Impacter Pathway's Multi-Dimensional Scoring Methodology:
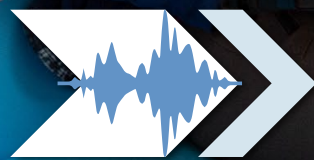
A Holistic Approach to Assessing Social-Emotional Growth

IMPACTER's approach to social-emotional learning is grounded in the understanding that every student possesses unique strengths and potential for growth. Our scoring methodology reflects this philosophy by providing a comprehensive, multi-dimensional assessment of each learner's journey.

The 8 Dimensions of IMPACTER's Scoring

Our scoring system incorporates a spectrum of developmental indicators, each designed to capture different aspects of student growth and achievement:

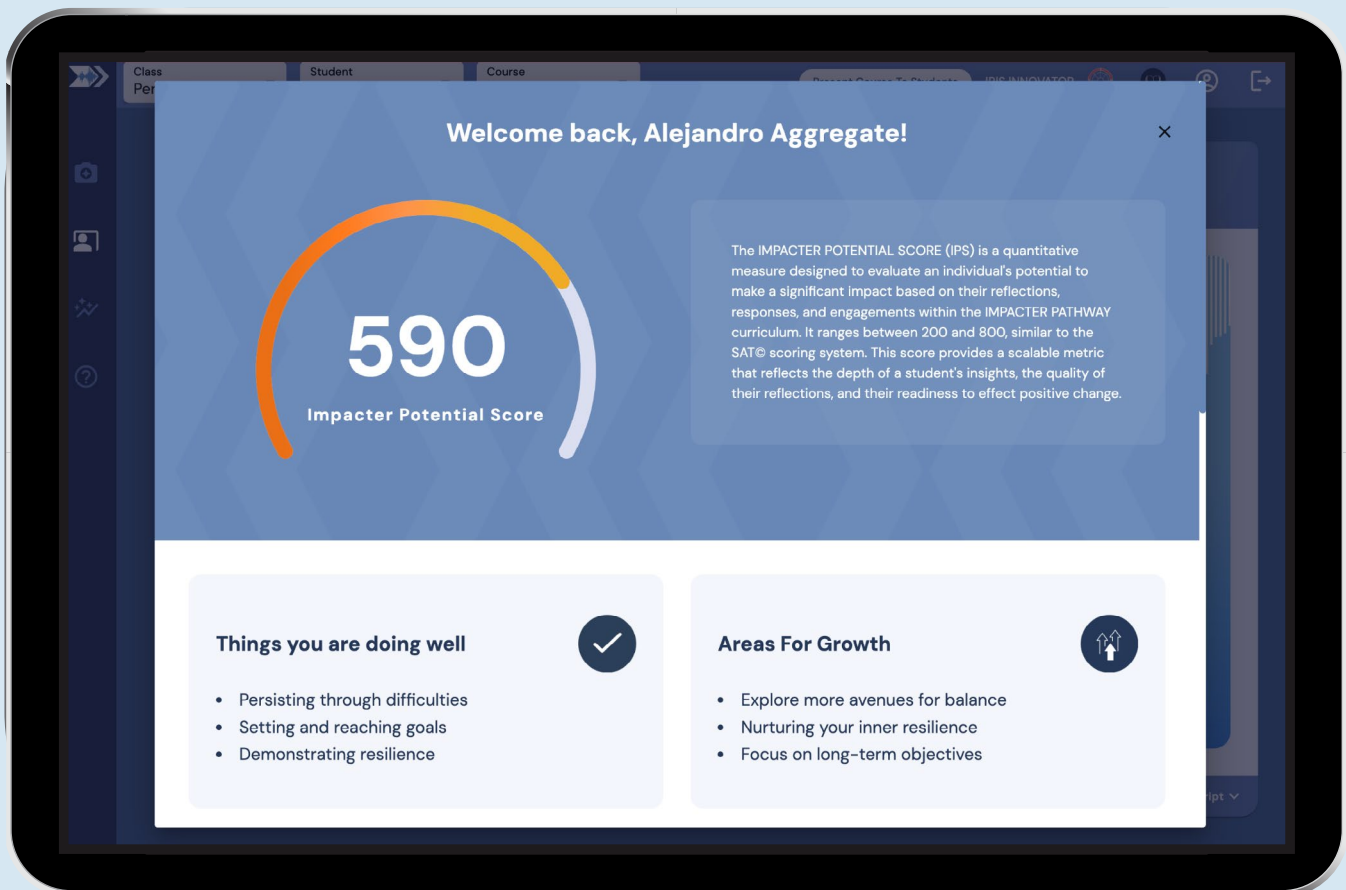|			
Core NLP Evaluation	Consistency and Perseverance	Local Context Performance	Participatory Engagement
Historical Progress Recognition	Milestone Achievement	Response Complexity	Prompt Rigor

By integrating these dimensions, the IMPACTER methodology presents a holistic view of a student's learning trajectory, acknowledging growth and recognizing achievements that may be overlooked by traditional assessments.

Welcome back, Alejandro Aggregate!

590
Impacter Potential Score

The IMPACTER POTENTIAL SCORE (IPS) is a quantitative measure designed to evaluate an individual's potential to make a significant impact based on their reflections, responses, and engagements within the IMPACTER PATHWAY curriculum. It ranges between 200 and 800, similar to the SAT© scoring system. This score provides a scalable metric that reflects the depth of a student's insights, the quality of their reflections, and their readiness to effect positive change.

Things you are doing well ✓
- Persisting through difficulties
- Setting and reaching goals
- Demonstrating resilience

Areas For Growth
- Explore more avenues for balance
- Nurturing your inner resilience
- Focus on long-term objectives

The Foundation: Core NLP Evaluation with DistilBERT

At the core of our scoring system is the NLP Evaluation, driven by an advanced DistilBERT language model. This AI-powered analysis conducts a thorough examination of the semantic content, sentiment, and relevance of students' responses to curriculum prompts. It provides a nuanced assessment of their comprehension and expression of key social-emotional competencies such as gratitude, grit, growth mindset, and more.

We also recognize that a single score, regardless of the sophistication of the underlying technology, cannot fully represent a student's social-emotional development. To this end, our scoring framework incorporates multiple dimensions to capture a more comprehensive picture of growth and achievement.

Contextualizing Performance: The Significance of Local Context

A key component of IMPACTER's scoring is the integration of Local Context. We believe that a student's performance should be evaluated not in isolation, but in relation to their immediate educational environment. By considering how a student's scores compare to those of their peers in the same school or classroom, we can better identify and validate the unique strengths they bring, beyond a simple raw score projection.

Consider this scenario: if a student receives a score of 2 (on a 0-4 scale) on a particular response, it might initially appear as a deficiency. However, if the majority of their classmates also scored a 2, it provides valuable insight into a learner's local context. In such a case, our algorithm would factor in the student's relative performance, adjusting their score to reflect their standing within their specific environment. This contextual consideration ensures that students are not penalized for factors beyond their control and that their strengths are recognized within their unique setting.
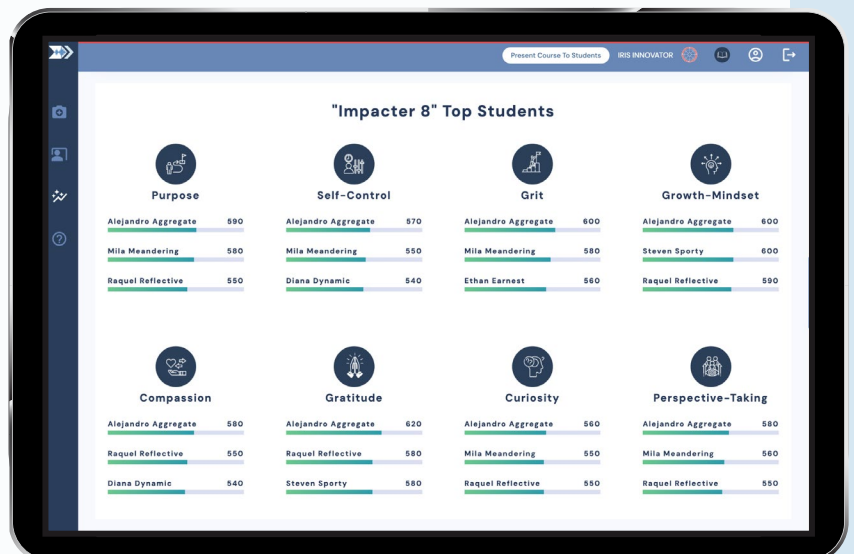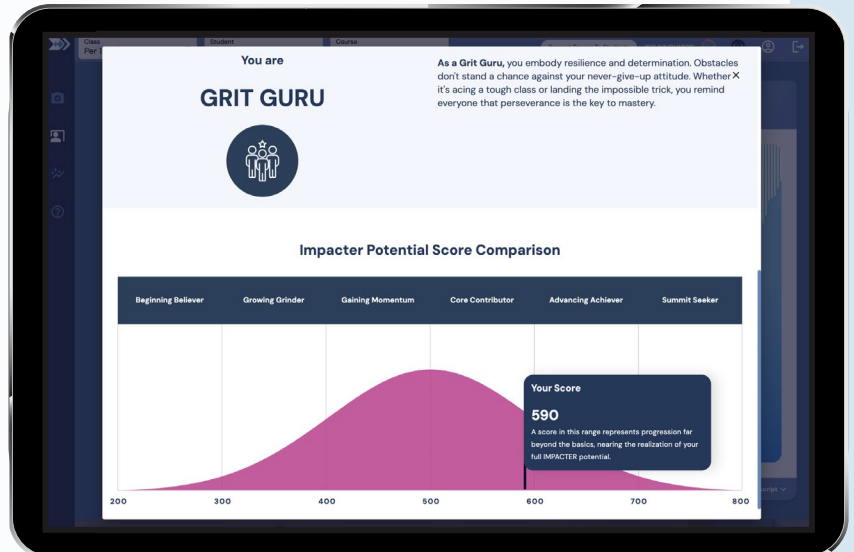
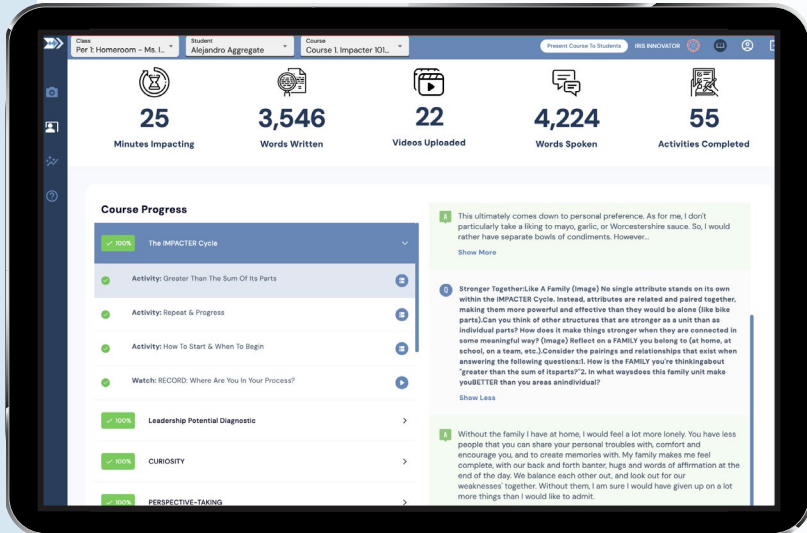# Recognizing Consistency and Perseverance

Another essential dimension of our scoring model is the recognition of Consistency and Perseverance. We acknowledge that social-emotional learning, like any skill, develops through practice and repetition. The more a student engages with the IMPACTER curriculum, the more opportunities they have to strengthen the neural pathways associated with social-emotional competencies.

To account for this, our scoring algorithm includes a progressive consideration based on a student's progress through a course series. For example, a student who is just starting out may not receive any perseverance adjustment, but as they move through the lessons, their scores may incrementally reflect their ongoing engagement. A student on lesson 3 might have a 1% consistency consideration factored into their scaled score, while a student halfway through a course could have a 2% consideration. This structure acknowledges the value of consistency and encourages students to persevere, knowing that their sustained efforts will be recognized and reflected in their scores over time.

Valuing Depth and Complexity of Language

When evaluating students' social-emotional understanding, the depth and complexity of their language serve as critical indicators. We aim to recognize and encourage students who express themselves with nuance and variation, demonstrating a growing mastery of social-emotional concepts.

To achieve this, our scoring methodology takes into account factors such as response length and vocabulary variance, both in absolute terms and relative to a student's local context. A student who consistently provides more detailed and linguistically diverse responses compared to their peers would have these factors considered in their score. This approach acknowledges the effort and growth that may not be immediately apparent in a raw score and helps mitigate potential cultural biases in language expectations.
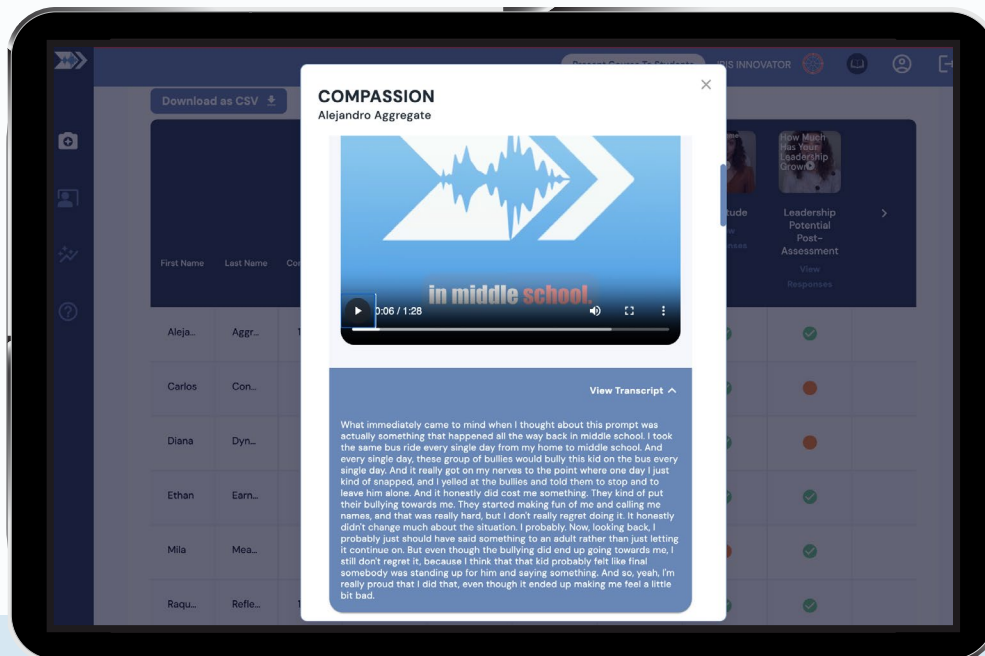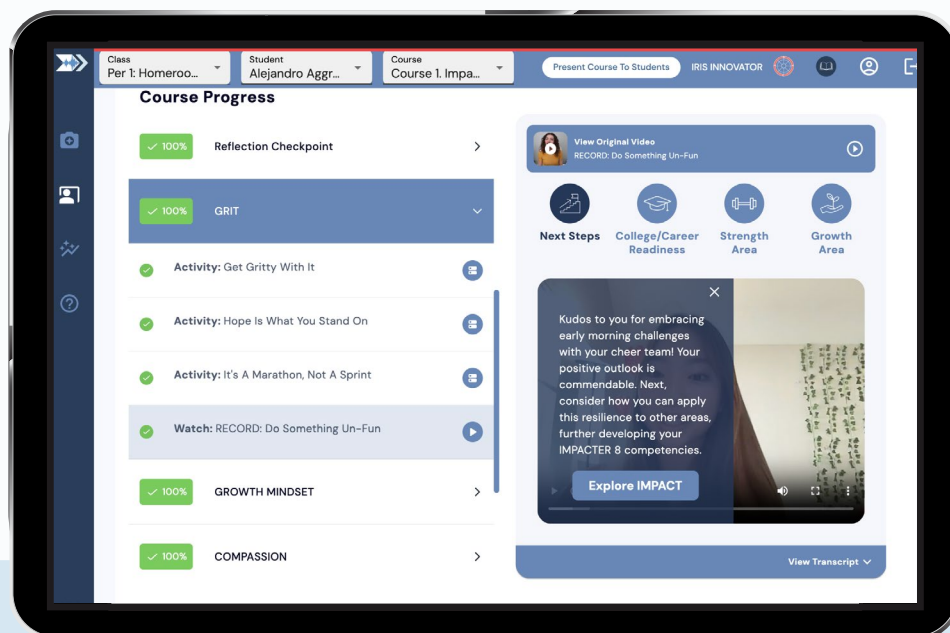
The IMPACTER Algorithm: Designed by Experts, Refined Through Experience

The IMPACTER algorithm is the result of a collaborative effort by a team of nationally-recognized K-12 teachers, counselors, school and district leaders, and social-emotional learning experts. During the development process, numerous considerations were factored in to ensure the algorithm's effectiveness and fairness. As a result, the algorithm has been rigorously tested against data from thousands of students, encompassing tens of millions of words. This extensive testing has allowed us to refine and validate the algorithm's performance across a wide range of educational contexts.

We understand that the educational landscape is constantly evolving. So, to ensure that our scoring methodology remains relevant and accurate, we conduct an annual review of the IMPACTER algorithm. During this review process, we reconvene to assess the latest educational research, gather feedback from our partner schools and districts, and make necessary adjustments that we then published before the start of each new school year.

Of course, while the 8 dimensions of our scoring system cover a broad spectrum of factors, we acknowledge that there may still be additional elements that impact scoring. This is why we stand committed to the annual review process — it allows us to continually improve the algorithm and address any emerging considerations.

The Goal: A Tool for Growth and Intervention

Ultimately, the purpose of IMPACTER's scoring system is not to rank or label students but to empower their growth. By providing a multidimensional view of each student's social-emotional development, we aim to equip educators and students with a tool for understanding strengths and identifying areas for growth.

Each of the 8 anchor attributes is scored independently, recognizing that a student may excel in some areas while still developing in others. This granular insight enables targeted interventions and support. If a student's scores do not increase over time as expected, it serves as a clear indicator that additional attention may be needed.

At IMPACTER, we believe in the growth potential of every student, and our mission is to support them in realizing that potential. Our Multi-Dimensional Scoring system is designed to be a partner in that journey, offering a roadmap for social-emotional development that recognizes the unique strengths of each learner and guides them towards continuous improvement.

Impacting is a process, and we are committed to refining and enhancing our approach to ensure that it remains a valuable tool for students, educators, and schools in the years to come.

Impacter ®
Pathway