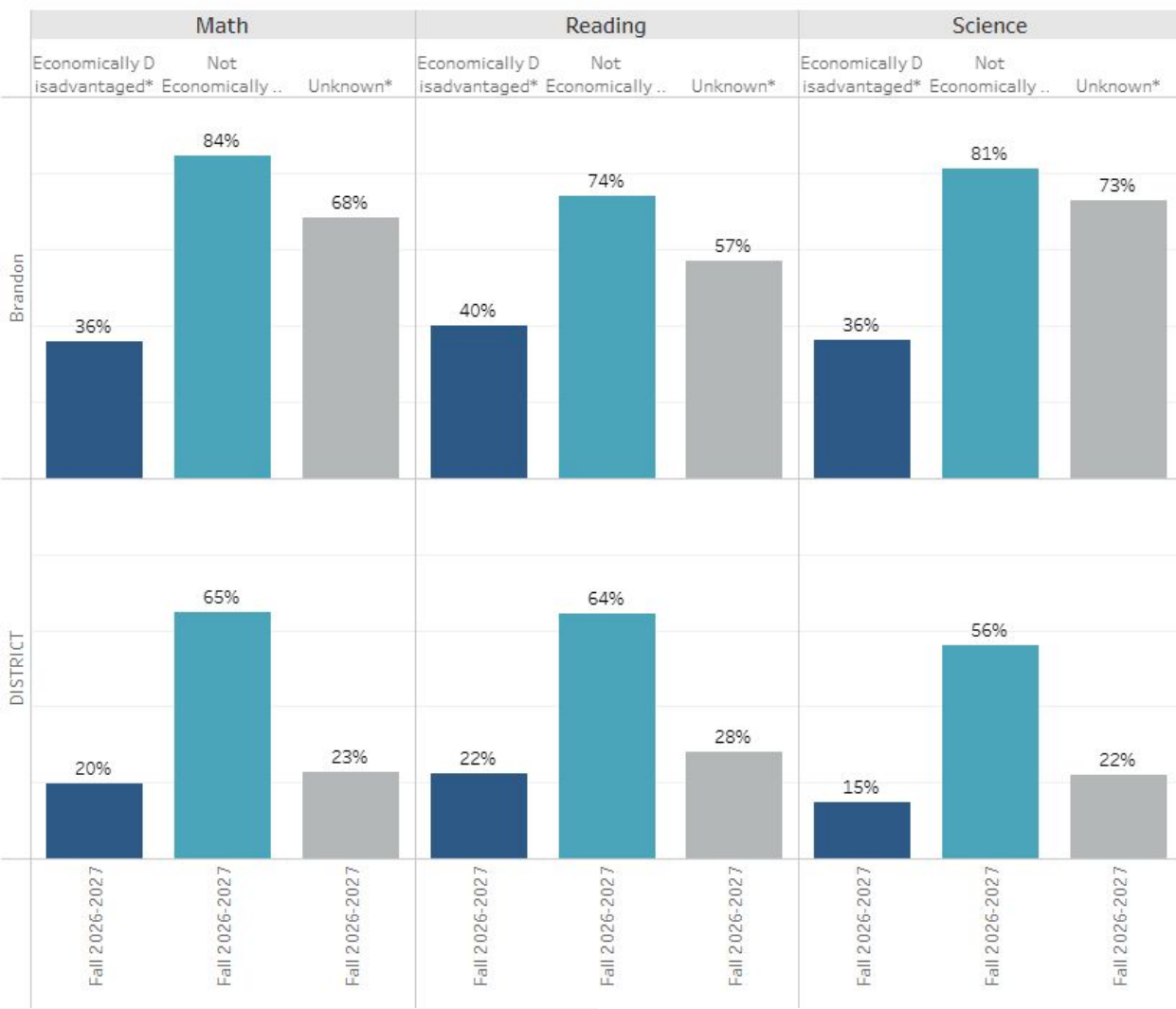
Math: Achievement vs Growth



Top 5 school in both achievement and growth!

For grades 1-5 (Fall to Fall), 62% students surpassed growth target, and 6% met, ranking 1st in the district.

Subgroups: SWD and ED



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Data and
Information Group
-WE DIG DATA-



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Subgroups: Race/Ethnicity

2027 MAP Estimated Achievement Points

		Mathematics	Science
Brandon ES	All	Estimate = 100.00	Estimate = 98.71
	Black	Estimate = 81.33	Estimate = 88.10
	Hispanic	Estimate = 84.62	Estimate = 65.38
	White	Estimate = 100.00	Estimate = 100.00
	ED	Estimate = 69.41	Estimate = 60.53
	EL	Estimate = 84.21	
	SWD	Estimate = 58.70	Estimate = 65.38

List of subgroups by distance from target:

Hispanic, Math: 5.38 points

SWD, Math: 14.46 points

Hispanic, Science: 24.62 points

GO TEAM DISCUSSION: DATA PROTOCOL

- What do you notice?
- What are your wonderings?
- Based on our school's trend data from MAP assessments and end-of-year test assessments, which student sub-groups and grade levels showed the most significant gaps or unexpected trends?
- Based on our school's trend data from MAP assessments, Milestones and other indicators, are there specific trends that require more focused attention?
- What additional questions do you have?



GLOWS & GROWS

IMPACT

**ARE WE ON TARGET TO
SUCCESSFULLY ACCOMPLISH OUR
PRIORITIES?**



GLOWS

- Strong proficiency to start the year
- High growth and achievement for math and reading
- 3-5 math proficiency up 13% from same time last year
- 3-5 math reduced beginning learners by 2% (from 7% to 5%)
- 3-5 ELA proficiency increased Distinguished learners by 5% or 22 students
- 3-5 ELA reduced Beginning Learners by 4% (from 10% to 6%)
- #1 in the district for Fall to Fall Math Growth!

GROWS

- Hispanic learners appear to have missed both targets impacted Closing the Gaps in CCRPI
- SWD students missed target for Math
- Still opportunities for struggling subgroups (ED/ EE/ Hisp./ Black)
- Must push high level students for achievement AND growth this year.



DATA QUESTIONS ?

Timeline for GO Teams

You are **HERE**



1

Fall 2025

GO Team Developed
2026-2030 Strategic Plan

2

Summer

School Leadership
completed Needs
Assessment and defined
overarching needs

3

August

School Leadership
completed Continuous
Improvement Plan

4

Sept. – Dec.

GO Team reviews progress
on 2026-2030 strategic
plan.

5

Before Winter Break

GO Team will take action
(vote) on the rank of the
strategic plan objectives
for SY27-28 in
preparation for budget
discussions.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT



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Morris Brandon ES LEVELING AND FY27 BUDGET ADJUSTMENT

Enrollment

Projected Enrollment	904
15-Day Count (08.21.26) Enrollment	948
Difference	44

**Budget
Adjustment*** **+\$324,496.20**

*The budget adjustment reflects the impact of the following: Enrollment changes, school reserves, Title I Part A, Title I- Family Engagement

HOLD HARMLESS

To support academic stability in schools, budgets were not reduced beyond school reserves.

Plan for FY27 Leveling Reserve *(Required)*

\$324,496.20

FOCUS AREA	STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVE	FY27 Resource Recommendation	Additional Information(OPTIONAL)
We are strengthening our instructional core	1- Ensure students are reading on grade level (3rd) and showing growth as it pertains to ELA	\$136,000	Hire new intervention/ EIP teacher (MC)
We are strengthening our instructional core	2- Make sure subgroups are making academic progress across all content areas	\$50,000	Hire hourly intervention/ EIP teacher (PC)
Our strength is our team	7- Increase opportunities for staff engagement and retention 9- Increase opportunities for student engagement	\$30,000	Stipends (ILT, IBLT), new student clubs (art, Baton, Rubiks, Gaming)
We are sparking student curiosity	5- Build systems and resources to support the Enhanced IB PYP, DLI and Gifted support	\$15,000	Gifted supplies, innovation lab supplies, purchase of grade level novel studies
Our school is efficient and effective	4- Maximize the school budget to ensure class sizes are efficient and effective to maximize student learning	\$93,000	Ensure adequate funds are set aside for materials and supplies, subs, staffing, safety

Summary of Changes as a Result of FY27 Budget Adjustment

Personnel Changes	Non-Personnel Changes
Hire new EIP/ Intervention Teacher (MC)	Stipends
Hire new hourly EIP/ Intervention Teacher (PC)	Gifted/ IB/ Innovation supply purchase
Hire new EE teacher (District allotment)	Stipends
	Materials and supplies for subs, staffing, safety



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QUESTIONS?

