

ARP ESSER Public Input Summary

Fairfield Public Schools

June 10, 2021

How do you think we should use the ARP ESSER grant funding to transform Fairfield Public Schools?

Consider what we need to do so that by the beginning of the 2024-25 school year we are a better school system.

What is something we always knew we needed to do but never had time?



CONTENTS



- [Participation](#)
- [Word Cloud](#)
- [Top Ranked Thoughts](#)
- [Summary Themes](#)
- Top Ranked Thoughts by Theme
 - [Academics](#)
 - [Remote Learning](#)
 - [Facilities](#)
 - [Equity](#)
 - [Social Emotional Learning](#)
- <https://my.thoughtexchange.com/report/3be716845457dcb4b878805a83322529>

This interactive site shows you all results, dropdown menus allow you to filter results.



PARTICIPATION

Breakdown of Participation



269

Participants



240

Thoughts



5,312

Ratings

We recognize that you may have several roles within the Fairfield Public Schools community. Please indicate in which role you are participating in this exchange:

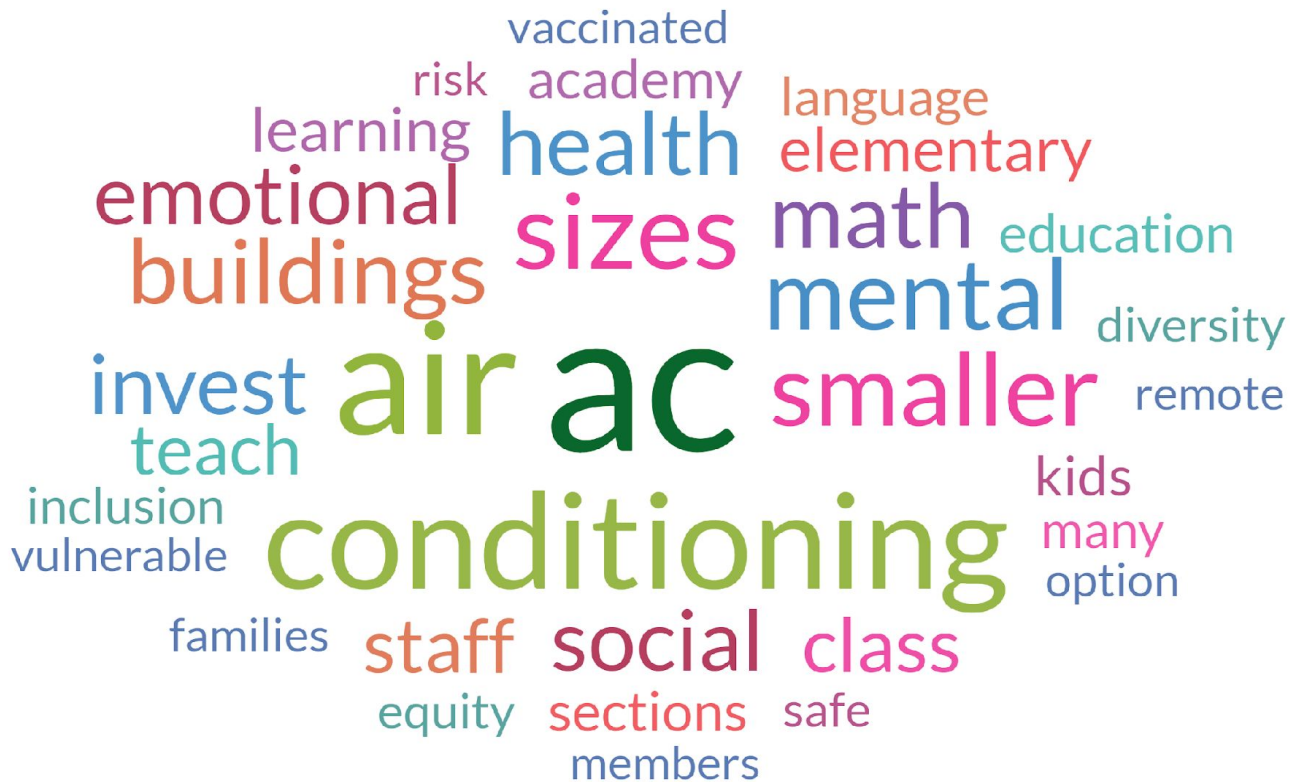


%		Answer
87%	(232)	■ FPS Parent/Guardian
1%	(2)	■ FPS Student
6%	(16)	■ FPS Employee
6%	(17)	■ Fairfield Resident



WORDCLOUD

Top Rated





THOUGHTS

Key Thoughts



Air conditioning in every classroom district-wide When it's too hot in classrooms, students and teachers suffer

4.2 ★★★★★ (49 👤)
Ranked #1 of 220

Infrastructure in schools, specifically heating/ventilation/cooling. The pandemic underscored the inconsistencies across buildings and the importance of healthy learning environments.

4.1 ★★★★★ (46 👤)
Ranked #7 of 220

Provide our students mental health resources Rates of anxiety, depression, and suicide among youth is at an all time high. There is currently a stigma around seeking help, especially with males.

4.1 ★★★★★ (39 👤)
Ranked #8 of 220

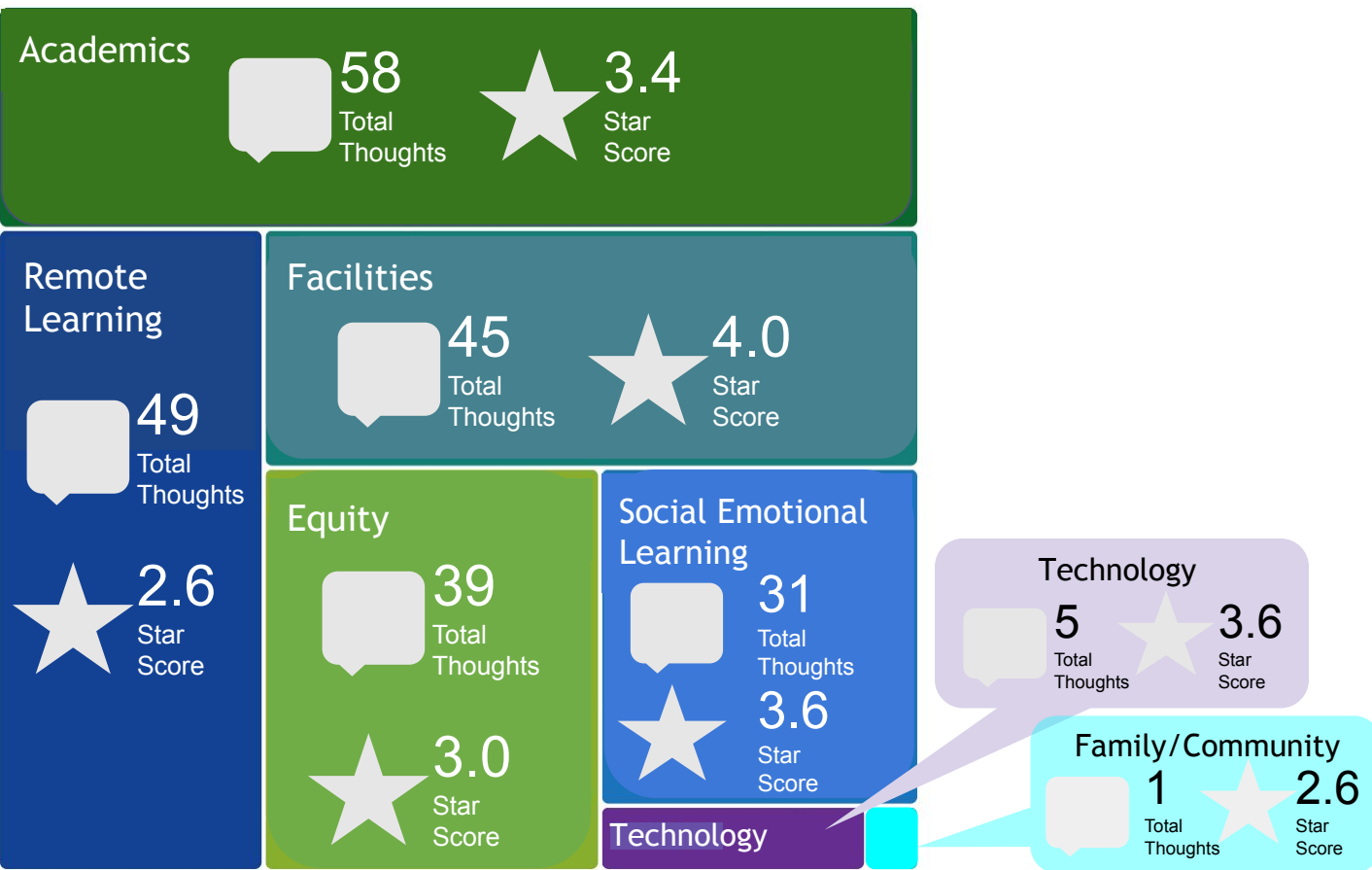
Stronger STEM programs at all schools . Offering hands on learning and deeper understanding in the youngest grades to spark a love for STEM. STEM should not be a special. It is a mandatory to have for our students to be able to understand and eventually compete in today's world.

4.1 ★★★★★ (34 👤)
Ranked #10 of 220



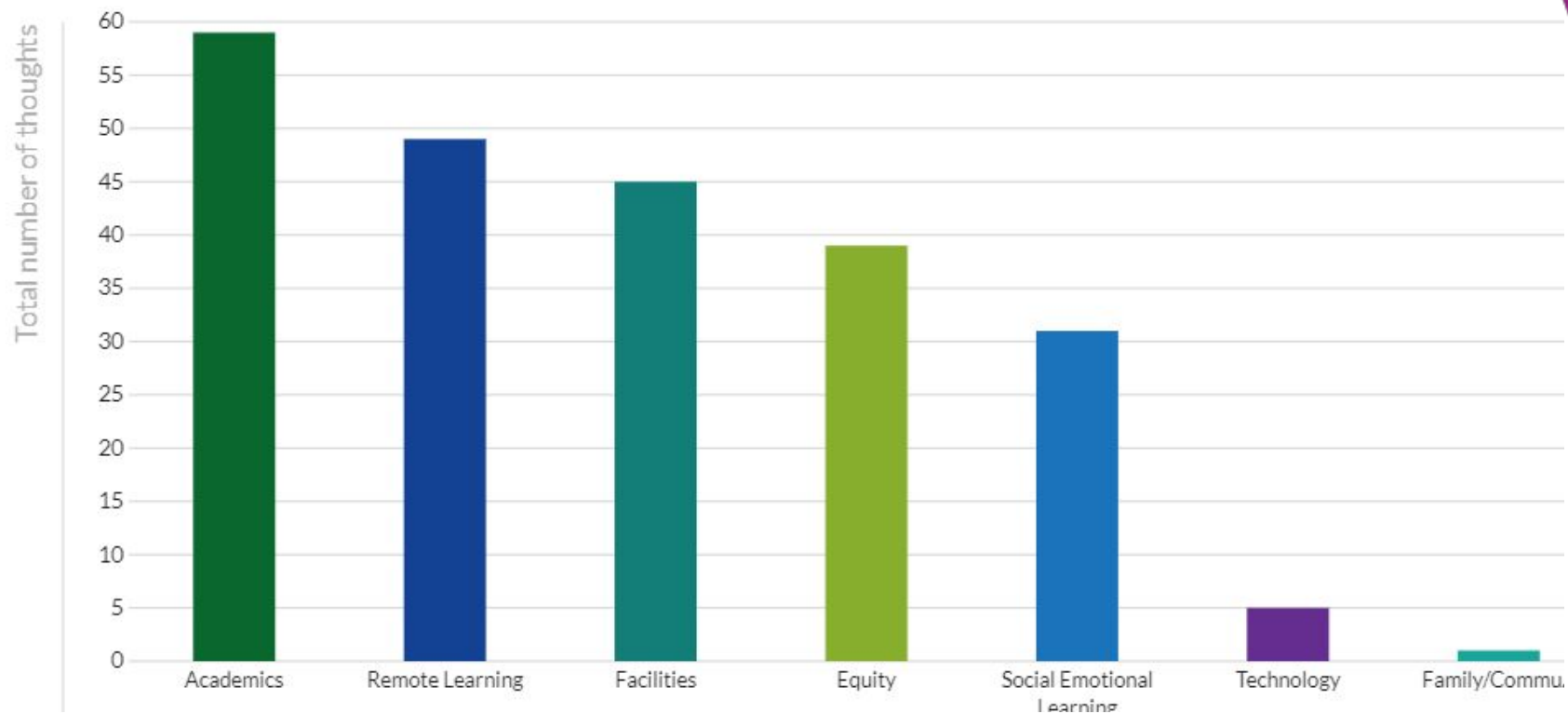
ARP ESSER

Summary themes



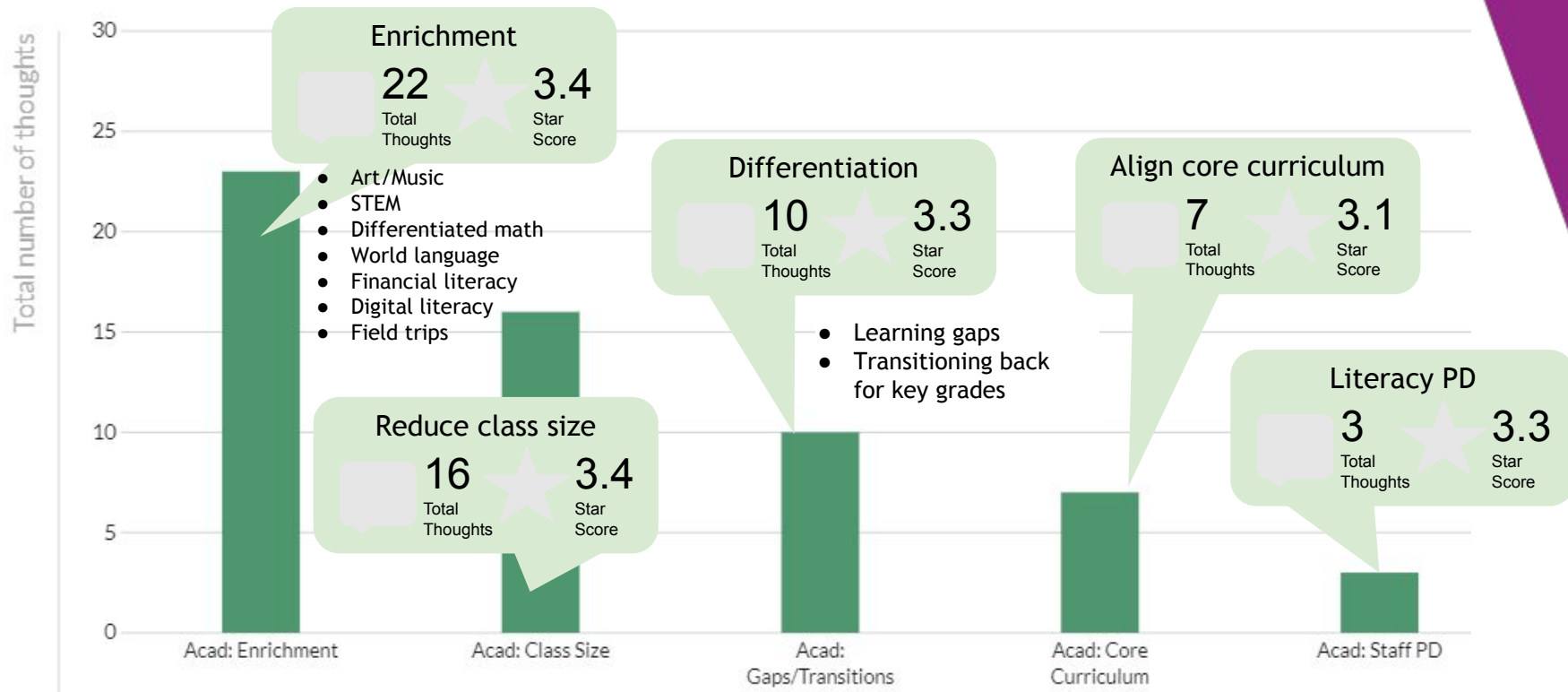


ARP ESSER Summary themes





ACADEMICS Top Themes





THOUGHTS

Academics / Enrichment



Stronger STEM programs at all schools . Offering hands on learning and deeper understanding in the youngest grades to spark a love for STEM. STEM should not be a special. It is a mandatory to have for our students to be able to understand and eventually compete in today's world.

4.1 ★★★★★ (34 👤)

I think it's important to invest in tangible teaching resources such as interactive tools for science and math. A budget for tangible interactive learning tools will help bring the classroom to life, fully emerge themselves and boost teamwork.

3.8 ★★★★★ (27 👤)

Gifted programs and math academy programs should be offered in each school Hosting them in each school will give more students opportunity to participate. Wider reach, increased participation, no transportation issues

3.6 ★★★★★ (28 👤)

Fund the arts!! Art and music classes are always cut first when money is tight. Give it back to them. Both are critical to multiple aspects of learning & intelligence

3.5 ★★★★★ (28 👤)

Elementary - provide more fields trips & visiting programs on site - museums, nature centers, musical performances, theater, cultural experiences because our children missed over a year of experiences and enrichment.

3.3 ★★★★★ (23 👤)

World Languages should start earlier than 3rd grade and in earnest. Young children are sponges for languages. Second languages are important. The rest of the world learns 2+. Classes should begin with Kindergarten!

3.2 ★★★★★ (27 👤)



THOUGHTS

Academics / Class Size



smaller class sizes and additional teacher aids incomplete learning needs that have left many of our students academically behind and socially, emotionally, and mentally impacted

3.9 ★★★★★ (8 👤)

Smaller Class Sizes! We need more attention to each student's unique needs as we overcome this incomplete learning year!

3.8 ★★★★★ (8 👤)

Lower class sizes to enhance and increase teacher / student connections Students' social emotional growth benefits from nurturing engagement with teachers. Smaller class sizes (below 20) at the elementary level is key

3.6 ★★★★★ (5 👤)

Our elementary classes are too big. Hire new teachers on a limited-term contract and open up new sections of grades where schools have the space. Fewer students per room = more attention for those kids = more time for learning or "catching up." Or add paras throughout more elementary grades.

3.4 ★★★★★ (20 👤)

Hire more teachers! Hire young, cheap, fresh out of college, non-tenured tracked teachers, and surround our student with them. FPS student-2-teacher ratio is 2nd only to Bridgeport. All surrounding towns have smaller classes. Reduce class size is only way to make up lost learn

3.3 ★★★★★ (38 👤)



THOUGHTS

Academics / Differentiation



support differentiation All kids learn differently and deserve support, whether they're "behind" or "ahead." With growing class sizes differentiation is even more important.

3.9 ★★★★★ (29 🧑)

Assess where high school kids are on critical issues like math, science and language and make up for the lost year Critical building blocks were lost this year, especially in math and science

3.8 ★★★★★ (15 🧑)

Provide more accelerated courses in middle school. Currently there is only an accelerated math track. The transition to advanced courses in high school would be easier if there were more advanced tracks starting in middle school.

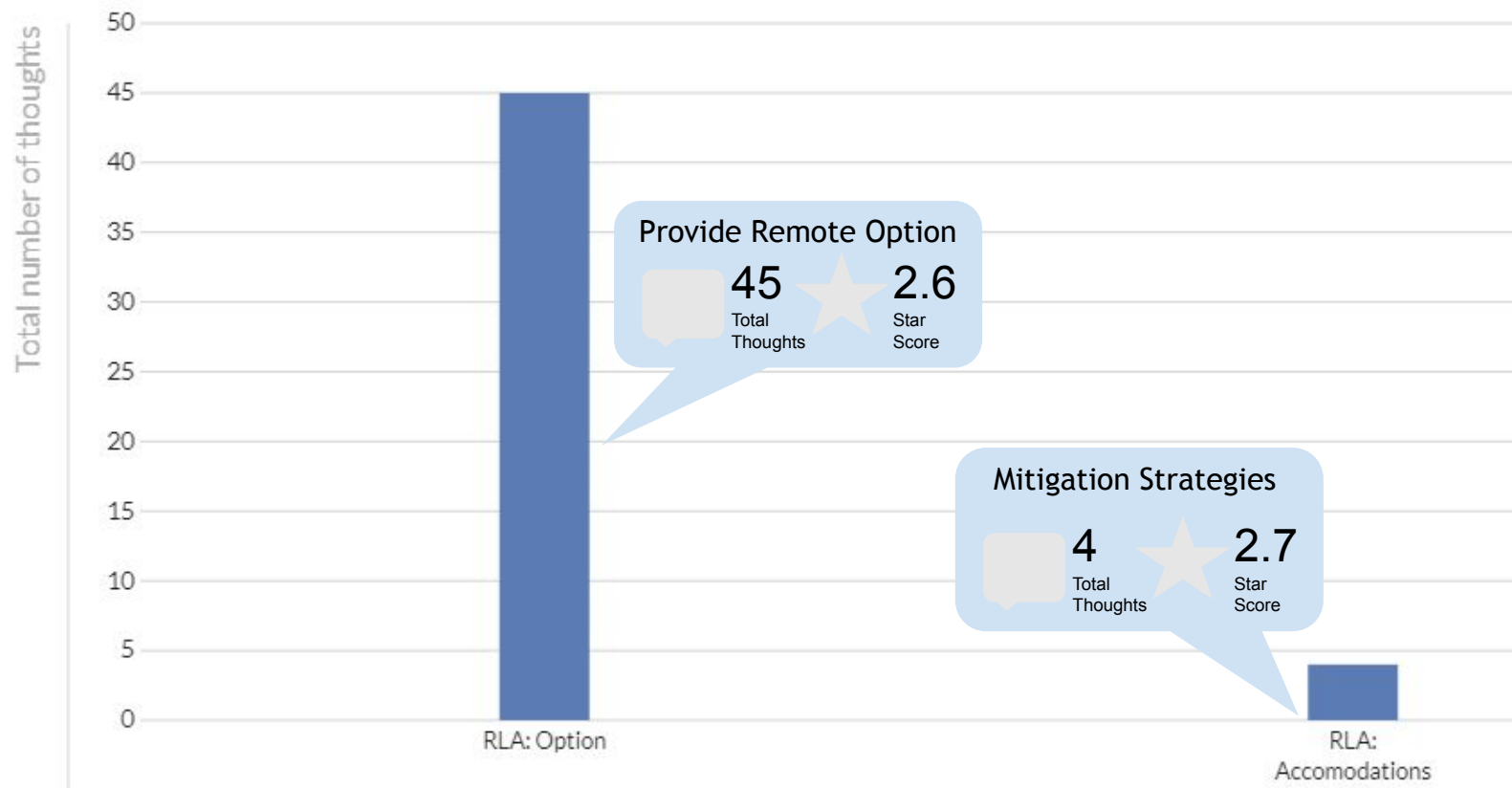
3.7 ★★★★★ (24 🧑)

Greater supports to transition year grades and those who had atypical transition years. k-1, 6-7, 9-10, 12, RLA; mentors, buddies, guidance, etc Transition years are historically challenging, more so currently.

3.0 ★★★★★ (38 🧑)

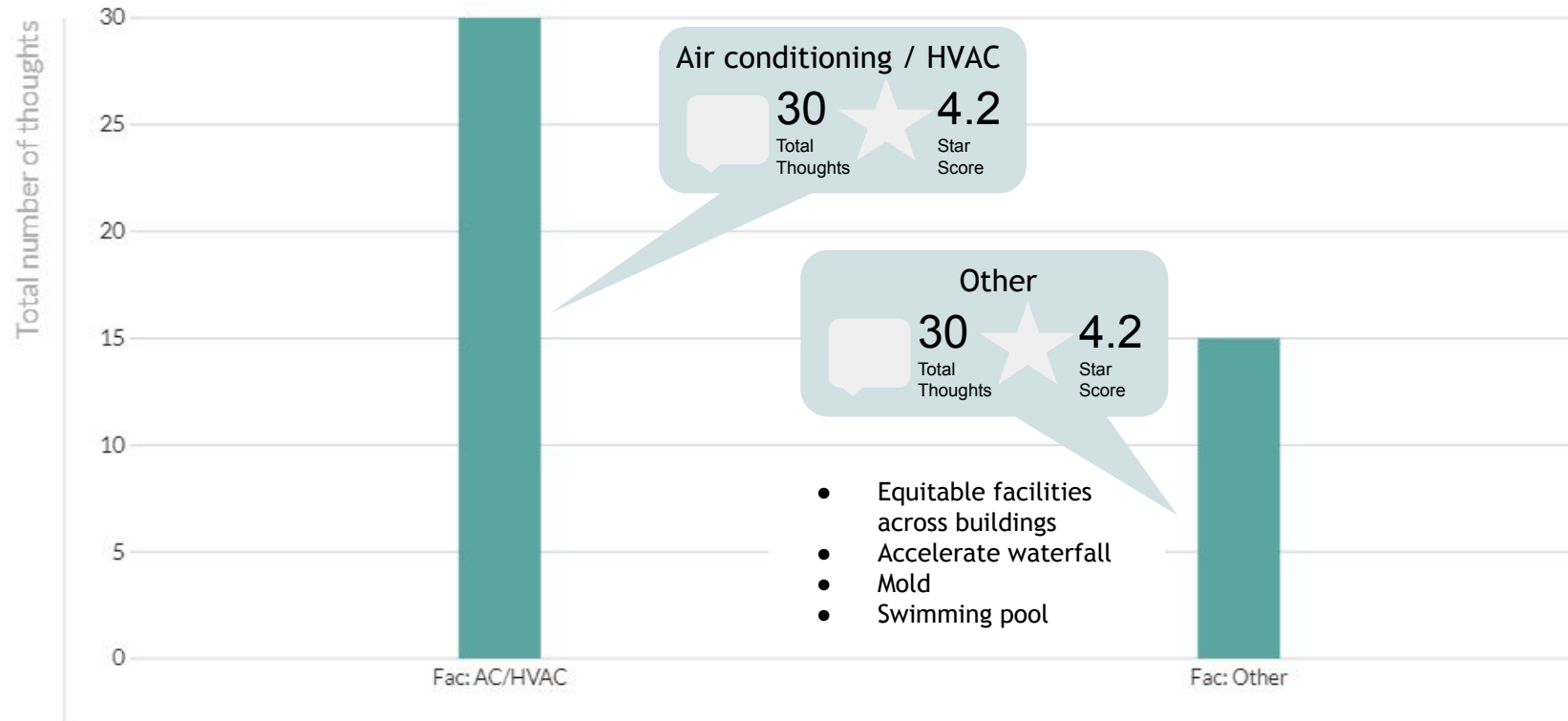


REMOTE LEARNING



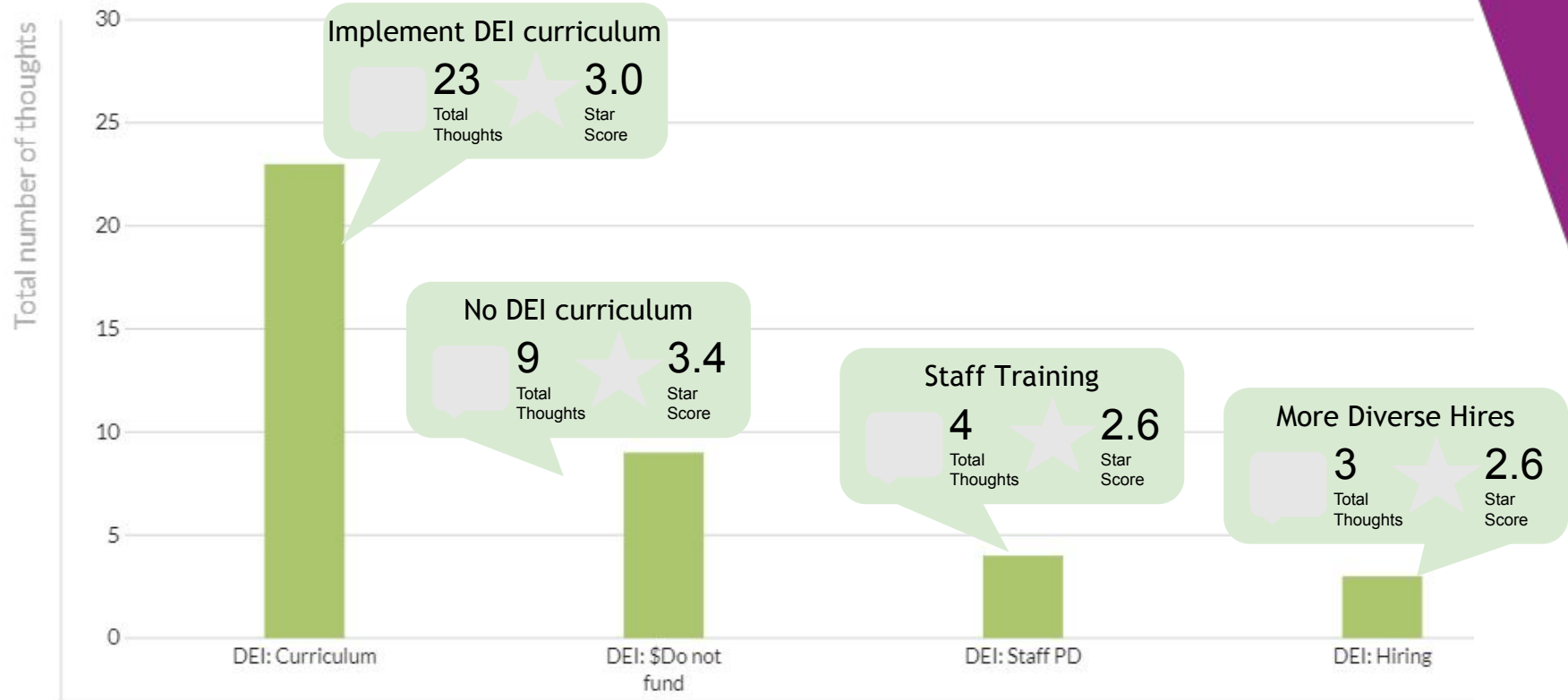


FACILITIES



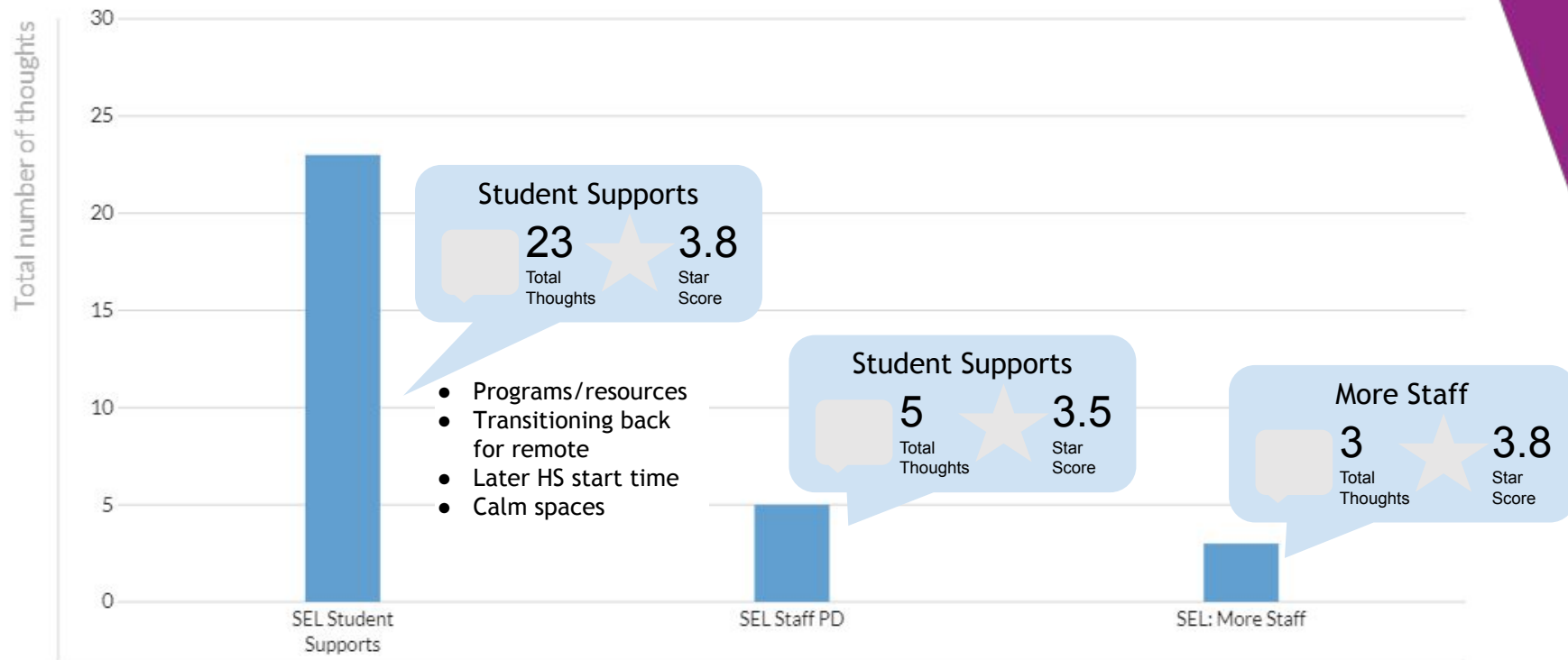


DIVERSITY, EQUITY, and INCLUSION Top Themes





SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING





OTHER THEMES

Technology

- Upgrade technology; meet/exceed workplace tech
- Academic progress tracking software
- Cheating software

Family/Community

- Parenting classes
- Communicate in multiple languages





WRAP UP

Next Steps



Thanks for participating

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