



Academic Performance Overview: NWEA Spring 2026



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Agenda

- Welcome and Introduction
- NWEA: 2025 Norms
- Portfolio Overview & Analysis
- Next Steps for Schools
- Questions



Achievement

NWEA Achievement Standard:

Are students achieving at the grade level norm?

If Not...

NWEA Over Time:

Are more students achieving at the grade level norm over time?

M-STEP Comparison:

Are more students achieving proficiency compared to the traditional district where they would otherwise attend?



Growth

NWEA Growth Standard:

Are students making average growth?

If Not...

NWEA Over Time:

Are more students making average growth over time?

M-STEP Comparison:

Are students growing more than the district where they would otherwise attend?



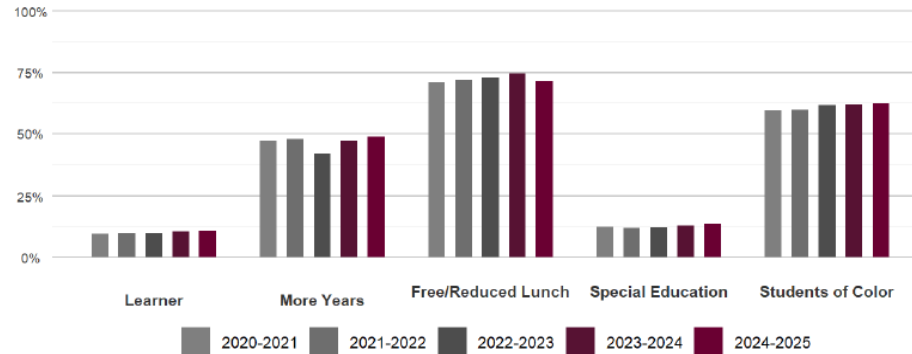
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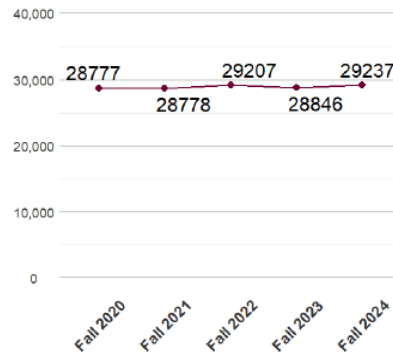
Academic Performance Report: 1st Page

Overview



	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
English Language Learner	9.6%	10.1%	9.9%	10.6%	10.8%
Special Education	12.6%	12.0%	12.2%	12.9%	13.6%
Free/Reduced Lunch	70.9%	71.8%	72.9%	74.7%	71.5%
Students of Color	59.6%	59.9%	61.6%	62.0%	62.3%
Enrolled 3 or More Years	47.1%	47.7%	41.7%	47.3%	48.8%

Enrollment



Where Students Come From

Assigned District	Students
Detroit Public Schools Community District	6957
Flint, School District of the City of	2184
Taylor School District	1397
Benton Harbor Area Schools	847
Grand Rapids Public Schools	799
Plymouth-Canton Community Schools	777
Coldwater Community Schools	612
Lansing Public School District	597
Saginaw, School District of the City of	582
Other	14679



Let's Talk About Norm(s)...

NWEA 2025 Norms



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Norms: A Point of Comparison

- A score by itself is information. A score compared to others becomes meaningful.

I am 5' 10"

50th percentile = 5' 9.2" I am at the 60th percentile.

I ran a 5K in 20 min. 33 sec.

50th percentile = 33 min. 13 sec. I am at the 96th percentile.



MAP Growth Scores Need Context

- A RIT score alone makes it hard to know whether results are typical.

My 5th grader scored a 211 on spring MAP Growth Reading.

50th percentile = 208. A 211 is at the 55th percentile.

- A national reference group helps compare results across context.



Why Norms Matter

1

Achievement

How does this student or group compare to peers right now?

2

Growth

Is the student growing as much as we would reasonably expect?

3

School view

Where do we see strengths, gaps, or support needs across grades?



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What did not change

The student's MAP Growth score is still the student's score.

The assessment scale is not saying the student suddenly learned more or less overnight.

What did change

The comparison point changed.

That means percentile rankings or growth comparisons look different under the new norms.

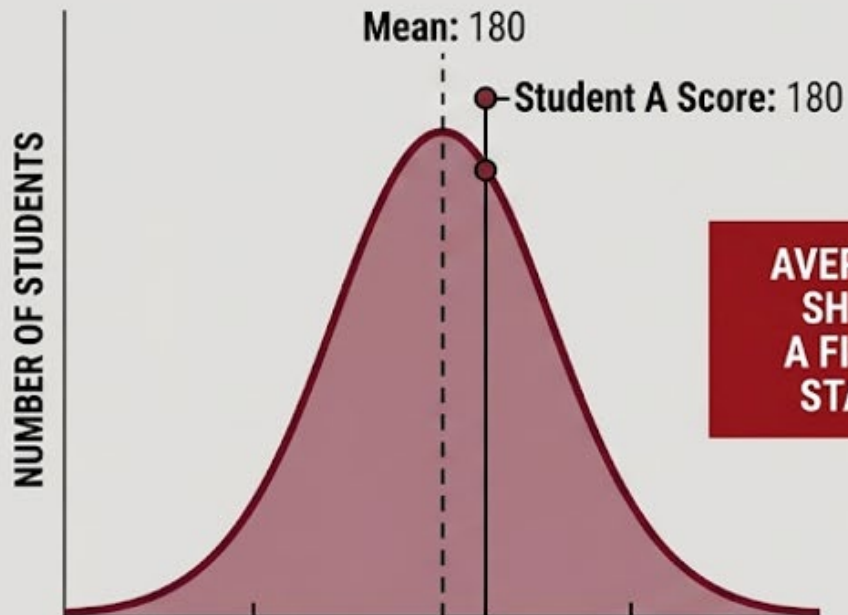


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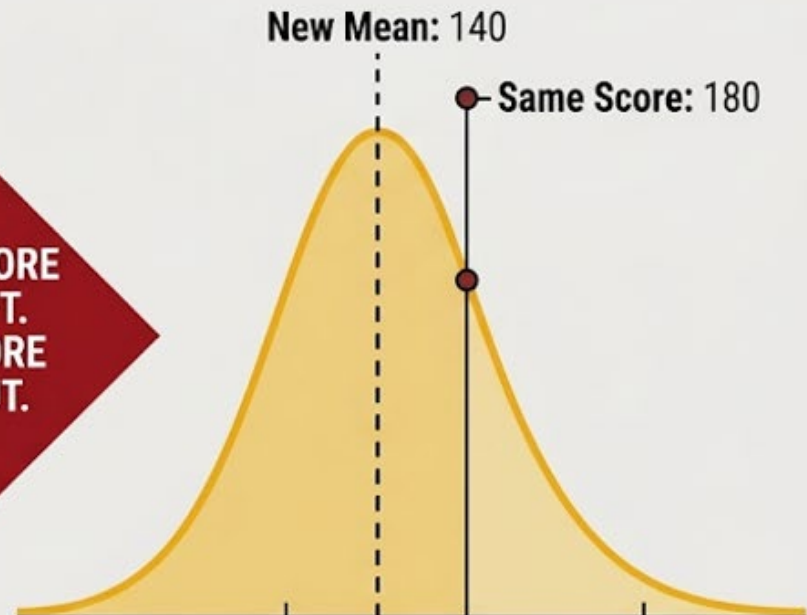
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OLD NORMS



**AVERAGE SCORE
SHIFTS LEFT.
A FIXED SCORE
STANDS OUT.**

NEW NORMS



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Reading

2020 Reading Student Achievement Norms

Grade	Fall		Winter		Spring	
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
K	136.65	12.22	146.28	11.78	153.09	12.06
1	155.93	12.66	165.85	13.21	171.40	14.19
2	172.35	15.19	181.20	15.05	185.57	15.49
3	186.62	16.65	193.90	16.14	197.12	16.27
4	196.67	16.78	202.50	16.25	204.83	16.31
5	204.48	16.38	209.12	15.88	210.98	15.97
6	210.17	16.46	213.81	15.98	215.36	16.03
7	214.20	16.51	217.09	16.21	218.36	16.38
8	218.01	17.04	220.52	16.69	221.66	16.87

2025 reading student achievement norms

Grade	Fall		Winter		Spring	
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
3	184	18	190	18	194	18
4	195	18	199	18	202	18
5	204	17	206	17	208	17
6	209	17	211	17	212	17
7	212	17	214	17	215	17
8	216	17	217	17	218	17



Math

2020 Mathematics Student Achievement Norms

Grade	Fall		Winter		Spring	
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
K	139.56	12.45	150.13	11.94	157.11	12.03
1	160.05	12.43	170.18	12.59	176.40	13.18
2	175.04	12.98	184.07	13.01	189.42	13.44
3	188.48	13.45	196.23	13.64	201.08	14.11
4	199.55	14.40	206.05	14.90	210.51	15.56
5	209.13	15.19	214.70	15.88	218.75	16.70
6	214.75	16.12	219.56	16.74	222.88	17.47
7	220.21	17.41	224.04	17.96	226.73	18.60
8	224.92	18.94	228.12	19.33	230.30	19.95

2025 mathematics student achievement norms

Grade	Fall		Winter		Spring	
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
3	184	16	193	16	199	17
4	197	16	204	17	210	18
5	206	16	212	17	216	18
6	210	16	216	17	220	18
7	217	17	221	18	224	19
8	222	18	226	19	229	20



Grade	2020 MAP Reading Spring Achievement Norms	2025 MAP Reading Spring Achievement Norms	2020 - 2025 Reading Difference	2020 MAP Math Spring Achievement Norms	2025 MAP Math Spring Reading Achievement Norms	2020 - 2025 Math Difference
3	197.12	194	-3.12	201.08	199	-2.08
4	204.83	202	-2.83	210.51	210	-0.51
5	210.98	208	-2.98	218.75	216	-2.75
6	215.36	212	-3.36	222.88	220	-2.88
7	218.36	215	-3.36	226.73	224	-2.73
8	221.66	218	-3.66	230.3	229	-1.3



NWEA: 2025 Norms

	Reading			Math		
	30th	50th	95th	30th	50th	95th
K	34	54	95	30	48	93
1	40	59	96	35	54	95
2	40	59	96	38	55	93
3	39	★ 57	95	38	55	93
4	37	56	95	33	51	★ 93
5	37	56	95	37	56	95
6	38	58	96	36	56	96
7	38	58	96	36	56	96
8	39	59	97	★ 33	53	96

Note. Columns show the 2025 percentile rank that corresponds to the RIT score at the 30th, 50th and 95th percentiles under the 2020 norms. Shading indicates magnitude of change.



Changes in Fall-to-Spring Growth

Key Takeaways:

- **Reading:** lower growth, especially at median and below
- **Math:** higher growth, especially above the median

Grade	Reading			Math		
	25th	50th	75th	25th	50th	75th
K	-5	-3	0	-2	-1	1
1st	-5	-3	0	-1	-1	0
2nd	-3	-2	-1	-1	0	1
3rd	-2	-1	0	1	2	4
4th	-3	-2	-1	1	2	3
5th	-3	-2	-1	-1	0	1
6th	-3	-2	-1	1	2	3
7th	-3	-2	-1	-1	0	2
8th	-3	-2	0	0	1	3

Note. Columns show the difference in growth in RIT points at each percentile rank under the 2025 norms compared to the 2020 norms.

NWEA: 2025 Norms

Summary of RIT Shifts Across Subjects

	Achievement			Growth		
	Bottom	Middle	Top	Bottom	Middle	Top
Reading	↓↓	↓	●	↓↓	↓	●
Math	↓↓	↓	↕	●	↑	↑↑

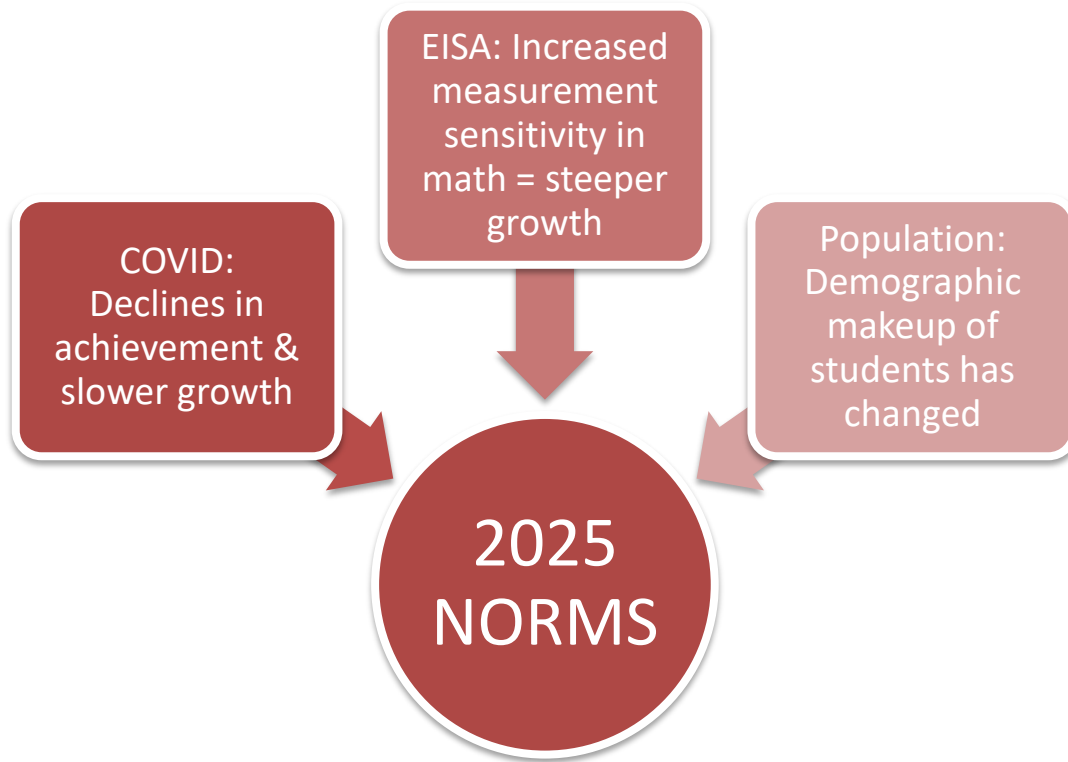
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Note. ↓ = decline; ↑ = increase; ● = stable/no meaningful change; ↕ = mixed pattern



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Interpreting New Norms Requires Caution



We are not just seeing “learning loss” but a **net effect** of new data, new context, improved NWEA.



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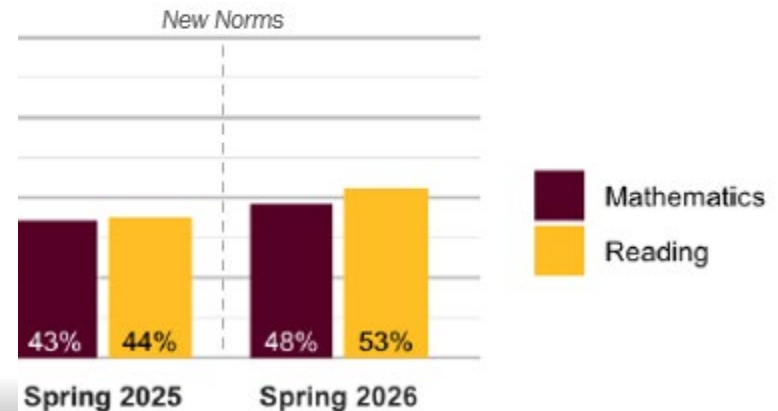
Portfolio Results: NWEA Achievement

Summary of RIT Shifts Across Subjects

	Achievement			Growth		
	Bottom	Middle	Top	Bottom	Middle	Top
Reading	↓↓	↓	●	↓↓	↓	●
Math	↓↓	↓	↕	●	↑	↑↑

Note. ↓ = decline; ↑ = increase; ● = stable/no meaningful change; ↕ = mixed pattern

ment National Norms one year

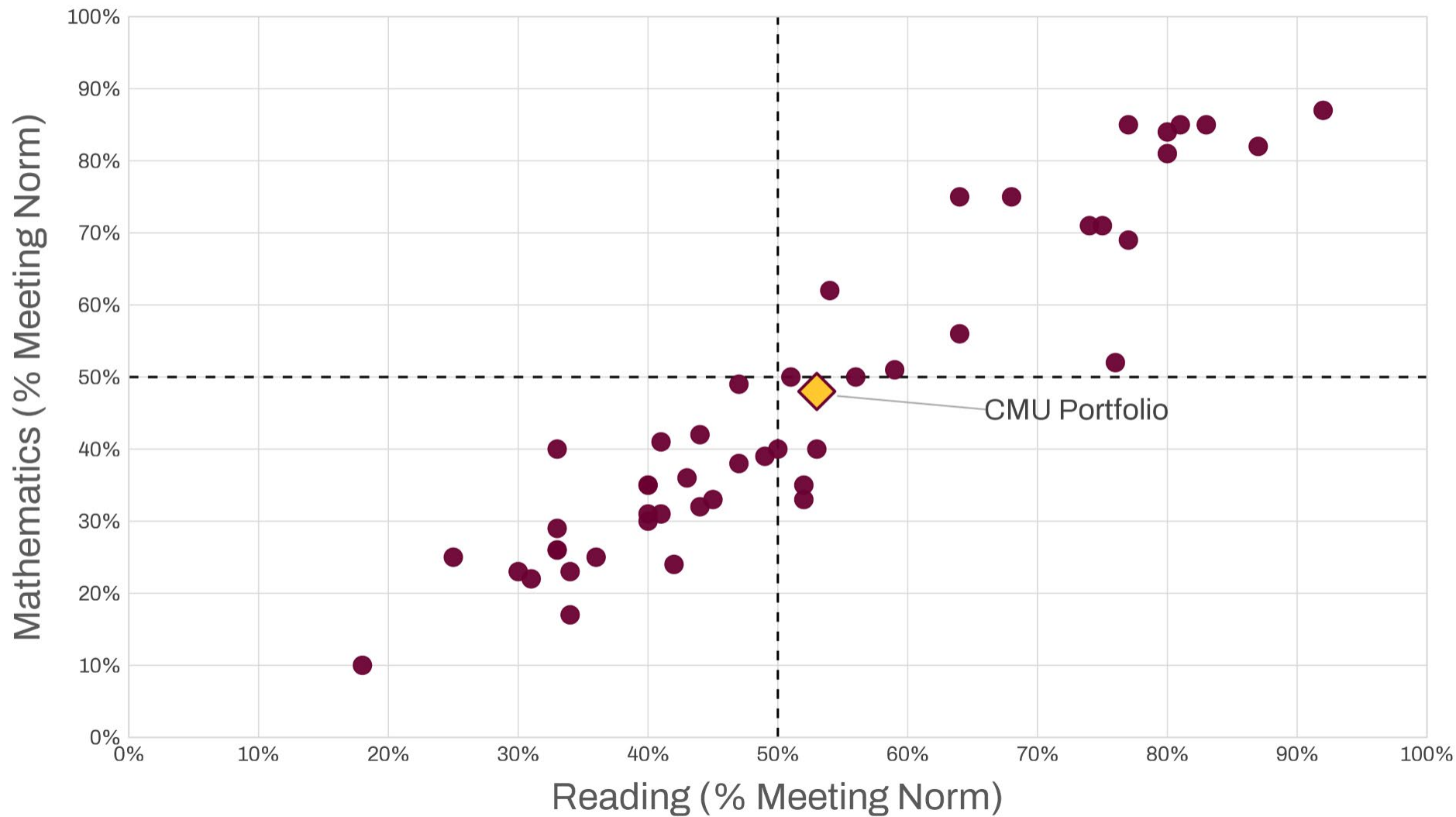


Portfolio Changes

- 3-Year Achievement Trend
 - Math: 8% increase in math achievement, on average (reported +6% last year)
 - Reading: 10% increase in reading achievement, on average (reported +2% last year)



2025-2026 Achievement Results



Portfolio Results: NWEA Growth

Fall-to-Spring Median Growth Percentile
All Students Grades 3 - 8

100

Summary of RIT Shifts Across Subjects

	Achievement			Growth		
	Bottom	Middle	Top	Bottom	Middle	Top
Reading	↓↓	↓	●	↓↓	↓	●
Math	↓↓	↓	↕	●	↑	↑↑

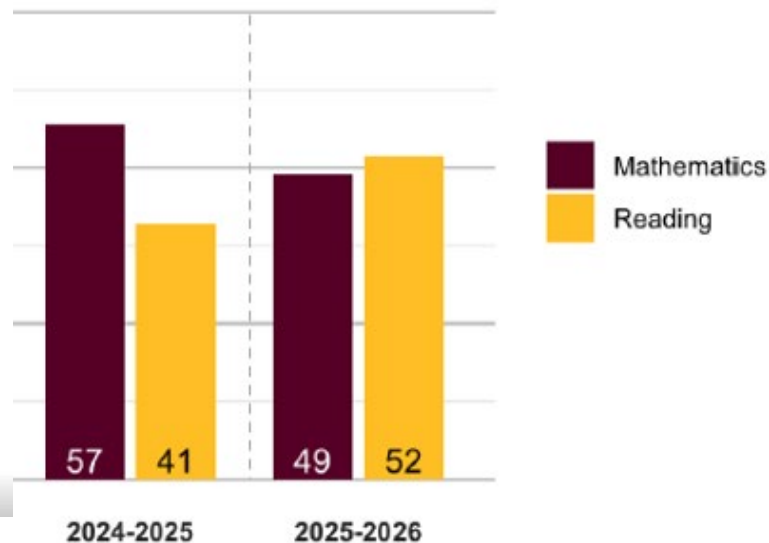
Note. ↓ = decline; ↑ = increase; ● = stable/no meaningful change; ↕ = mixed pattern

2021-2022

2022-2023

2023-2024

New Norms



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Portfolio Changes: Median Growth Percentile

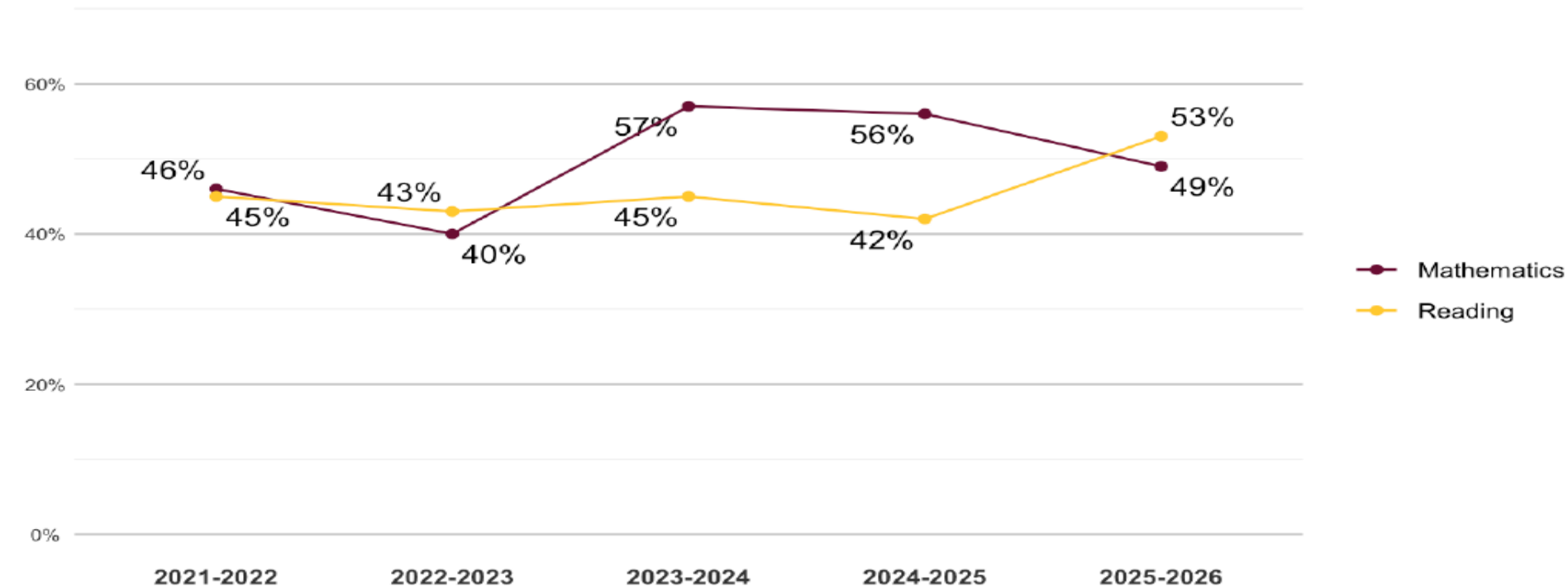
- Math: 8-point decrease in MGP in math, on average
 - 2023 = 40th percentile
 - 2024 = 58th percentile
 - 2025 = 57th percentile
 - 2026 = 49th percentile
- Reading: 3-point decrease in MGP in reading, on average
 - 2024 = 44th percentile
 - 2025 = 41st percentile
 - 2026 = 52nd percentile



Portfolio Results: NWEA Growth

NWEA MAP Fall-to-Spring Growth

Percent of Students with a Fall-to-Spring Growth Percentile of 50 or Greater
All Students Grades 3 - 8



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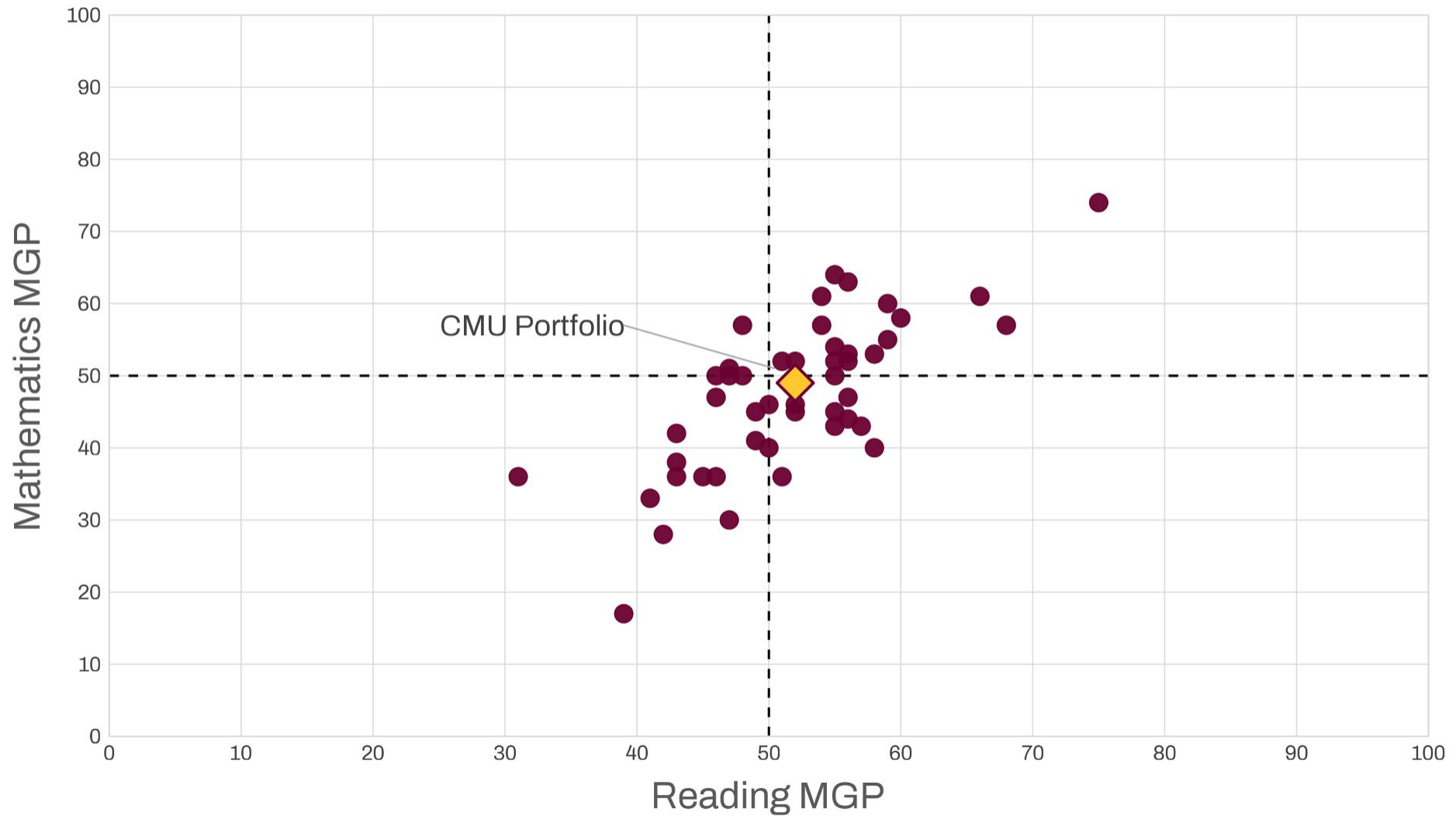
Portfolio Changes:

Percent Making “Average Growth”

- Math: 7-percent decrease in students making “average growth”
 - 2023 = 40%
 - 2024 = 57%
 - 2025 = 56%
 - 2026 = 49%
- Reading: 11-percent increase in students making “average growth”
 - 2024 = 45%
 - 2025 = 42%
 - 2026 = 53%



2025-2026 Growth Results



What does this mean for longitudinal results?

- RIT scores have not changed. The percentile associated with a certain RIT has.
- Year-over-year comparisons when using 2020 norms and 2025 norms should be done with extreme caution. CMU did NOT retroactively apply 2025 norms to prior data.
- Within the NWEA system, comparisons are easier because you can choose different norms or just stick with the 2025 norms.



What does this mean the upcoming school year?

- 2025 norms will be used all year. Fall-to-winter, winter-to-spring, and fall-to-spring data for 2026-27 will all use 2025 norms.
- A direct comparison from spring 2026 to spring 2027 will be much easier to attribute to changes at the school level.



What's next?

- State assessment results in early September
 - Report update will take place in September
 - First set of HS data
- NWEA Professional Learning Opportunities
- Contact us if you need any support or have want to have a further discussion about support.



PRESENTER



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