

PUSD Survey Results Report

As of March 19, 2026

1. Introduction

The Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD) conducted a comprehensive survey to better understand stakeholder perspectives on school consolidation and the allocation of district resources. The survey was designed to inform future decision-making by capturing a wide range of community voices, including families, staff, and local residents.

- Survey Opened: March 3, 2026
- Survey Closed: March 19, 2026
- Total Responses: 2,384
- Participants provided identifying and contextual information, including:
 - Name and email
 - Role and school affiliation
 - Grade-level representation
 - Responses to 9 consolidation-related questions

The survey results offer valuable insight into community priorities, concerns, and expectations regarding potential structural changes within the district.

2. Participant Demographics

A diverse group of stakeholders participated in the survey, ensuring representation across multiple perspectives within the PUSD community.

2.1 Roles of Participants

The majority of respondents were parents or caregivers, indicating strong family engagement in district decision-making. Staff and community members also contributed meaningful input.

Role	Count	Percentage
Parent/Caregiver	1,851	70%
Certificated Staff	280	11%
Community Members	269	10%
Alumni	127	5%

Classified Staff

117

4%

This distribution shows that survey results are heavily influenced by family perspectives, while still incorporating insights from educators and the broader community.

2.2 School Representation

Participants represented a wide range of schools across the district, demonstrating broad engagement. The highest levels of participation came from the following sites:

- Thurgood Marshall Secondary School (412)
- Pasadena High School (239)
- San Rafael Elementary School (224)
- John Muir High School Early College Magnet (191)
- Blair School (181)

The variation in participation levels across schools indicates differing degrees of engagement, which may stem from varying levels of interest or impact regarding consolidation discussions. Additionally, due to ongoing deportations affecting some immigrant families, certain families may be purposely keeping a low profile and thus hesitant to complete surveys or attend meetings.

2.3 Grade-Level Representation

Level	Count	Percentage
Elementary	1,005	42%
Secondary	754	32%
Both	494	21%
Neither	131	6%

The data shows strong representation from both elementary and secondary levels, ensuring that feedback reflects the full K–12 experience.

3. Key Findings

The survey results reveal a nuanced and often divided perspective among stakeholders regarding consolidation and resource allocation.

3.1 Openness to School Consolidation

Responses indicate a split viewpoint, with a slight majority expressing openness to consolidation under certain conditions.

- Approximately 50–52% are open (very or somewhat) to consolidation ideas
- Around 28–30% reject consolidation outright
- A smaller percentage remains neutral or undecided

These attitudes are consistent across different consolidation scenarios, including combining smaller schools, closing schools to redistribute resources, and merging schools to sustain academic programs.

This suggests that while consolidation is acceptable to many, it is highly dependent on perceived benefits and implementation details.

3.2 Facility Investment vs. School Closures

- 48% are open to closing schools to improve facilities at remaining sites
- 30% reject this idea entirely

This indicates moderate support for reallocating resources but also highlights strong resistance among a significant portion of the community, particularly when closures are involved.

Stakeholders appear to weigh the benefits of improved infrastructure against the emotional and logistical impacts of school closures.

3.3 Academic Programs and Enrichment

- Around 52% support consolidation to preserve academic and enrichment programs
- Approximately 28–29% believe consolidation will not lead to improvements

This reflects a key tension between efficiency and trust in outcomes. While many see consolidation as a way to sustain programs, others remain skeptical about whether these benefits will materialize.

3.4 Importance of Educational Structure

Respondents placed strong emphasis on maintaining high-quality instructional environments.

Single Grade-Level Teaching:

- 60% consider it very important
- 79% consider it at least somewhat important

Teacher Collaboration:

- 60% consider it very important
- 81% consider it at least somewhat important

These findings highlight a strong preference for structured learning environments and collaborative teaching models that support student success.

3.5 Importance of Facilities

- 65% rate facilities as very important
- 91% rate facilities as at least somewhat important

Modern, safe, and well-equipped facilities are a top priority for stakeholders and are closely tied to perceptions of educational quality and student well-being.

4. Overall Community Perspective

Preferred Policy Direction

Statement	Percentage
Merge schools to maintain programs and improve facilities	65%
Keep all schools open	34%
Keep all open even if programs decline	2%

These results indicate that a majority of stakeholders support consolidation when it is clearly linked to improved outcomes, particularly in facilities and program quality.

5. Key Insights

- **Conditional Support for Consolidation:** Most stakeholders support consolidation only if it results in clear and measurable improvements.
- **Strong Concern About Educational Quality:** Respondents prioritize teacher specialization, collaboration, and access to diverse programs.
- **Facilities Are a Major Priority:** Updated and safe school environments are central to stakeholder satisfaction.
- **Significant Opposition Remains:** Nearly one-third of respondents oppose consolidation, indicating potential implementation challenges if the district decides to close schools.

6. Conclusion

The survey reveals a carefully balanced community perspective. While a majority of respondents support strategic consolidation, this support is conditional upon improvements in facilities and the preservation of high-quality academic programs.

At the same time, significant opposition underscores the importance of transparent planning, active community engagement, and clear demonstration of benefits in any future decisions.