

Family Survey Report

Overview

In July 2025, an evaluator completed an interest assessment with families regarding their interests and preferences for after school programming. An online survey was shared with families of ISD31 through the platform Peachjar. The survey was first emailed via Peachjar on July 1, 2025 and a reminder was sent two weeks later. The survey consisted of 7 to 12 questions. Five of the questions were displayed depending on how previous questions were answered. A total of 20 responses were collected that took an average time of 2.9 minutes (SD=2.1). A subset of the responses that pertained only to middle and high school families were included in a report specifically regarding middle and high school programming. This report contains a summary of all responses for all grade levels (n=20).

The results show that the families prefer after school activities to be on weekdays immediately after school. The families who responded prefer music, arts, and academic enrichment opportunities for their youth, with organized athletics being a fourth priority. Families may experience cost and transportation barriers that impact their access to afterschool programming.

Detailed results are provided below.

Results

Respondents were asked which grades child(ren) in their household will be in this upcoming year. Responses ranged from Kindergarten through 12th grade.

Grades represented in responses (n=20)

Grade	# of responses
K*	5
1st*	5
2nd*	3
3rd*	4
4th	4
5th	4

Grade	# of responses
6th	1
7th	2
8th	4
9th	0
10th	1
11th	1
12th	1

*Six were from Horace May Elementary, 2 from Solway, 2 from Lincoln, and 2 from Northern.

Respondents were asked to select a variety of after school program options that they believed their child(ren) would have interest in. The most common option selected was music programming. Responses are in the table below.

What kinds of options would you like to see for your student(s) after school? (Select all that apply)

Response Choice	% of Responses	# of Responses
Music	74%	14
Art opportunities (e.g., drawing, painting)	63%	12
Organized athletics	63%	12
Academic enrichment/support	53%	10
Supervised social time/free time	42%	8
Open gym	32%	6
Cultural programming	26%	5
Other*	11%	2
Esports	5%	1

*Those who chose "other" wrote in the following: *"Move their bodies! Spend time outside."* and *"Really hoping for a football option that starts right after school for Gene Dillon kids."*

The respondents who reported they would like academic enrichment opportunities for their middle and high school youth (n=10) reported which academic areas they would like available.

What types of academic enrichment would you like to see for your child(ren)? (n=10)

Response Choice	% of Responses	# of Responses
Science	70%	7
Math	60%	6
Reading	60%	6
Language arts	10%	1
Other*	10%	1

*The respondent who chose "other" wrote in the following: *"STEM"*

The respondents who reported they would like organized athletic opportunities for their middle and high school youth (n=12) reported which sports their children would have interest.

What types of organized athletics would your child(ren) have interest? (n=12)

Response Choice	% of Responses	# of Responses
Intramural soccer	50%	6
Intramural basketball	42%	5
Intramural volleyball	42%	5
Other*	8%	1

*The respondent who chose "other" wrote in the following: *"Football, baseball"*

The respondents who reported they would like open gym opportunities for their middle and high school youth (n=6) reported which activities their children would have interest.

What types of activities at open gym would your child(ren) have interest? (n=6)

Response Choice	% of Responses	# of Responses
Basketball	83%	5
General games (e.g., dodgeball, etc.)	83%	5
Soccer	67%	4
Volleyball	50%	3
Other (please describe)	17%	1

*The respondent who chose "other" wrote in the following: *"Tennis, Pickleball"*

Respondents were asked to rank the activity options they wanted to see for their child(ren) after school in order of most desired to least desired. While music was selected most frequently (n=14), academic enrichment/support was, on average, ranked highest and art opportunities was, on average, ranked second highest. The range and average position of the rankings are reported below.

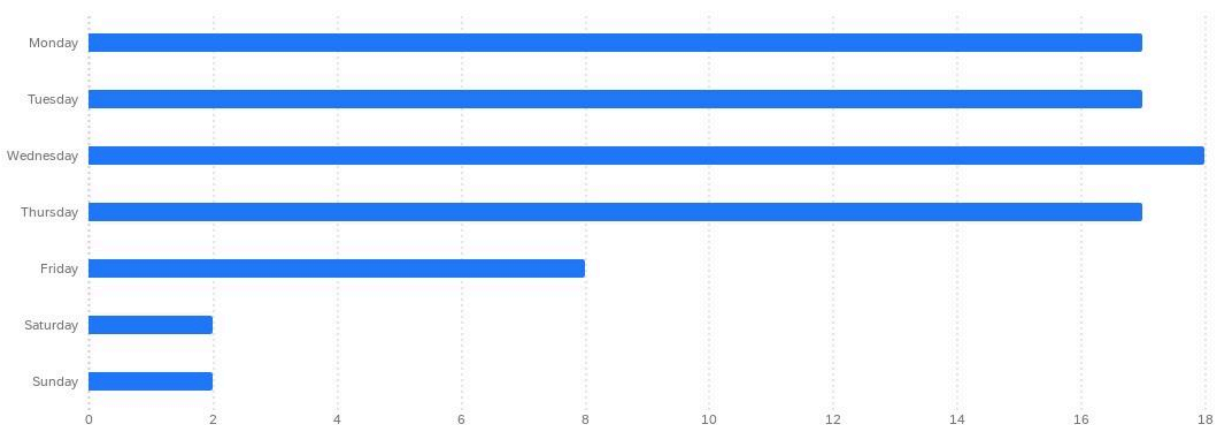
Desirability rankings (1=most desired)

Response Choice	Range	Average Position
Music (n=14)	1-5	2.5
Art opportunities (n=12)	1-4	2.2
Organized athletics (n=12)	1-7	2.7
Academic enrichment/support (n=10)	1-3	1.85
Supervised social time/free time (n=8)	1-5	3.5
Open gym (n=6)	1-6	3.4
Cultural programming (n=5)	1-5	2.8
Other* (n=2)	1	1
Esports (n=1)	4	4

*Those who chose "other" wrote in the following: "Move their bodies! Spend time outside." and "Really hoping for a football option that starts right after school for Gene Dillon kids."

Respondents were also asked about their preferred days and time for afterschool programming. The majority reported preferring programming on week days, and all respondents reported preferring programming immediately after school. All time responses are provided below.

What days of the week are best for afterschool programs? (Select all that apply) 20



What times do you prefer for afterschool programming? (Select all that apply)

Response Choice	% of Responses	# of Responses
Immediately after school until 4pm	84%	16
4-5pm	37%	7
5-6pm	26%	5
6-7pm	11%	2

Last, respondents were asked what barriers, if any, prevented them from signing up their child for after school programming. The most common responses were cost and busy schedules, though transportation was also endorsed.

What barriers, if any, prevent your child(ren) from attending afterschool programming? (Select all that apply)

Response Choice	# of Responses
Cost/fees of programming	7
Busy schedule	7
Transportation	5
Other*	1

*The respondent who chose other did not provide a description.

At the end of the survey, respondents were asked what else they wished to share. Five people provided comments:

<i>"Cost is a huge barrier to my child participating in after-school programming. When sliding scales/grants/eco relief are available it's not clear that it is an option or how to obtain that option."</i>
<i>"Not sure, she will only be in kindergarten. But we would love BEFORE school programming at least at 7:00am. Thank you for the input opportunity."</i>
<i>"More interaction between supervisors/workers/attendants and the children. Rather than JUST supervising them."</i>
<i>"I love to keep my kids busy with all sorts of activities but for us ideally right after school so we don't have to worry about when we work until 5. In addition to that to have transportation or right at the school! Thanks for the opportunity to share!!"</i>
<i>"E-sports" is a ridiculous euphemism and it does a disservice to the student body to even put it as an option for the community to select. Please call a spade a spade. These are video games."</i>

Summary

The survey results suggest that the families prefer after school activities to be on weekdays immediately after school. The families who responded prefer music, arts, and academic enrichment opportunities for their youth, with organized athletics being a fourth priority.

Although organized athletics were commonly endorsed (n=12; 63%), it also had the greatest range in how it was ranked in preference. It could be that families who prefer organized athletics are not the same families that prefer music and arts; greater investigation and analysis could be completed to understand more about the variety of interests of families and how the school district could meet their needs.

Families report having busy schedules that inhibit their children from participating in more opportunities. They may also experience cost and transportation barriers that impact their access to afterschool programming.

Overall, results support action to foster music and art programming on weekdays after school.