NEEDS ASSESSMENT SURVEY RESULTS

Districtwide Results - Fall 2026

Top Professional Learning Interests

(Select top 3 from a list of 20 topics)

1. **Co-teaching** (24% of respondents)
2. **Classroom Management** (23% of respondents)
3. **MTSS** (23% of respondents)
4. **Using AI in the Classroom** (23% of respondents)
5. **Writing Instruction** (16% of respondents)

What are the top strengths of your school?

(Open-ended, no options provided)

- #1. Student Relationships & Belonging
  (Strong relationships, connection and sense of belonging)
- #2. School Culture and Climate
  (Positive safe, supportive and welcoming enviornment)
- #3. Teacher & Staff Collaboration
  (Strong teamwork, collaboration, and shared responsibility)

Top Strengths of the District

Top Three Trends

(Open-ended question where participants write-in their response)



Student-Centered Decision Making & Holistic Care (39% of responses)

Key Themes:

- Prioritizing "what is best for kids" in all district decisions.
- Strong emphasis on student mental health, SEL, and whole-child development (e.g., in-building therapists, MTSS framework, FRYSC support).
- Focus on long-term student success and real-world preparation through initiatives like Profile of a Patriot, PBL (Project-Based Learning), and Defense of Learning.

Staff Dedication, Support & Professional Growth (35% of responses)

Key Themes:

- Passionate, caring teachers and staff who build meaningful relationships with students.
- Comprehensive teacher support systems, including math/literacy coaches, instructional support, and new-teacher onboarding.
- Personalized Professional Learning (PD), high-value learning labs, and district events like ACS Connects.

Sense of Community, Culture & Patriot Pride (28% of responses)

Key Themes:

- A strong "family" culture where staff, students, and families support one another during daily routines as well as times of hardship/tragedy.
- Deep-rooted school pride (Patriot Pride) that extends from primary through high school.
- Welcoming environment, district-wide unity, and strong engagement with the broader Allen County community.

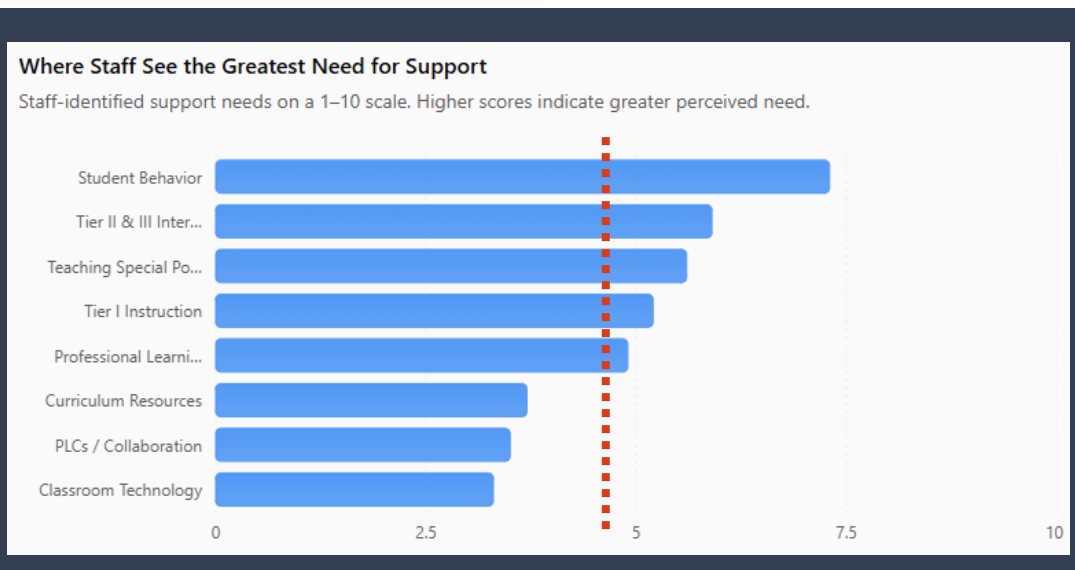


Response Distribution (by location)

168 responses

Priority Level Based on Needs

* The list was provided for staff to rate the need from 1-10. The average across all respones is 4.9.



What additional professional learning would have the greatest impact on your ability to improve student outcomes?

1. **Content-Specific / Role-Specific Instructional Learning** — math, science/STEM, related arts, ECE, GT, virtual learning, instructional assistants, subject-specific pedagogy and resources
2. **Instructional Practice, Collaboration & Coaching** — teaching strategies, lesson design, differentiation, observing effective teachers, coaching, PLC collaboration, data-driven instruction and implementation support
3. **Behavior, Classroom Management & Student Support** — challenging behaviors, classroom management, student engagement, SEL/mental health, family/student buy-in

Top Professional Learning Offerings

(Open-ended question - the most impactful PL and the top three trends were identified)

- **Choice-Based, Role-Specific & Content-Specific Learning**
  ACS Connect, "choose your own" sessions, discipline-specific conferences/GRREC sessions, learning targeted to individual needs
- **Behavior, Classroom Management & Student Regulation**
  Behavior management, Kagan/engagement, de-escalation, mental health, emotional regulation, relationships
- **Literacy / Science of Reading —**
  LETRS, structured literacy, OG, UFLI, phonics, fluency, Science of Reading

Top 3 Recommendations for Improving Gifted Services

- Consistent Challenging Classwork (50%)
  Greater rigor, deeper learning, acceleration, enrichment, advanced projects, STEM/PBL, and opportunities beyond simply giving students "more work."
- Professional Development (25%)
  Training on differentiation for advanced learners, ready-to-use enrichment materials, examples/models, and support embedding GT strategies into Tier I instruction.
- Additional Specialized Grouping Opportunities (20%)
  More accessiblity for advanced learners to learn together and receive specialized services—through honors/advanced classes, peer grouping, pullouts, enrichment time

Top 3 Recommendations for Improving English Learner Services

- Staffing
  Bilingual staff and more EL certified staff
- Teacher Training
  Professional development focused on meeting the needs of ELs
- Increased Collaboration
  Collaboration with EL staff and classroom teacher

Top 3 Recommendations Toward Improvements for Students with Disabilities

- Increased Collaboration Time
  Co-teaching collaboration
- Smaller Class Sizes When Possible
  Increased staffing and smaller student ratio
- Increased Individualized Support
  Differentiation, SDI, apprropriate scaffods and training

What PBL element do you most often use?

PBL -Authenticity/Real World Context (59%)

What PBL element is the least utilized?

PBL -Sustained Inquiry (33%)

Barriers Affecting Student Well-Being: What Staff are Seeing

(Open-ended responses)

