



North Clackamas School District Youth Truth Findings 2021

YouthTruth
— STUDENT SURVEY —
A NATIONAL NONPROFIT



Use YouthTruth for:



Needs Assessment



Professional Development



School and District Improvement
Planning

Student and Stakeholder Feedback for School Improvement

Student perceptions are linked to **academic outcomes**, so it's smart to know what your students are experiencing in your schools and classrooms.



Valid & Reliable
Survey Instruments



Rapid Turnaround of
Interactive Reports



Tailored
Advisory Services

ACCELERATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT



Demographic Data Collected - Self Identified

Investigate student subgroups



Grade Level



Race/Ethnicity



English Language Learners



Students Eligible for
Free & Reduced Price
Lunch



Academic Subject



Gender & Gender Identity



Self-Reported Grades



Special Education



Sexual Orientation (middle and
high school only)

	Overall School Experience
Student Engagement	✓
Academic Rigor	✓
Relationships with Teachers	✓
School Culture	✓
Bullying	✓
College & Career Readiness	✓
Drop-Out Risk	✓

The Focus of This Survey



Photo Credit: <https://www.shutterstock.com/image-photo/youth-crash-survey-inform-strings-086069729557>

Who did we hear from? (April 2021)

8,019 STUDENTS
66% Response Rate

- 2,894 ES (88%)
- 2,490 MS (66%)
- 2,635 HS (51%)

1,405 STAFF
88% Response Rate

- 747 ES (92%)
- 307 MS (91%)
- 351 HS (79%)

4,373 FAMILIES
34% Response Rate

- 2,174 ES (41%)
- 1,080 MS (29%)
- 1,119 HS (28%)



14,104 North Clackamas
Students, Staff, and Families!

The 4 D's: Potential Reactions to Data

**No way!
That's not
accurate.**

Defensive

Dismissive

**It's just
their
opinion.**

**But we
worked so
hard on
that!**

Dejected

**Downplay
the
negative**

**It was
just a bad
day.**

Staff Survey Results

- **Highest overall rated theme for staff:**
 - **Relationships (ES & MS) and Culture (HS)**
 - *"I think it is important to feel like people like you and support you where you work. My administrators are responsive and respectful and my colleagues are open and friendly."*
 - Middle school teacher
- **Lowest overall rated theme for staff:**
 - **Professional Development & Support (ES), Engagement (MS), and Safety (HS)**
 - *"The professional development opportunities this year were not useful when teaching CDL. Many of us felt it was to fill the time because the time was available to fill. We needed support from our colleagues to collaborate during CDL and be able to plan successful lessons."*
 - Elementary school teacher

Staff Survey Results

- **Highest overall rated question for staff** (compared to other participating schools at each level):
 - *Students treat staff with respect.* (ES)
 - *Teachers in my school work together to improve instructional practice.* (MS)
 - *I have opportunities to learn at work.* (HS)
- **Lowest overall rated question for staff** (compared to other participating schools at each level):
 - *My professional development over the last year has provided me with teaching strategies to better meet my students' needs.* (ES)
 - *The feedback I receive from my supervisors helps me improve my work.* (MS)
 - *I feel safe from harm while at my school.* (HS)

Family Survey Results

- **Highest overall rated theme for families:**
 - **Relationships (ES) and School Safety (MS & HS)**
(Communication & Feedback is 2nd highest for MS & HS)
 - *“Considering the global pandemic/covid, teachers and school staff are doing their best. They have all been extremely supportive, flexible, and kind about everyone’s individual circumstances. This has been a challenging year and our amazing school has done a great job making it memorable for the students and families.”*
— Parent of Kindergartener
- **Lowest overall rated theme for families:**
 - **Engagement (All Levels)**
 - *“More programs or online communications would have been helpful, virtual places the kids could go and just be themselves outside of online learning, however it may still need to be supervised. We have these in place at work, virtual coffee breaks or “happy hours” for better comradery. If something like this is in place, I don’t think my child, or I, knew of anything.”*
— Parent of 9th grader

Family Survey Results

- **Highest overall rated question for families** (compared to other participating schools at each level):
 - *Teachers and students care about each other.* (ES)
 - *My child is safe from bullying at school.* (MS)
 - *My child is safe from bullying at school.* (HS)
- **Lowest overall rated question for families** (compared to other participating schools at each level):
 - *My school sets high expectations for students.* (ES)
 - *I feel comfortable approaching the administration about my concerns.* (MS)
 - *I feel engaged with my school.* (HS)

Student Survey Results

- **Highest overall rated theme for students:**

- **Culture (ES & HS) and Relationships with Teachers (MS)**

- *“Everyone’s opinion is valuable and is respected. Students are treated with respect and if needed, the teachers offer extra help and adjust their treatment according to the person based on how they’re doing in school or home life and if they need extra help or some kind of plan. The staff is very respectful towards each other as well.”*
 - 9th grader
- *“My teacher is very nice and helps with math and is nice to everyone.”*
 - 4th grader

- **Lowest overall rated theme for students:**

- **Academic Challenge (ES), Engagement (MS), Belonging & Peer Collaboration (HS)**

- *“I don’t need to try very hard to get a good grade. So when I’m working I think of it as what’s the bare minimum I have to do.”*
 - 8th grader
- *“It was online. There was no initiative to make friends. I don’t talk to people. And no one talks to me. That’s how it is, and will be. I feel like I missed an important part in my loife, I don’t get to tell my family in the future about the good ol days of high school with my buddies. Cause I don’t ‘have buddies. I got myself. That’s it.”*
 - 12th grader

Student Survey Results

- **Highest overall rated question for students** (compared to other participating schools at each level):
 - *Do students behave well in your class?* (ES)
 - *How many of your teachers try to understand what your life is like outside of school?* (MS)
 - *How many of your teachers are willing to give extra help on school work if you need it?* (HS)
- **Lowest overall rated question for students** (compared to other participating schools at each level):
 - *Do you learn a lot in your class?* (ES)
 - *I take pride in my schoolwork.* (MS)
 - *How often do you work with other students for your classes even when your teacher doesn't ask or tell you to?* (HS)

Biggest Trends in 2021

Staff Survey Results:

- **Elementary Schools**

- All themes improved from 2020 to 2021 with the biggest increases in Culture (+10%) and Engagement (+7%)

- **Middle Schools**

- 3 out of 4 themes improved in NCSD middle schools. The biggest improvement was in Culture (+16%). The only theme to decline was Professional Development & Support (-1%).

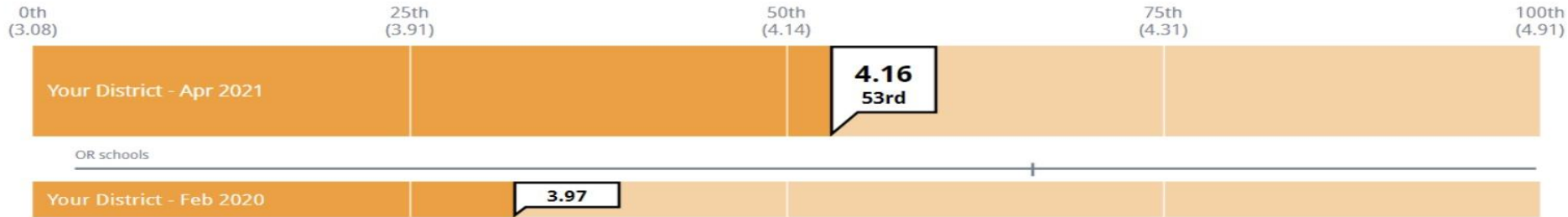
- **High Schools**

- All themes for high school staff improved. And high school staff are the only staff that had ratings above the national median (50th percentile) – this was true for all themes in the HS staff survey

Middle School Staff

Staff and students care about each other.

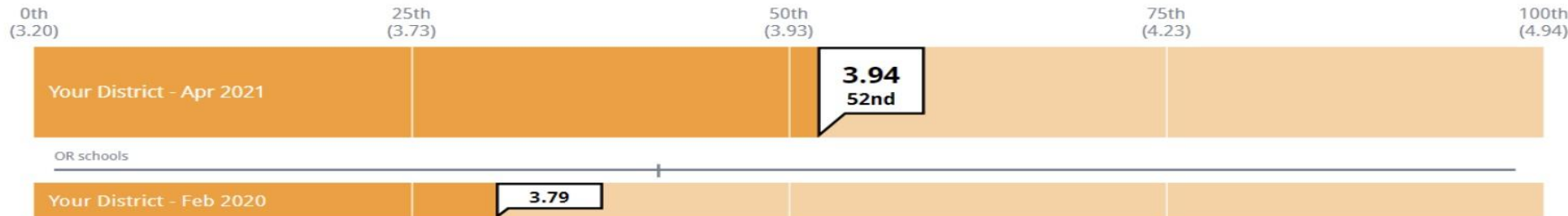
1 = Strongly disagree 3 = Neither agree nor disagree 5 = Strongly agree



High School Staff

I feel that my work at my school is valued.

1 = Strongly disagree 3 = Neither agree nor disagree 5 = Strongly agree



Family Survey Results:

- **Elementary Schools**

- 5 out of 6 themes in the ES family survey had little change. The theme with the most change was in School Safety (+12%)

- **Middle Schools**

- Middle school families reported improvements from 2020 in School Safety (+14%) and Engagement (+4%)

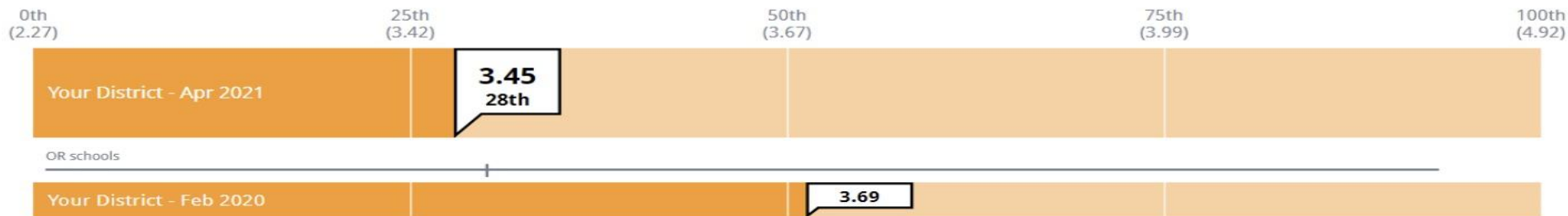
- **High Schools**

- Similar to MS families, HS families saw improvement in School Safety (+5%) and Engagement (+5%)
- HS families' perceptions of Culture (-6%) and Resources (-6%) declined

High School Families

My school runs smoothly.

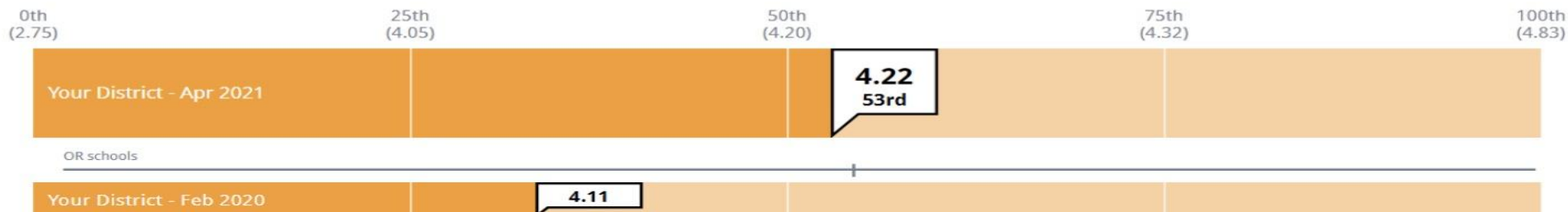
1 = Strongly disagree 3 = Neither agree nor disagree 5 = Strongly agree



Elementary School Families

Families and teachers care about each other.

1 = Strongly disagree 3 = Neither agree nor disagree 5 = Strongly agree



Student Survey Results:

- **Elementary Schools**

- 4 out of 5 themes improved from 2020, 3 of which improved by double digit percentages: Relationships (+11%), Culture (+46%), and Instructional Methods (+16%)

- **Middle Schools**

- Perceptions from MS students improved in every theme in the survey. The biggest changes were in Relationships (+29%), Culture (+28%), Academic Challenge (+10%)

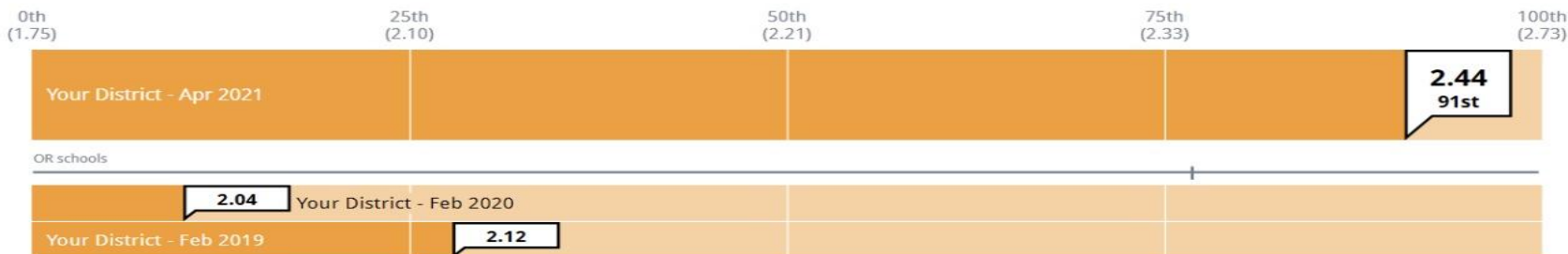
- **High Schools**

- HS students saw improvement in 4 out of 6 themes with the biggest change in Culture (+17%), Academic Challenge (+9%), and Relationships (+9%)
- There was no change in students' perceptions of College & Career Readiness. And students perceptions of Belonging & Peer Collaboration declined (-14%)

Elementary School Students (1-3 scale)

Does your class stay busy and not waste time?

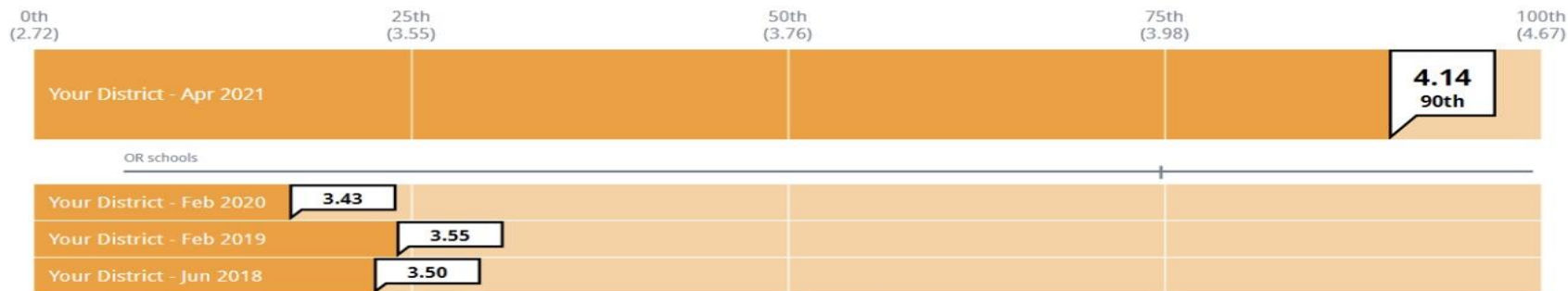
1 = No hardly ever 2 = Sometimes 3 = Yes very often



Middle School Students

How many of your teachers are willing to give extra help on school work if you need it?

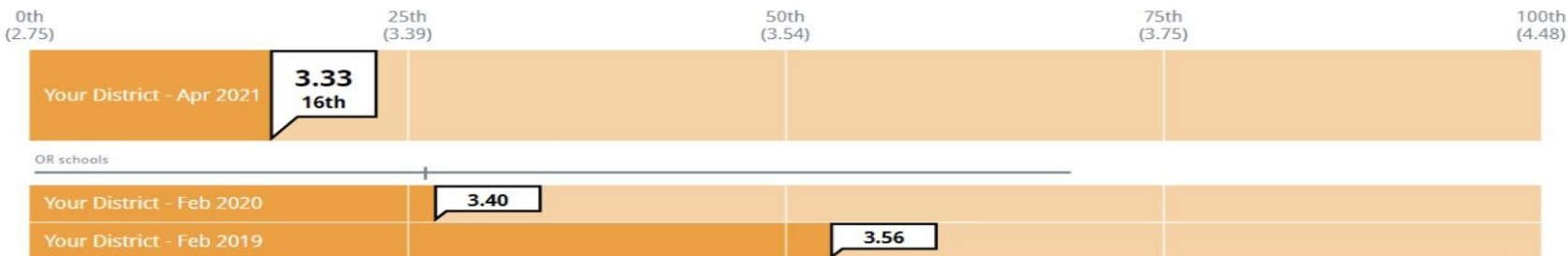
1 = None 3 = Some 5 = All



High School Students

I can usually be myself around other students at this school.

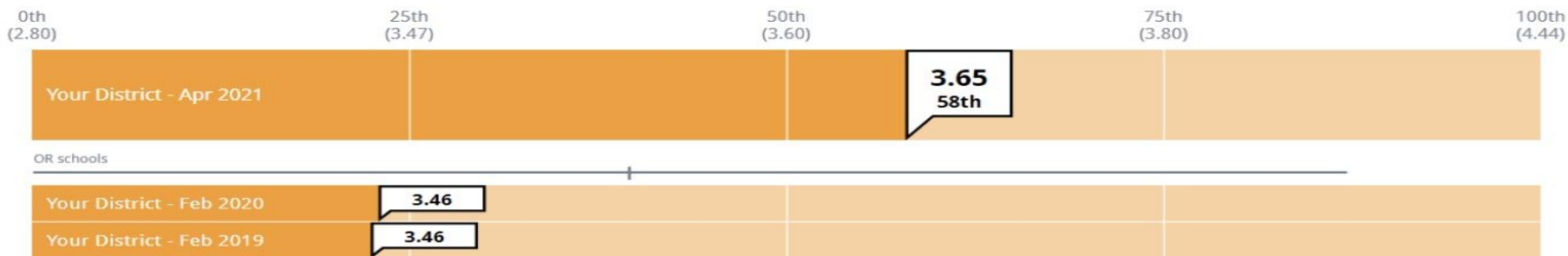
1 = Strongly disagree 3 = Neither agree nor disagree 5 = Strongly agree



High School Students

My teachers give me assignments that help me to better understand the subject.

1 = Strongly disagree 3 = Neither agree nor disagree 5 = Strongly agree



Why We Disaggregate Data

- When we disaggregated data by diverse student groups we can see how students, based on a component of their identity, are experiencing our schools.
- Disaggregating data can help reveal and bring to light the hidden inequalities that are masked when we only consider the whole group data.

**Where were students
experiencing the biggest gaps
in the spring of 2021?**

Disaggregating Data in Elementary Schools:

- Race/Ethnicity
 - Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander students (1% of survey population) rate lower than their peers in nearly all themes
 - No other big trends or gaps when disaggregating by Race/Ethnicity (that is great!)
- Grade Level
 - Students' perceptions of Academic Challenge decline as students get older
- Gender Identity
 - Students who say they identify in another way than the binary rate lower than their peers in all themes

Does what you learn during class help you outside of school?

1 = No hardly ever 2 = Sometimes 3 = Yes very often



Disaggregating Data in Middle Schools:

- **Grade Level**
 - Students' perceptions of all themes decline as students get older
- **Gender Identity**
 - Students who identify in another way besides male and female rate less positively than their peers in all themes.
 - Male students rate noticeably higher than their peers in Belonging & Peer Collaboration
- **Self-Reported Grades**
 - Students who report receiving higher grades also have more positive perceptions in all themes
- **Sexual Orientation**
 - Students who identify as straight have more positive perceptions of all themes compared to their peers

I can usually be myself around other students.

1 = Strongly disagree 3 = Neither agree nor disagree 5 = Strongly agree



0th (2.94) 25th (3.53) 50th (3.64) 75th (3.77) 100th (4.26)

Your District - Apr 2021

3.55
29th

OR schools

Male

3.78

Female

3.47

2.56

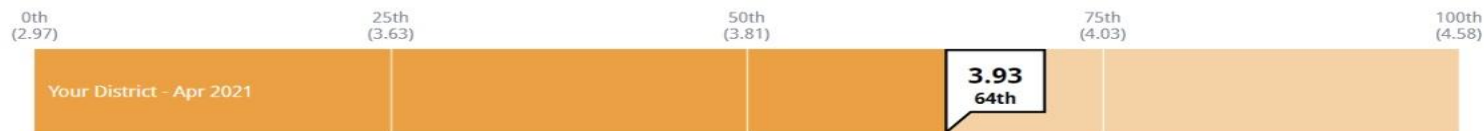
Identifies in another way

Disaggregating Data in High Schools:

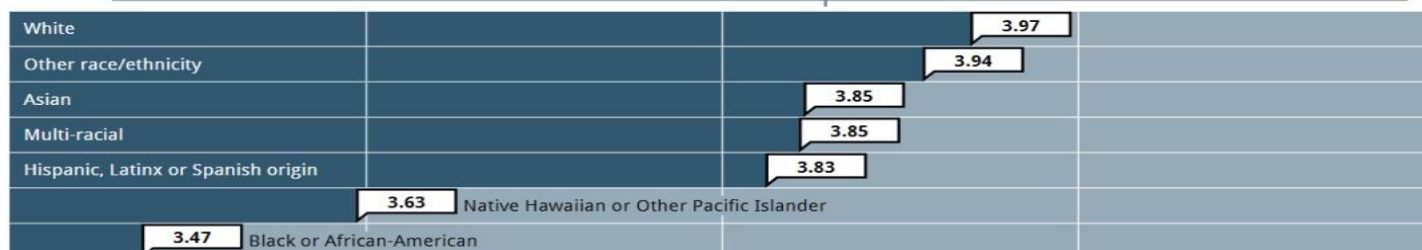
- Gender Identity
 - Female students have slightly more positive perceptions of Engagement than their male and nonbinary peers
 - Male students rate higher than their peers in Belonging & Peer Collaboration as well as College & Career Readiness
- Race/Ethnicity
 - No major trends across the survey when disaggregating by Race/Ethnicity (this is good!). But there are important differences when we get to the question level.
- Self-Reported Grades
 - Students who report receiving higher grades also have more positive perceptions in all themes
- English Learners
 - ELL students rate higher than non-ELL students in all themes, most noticeably in Belonging and College & Career Readiness

I feel safe during school

1 = Strongly disagree 3 = Neither agree nor disagree 5 = Strongly agree

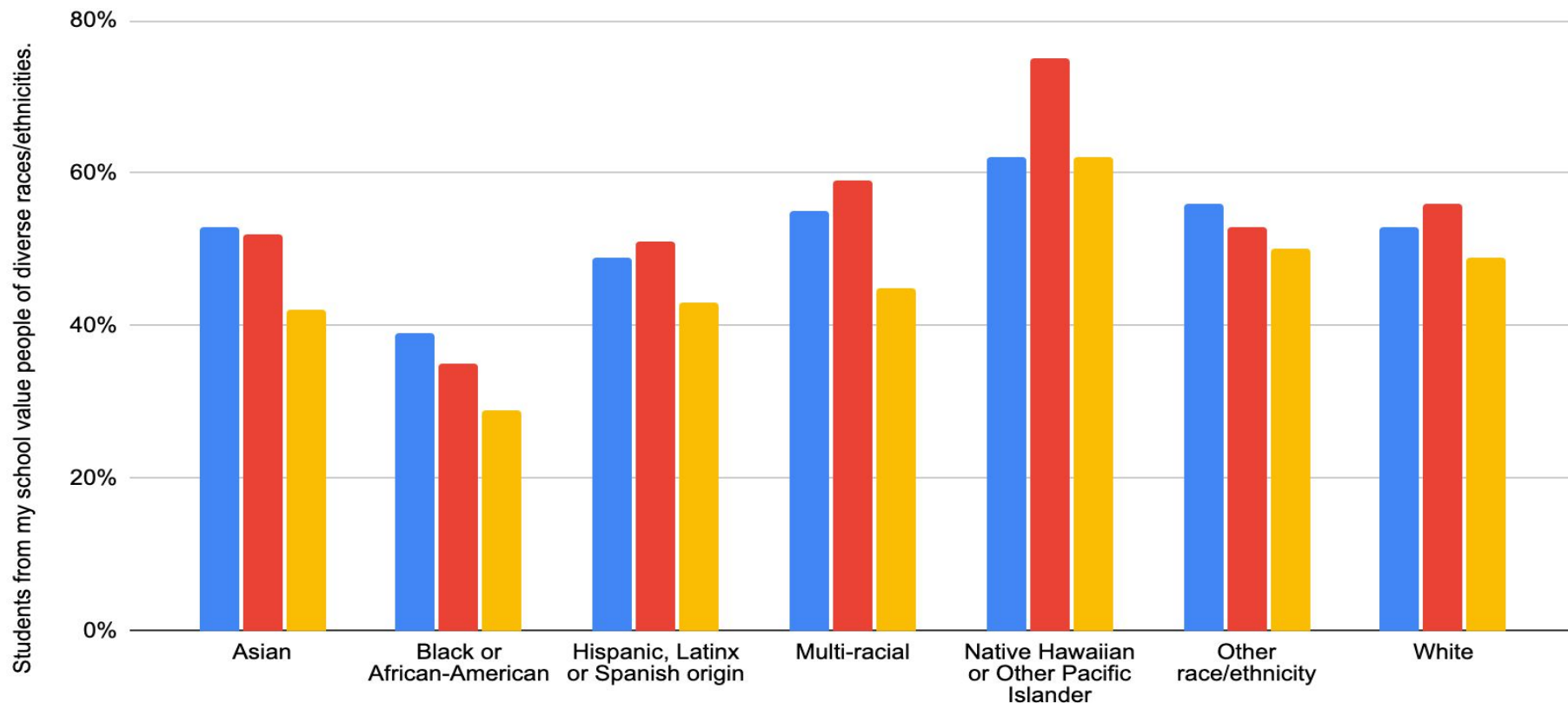


OR schools



Students from my school value people of diverse backgrounds

■ Students from my school value people of diverse sexual orientations. (e.g. gay, straight, bisexual, etc.)
■ Students from my school value people of diverse races/ethnicities ■ Students from my school value people of diverse incomes. (how much...)



Next Steps

- School Leaders shared a one-pager summary with their school communities in spring
- District use of Student Youth Truth data for Strategic Planning
- Schools using data for school improvement

