



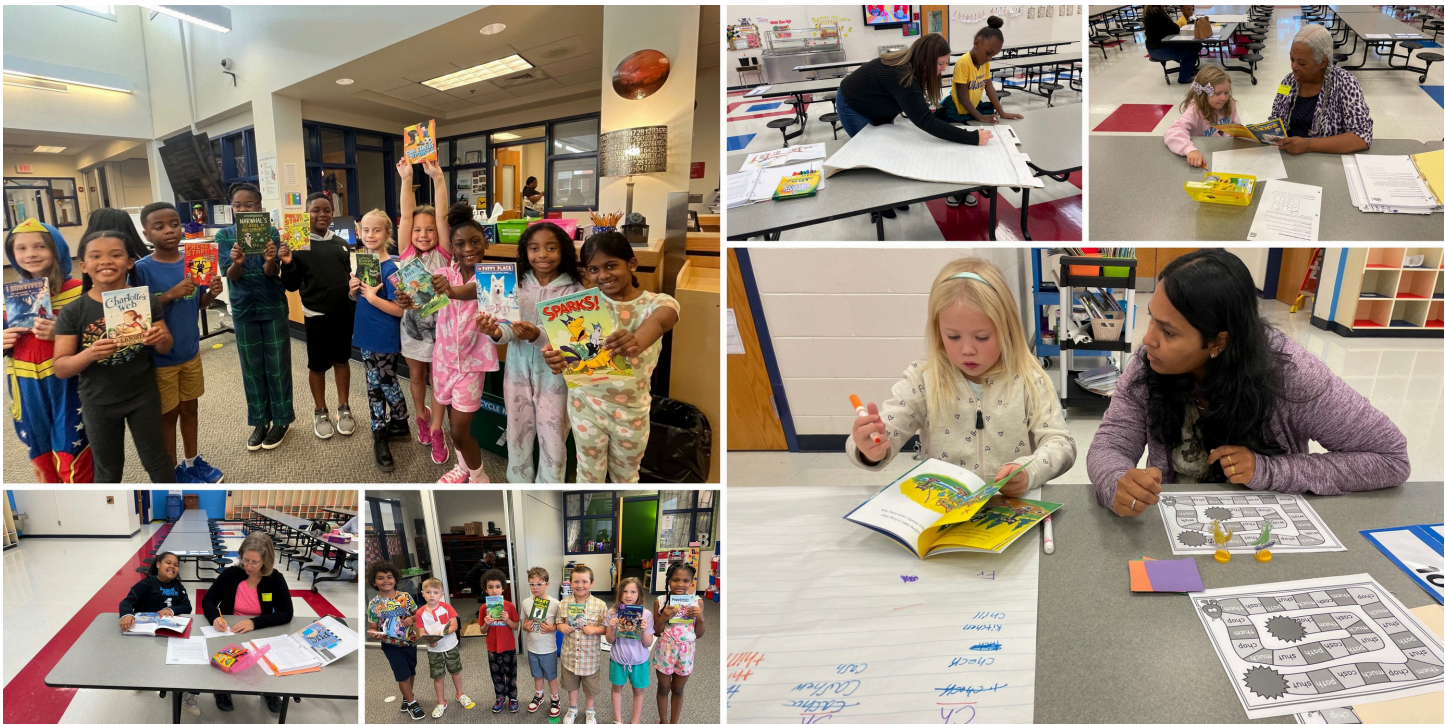
Impact Report 2023-2024

What is Reading+Mentoring 4 Success?

R+M4S is a research-based program designed to instill a love for reading in Cabarrus County students. Our three-pronged approach encourages pleasure reading, ensures that kids have plenty of books they love at home and increases the number of students who are reading proficiently before 3rd grade. Students in the program become more confident about their reading abilities, more excited about reading and read more at home and participants in the program consistently meet or exceed their reading growth goals.

Why did CCEF Launch This Program?

We are dedicated to shaping tomorrow's workforce by fostering essential life skills. We work with the business community to empower our county's students and prepare them to thrive in a rapidly changing world. All future success starts with reading! If we are to equip students for the opportunities of the future, we must ensure that they are able to read NOW! In Cabarrus County, just over half of students are reading proficiently by the end of 3rd grade. Statistics show that the achievement gap will continue to widen for those students not meeting 3rd grade benchmarks. They are far less likely to graduate and contribute fully to the community and workforce. We can and must change this!



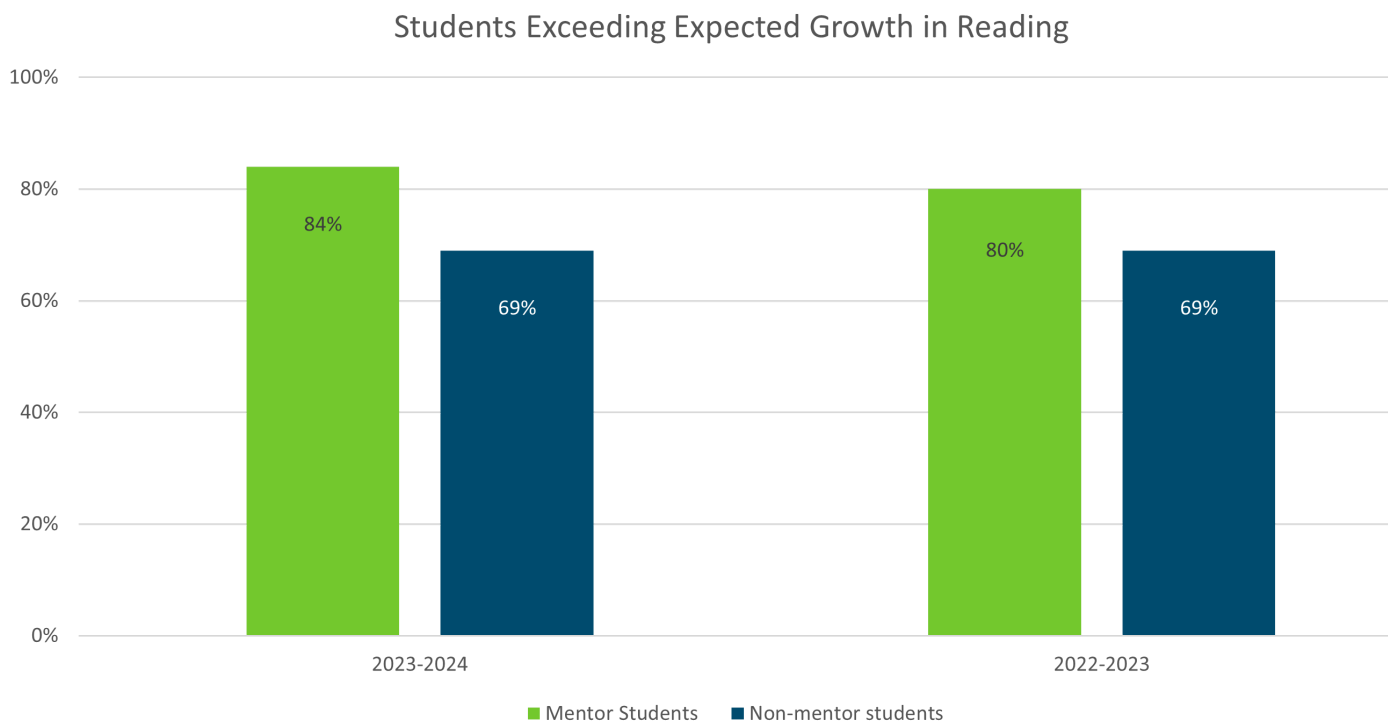
The Impact of R+M4S

What has the program meant to our schools?

This program has impacted thousands of Cabarrus County students. In schools where R+M4S has been in operation for two or more years, we have seen:

- ▲ 8.5% increase in students who report reading when they are not at school.
- ▲ 8% increase in students who say they are excited when its time to read.
- ▲ 7% increase in students who believe they are good readers.
- ▲ 8% increase in students who say they have “a lot” of books at home.

Striving Readers Mentoring Outcomes



Mentee students outperformed their peers on exceeding expected growth by

15%

On average, students in Striving Readers Mentoring grew 118 points, 11 more than the expectation.

118

By the Numbers



11,000+ books given

Research shows that as few as 20 books at home has a greater impact on a child's academic success than their parents' income or education levels (University of Nevada, Reno).

2,355 students served

We hosted 9 Book-A-Paloozas, provided incentives to encourage students to read for pleasure, and 1:1 mentoring for 1st and 2nd graders to help them meet grade-level reading benchmarks at Patriots, Wolf Meadow and Weddington Hills Elementary schools.



1,103 mentoring sessions held

Our trained volunteers provided students with mentoring twice each week. 84% of students in Striving Readers Mentoring exceeded their growth goals for the year. Teachers reported that their students were more confident in the classroom as a result of the program.

Made Possible by Our Incredible Partners





“My student found joy in bringing me a book and asking, ‘Do you want to hear me read?’ The shyness seemed to disappear.”

- *Teacher Quote*



“We are so excited about the two new books! We will definitely read them together. Thanks for all you and your reading program do for our kids’ futures. It makes a world of difference and has a big impact! So happy for our daughter to improve her reading.”

- *Parent Quote*

“This was my first year and I enjoyed it thoroughly. Everything was so well prepared and easy. Everyone was so welcoming and supportive. Can’t wait to meet my next student and will miss my little one from this year.”

- *Mentor Quote*



CONTACT US

