

Budget Priorities & EDEP Program Eval v. 2

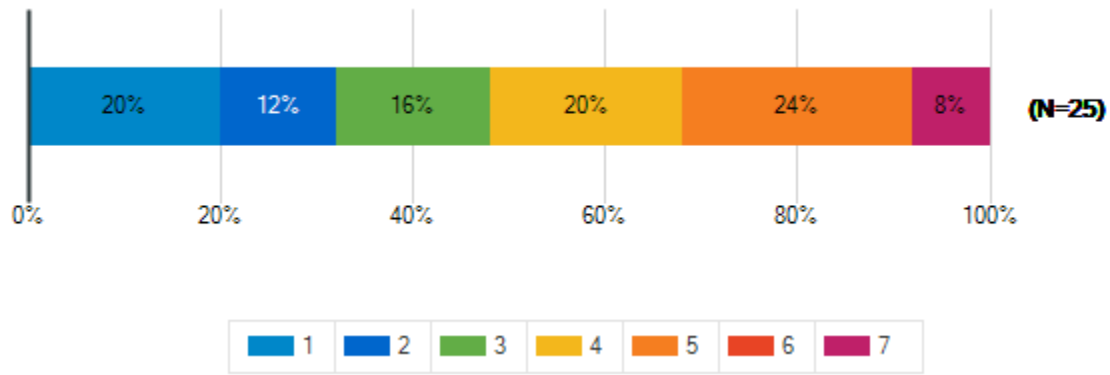
Survey Results

Community Member

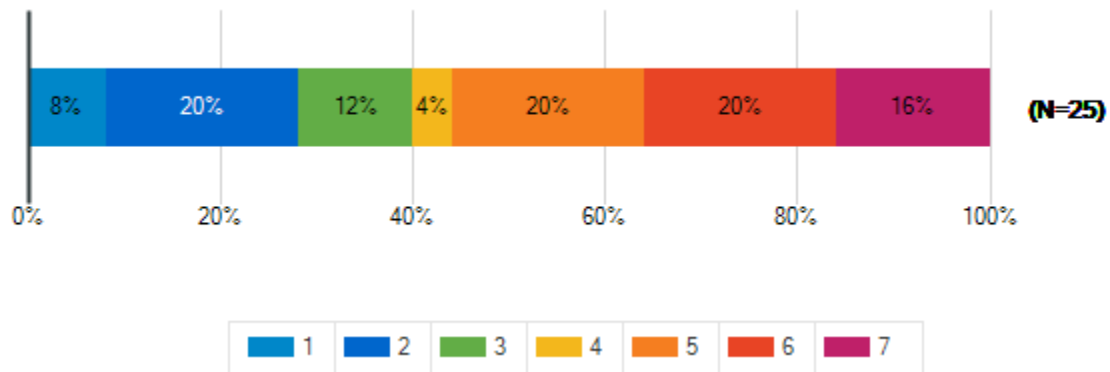
Albemarle County Public Schools
November 16 - 27, 2016



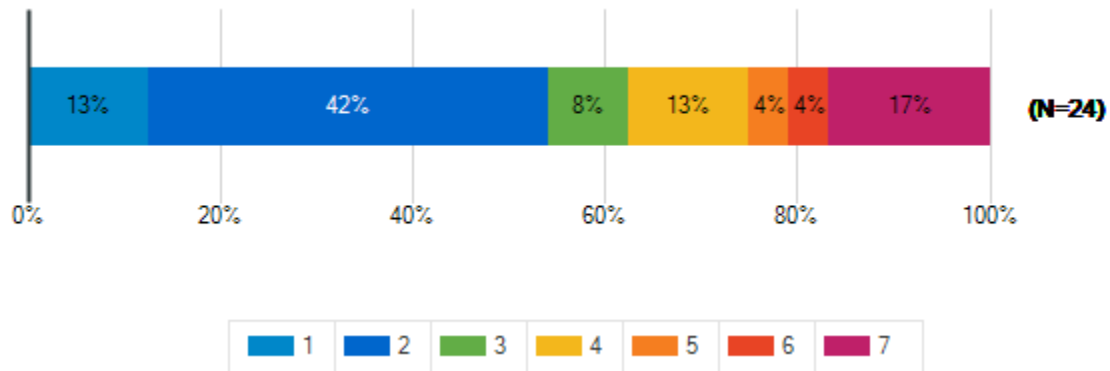
High Expectations for Success: Ensuring students and staff are challenged and supported to do their best
Instructional coaching Professional development for teachers and staff Emphasis on lifelong learning



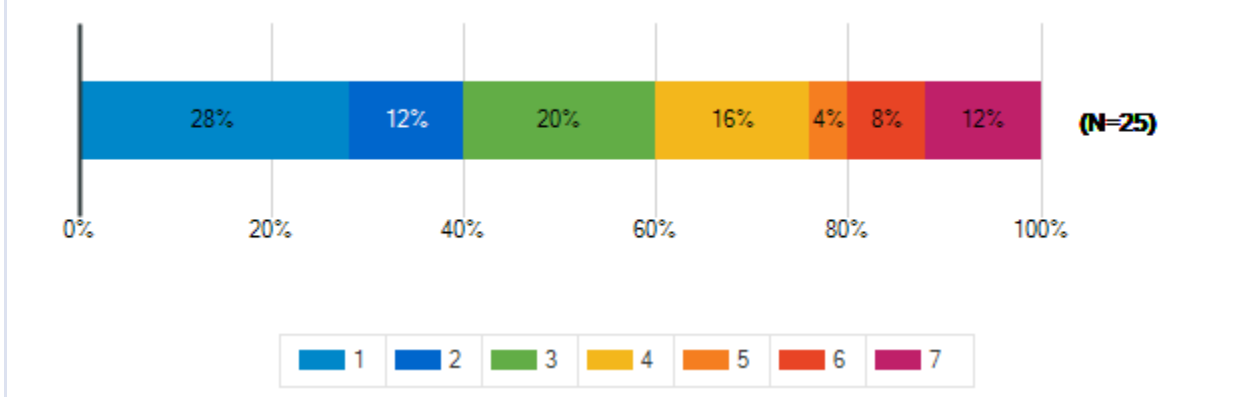
Community Engagement: Facilitating an environment that encourages parents and families to play an active role in their child's education
Community outreach Social work and counseling Interpretation and translation services



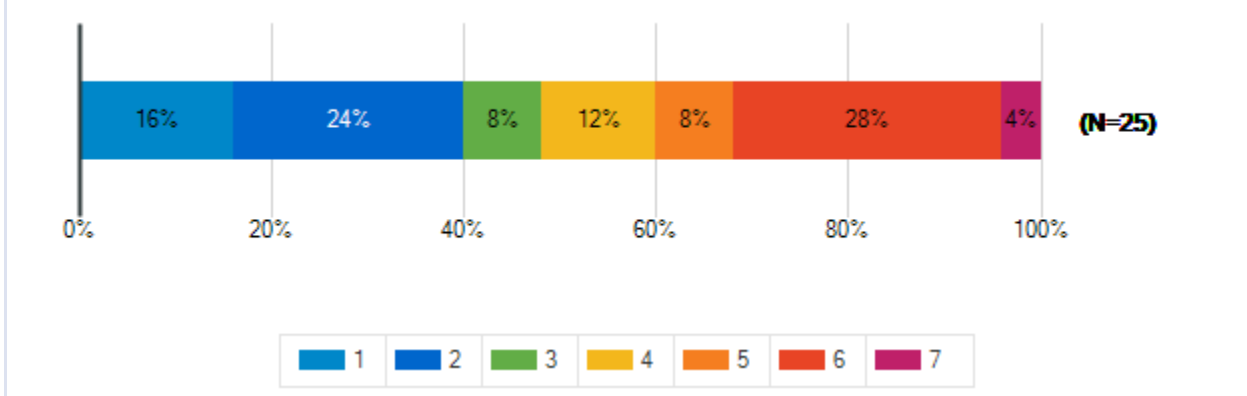
Frequent Monitoring of Student Progress: Evaluating student progress consistently to ensure academic improvement
Authentic assessments Measuring student growth Providing intervention or enrichment as needed



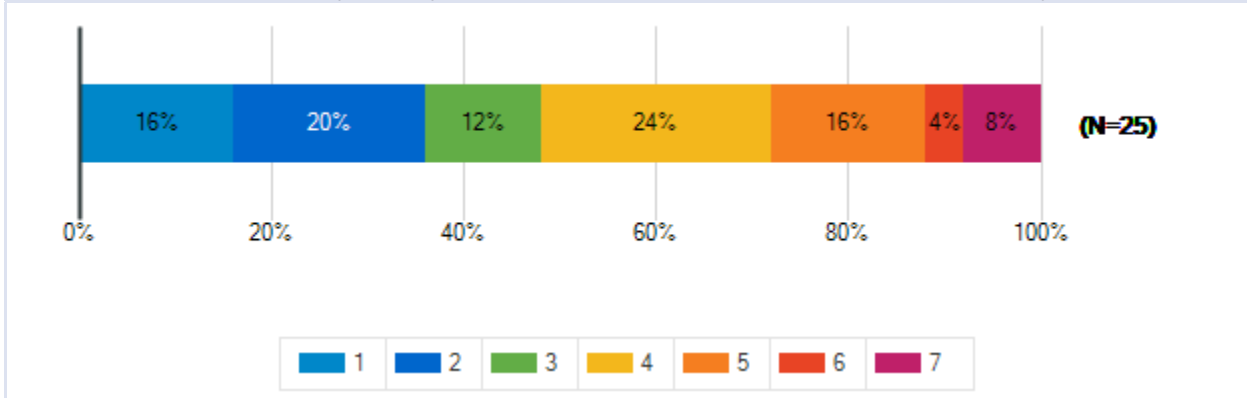
High Quality Instruction and Leadership: Promoting school and classroom environments that support continuous improvement Recruiting and retaining excellent teachers, administrators, and classified staff Engaging and relevant classroom instruction Ensuring access to resources in support of high-quality teaching and learning



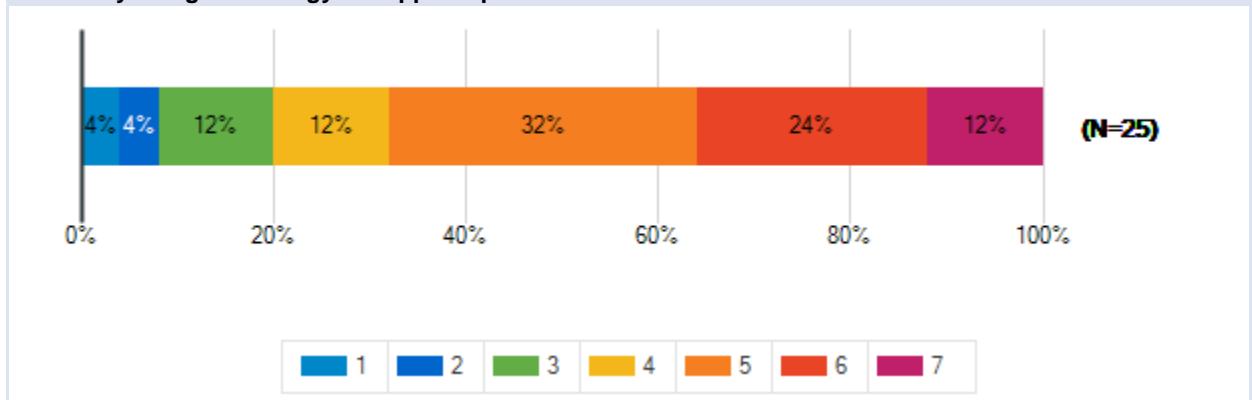
Access to Learning Opportunities: Providing access to excellent curricular programs and facilities Equity of access to learning resources and program offerings Division-wide parity in learning facilities Student services (e.g., Special Education, Transportation)



Positive School Climate: Creating teaching and learning environments that are purposeful and safe Nurturing each child's social, emotional and physical well-being and development Environments that promote respect and empathy Employees feel valued and part of a collaborative community



Efficient and Innovative Operations and Support: Allocating resources to promote high-quality teaching and learning on a daily basis
Continual evaluation of programs and services
Getting the most out of resources
Effectively using technology to support operations and instruction



Comments on these seven areas of focus:

- Albemarle County has some great schools and it prepares high school graduates very well for continuing their education or entering the workforce. I believe this is true because of the so many wonderful teachers that I have had a chance to meet over the years. AC consistently ranks among the best school divisions in the state and it is important that teachers feel good about where they teach and continue to feel appreciated for the job they do.
- Make sure all students are adequately supported in academic competitions and pursuits both in and out of school. Fund all activities equally do not fund athletics at a rate higher than other academic competitions.
- You need to pay your bus drivers more! As a parent, I was mortified to see what you pay these folks.
- Be more diverse in hiring. Take a more in depth look at personnel being used to recruit.
- Regarding: Efficient and Innovative Operations and Support: Allocating resources to promote high-quality teaching and learning on a daily basis • Continual evaluation of programs and services • Getting the most out of resources • Effectively using technology to support operations and instruction Money should to be spent on staff and student support! I am appalled at what has been happening in the libraries--arbitrarily requiring 30% or more of books to be weeded in the schools of which I am aware. This needs to be done on a case-by-case basis for what is needed in each situation. Libraries are no longer available for students who want a quiet place to study and do research. Furniture has been replaced unnecessarily--perfectly fine and sturdy pieces have been tossed and replaced with less useful workstations for staff. I'm not against the maker space idea and I completely embrace technology and the need for all students to have access, but the already limited funding is being spent on "things" to look cool and current and up-to-date, with little regard for need.
- (1) While I am glad the bond referendum passed because of the finance savings, even though I voted against it, I am still very disappointed in the School Board's lack of courage to redistrict or to allow families school choice on space available basis. (2) The Community Engagement Office needs to be defunded and the responsibility for outreach placed on the shoulders of employees at individual schools. (3) Constant annual recommendations for compensation increases by the Albemarle County HR Department need to stop because the recommendations do not match the raises and cost of living findings in the private sector. For example, no increase last year for Medicare recipients and a three-tenths percent increase recommended for 2017. (4) Let the public know through the local news media how many people in each category (community member, educator, parent, student) completed this survey.
- This section of the survey does not address my central concern about Albemarle schools: that students be held to a high degree of scholarship and learning
- One area that was not discussed is improving partnerships with community partners to engage with the school systems so as to provide skills and expertise to support life long learning.
- All in all this school is amazing!