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Orientation to *HSTW* Goals and Key Practices

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HSTW Goals

- Having 85 percent of students meet college- and career-readiness standards – reading, mathematics and science
- Graduating 90 percent of students entering grade nine and graduating them prepared for college, advanced training and the workforce
- Teaching most students the essential content of the college-preparatory academic core and a career or academic concentration

Key Practice #1
Have students complete a challenging program of study with an upgraded academic core and a major.

Completing a Challenging Program of Study Matters

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- Gives focus
- Prepares students for the next step
- Makes high school count
- Values students
- Students choose based on interest

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Recommended Academic Core for All Students

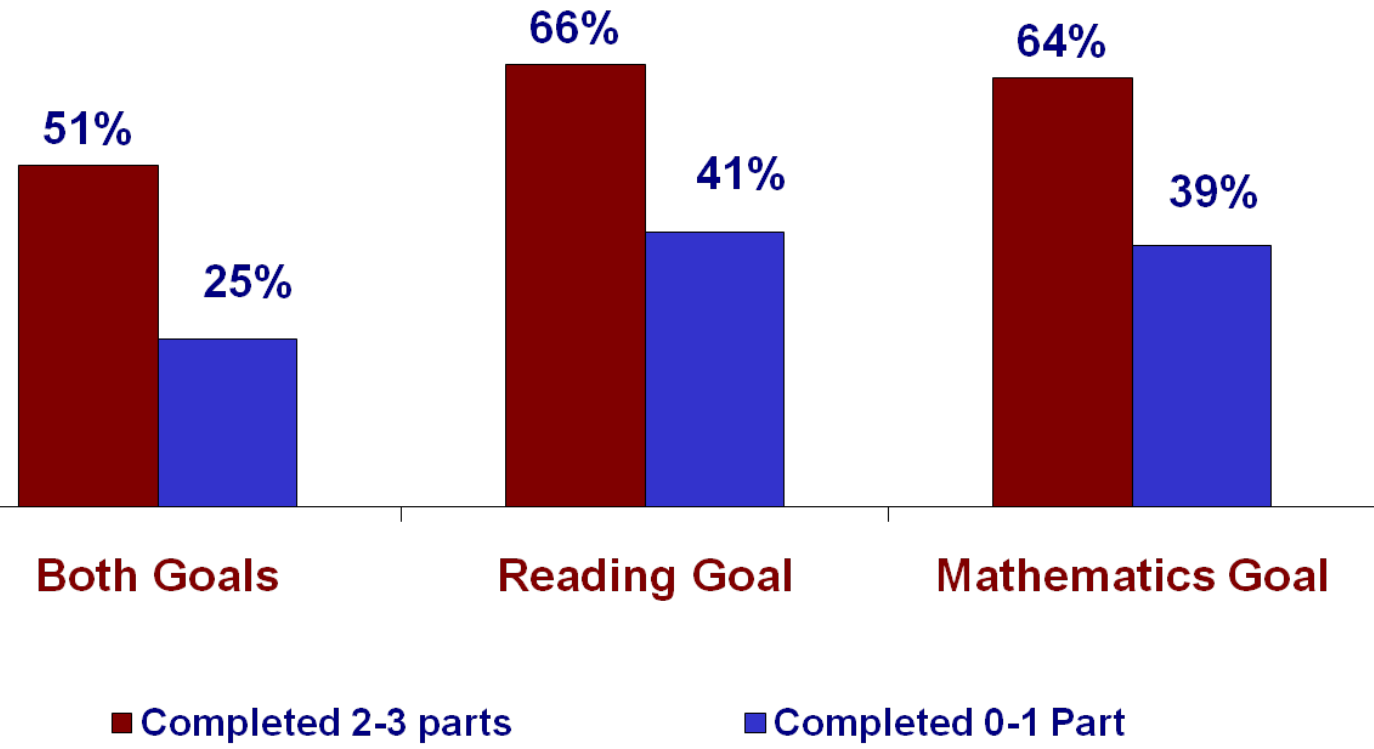
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- Four credits in college-prep/honors English
- Four mathematics credits – Algebra I, geometry, Algebra II and above
- Three science credits at the college-prep level
- Three years of social studies
- Career or academic concentration

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Recommended Core and Meeting Reading and Mathematics Readiness Goals

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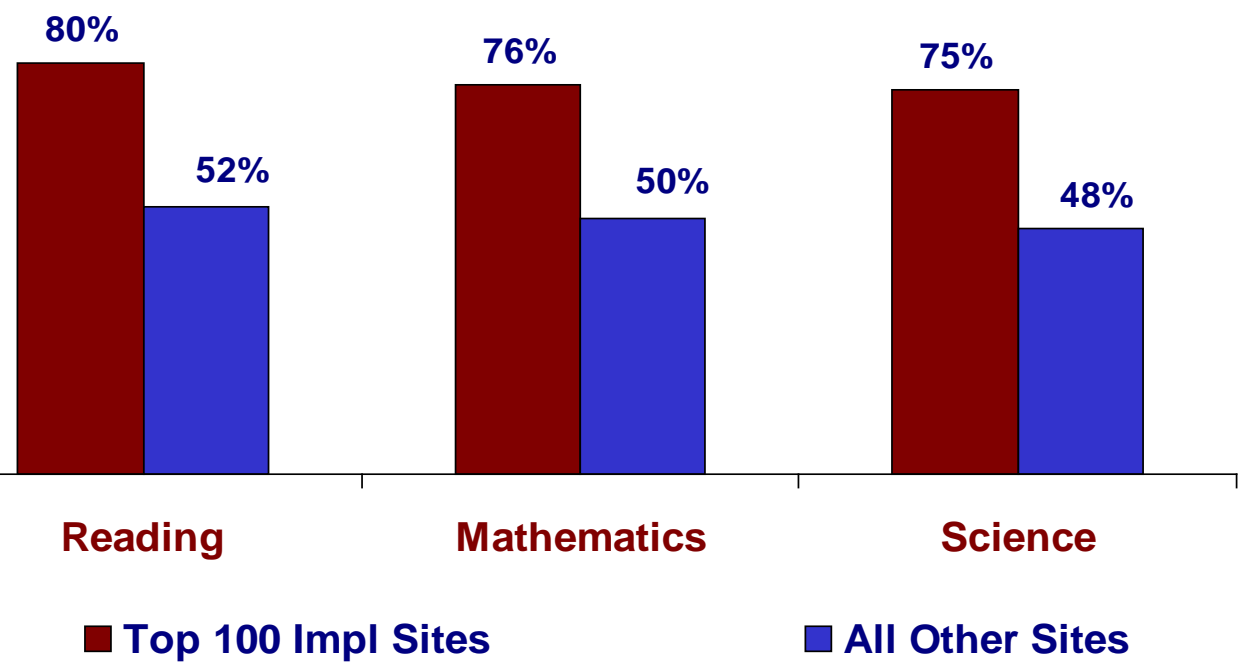


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Source: 2010 HSTW Assessment and Student Survey

Top 100 Implementation Sites vs. All Other Sites: Percentages of Students Meeting Readiness Goals

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Source: 2010 HSTW Assessment and Student Survey

Key Practice #2

Increase access to challenging career and technical studies, with a major emphasis on using high-level mathematics, science, language arts and problem-solving skills.

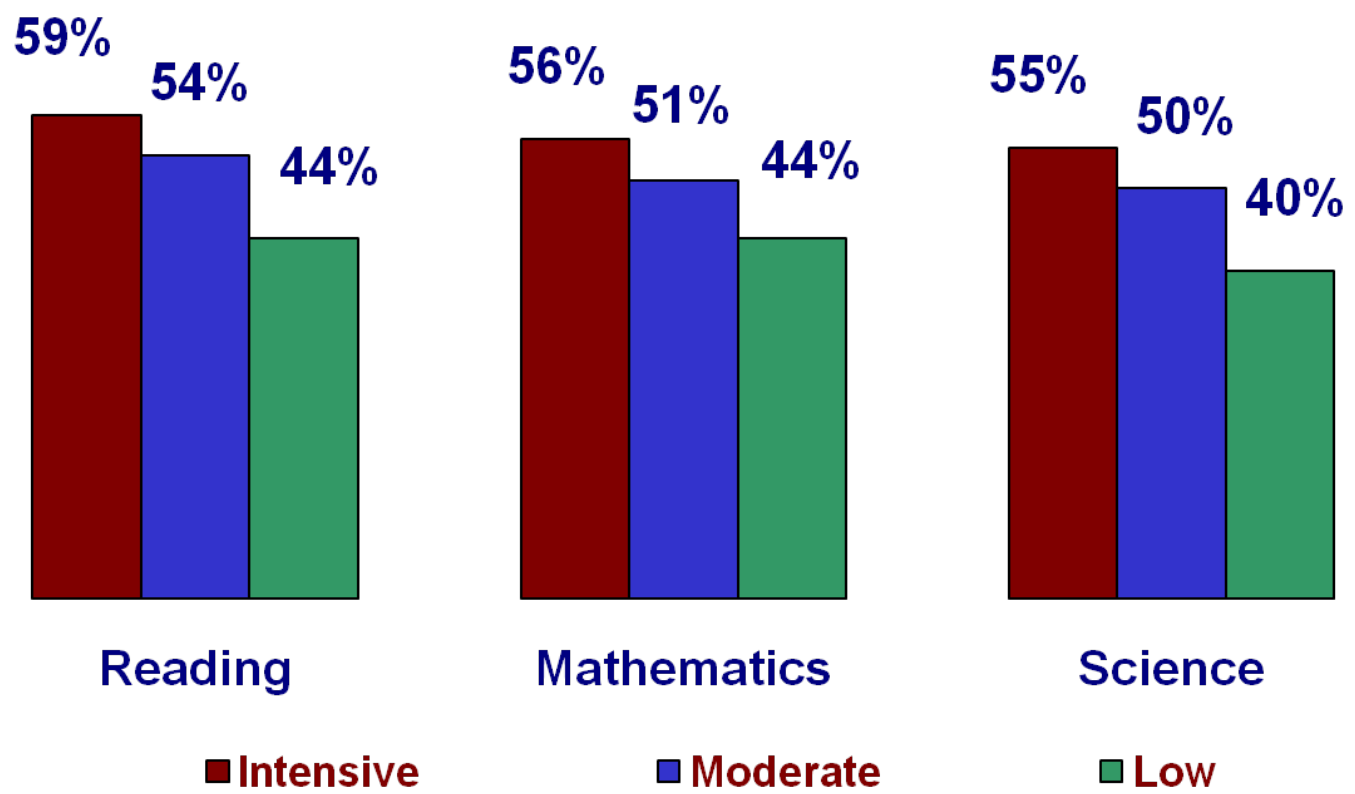
Quality Career/Technical Courses Matter

- Increase understanding of academic content
- Give meaning to school
- Motivate students
- Improve retention of academic skills
- Intellectual development

Quality CTE Studies and Higher Achievement

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70%
60%
50%
40%
30%
20%
10%
0%



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Source: 2010 HSTW Assessment and Student Survey

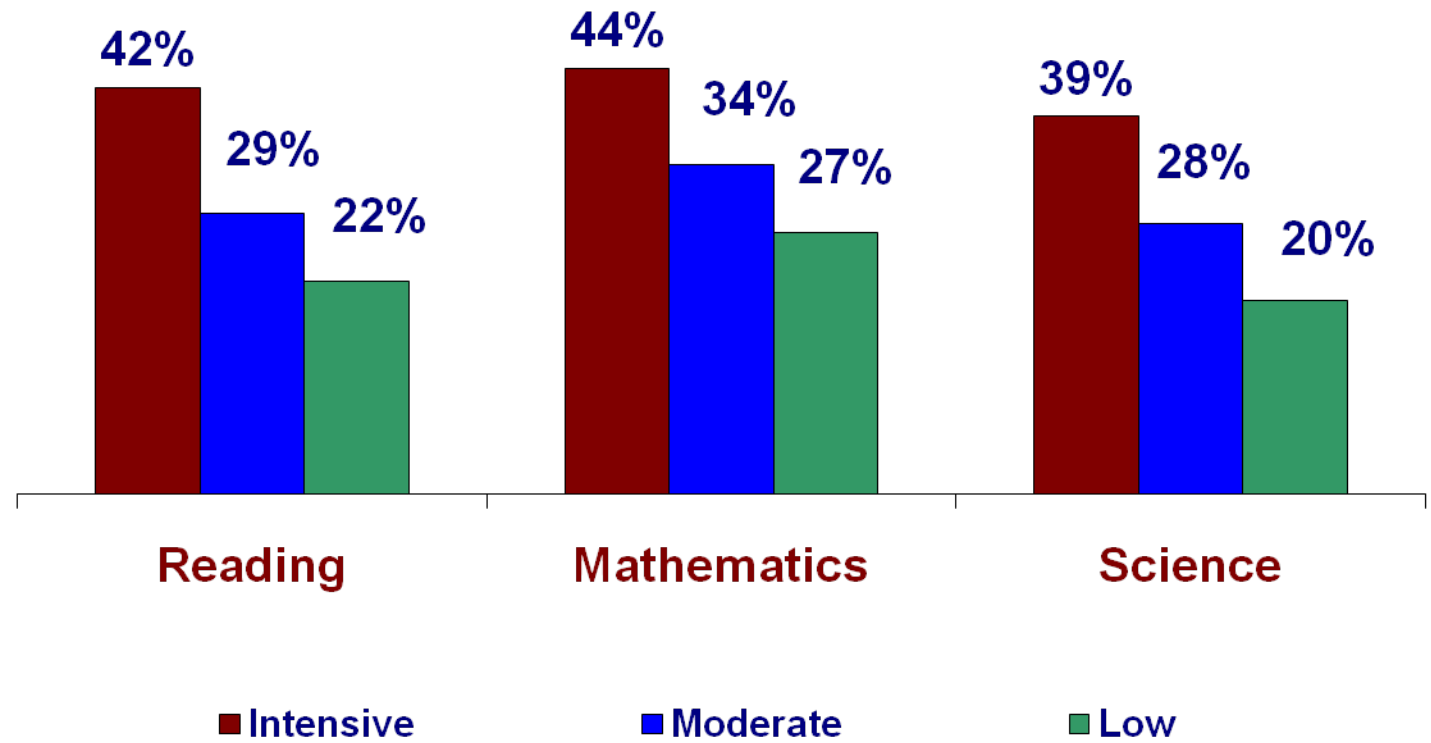
Key Practice #3

Give students access to a system of work-based and school-based learning planned cooperatively by educators and employers.

Quality Work-site Learning and Higher Achievement

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Source: 2010 HSTW Assessment and Student Survey

Key Practice #4

Set high expectations and get students to meet them.

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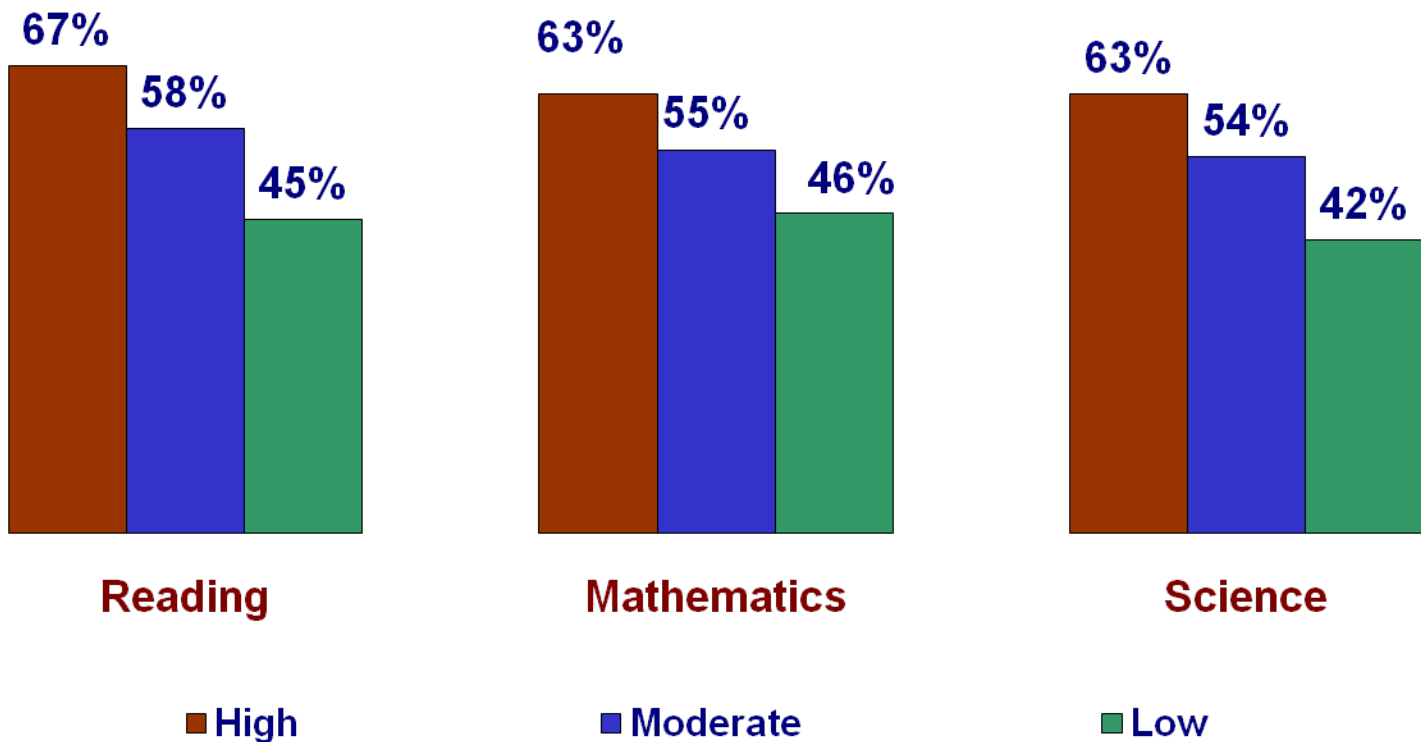
Raising Expectations Matters

- **Communicate that high school counts**
- **Give students a sense of self-worth**
- **Help students see that the school believes in them**
- **Help students be more focused, motivated and goal-oriented**

High Expectation Practices and Higher Achievement

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Source: 2010 HSTW Assessment and Student Survey

Key Practice #5

Have teachers work together to integrate academic and Career Technical studies.

Teachers Working Together Matters

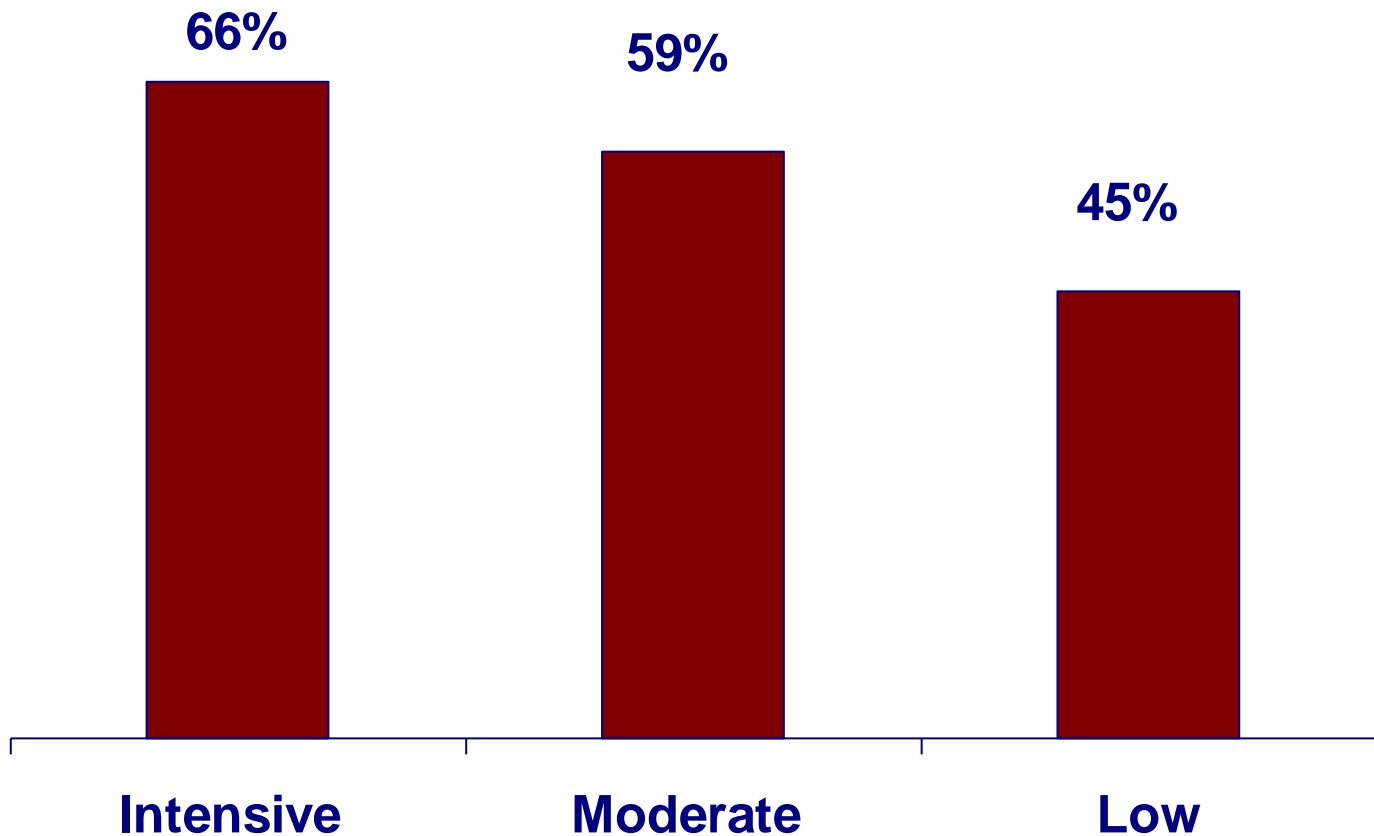
- **Makes learning count**
- **Helps teachers “grow”**
- **Changes teachers’ perceptions of students**
- **Promotes professionalism**
- **Contributes to a climate of Continuous improvement**

Key Practice #6 and #7

Engage students actively in learning and increase access to academic studies that teach college-preparatory content through functional and applied strategies.

Literacy Experiences Across the Curriculum and Higher Reading Achievement

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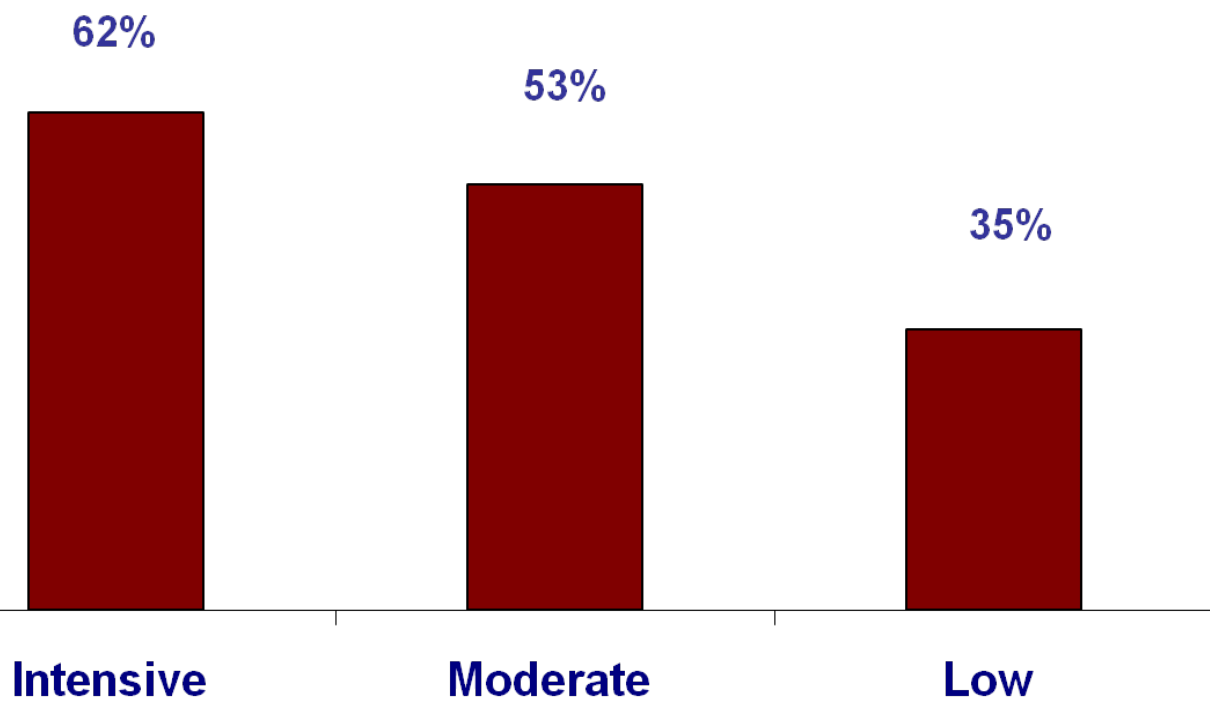
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Source: 2010 HSTW Assessment and Student Survey

Numeracy Experiences Across the Curriculum and Higher Mathematics Achievement

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70%
60%
50%
40%
30%
20%
10%
0%



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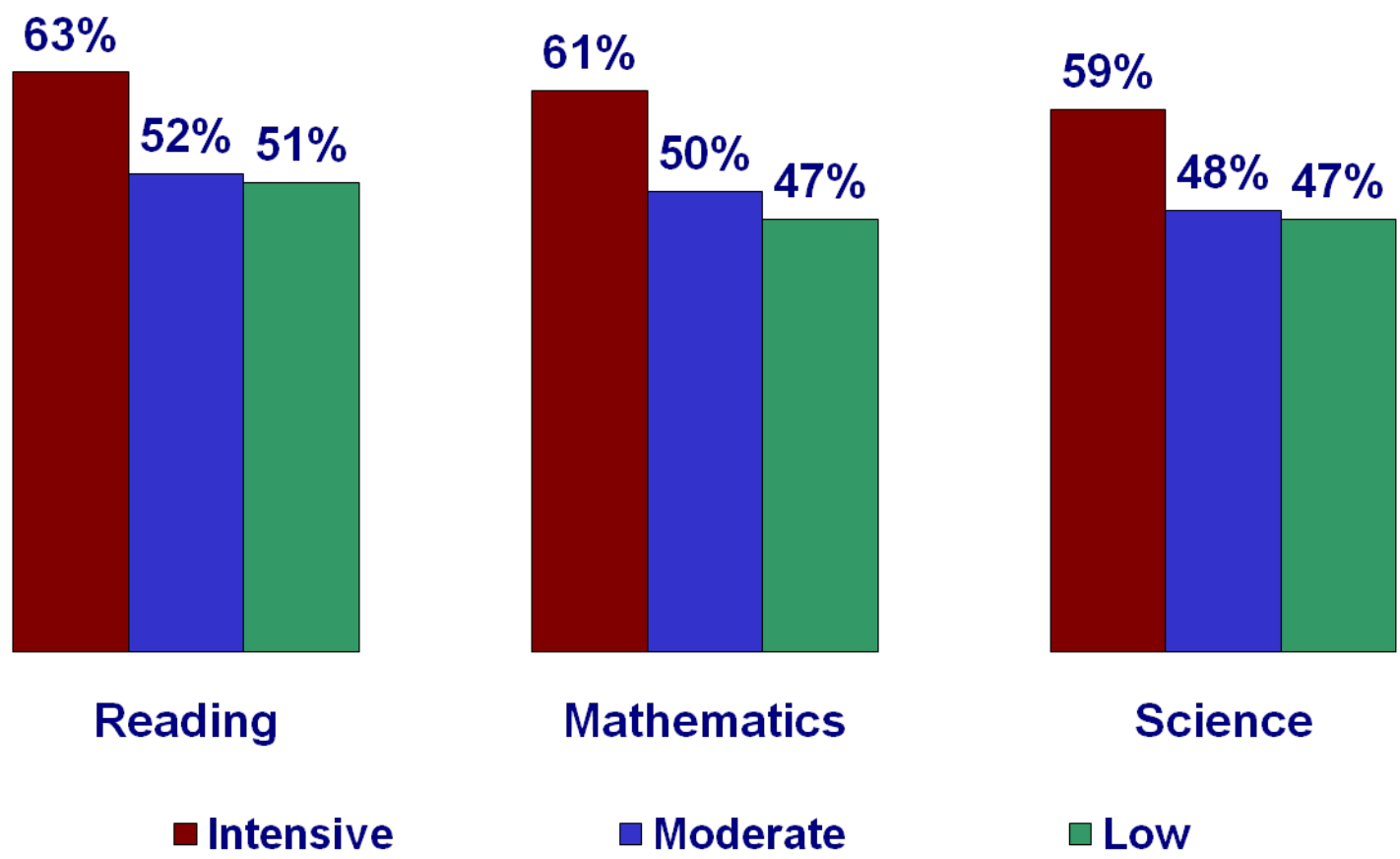
Source: 2010 HSTW Assessment and Student Survey

Key Practice #8

Involve students and parents in a guidance and advisement system that ensures completion of an accelerated program of study and a major.

Effective Guidance System and Higher Achievement

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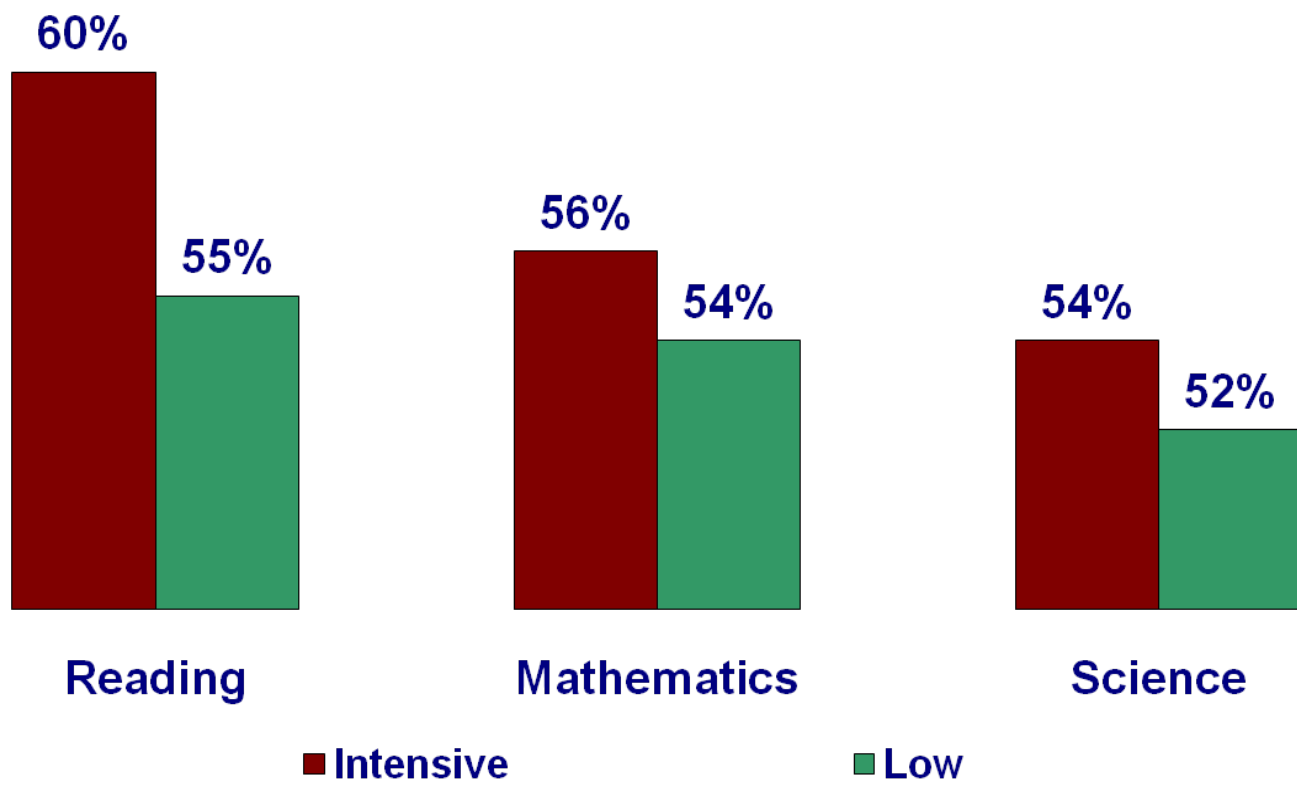
Source: 2010 HSTW Assessment and Student Survey

Key Practice #9

Provide a structured system of extra help to enable students to meet higher standards.

Quality Extra Help and Higher Achievement

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Key Practice #10

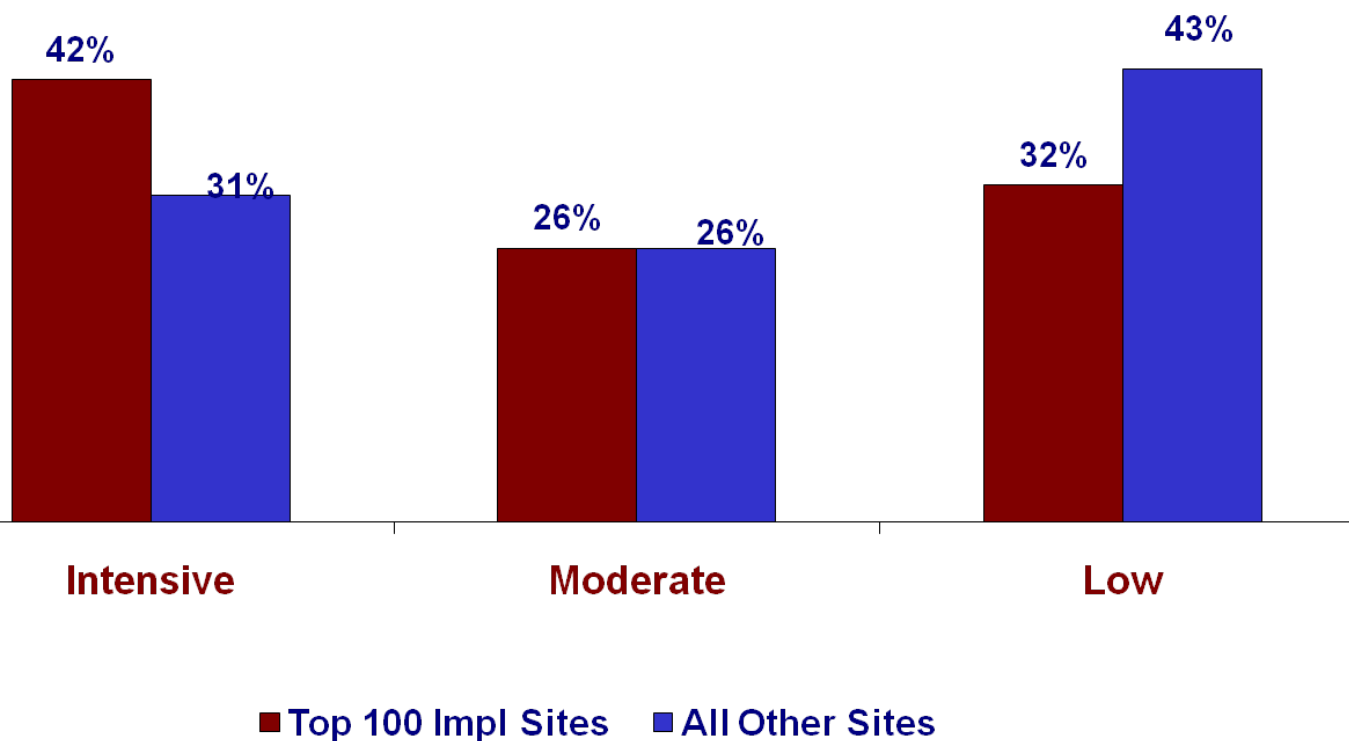
Use student assessment and program evaluation data to continuously improve curriculum, instruction, school climate, organization and management to advance student learning.

Leadership Practices and Higher Achievement

- **Goals and priorities are clear.**
- **The school maintains a demanding yet supportive climate.**
- **Teachers meet to examine student work.**
- **Teachers search for new ideas.**

Top 100 Implementation Sites vs. All Other Sites: Faculty Perceptions on Continuous School Improvement

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Source: 2010 HSTW Assessment and Student and Teacher Survey

Key Condition 1: Continuous Improvement of Curriculum, Instruction and Student Achievement

- A clear mission statement – Graduate students prepared for postsecondary study and a career
- Teach all students an accelerated curriculum
- Believe students' learning is first
- Assess, prioritize, plan, do, evaluate and plan

Key Condition 2:

District and School Leadership Focus on Using Key Practices As a Guide to School Improvement

- **School leadership teams**
- **Instructional teams that focus on core groups of students – on what is taught, how it is assessed and how students become independent learners**
- **Broader definition of rigor**
- **Feedback from students**

Key Condition 3:

School Board Support for Replacing the General Track

- **Improve the middle grades to high school transition – refocused ninth grade**
- **Improve high school to college and career transition – revitalized senior year**
- **Have all students complete challenging academic core and focus**
- **A career-focused program of study**
- **Make co-curricular activities an essential part of the high school curriculum**

Key Condition 4: **District Leaders Support School Leaders and Teachers to Carry Out Key Practices**

- **Financial support for materials**
- **Time for teachers to plan together**
- **Support at least 10 days of staff development annually focused on educators' needs to improve student learning**
- **Encourage planning among academic and technical teachers; high schools and career centers; and between high schools, middle grades schools and postsecondary schools**

Key Condition 5: Allow Schools to Adopt a Flexible Schedule

- **Allow students to earn more credits**
- **Adopt policy to recognize hands-on, interdisciplinary and experiential learning**
- **Reduce teacher load to no more than 80 students per day**
- **Make greater use of off-site learning opportunities**
- **Adopt policy to embed academics into CT courses**

Technology Centers That Work

School Improvement Initiative Specifically for Shared-Time Technology Centers

- **Champlain Valley BOCES**
- **Franklin, Essex and Hamilton BOCES**
- **Just completed a series of Literacy workshops**
- **2011-12 Numeracy workshops planned**
- **Districts are invited to send teams**

HSTW Participation

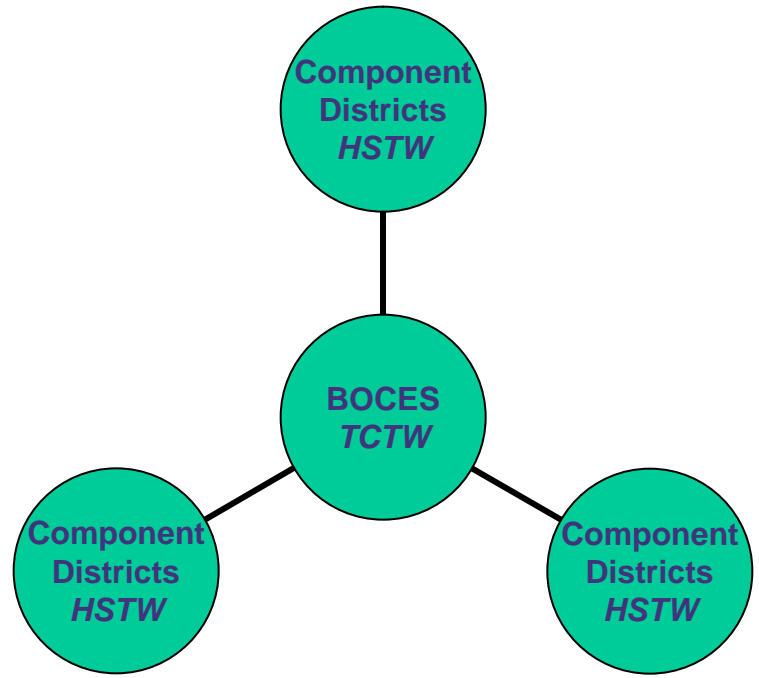
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- **Join *High Schools That Work* NYS Consortium**
- **Direct Services with SREB**
- **Work in collaboration with BOCES**
- **Any combination of the above**

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Sharing School Improvement Through Collaboration

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25th Annual *HSTW* Staff Development Conference

- **July 20 – 23, 2011**
- **Opryland Hotel and Conference Center, Nashville, Tennessee**
- **Over 600 Breakout sessions**
 - **Leadership**
 - **Guidance**
 - **Career & Technical Education**
 - **School Improvement**
 - **Project Based Learning and Embedding Academics**

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QUESTIONS??

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On behalf of *High Schools*
That Work; Thank you.

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