



# Update to the City of Madison Education Committee

**August 10, 2016**



# Overview

- Short-term (90 days) crisis stabilization program for students in 4K-8th grade
- Supports children's educational experience by working with students, family, community agencies, and school staff to develop and promote emotional wellness
- Team consists of one MMSD staff member and one Coordinator from Catholic Charities
- Each team carries a caseload of 14



# Bridges in Madison

**September 2014** - MMSD and Dane County allocated 1.0 FTE each to form the first Building Bridges Team

**September 2015**- MMSD allocated an additional 2.0 FTE to expand from one team to three

**January 2016** - County added 2.0 FTE officially expanding to three teams

**September 2016** - MMSD allocated an additional 1.0 FTE in preparation for expansion to the fourth team

**January 2017** - Anticipated, pending County budget decisions, an additional 1.0 FTE ultimately expanding from one team to our goal of four MMSD teams

# Target Population

Students with an immediate **mental health crisis** (student is in imminent danger to self or others), possible need for safety plan and / or referral for services.

**OR**

Students experiencing **mental health challenges** that exceed what available school resources can address

**AND**

Who may benefit from **short-term case consultation** or case management, as indicated by at least one of the following:

- Behavioral issues (internalizing or externalizing)
- Academic performance
- Attendance
- Home and / or community issues



# Students Served

Building Bridges  
served **179 students**  
**and families** across  
Dane County during  
the 2015-2016  
school year

## GENDER OF CLIENTS:

Male	77%
Female	23%

## AGE OF CLIENTS:

5 years-old	4%
6 years-old	16%
7 years-old	10%
8 years-old	18%
9 years-old	15%
10 years-old	12%
11 years-old	4%
12 years-old	10%
13 years-old	7%
14 years-old	4%

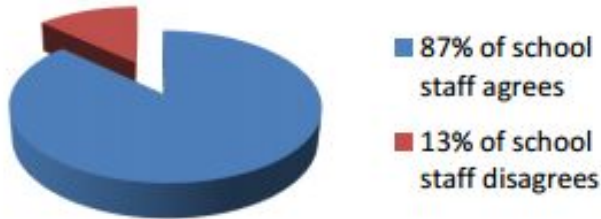
## RACE OF CLIENTS:

White/Caucasian	38%
Black/African-American	34%
Multiracial	15%
Hispanic/Latino	10%
Native	2%
Asian	1%

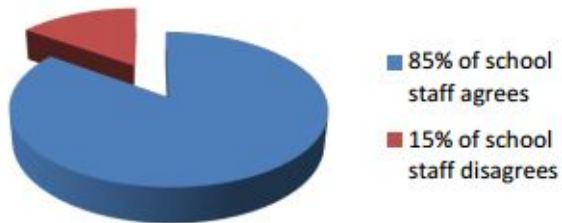


# Staff Perspective

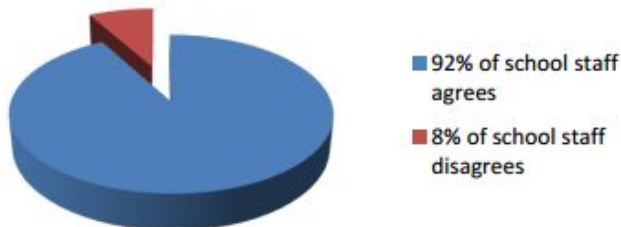
Since Building Bridges has been involved, I have noticed improved behavior.



Since Building Bridges has been involved, I have noticed improved attitudes towards learning.



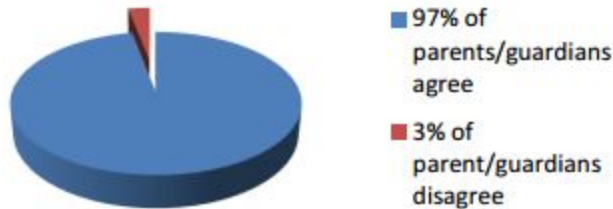
As a result of Building Bridges, I am able to generalize instructional strategies to support other students the school.



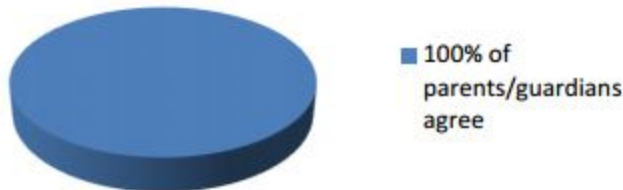
**“They are instrumental in connecting families with therapy and community resources. They create a positive bridge between the families, schools and mental health service providers. The program has really helped parents feel supported and feel less stressed because of the services and teams the programs created.”**

# Family Perspective

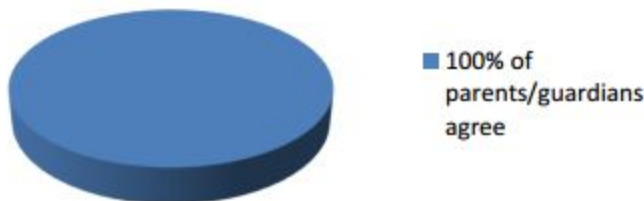
**After working with the Building Bridges team, I know where to go to get my child mental health support.**



**After working with the Building Bridges team, I know ways to support my child in school.**



**After working with the Building Bridges team, I know ways to manage my stress.**



**“Not only has it helped my child, it helped me. I was new at being a parent and I was given a lot of different tools to help me with a more difficult child. It helped our relationship grow much closer.”**



# In Summary

Building Bridges came out of that combined need and the county's willingness to support it. Through Building Bridges, school districts partner with Dane County Human Services and Catholic Charities to provide short-term support to students, their families and school teams when kids are struggling with acute mental health issues. The program is voluntary and there is no cost to families.





