



Fantasy Sports Math League

Three-Year Evidence Summary for District Leaders (2023–2026)

WHAT IT IS: A game-based digital platform that teaches middle school math through fantasy football. Students draft teams, set weekly lineups, and score their players using fraction operations, budgeting, and problem-solving — aligned to standards. COPPA and FERPA compliant; runs on Chromebooks, tablets, or computers.

A GROWING EVIDENCE BASE

3 studies

2023 pilot, 2025 pilot,
2026 QED study
 $N \approx 97, 325, 133$

+13pp

Math score advantage
vs. comparison group
(2026)

$p = .004$, covariate-adjusted

+1.38

Avg. math problems
correct, pre→post (2025)
 $p < .001$, $n = 104$

↓ anxiety

Math/fraction anxiety
reduced in all 3 studies

WHY THE 2026 STUDY MATTERS MOST

- The 2023 and 2025 studies measured change within a single group of FSML users (pre/post, no comparison group).
- The Spring 2026 study added a comparison group of similar, non-FSML classrooms and used regression to control for prior skill, grade, gender, and race/ethnicity — and FSML students still scored 13 percentage points higher in their math score ($p = .004$).
- Taken together, the three studies show a consistent, strengthening evidence base for FSML.

EQUITY PATTERN ACROSS STUDIES

- 2025 pilot: students entering with the lowest baseline scores (0–5/11) gained +3.19 problems — more than tripling their starting score; non-White students showed substantially greater anxiety reduction than White students (–0.57 vs. –0.02).
- 2023 pilot: FSML significantly increased math confidence for non-White participants; Hispanic participants saw significant reductions in math-related stress and anxiety.
- 2026 QED study: comparison-group sample size ($n=26$) was too small for full subgroup analysis, but the overall covariate-adjusted effect held for the combined sample.
- Across studies boys and girls were engaged in math learning and teachers say a positive impact on their classroom environment.

"Students who finished quickly became helpers to students who work more slowly, and they enjoyed this role more than being helpers at other times or in other subjects."

I used to not really like math but FSML changed that, and I really like it now – 6th grade girl

It made me see math more needed, but that's honestly a better thing if someone would think math is useless. – 7th grade girl

It made me look forward to Tuesdays so I could do my points on FSML! – 8th grade boy

DISTRICT DECISION POINT: Three years of independent evaluation — spanning single-group pilots and a comparison-group study — consistently show FSML is associated with improved math performance and reduced math anxiety, with the largest gains often going to students who start furthest behind. Combined with low implementation burden, the evidence supports continued and expanded use.