

Educational Impact Report 2022–2023 School Year





The Alliance for Decision Education (the Alliance) is proud to share the vision, accomplishments, and key learnings from our educational initiatives over the 2022–2023 school year. During this time, we published the Decision Education K-12 Learning Standards, expanded the Decision Education Teacher Fellowship, piloted a Student Forecasting Tournament, and launched the first Decision Education Incubator. These initiatives enabled us to continue building the field and gain champions for Decision Education by introducing core concepts and fostering a deeper understanding of Decision Education among students, educators, and school communities.

The Alliance's mission is to improve lives by empowering students with essential skills and dispositions for making better decisions. We are pleased to share these updates as we continue our work to build the field and bring Decision Education into more classrooms across the United States.

2022–2023 Decision Education Initiative Participants

The Alliance provided professional learning to **75 educators (teachers, counselors, and administrators)** in grades 6–12, **across 44 schools**, during the 2022–2023 school year. Through our various initiatives, educators brought Decision Education to **2,000 students** within the past school year, helping to build understanding and a passion for Decision Education within entire school communities.

We surveyed educators who participated in one or more of our educational initiatives in the 2022–2023 school year.

97%

agree with the statement:

"It is important to learn to teach Decision Education concepts and skills." **96**%

agree with the statement:

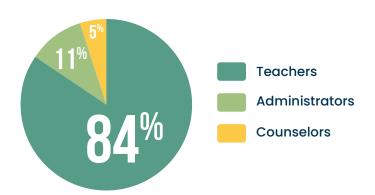
"Decision Education is important to students' success in life." 93%

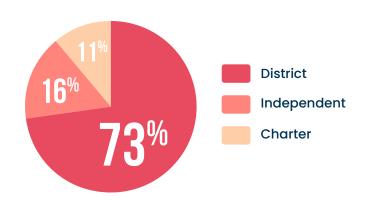
agree with the statement:

"I would recommend Decision Education concepts to a friend or colleague."

Educator Participant Breakdown

School Types Served







"I feel prepared to support students in making important decisions. I have the vocabulary to explain concepts that are fundamental parts of how decisions are made, and I can embed these ideas into classroom lessons."

Kerryn Henderson

Middle School Integrated Science Teacher
Decision Education Teacher Fellow
Portland, OR

"My students had their own strategy about how to make a confidence rating, and watching them teach each other their own thought processes was amazing."

Daniel Fitzgerald

Middle School Mathematics Teacher Student Forecasting Tournament Teacher Philadelphia, PA





"... I teach history in a world full of misinformation, so the Recognizing Cognitive Biases Learning Domain was something I greatly appreciated, as it made many of my students' arguments stronger because they took the time to consider varying viewpoints."

Krystal Davis

High School History and Theory of Knowledge IB Teacher

Decision Education Teacher Fellow

Flossmoor, IL

"We have really enjoyed this opportunity! The material is going to be life-changing for our students!"

Jacquie Tinsley

High School Principal
Decision Education Incubator Team Leader
Concord, NC

In the 2022–2023 school year, educators involved in our initiatives empowered **2,000 students** with essential skills and dispositions to make better decisions.



Decision Education K-12 Learning Standards

We published the first edition of the <u>Decision Education K-12 Learning Standards</u> to provide a framework for evaluating what K-12 students should know and be able to do at each grade level, with respect to learning how to be effective decision makers. The Decision Education K-12 Learning Standards guide instruction regarding student progress in decision-making skills and dispositions, making it easier for educators to implement Decision Education across grade levels and subject areas.

The Four K-12 Learning Domains of Decision Education



Recognizing and Resisting
Cognitive Biases



Valuing and Applying Rationality



Thinking Probabilistically



Structuring Decisions

We produced an accompanying <u>standards walkthrough video</u> to explain the standards and how they can be used in classrooms. In addition, we produced six learning videos that provide teachers with the foundational content to support classroom implementation.

In the past school year, Decision Education Teacher Fellows taught an estimated total of 240 Decision Education standards-aligned lessons in their classrooms. Additionally, second- and third-year Teacher Fellows field-tested the standards to inform their relevance at different grade levels and to inform future iterations on the standards. Five high schools created standards-aligned instructional models for post-graduation decsion-making. We will continue to build opportunities for educators to test the standards and implement standards-aligned instruction.



"The Decision Education K-12 Learning Standards give me a solid foundation of what to look for in my students' development. I know what I am trying to elicit from my students."

Melony August

Middle School Science Teacher

Decision Education Teacher Fellow

Morgan City, LA

Decision Education Teacher Fellowship

Forty-eight middle and high school teachers participated in an in-person summer Decision Education Teacher Fellowship Orientation and online professional learning throughout the school year as they taught Decision Education skills and concepts as part of our Decision Education Teacher Fellowship. Eighty-seven percent of Teacher Fellows (some brand new, some returning for a second or third year of the program) reported feeling equipped



to teach Decision Education. As champions of Decision Education, the Teacher Fellows estimated that they cumulatively shared information about Decision Education with approximately 2,300 colleagues.

Teacher Fellows were encouraged to integrate Decision Education into their curricula and/or teach it as standalone subject matter. Teachers Fellows provided the following insights based on their experiences:

- Many Teacher Fellows suggested that they wanted to increase the number of Decision Education
 lessons they teach throughout the year but were unable to do so due to time constraints.
 They proposed several ideas, including access to readily available student-facing activities, Decision
 Education curriculum, and strategies for integrating Decision Education into other subject areas.
- Teacher Fellows stated that they teach Decision Education skills and concepts by blending the four
 Learning Domains of Decision Education rather than teaching each domain separately as they appear
 in the standards. This feedback has shaped our thinking about teaching and learning Decision
 Education concepts and the creation of future curriculum.
- Teacher Fellows consistently shared that students were enthusiastic and interested in learning about Decision Education.

In the 2023–2024 school year, we will continue the Decision Education Teacher Fellowship to support dissemination of Decision Education in classrooms throughout the country. We also will expand the opportunities for returning Teacher Fellows to build the field by championing Decision Education in their school communities through facilitating professional learning sessions and advising on and writing curriculum.

To learn more about the Decision Education Teacher Fellows, see our spotlights:



Yanique Sears

High School Special Education
Science Teacher
New York, NY



Paul Wright
High School Government and
Economics Teacher
Radnor, PA



The Student Forecasting Tournament

We piloted a gamified initiative to bring forecasting, an essential part of decision-making, into classrooms in the 2022–2023 school year. The 10-week Student Forecasting Tournament brought eight schools and 255 middle and high school students together to compete in a five-round competition. For this initiative, we partnered with forecasting organization Good Judgment.



Students collaborated to submit researched forecasts in response to prompts about current events in popular culture, ranging from movies, music, and sports to political polls, stock prices, and gas prices. On average, students researched and predicted 19 out of 25 total forecasts. At the conclusion of the tournament, 92 percent of students expressed an interest in participating in a future tournament. One student described it as "the best tournament in the world!"

The winners comprised three teams of four students in grades 11–12 from:

- Stuyvesant High School, New York, NY (First and Second Place)
- Lincoln College Preparatory Academy, Kansas City, MO (Third Place)

Through this pilot initiative, we gained insights on how to best facilitate a large-scale, future tournament. We also became interested in learning more about the outcomes of explicitly teaching Decision Education concepts and skills in student forecasting; therefore, we are conducting a research study in the next tournament.



"I really liked the team aspect of the forecasting tournament, as we were able to explore different opinions and share research with our friends. I was able to learn a lot from different perspectives, and I really enjoyed the in-depth discussions."

Grade 11 Student Forecaster

Student Forecasting Tournament

New York, NY



Decision Education Incubator

The Decision Education Incubator is an 18-month opportunity for schools to design and pilot new Decision Education instructional models that can be scaled nationally.

The Decision Education Incubator aids our understanding of how to create sustainable, scalable, and impactful instructional models.

Through partnerships with Incubator schools, we are learning about school integration challenges and successes, as well as considerations







In the 2022–2023 school year, five high schools joined our College and Career Decision-Making Incubator. School teams developed instructional models that used Decision Education concepts to support students in making post–graduation plans, and they will begin implementing the models with students in the 2023–2024 school year. As part of the Incubator process, 24 educators (teachers, counselors, and administrators) across the five schools participated in a three-month training in Decision Education. They then attended a two-day retreat in Philadelphia to design their instructional models. The teams will implement these models for an estimated 1,000 high school students in the 2023–2024 school year. When surveyed, 100 percent of the educators participating in the Incubator agreed that Decision Education skills would benefit students in making decisions about college and their careers.

In the next school year, we will open applications for our second Decision Education Incubator, Exploring Decision-Making Through Media Literacy. This will be our first initiative open exclusively to middle schools.



"I believe Decision Education will give all of our students a chance to learn how to make reflective, informed decisions and will help them develop these necessary skills and dispositions that they will need in their everyday lives, in college, or in their future careers."

Megan Hugg

High School Assistant Principal
Decision Education Incubator Team Member
Livonia, NY

The Alliance's initiatives in the 2022–2023 school year brought Decision Education into classrooms across the country. We will build upon this foundation by continuing our work as field builders: catalyzing the teaching and learning of decision–making skills and dispositions in K-12 schools, supporting teachers, and empowering students. We are inspired by the enthusiasm and commitment of educators as they implement Decision Education in their school communities, and we look forward to expanding our reach and impact.