

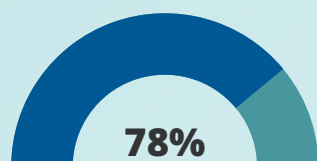


# Research Brief: Defined Learning in Connecticut Schools

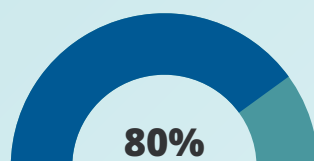
## Overview:

This **mixed-methods study** conducted by **MIDA Learning Technologies** continues to examine the implementation and impact of Defined Learning, a project-based learning (PBL) platform, in **Connecticut** schools. This interim report evaluates the ongoing impact of Defined Learning in Connecticut classrooms, assessing progress since the 2023-24 academic year. Utilizing survey data and focus group discussions, it examines how Defined Learning has influenced instructional practices, student engagement, skill development, and equity. The study involved hundreds of educators and includes survey data and focus groups, providing deeper insights into Defined Learning's impact.

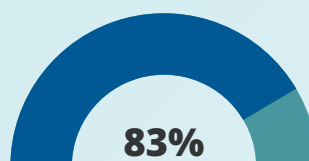
## Key Findings:



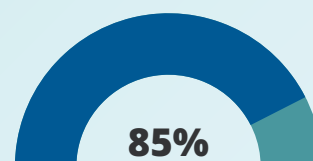
A 17% increase in reported **student improvement** from 61% in 23-24



80% of educators reported increased **student engagement**, up from 74% in 23-24

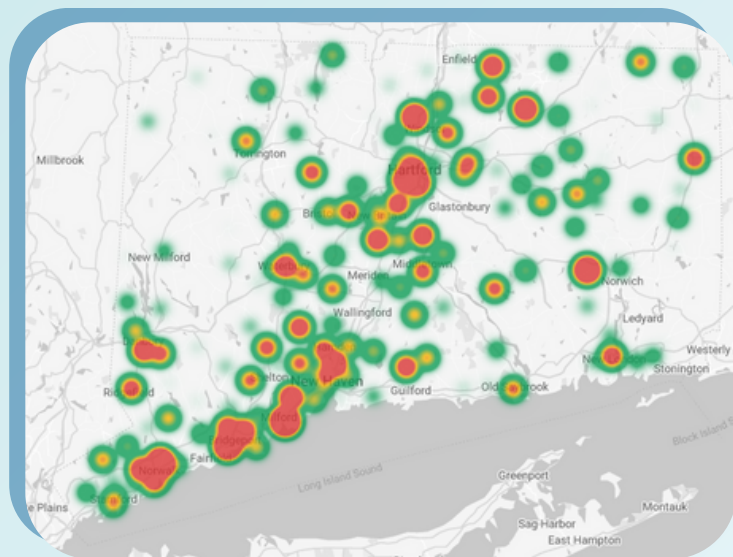


83% of educators believe Defined enhances **equity**, engaging ALL students



**Collaboration and teamwork** increased significantly from 71% in 23-24

Defined Learning is **widely adopted across grade levels & subject areas**, including 287 new schools participating since July 2023. Additional findings in 24-25 include a significant increase in the use of Defined for career exploration and teachers reporting Defined resources as a bridge between classroom learning and real-world applications.



*Heat map of Defined Learning usage across Connecticut*

- **Measurable Growth:** Students are showing improved academic performance and mastery of key concepts through Defined Learning's project-based approach impacting 21st-century skills such as:
  - Collaboration & Teamwork
  - Research & Inquiry Skills
  - Critical Thinking & Problem-Solving
  - Creativity & Innovation
- **Student Engagement:** Students are demonstrating higher levels of engagement, motivation, and a deeper understanding of subject matter.

Defined Learning in Connecticut schools continues to show promising results, with increased student engagement, teacher efficiency, and academic growth. For more information or to schedule training, please email [Paul.Castiglione@ct.gov](mailto:Paul.Castiglione@ct.gov).

