

# Exchange Summary

Sandy Brown, Denton Independent School District  
August 16, 2022

As we continue to close learning gaps as a result of the COVID 19 pandemic, what do you believe are the district's highest priority areas for the 2022-23 school year?



## PARTICIPATION

### Breakdown of Participation



**1,699**  
Participants



**1,034**  
Thoughts



**33,535**  
Ratings

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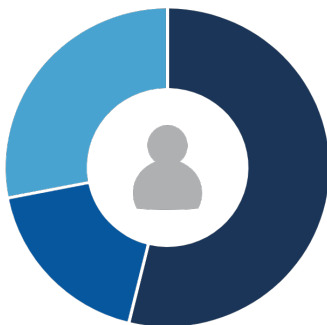



## PARTICIPATION

### Breakdown of Participation



My thoughts are specific to:



%		Answer
54%	(877)	■ Grade PreK-5
18%	(299)	■ Grades 6-8
28%	(454)	■ Grades 9-12

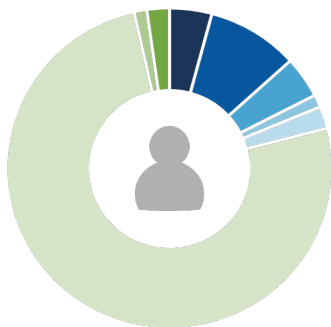



## PARTICIPATION

### Breakdown of Participation



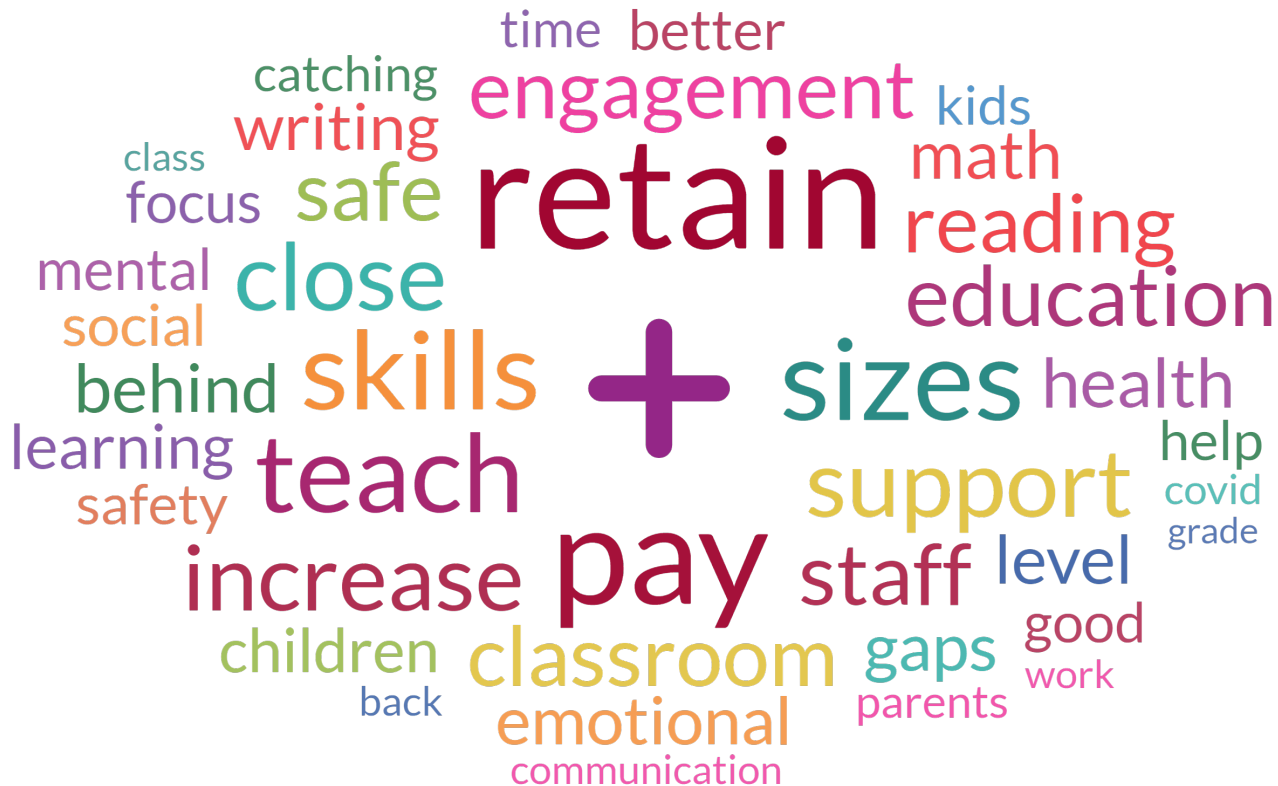
What is your relationship with Denton ISD?



%		Answer
4%	(59)	Student
9%	(150)	Classroom Teacher
4%	(73)	Non Classroom Teacher Campus Based Staff
1%	(13)	Campus Administrator
2%	(26)	District Administrator
77%	(1250)	Parent
1%	(11)	Community Member
2%	(35)	Other



WORDCLOUD  
Top Rated





## THOUGHTS

### Key Thoughts



**Supporting teachers** They are the ones educating our kids.

4.5 ★★★★★ ( 42 👤 )

Ranked #1 of 1034

**Supporting teachers through pay** without teachers present and supported, our students will not learn as effectively or with community . Many rely on teachers as supportive adults

4.5 ★★★★★ ( 42 👤 )

Ranked #2 of 1034

**Raise teacher salaries** Texas consistently ranks in the lower half of the country in terms of its K-12 schooling. The best way improve is to put more money on the front lines

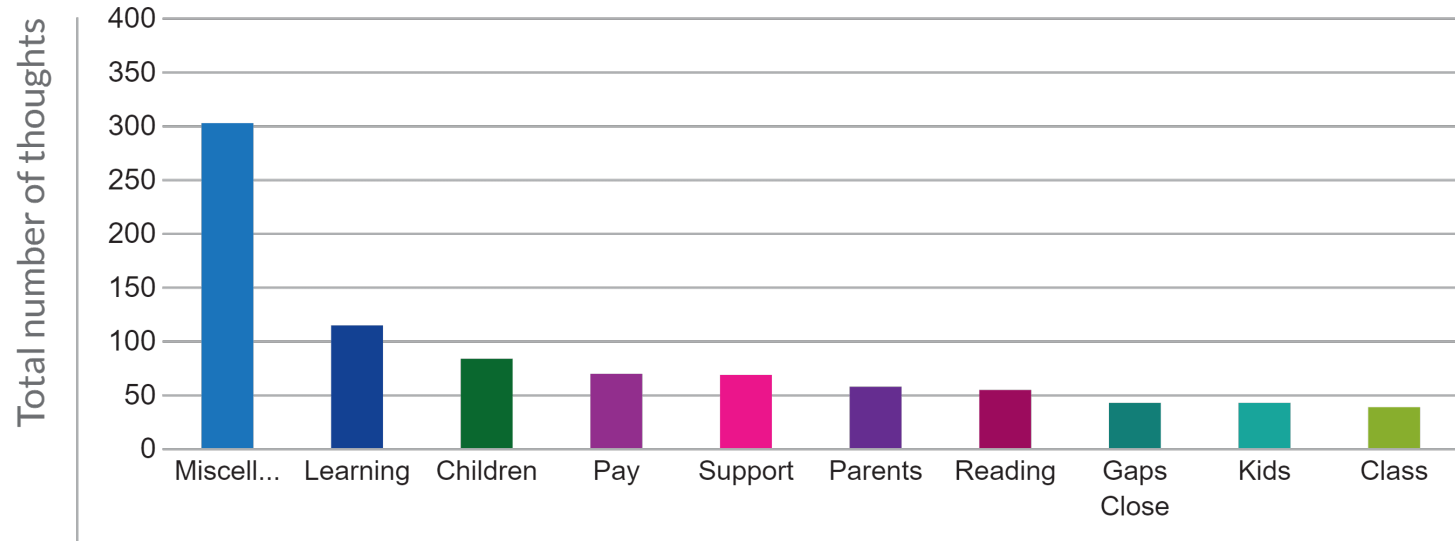
4.5 ★★★★★ ( 41 👤 )

Ranked #3 of 1034



## KEYWORD THEMES

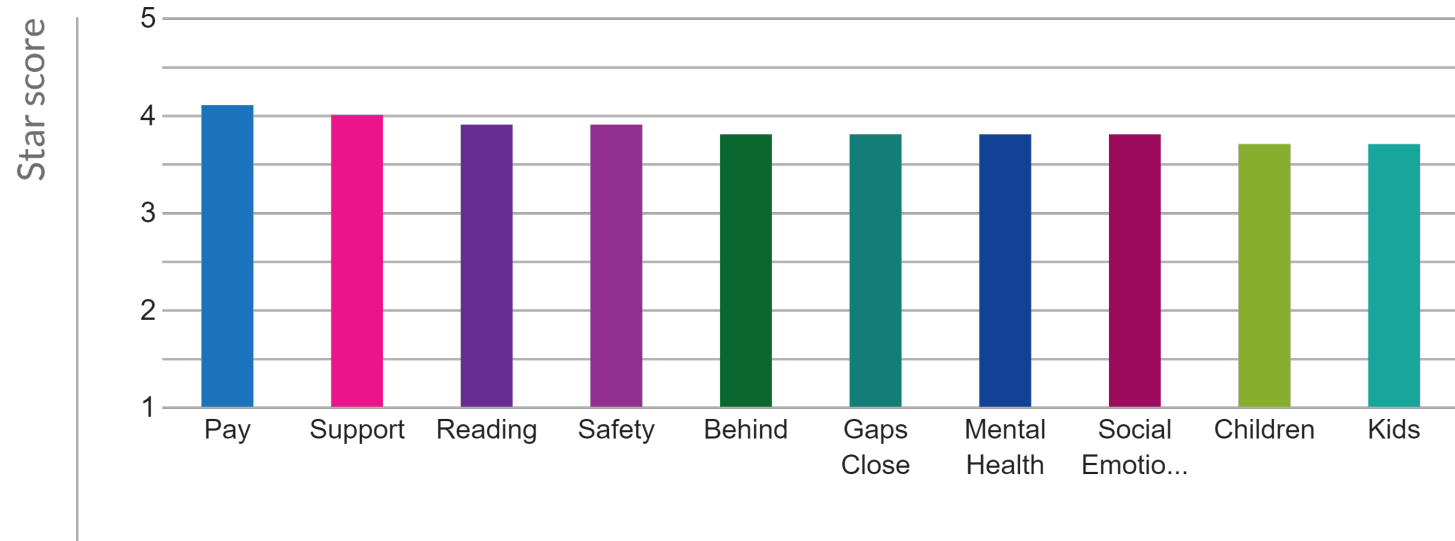
Top Themes by total thoughts





## KEYWORD THEMES

### Top Themes by star score







## THOUGHTS

### Pay



**Better pay/benefits = more/better teachers** I've met some of my child's friends, and parents. You would have to pay me a lot more than what you pay teachers to deal with that mess.

4.4  ( 43  )

**Pay teachers more.** Get what you pay for.

4.4  ( 43  )

**hiring and retaining qualified staff** continuity of care for all students, less subs

4.4  ( 42  )



## THOUGHTS Support



**Supporting teachers** They are the ones educating our kids.

4.5  ( 42  )

**Supporting teachers through pay** without teachers present and supported, our students will not learn as effectively or with community . Many rely on teachers as supportive adults

4.5  ( 42  )

**Teacher support.** Don't want to lose quality educators to burnout.

4.4  ( 42  )



## THOUGHTS

### Reading



**Skills to ensure students are college and career ready** Students are more successful if they have the reading and math skills needed

4.3  ( 39  )

**We need to get kids reading on level.** Reading is the basis for all learning.

4.2  ( 41  )

**1. To continue closing learning gaps. 2. Teach students to read with proficiency.** Students cannot be successful in future endeavors, unless they know how to read.

4.2  ( 36  )



## THOUGHTS

### Safety



**Safety** Very important to provide safety for our children

4.5  ( 37  )

**Safety and Security** I think that the safety of staff, teachers and students should be the utmost priority.

4.3  ( 41  )

**Safety** The safety of the kids and staff is very important

4.2  ( 42  )



## THOUGHTS Behind



**Writing skills** Because many students have fallen behind

4.4 ★★★★★ (30 👤)

**Catching kids up** So they aren't behind

4.3 ★★★★★ (31 👤)

**literacy** so that children don't fall behind on reading which is needed for development and testing in all other subject areas

4.0 ★★★★★ (42 👤)



## THOUGHTS

### Gaps Close



**Teacher retention should be top priority. We can't close students' learning gaps if we don't have highly qualified teachers in each classroom.**

4.3 ★★★★★ (41 👤)

**Retaining and hiring qualified professionals to continue to try and educate and close learning gaps** With other districts offering more financial incentives to the dwindling number of teachers and other educational staff we have to remain competitive

4.3 ★★★★★ (40 👤)

**Student and Parent engagement** Closing the gap.

4.1 ★★★★★ (40 👤)



## THOUGHTS

### Mental Health



**Mental Health** We must help students achieve and maintain stable mental health in order to allow them to learn at optimal levels. 4.1 ★★★★★ (43 👤)

**Recruiting teachers, aides and paraprofessionals to bolster the existing staff.** Lowering the educator-to-student ratio, will improve teacher & student well-being / mental health and improve academic achievement. 4.0 ★★★★★ (29 👤)

**Social/Emotional issues** These kids have been through a lot and we are still deep in a kids' mental health crisis. 4.0 ★★★★★ (18 👤)



## THOUGHTS

### Social Emotional



- Social learning and emotional health** The past year proves- emotional health is important. Especially for teens. 4.2 ★★★★★ (41 👤)
- Recover social skills** And not just the self-rating folder. Actually teaching social skills every day as a subject. 4.1 ★★★★★ (42 👤)
- Social emotional health of our learners AND their educators. SMALL group instruction, differentiated to meet the specific needs.** Post-pandemic and return to best teaching practices. 4.1 ★★★★★ (37 👤)





## THOUGHTS Children



**Highly motivated and passionate teachers paid what they deserve with incentives to not just teach to a test, but to truly inspire children to learn.** Because if you don't have the above- I'm not sure the district is getting anything done.

4.5  ( 39  )

**children need a peaceful and safe school environment**

translated by **Google**

4.3  ( 29  )

**Teaching children to read** Its vital to self-development, and is needed for other areas of education.

4.3  ( 24  )



## THOUGHTS Kids



**Hiring more teachers.** There are many kids moving here and I know these schools need more teachers.

4.2  ( 36  )

**Kids should not be allowed to disrespect teachers** This empowers teachers to do their jobs and teaches kids to respect

4.1  ( 38  )

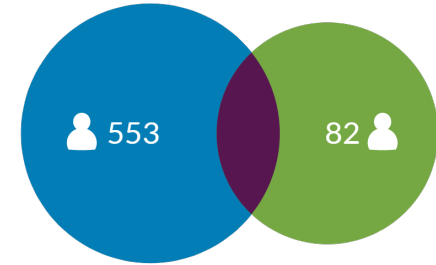
**Prioritize learning over athletics.** Some kids in athletics get preferential treatment. Kids with other talents and interests should get as much recognition and institutional support.

4.0  ( 40  )



## DIFFERENCES

Children For Learning | Education and Safety [553 | 82]



### Side A

Tighten student release procedure. All I have to do is press the button and request my daughter. I could be anyone, and they do not check. Mansfield ISD front doors have a camera you have to show your ID to, before front office staff will allow entrance.

★ 4.8 ★ 1.4

**Safety** School shootings are out of control

★ 4.7 ★ 1.6

### Side A/B Common (high)

Supporting teachers through pay without teachers present and supported, our students will not learn as effectively or with community. Many rely on teachers as supportive adults

★ 4.6 ★ 5.0

**hiring and retaining qualified staff** continuity of care for all students, less subs

★ 4.7 ★ 4.7

### Side B

School safety should be the district's #1 priority. Denton should follow Argyle's lead in arming teachers who choose to be armed. We can lock doors and do drills, but our schools are soft targets-our staff has zero adequate tools to defend against shooter. We are sitting ducks.

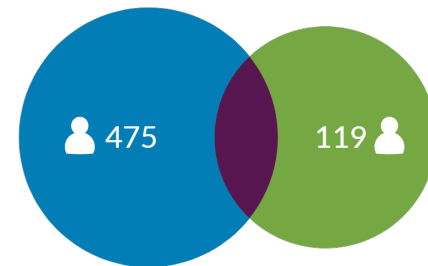
★ 1.7 ★ 4.6

**To improve education, actually use all of the instructional days** Not for nothing, but there are a lot of posts about catching up educational deficits while we have 18 HALF DAYS. We could



## DIFFERENCES

Safety | Kids [475 | 119]



### Side A

**safe environment** help students and families feel secure with sending their students to school

★ 4.6 ★ 1.8

**High quality instruction**

★ 4.7 ★ 1.5

### Side A/B Common (high)

**Supporting teachers** They are the ones educating our kids.

★ 4.7 ★ 4.8

**Raise teacher salaries** Texas consistently ranks in the lower half of the country in terms of its K-12 schooling. The best way to improve is to put more money on the front lines

★ 4.7 ★ 4.7

### Side B

**Discipline,** The kids are out of control. There are no boundaries and no respect. Teachers don't care and parents don't support the teachers

★ 1.8 ★ 4.5

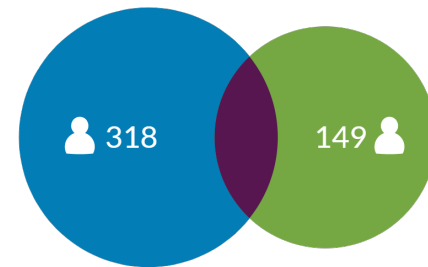
**Kids need to start receiving report cards with actual grades on them. I'm not sure who thought kids don't need actual grades until middle school.** Kids don't understand putting in maximum effort and think life is full of second chances. It just adds to the participation trophy concept.

★ 1.5 ★ 4.7



## DIFFERENCES

Social Emotional Learning | Kids [318 | 149]



### Side A

**Equity** All kids need to feel safe at school & be able to trust the school may provide them with what they need & adjust how to give it.

★ 4.6 ★ 2.2

**Technology** In case of emergencies or personal reasons, online learning With the in person should be planned. Digital tools need to be up to speed.

★ 4.5 ★ 1.8

### Side A/B Common (high)

**Pay teachers more.** Get what you pay for.

★ 4.5 ★ 4.9

**Highly motivated and passionate teachers paid what they deserve with incentives to not just teach to a test, but to truly inspire children to learn.**

Because if you don't have the above- I'm not sure the district is getting anything done.

★ 4.7 ★ 4.7

### Side B

**No more half days! Have school or don't.** It's disruptive to my child's routine and disrespectful to working parents.

★ 1.4 ★ 4.8

**I would assume student/teacher safety is a priority. Training for the staff, allow carrying for the teachers who choose, funds for that training, modifications to classrooms so teachers have an option to lock the classroom down, bullet proof glass, possibly safe rooms, or bulletproof netting (?)**

★ 1.5 ★ 4.6



## WRAP UP Next Steps



### **Thanks for participating**

We'll be carefully considering what we learned and sharing our actions back with you.