

# December 2025 ThoughtExchange Conversation Overview of Results

# Engagement Summary

What specific programs, services, or support systems are making (or could make) the greatest positive impact on student success and well-being in Redlands Unified School District, and why? Consider existing programs in areas such as academic support, social-emotional learning, family engagement, school climate, and equity, as well as opportunities to enhance or expand these services.



## PARTICIPATION

### Breakdown of Participation



**657**  
Participants



**683**  
Thoughts



**24,621**  
Ratings

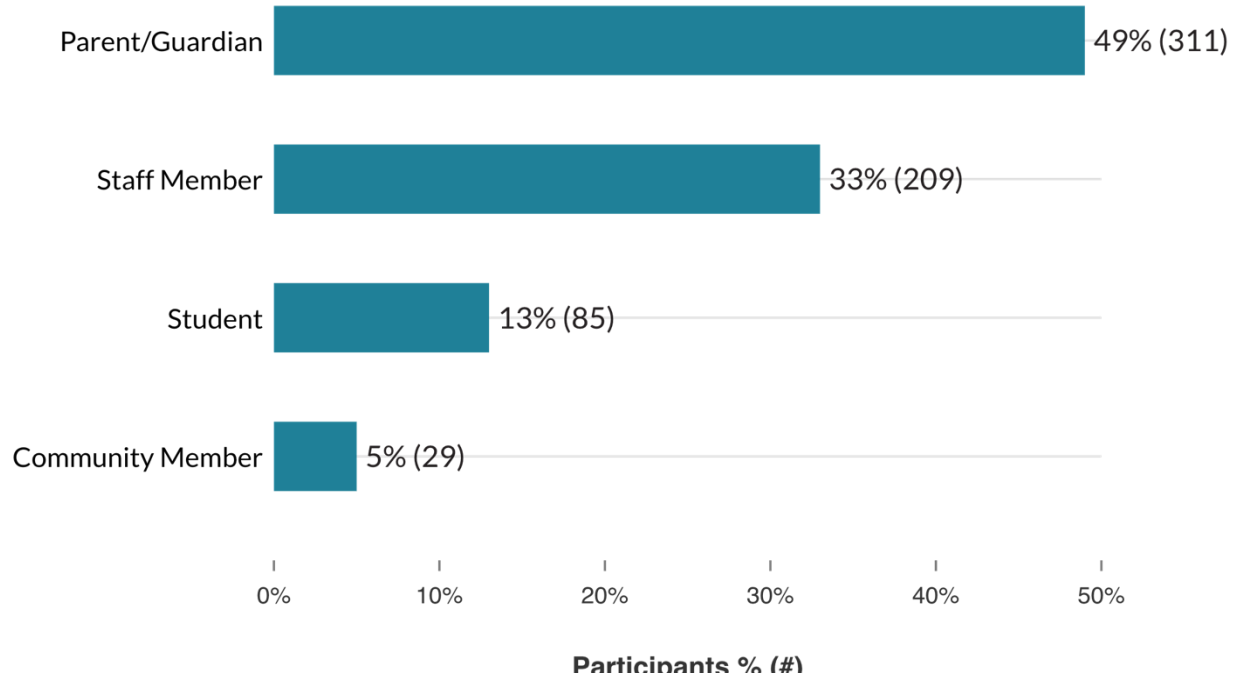


## PARTICIPATION

### Breakdown of Participation



Recognizing that you may belong to more than one of the following groups, please select the one which you feel best describes your involvement with us:



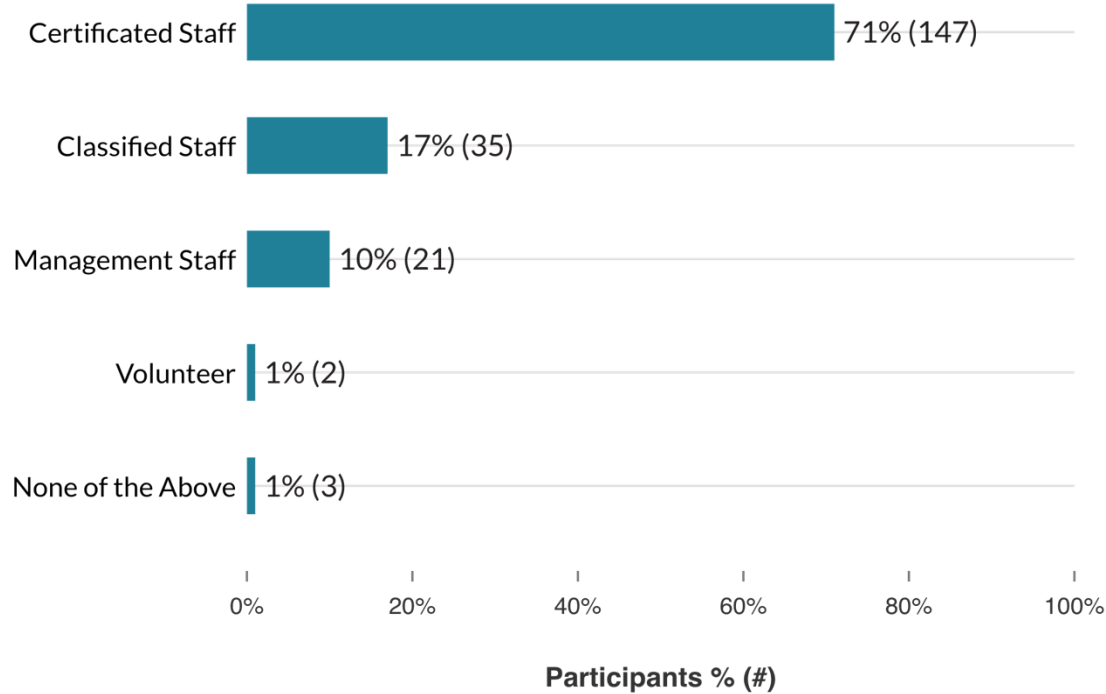


## PARTICIPATION

### Breakdown of Participation



Which of the following applies to your role in our school district?





## PARTICIPATION

### Breakdown of Participation



Do you or your child participate in the following? Check all that apply



308

Responses

%		Answer <i>(Multiple select)</i>
3%	(9)	English Learner Program
1%	(3)	Foster Youth
29%	(89)	Free or Reduced Lunch Program
70%	(216)	Not Applicable



## PARTICIPATION

### Breakdown of Participation



What schools/sites are you most associated with in our district? Check all that apply.



621  
Responses

%		Answer <i>(Multiple select)</i>
5%	(30)	Arroyo Verde Elementary School
5%	(32)	Bryn Mawr Elementary School
6%	(36)	Crafton Elementary School
5%	(32)	Cram Elementary School
4%	(27)	Franklin Elementary School
5%	(30)	Highland Grove Elementary School
4%	(22)	Judson and Brown Elementary School
6%	(38)	Kimberly Elementary School
7%	(42)	Kingsbury Elementary School
5%	(28)	Lugonia Elementary School
7%	(41)	Mariposa Elementary School
4%	(27)	McKinley Elementary School
4%	(24)	Mentone Elementary School
4%	(23)	Mission Elementary School



## PARTICIPATION

### Breakdown of Participation




How did you hear about this survey? Check all that apply.



**613**

Responses

%		Answer <i>(Multiple select)</i>
5%	(30)	News Release
45%	(273)	ParentSquare
2%	(15)	Social Media (Instagram and Facebook)
52%	(316)	Staff Email
3%	(16)	Website Pop-Up
6%	(37)	Word of Mouth





## THOUGHTS

### Key Thoughts



**Highly skilled teachers and counselors are our most important resource.** It makes a big difference when teachers, principals, and counselors invite all parents to participate and make all parents feel welcome.

4.4  ( 50  )

Ranked #1 of 683

**Student success and staff success go hand and hand** When we succeed they succeed

4.4  ( 46  )

Ranked #2 of 683

**I think that counseling services are vitally important.** There are many students who are going through difficult times and giving them emotional support will help them in many ways beyond academics.

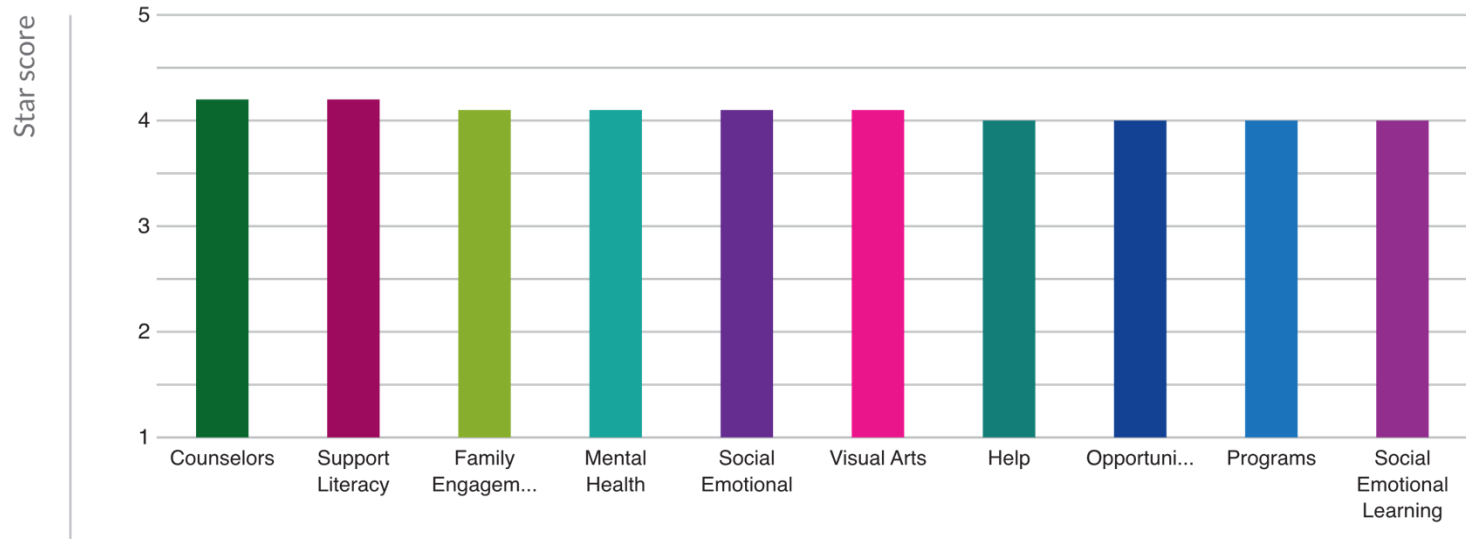
4.4  ( 43  )

Ranked #3 of 683



# KEYWORD THEMES

## Top Themes by star score





## THOUGHTS Counselors



**Elementary School Counselors** Our counselor works along side the admin to promote student attendance, positive behavior, & responsibility among students.

4.3  (36 )

**Counselors especially ACC are vital in student success in school** RUSD has 3 group homes that feed into 1 high school and 1 middle school. A counselor that knows of all the special rules and regulations is essential

4.2  (44 )

**School counselors.** The need with our students for academic guidance and emotional support is great.

4.2  (42 )



## THOUGHTS

### Support Literacy



**Libraries and librarians are needed** Consistent access to libraries and the assistance of library professionals are important for student development.

4.2  ( 47  )

**Fully funded and staffed school libraries at all levels are very important.** Libraries support literacy and social emotional learning.

4.2  ( 44  )

**Library paras help increase literacy - AR quiz goals and scores increase, plus love of learning shared by another impactful adult in students' lives.** Having the elem libraries staffed at all 16 schools makes an impact on students' literacy goals and skills.

4.2  ( 35  )



## THOUGHTS

### Family Engagement



**Keep funding for FACE and Counselors** Family And Community Engagement is essential. Without these important people in our district, we are bound to fail SO many children.

4.2  (35 )

**Counseling, ACCs, Career Centers, and Family Engagement programs are so important to supporting students and families.** There is a very high need for support among students and families. These programs help students succeed and support every student graduating w/ a plan

4.2  (32 )



**Boost counseling staff, SEL, Tier 2 groups, restorative practices, mental health support, and real family engagement to strengthen student success.** Strong counseling and family support improve safety, well-being, equity, and learning so all students can thrive and stay connected to school.



4.1  (51 )





## THOUGHTS Mental Health



**Counseling and mental health services are essential to student success. A whole-student approach is increasingly necessary.** Equitable practices and funding to support low-income students. 4.3  (41 )

**Universally available mental health services** Mental health support program allow students to be prepared to learn. 4.2  (52 )

**Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) & Mental Health** Vital for well-being. Teaches self-management & relationship skills, leading to improved academics & positive school climate. 4.2  (50 )



## THOUGHTS

### Social Emotional



**School Libraries** They provide and/or have potential to provide/enhance/expand academic support, social emotional learning, family engagement, school climate, & equity!

4.2  (49 )

**The counseling department provides academic support, social emotional learning, family engagement, school climate and pushes for equity for students** The counseling department is a huge piece of our school and the fear of more cuts happening is devastating the impact they make on our school is huge

4.2  (46 )

**Continued counseling team support that includes social emotional and academic needs.** REV has the group home students (ACC need) plus the Wildcat Sanctuary has become the base of support for staff and students. This is REV counselors.



4.2  (34 )







## THOUGHTS

### Visual Arts



**Visual and Performing Arts** VAPA is an important resource and outlet for children. Music and the arts provide children with an opportunity to learn and express themselves. 4.3  (27 )

**Extracurricular activities such as field trips, athletics, music and visual performing arts programs are the magic "sauce that keeps kids engaged.** Keep these unique offerings and activities going for students to expand on their inherent talents outside of the core curriculum. 4.2  (51 )

**Visual and Performing Arts** Helps with brain development and student engagement. VAPA taps into gifts 4.1  (52 )



## THOUGHTS Help



**I think that counseling services are vitally important.** There are many students who are going through difficult times and giving them emotional support will help them in many ways beyond academics.

4.4  (43 )

**More counselors on campus would be helpful.**

4.4  (42 )



**The teachers are the ones who interact with the students everyday and work towards success for their students.** When teachers feel supported, they have more patience and energy to help the students. Please support them!



4.3  (52 )





## THOUGHTS Opportunities



**Continue to provide pathway programs that provide skills and education that support opportunities for students to enter the job market after graduation** Support our local community 4.1  (52 )

**Student activities, such as band, clubs, sports, etc.** It gives students a sense of community that might otherwise be lacking. 4.1  (35 )

**AP courses, honors, and clubs.** My child was a transfer, and these opportunities allowed him to connect and find a learning community that made learning engaging and rewarding. 4.0  (52 )



## THOUGHTS Programs



**The breakfast, lunch & after school meal programs are great. The emotional support dogs that visit are wonderful . Love the speech and reading program** Not all kids have access to healthy food. The kids benefit from positive Interactions with dogs. Speech & reading programs support kids that need help

4.3  ( 51  )

**All elementary schools should have a full time librarian.** Reading & circulating books with fun coordinated programs should be a priority.

4.3  ( 42  )

**Programs like band, choir, theater, speech and debate, Academic Decathlon, Mock Trial are great options for non-sport students.** Students are able to connect with other students in positive ways and extend their learning through these programs.

4.2  ( 51  )



## THOUGHTS

### Social Emotional Learning



**Comprehensive school counseling programs at each site make positive impacts on the social emotional, academic and career development of RUSD students.** The work of school counselors directly impacts academic support, social emotional learning, family engagement, school climate and equity.

4.4  (42 )

**Social Emotional Learning, Family/community supports, ed. climate and Academic Support programs. School Counselors are a core to all of these levels.** It's important to ensure that School Counselors are present in our schools support systems to students for Social Emotional Learning and development.

4.2  (36 )

**counseling** Students need social and emotional learning support from counselors on campus. They will struggle to access the curriculum otherwise.

4.1  (49 )



## DIFFERENCES

Programs Help | Kids [262 | 50]



A and B rated high

Programs like band, choir, theater, and academic competitions provide non-sport students with positive connections and extended learning opportunities. Counselors play a crucial role in student transitions and post-graduation plans. School climate needs improvement, ensuring every student feels valued. After-school programs support working parents, while meal programs and emotional support dogs enhance student well-being. Inclusion of children with disabilities in school functions is essential. Skilled teachers and counselors are vital, and parental involvement should be encouraged. Extracurricular activities, including arts and athletics, engage students and develop their talents beyond the core curriculum. Leadership and resource allocation require attention.



A rated high, B rated low

Open and safe spaces for transgender and queer students, along with the cessation of book bans, are crucial for fostering a supportive academic environment in Redlands Unified School District. The district should prioritize true leadership that reflects diverse thoughts and experiences, ensuring inclusivity for all students regardless of gender, race, or religion. Providing support to minority students and maintaining access to diverse literature in school libraries are essential for promoting critical thinking and equity. The district must resist influences that limit educational content and uphold a commitment to diversity and representation.



A rated low, B rated high

The responses emphasize a need for Redlands Unified



## DIFFERENCES

Programs Support [248 | 42]



A and B rated high

Universally available mental health services and counseling are crucial for student preparedness and well-being, yet recent cuts in these areas are concerning. Teachers and paraprofessionals play vital roles in student success, requiring support and fair compensation. Diverse electives and programs like speech and reading enhance student confidence and skills. Meal programs and emotional support dogs contribute positively to student welfare. A welcoming school climate, where students feel valued, is essential, but currently underprioritized. Engaging parents through skilled educators and counselors is key to fostering a supportive educational environment.



A and B rated low

Responses highlight diverse perspectives on enhancing



A rated high, B rated low

Bathroom cleanliness and safety are concerns due to vaping incidents. Arts programs and student activities like band, clubs, and sports enhance belonging and community. Reintroducing summer school could allow high school students to engage in extracurriculars, improving school culture. Expanding elective options for special education students promotes equity. Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs support career readiness. A sunrise program aids parents with early work schedules. Special Education (SPED) programs need improvement for high-functioning autistic students. After-school options are necessary for working parents. PTA funds should benefit students directly, and qualified paraprofessionals are essential for effective support.



## DIFFERENCES

Reading And Math | District [145 | 39]



A and B rated high

The after-school program is essential for working parents, providing crucial support. Concerns about book bans highlight the need for adherence to policies and recognition of educators' voices. Meal programs and emotional support dogs positively impact students' well-being, while speech and reading programs offer necessary academic support. Libraries and librarians are vital for academic and social-emotional development. Visual and Performing Arts enhance brain development and engagement. Teacher support is crucial for student success. Counseling and mental health services are vital, though recent cuts are concerning. Leadership is needed to address financial mismanagement and improve classroom conditions.



A and B rated low



A rated high, B rated low

The responses highlight several areas for improvement in Redlands Unified School District. Key suggestions include enhancing safety measures, improving restroom hygiene, and expanding after-school programs to support student well-being. There is a call for more challenging programs for gifted and STEM-interested students, as well as maintaining and increasing ROP/CTE classes for real-world experience. Concerns about inadequate math skills and the need for smaller class sizes or more aides at the elementary level are noted. Additionally, better parent access to student progress and a focus on early literacy and math skills are emphasized.



A rated low, B rated high

The respondent criticizes the thought exchange



## WRAP UP Next Steps



### **Thanks for participating**

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