## PowerUp Fills Holes in Reading Comprehension for Virginia Middle School Students

Nancy Sindle, reading specialist at Shirley Heim Middle School in Stafford County Virginia, shares her school's success story:

PowerUp has helped students build their independence and self-esteem as they can choose to fill the holes impeding their reading comprehension. The students who are using PowerUp are also scoring better on their NWEA® MAP Skills®."

### Stafford County Public Schools Demographics\*

- Large suburb
- 31,105 pre-K-12 Students
- Student/Teacher Ratio: 14:1
- English Language Learner: 13%
- Economically disadvantaged: 26.2%



- 23.6% Hispanic
- 21.2% Black
- 4.2% Asian
- 8.5% Two or more races



\*NCES/USNews

An impressive 90% of students\* moved into intermediate or advanced skills in the Comprehension Strand.

\*Regardless of usage, during SY 2022-2023

#### Students Engage With Age-Appropriate Program

When the kids came into sixth grade, we switched them [to PowerUp]. They liked being in middle school and using a more grown-up literacy program. It was much more age-appropriate and engaging for middle school students."

#### Visible, Real-Time Progress Data

What's so great about PowerUp is teachers can see where the kids are working; can see their progress or lack of progress; can drill down into the data; see this student tried 17 times and wasn't able to do it; and needed teacher intervention."

With PowerUp, "Teachers can drill down and see what students need, pull those lessons, and fill that hole."

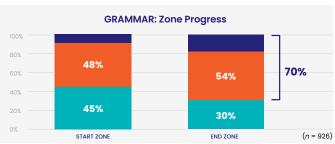
#### **Literacy Matters**

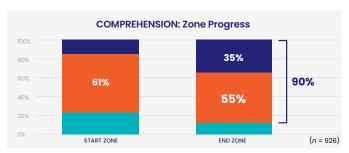
It's really important to build those strands because the more they can fill some of those holes they have in reading comprehension, the better they will do in civics and science or drawing conclusions and inferencing."

# 2022-2023 PowerUp Zone progress by Strand for all students, regardless of usage









Demonstrated literacy success at Shirley Heim led to the expansion of **Lexia® PowerUp Literacy®** to all other middle schools in the county.





