

Exchange Summary

Sturgeon School Division No. 24
April 6, 2022

What are the most important things that Sturgeon Public Schools are doing or should consider doing to improve student learning in our schools next year?



PARTICIPATION

Breakdown of Participation



April 2022 Exchange:



605
Participants



474
Thoughts



13,179
Ratings

April 2021 Exchange:



566
Participants



520
Thoughts




5,886
Ratings



PARTICIPATION

Breakdown of Participation

%		Answer
4%	(25)	Bon Accord Community School
10%	(61)	Camilla School
13%	(77)	École Morinville Public School
9%	(51)	Four Winds Public School
7%	(40)	Gibbons School
5%	(29)	Guthrie School
7%	(42)	Landing Trail School
3%	(18)	Lilian Schick School
1%	(5)	Morinville or Sturgeon Learning Centres
7%	(44)	Namao School
1%	(3)	Oak Hill School
5%	(27)	Ochre Park School
6%	(36)	Redwater School
15%	(88)	Sturgeon Composite High School
6%	(38)	Sturgeon Heights School
1%	(7)	Sturgeon Public Virtual Academy





PARTICIPATION

Breakdown of Participation

All Participant Groups



320

Participants shared thoughts



391

Participants rated thoughts



372

Participants explored thoughts



PreK to Gr 4

260
Participants

208
Thoughts

6,203
Ratings

Grade 5 to 9

239
Participants

191
Thoughts

5,170
Ratings

Grade 10 to 12

106
Participants

75
Thoughts

1,806
Ratings



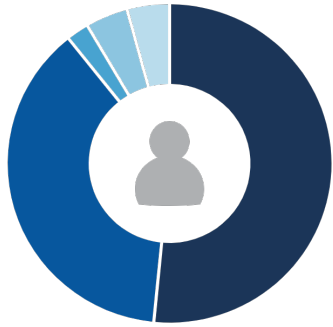


PARTICIPATION

Breakdown of Participation: What best describes your role within your school Community?

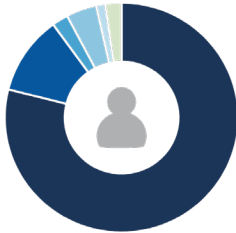


April 2022 Exchange:



%	Person Icon	Answer
52%	(306)	■ Parent or Guardian
38%	(222)	■ Teacher
2%	(13)	■ Educational Assistant
4%	(20)	■ Administration
4%	(24)	■ Other Staff
0%	(2)	■ Community Member

April 2021 Exchange:

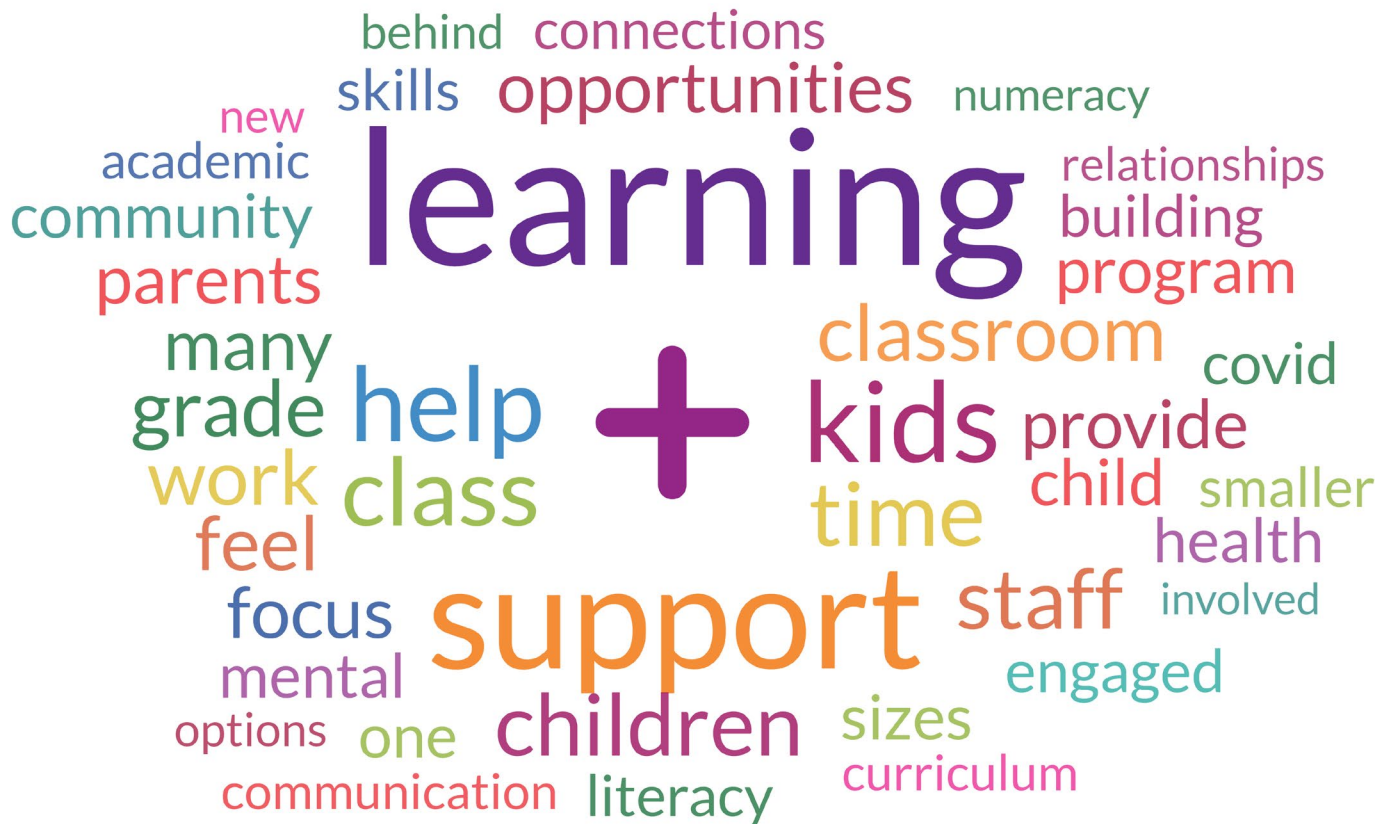


%	Person Icon	Answer
80%	(411)	■ Parent or Guardian
11%	(59)	■ Teacher
2%	(9)	■ Educational Assistant
4%	(19)	■ Administration
1%	(8)	■ Other Staff
2%	(9)	■ Community Member



WORDCLOUD

Top Words by Total Thoughts







THOUGHTS



Key Thoughts by STAR Rating



Maintain reasonable class sizes. Reduce demands on teachers time. Teachers need time to adequately and effectively respond to the needs of individuals and whole class. With large classes this is very difficult.

4.4  (22 )
Ranked #1 of 474

Smaller class sizes, ea support in each class, literacy support Individual student success

4.4  (17 )
Ranked #2 of 474

Staffing. We need more staff allocated to each school. VP time and EA time are our hot spots. We need more manpower We have more needs than we have staff to manage them. We are just constantly putting out fires

4.3  (43 )
Ranked #3 of 474

Additional Support for literacy for grades 2-5 Covid has had significant impact on childrens early learning

4.3  (39 )
Ranked #6 of 474

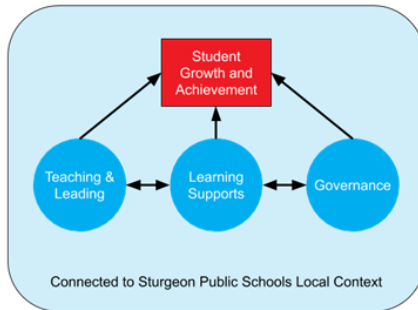
Teacher Wellness When teachers are healthy they will perform better

4.3  (35 )
Ranked #10 of 474



Assurance Domains

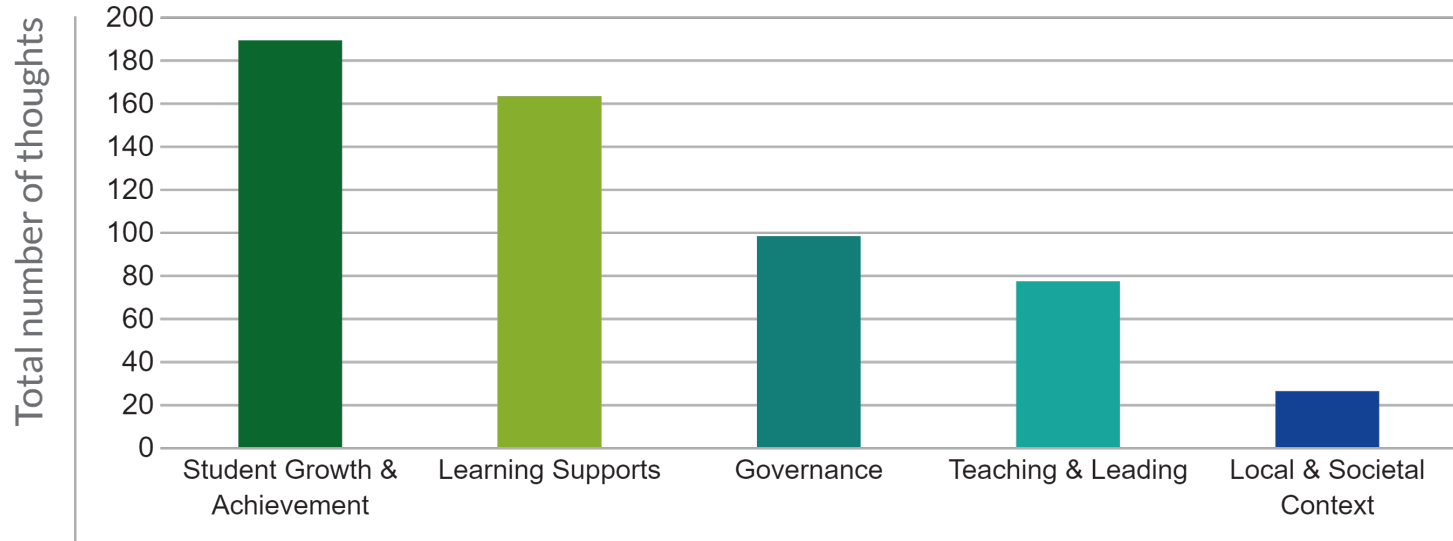
Thoughts were organized into the five Alberta Education Assurance Domains
Then themes were recognized within each domain and ranked.





ASSURANCE/ED PLAN THEMES

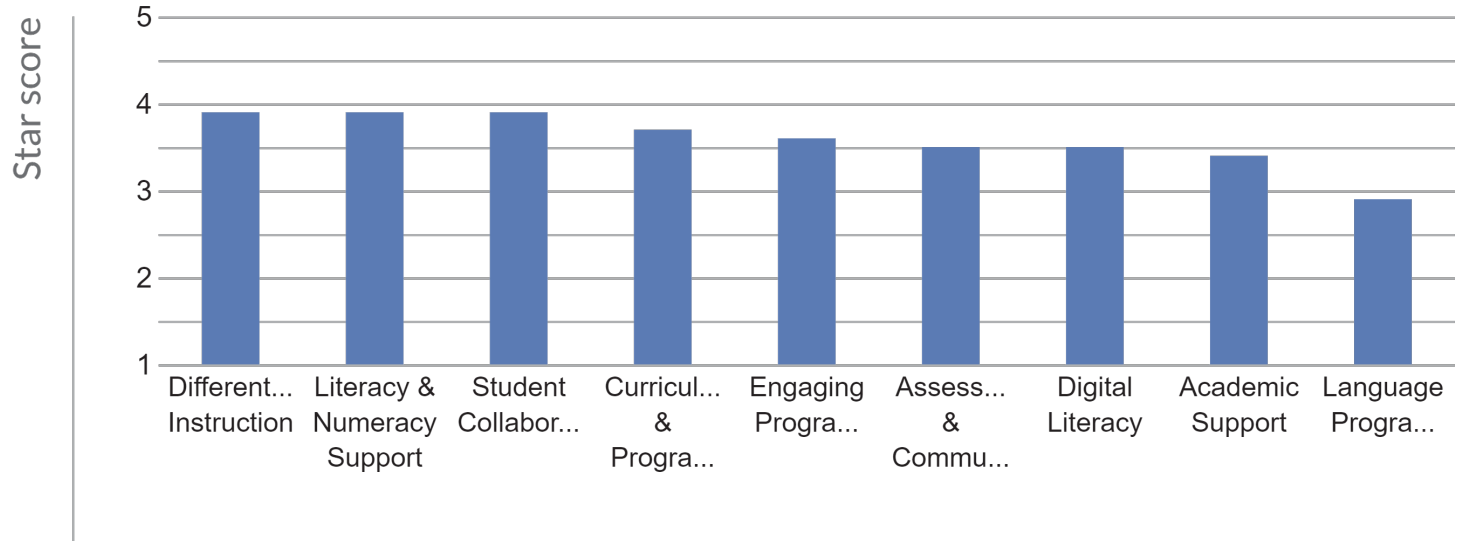
Summary themes by total thoughts





STUDENT GROWTH & ACHIEVEMENT

Top Themes by star score





THOUGHTS

Student Growth & Achievement / Differentiated Instruction



Our teachers are great and provide many different opportunities for our students to learn. All students have different ways they connect to the curriculum

4.1 ★★★★★ (20 👤)

Schools should not just teach to the lowest academic levels, but challenge the more advanced students as well. There should be growth at all levels. When students are 'bored' in class they can become disruptive. But when engaged, it can create a more positive classroom experience.

4.0 ★★★★★ (37 👤)

Learning coach/literacy coach has been helpful guide and support both teacher and student to improve literacy instruction and supportive learning.

4.0 ★★★★★ (20 👤)



THOUGHTS

Student Growth & Achievement / Literacy & Numeracy Support



- Additional Support for literacy for grades 2-5** Covid has had significant impact on childrens early learning 4.3 ★★★★★ (39 👤)
- Having more support for students who struggle with math and literacy and need extra support.** If these students don't get the support they need now they will struggle as they move forward towards grade 12. 4.2 ★★★★★ (41 👤)
- Consider the possibility of Literacy Numeracy intervention/coaching program for primary.** To help close in learning gaps from the pandemic. To support teachers in promoting balanced literacy programs in their classrooms. 4.2 ★★★★★ (19 👤)
- Focusing on Literacy and Numeracy and using intervention with our at risk students** Students who are at risk need this extra help now before they fall further behind 4.2 ★★★★★ (15 👤)



THOUGHTS

Student Growth & Achievement / Student Collaboration



- Opportunities for different grades and ages to interact and learn together, and from one another.** Increases collaboration, communication skills, community and relationship building 4.0 ★★★★★ (41 👤)
- collaborative learning opportunities** Students thrive off working together and when given the opportunity, they can bounce ideas off each other and create meaningful projects. 3.9 ★★★★★ (30 👤)
- Covid protocols have been tough on students - we need to encourage cross-grade initiatives and learning opportunities.** Nurture an environment where students are learning from each other: leadership develops naturally and students across grades will connect positively 3.9 ★★★★★ (29 👤)
- Continue to offer collaborative learning opportunities to foster connection and peer interaction.** Some of our once 'outgoing children' have become accustomed to working completely interdependently and now feel less comfortable in groups. 3.6 ★★★★★ (34 👤)



THOUGHTS

Student Growth & Achievement / Curriculum & Programming



- Giving time to implement the new curriculum** To help support teachers 4.1 ★★★★★ (30 👤)
- Proactive with "new" curriculum** Attempting to be proactive with the new curriculum to ensure that our students receive the best possible education. 3.6 ★★★★★ (29 👤)
- Lobby the gov't to sort out their dumpster fire of a draft curriculum** The amount of time teachers will have to spend preparing for this piece of garbage is ridiculous and puts more pressure on them than they deserve 3.6 ★★★★★ (9 👤)
- Support for new curriculum** The new grade 4-6 curriculum for LA and Math has not been posted, but it would be good to prepare early and often, rather than waiting for next spring 3.4 ★★★★★ (20 👤)



THOUGHTS

Student Growth & Achievement / Engaging Programming



- Continue to make student learning hands on, fun and engaging.** Students will achieve more when they feel deeply connected and engaged with their school. 4.1 ★★★★★ (40 👤)
- Real field trips. Less virtual. More in person!** 4.0 ★★★★★ (41 👤)
- Continue to provide exciting and thought provoking learning experiences for our kiddos** 3.9 ★★★★★ (40 👤)
- Student engagement initiatives** There is a noticeable increase in lagging social skills, and students depend on their devices. Structured, intentional activities help. 3.9 ★★★★★ (29 👤)
- I love that some schools have started nature based learning. It gives students an opportunity to see what all is provided by our earth.** Traditional knowledge 3.8 ★★★★★ (40 👤)



THOUGHTS

Student Growth & Achievement / Assessment & Communication



My child's academic progress is effectively communicated through PowerSchool, through grades, assignment descriptions and comments. It's important for me to take an active role in my child's education. Part of this is being informed and knowing how to navigate PowerSchool.

4.0  (34 )

I am grateful schools are minimizing the weight on final examinations during this time. High-stakes exams were never very good assessment practice to begin with. And with the pandemic, we have to support and teach the students we have now

3.8  (35 )

revise manner of communicating student's levels and progress powerschool needs to be more user-friendly as it answers parents' questions about how their child is doing and how well their skills are improving

3.8  (20 )

Communication between parents and teachers regarding what students are learning (copy of weekly agendas?) Parents/children can have meaningful conversations about 'what did you do at school today'. Parents can help guide good study habits from home.

3.6  (38 )



THOUGHTS

Student Growth & Achievement / Digital Literacy



- Cyber security, digital awareness, virtual footprint and online awareness.** In a constantly changing digital environment, we NEED to teach these kids more about these things. The scammers, phishers and predators don't care. **3.8** ★★★★★ (42 👤)
- Increase student knowledge about digital literacy and safety** The internet plays a huge role in everyones lives. Kids need guidance to navigate it in a safe and useful way **3.7** ★★★★★ (40 👤)
- Move away from personal devices at school.** Students are distracted by their devices and need encouragement to interact face-to-face. **3.5** ★★★★★ (30 👤)
- Makerspace and technology spaces** Learn skills for the future **3.4** ★★★★★ (40 👤)



THOUGHTS

Student Growth & Achievement / Academic Support



Provide adequate staffing to support students in smaller, single-subject classes with access to Educational Assistant support. One educator in a large class of complex learning styles and/or multiple grades faces could do so much more with support and collaboration.

4.1 ★★★★★ (37 👤)

We need pull out programs to meet the needs of our struggling readers. Inclusion does not work for all, especially in overcrowded classrooms.

3.9 ★★★★★ (39 👤)

Giving supports for those children who are below average. Once a child is behind, catching up is so hard.

3.9 ★★★★★ (29 👤)

School should strive to reach or exceed academic grade levels and not just approach them. I have concerns the early programming isn't doing enough to ensure academic success. Use an enrichment approach for all grades!

3.6 ★★★★★ (35 👤)



THOUGHTS

Student Growth & Achievement / Language Programming

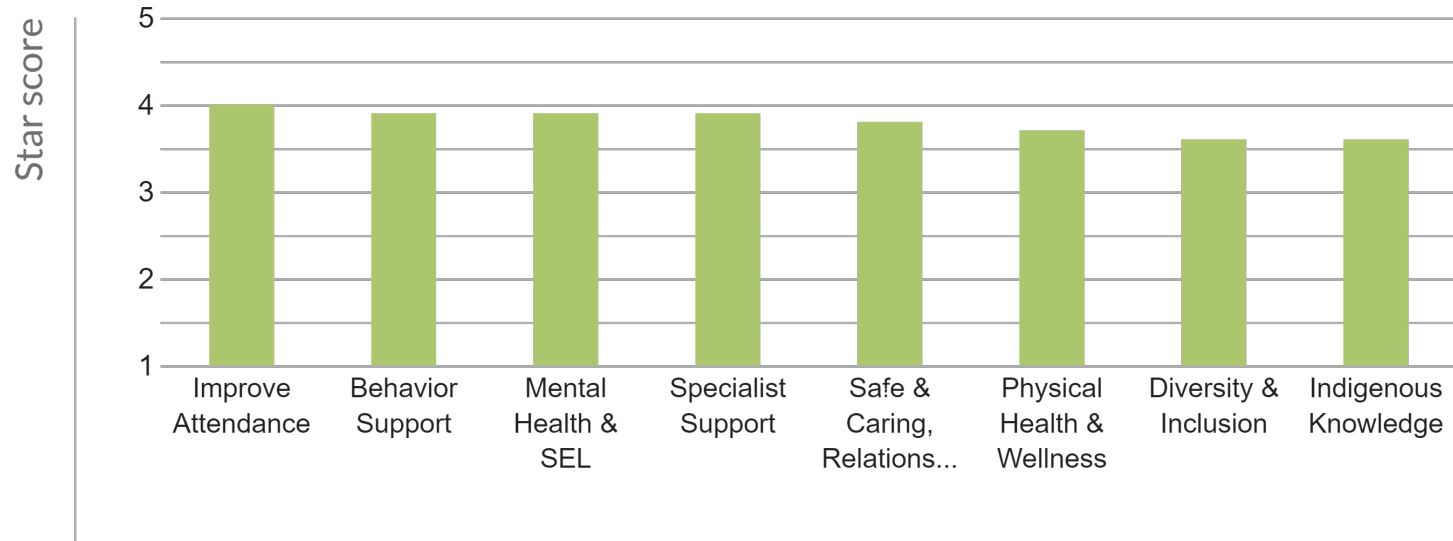


- I am not a fan of a teacher who does not teach French teaching French.** Students need to learn proper pronunciation and students who can speak French are not challenged. 3.2 ★★☆☆☆ (31 👤)
- French Immersion support** Our French Immersion students, across all grades, need help with language (though we have started to have amazing help this year from our VP!) 3.1 ★★☆☆☆ (12 👤)
- My child was not given a fair opportunity for continuing in French. Both my child & myself feel he was robbed of his love to learn and grow in French.** He has taken French for 6 years and it was not his choice to move. There is also not even a FSL program available at his school which is a shame. 3.0 ★★☆☆☆ (35 👤)
- Having French Immersion and teachers that connect with the students** 2.6 ★★☆☆☆ (36 👤)



LEARNING SUPPORTS

Top Themes by star score





THOUGHTS

Learning Supports / Improve Attendance



Student attendance It's imperative students have good attendance to succeed.

4.1 ★★★★★ (22 👤)

Student attendance Students learn best when in class

3.9 ★★★★★ (22 👤)

Increased resources to help with student mental wellness that focuses on attendance and homework hesitancy. There seems to be an increase in anxiety regarding homework completion. I also see a feeling of hopelessness about the importance of education.

3.8 ★★★★★ (30 👤)



THOUGHTS

Learning Supports / Behavior Support



1. Tier 3 students need to come with support and plans in place the minute they walk through the door in September. September sets the tone for year and routines and procedures are put in place the first three weeks of school. Super important behaviour kids!

4.1 ★★★★★ (42 👤)

There needs to be more supports in place to help children with behavioral issues. It's important as the teachers and support staff are either not available to these children and therefore takes away from the whole learning experien

4.1 ★★★★★ (42 👤)

Provide further whole class, small group and one on one behavioural supports Providing students with tools to self-regulate, solve their own problems, control their impulses and executive functioning would be very beneficial.

4.1 ★★★★★ (38 👤)



THOUGHTS

Learning Supports / Mental Health & SEL



Continuing to advocate for more support in the classroom. I believe coming out of a pandemic, we as a community have more anxiety and dysregulation then before.

4.3  (15 )

Focus on mental health of all. Students, staff, parents When the community of learners is well, progress is possible. If the community is not well, anger and frustration will prevail

4.2  (22 )

Our students need to be supported in their learning and their mental/social-emotional health. Supports are necessary in schools to achieve this. Mental health support directly in schools, EA support, offering interventions for reading and math, smaller class sizes, and teacher wellness focus.

4.1  (39 )



THOUGHTS

Learning Supports / Specialist Support



More time with specialists in Kindergarten and beyond. Seeing a student with significant speech delays once a week for 15 minutes is not enough. Specialists are promised but not present enough.

4.2 ★★★★★ (41 👤)

A speech pathologist or someone equivalent to attend the school and help students that are in need of extra help. Reading and writing are the basic tools needed for education. When a child struggles with their speech, this slows down their entire process of learning

4.2 ★★★★★ (39 👤)

1. Tier 3 students need to come with support and plans in place the minute they walk through the door in September. September sets the tone for year and routines and procedures are put in place the first three weeks of school. Super important behaviour kids!

4.1 ★★★★★ (42 👤)



THOUGHTS

Learning Supports / Safe & Caring, Relationship



- Connecting with kids. Make a relationship with all students.** Students need connections to be able to learn. 4.3 ★★★★★ (31 👤)
- continue to support staff making connections with students- building relationships** until students know you care, they won't keep trying when things get hard 4.1 ★★★★★ (31 👤)
- As high as possible teacher to student ratio** Relationships and time with students improves learning outcomes 4.1 ★★★★★ (18 👤)



THOUGHTS

Learning Supports / Physical Health & Wellness



Continue breakfast club. Continue with mental health initiatives. Having our students fed and connected at the start of the day has improved student learning in our school. Mental health is so important right now.

4.0  (26 )

The use of rocking chairs and standing desks available to keep my child engaged in classroom learning without being confined to a chair and table. Some kids can't sit still and need the freedom to move around, in order to focus and learn properly. I love that Landing Trails offers these!

3.9  (41 )

More daily physical activity to get them moving. We know Grade 5 & 7 don't have daily gym this year. Everyone needs breaks and need to be physical. Many studies show that daily physical activity increases ability to focus and learn.

3.9  (34 )



THOUGHTS

Learning Supports / Diversity & Inclusion



Keeping everything inclusive. Keeping an eye out for bullying. All kids should feel comfortable going to school every day.

4.0  (42 )

Providing students with the knowledge surrounding the ideas that our community is diverse, and there's many different opportunities and experiences. Students grow up knowing that we live and work in a multicultural society where everyone is included and accepted.

3.9  (28 )

More needs to be done to transition high needs students to the next classroom such as inservice, training and teacher observation. Language and strategies are important and it's best to build on the good work done previously.

3.8  (41 )



THOUGHTS

Learning Supports / Indigenous Knowledge



Providing students with the knowledge surrounding the ideas that our community is diverse, and there's many different opportunities and experiences. Students grow up knowing that we live and work in a multicultural society where everyone is included and accepted.

3.9 ★★★★★ (28 👤)

I love that some schools have started nature based learning. It gives students an opportunity to see what all is provided by our earth. Traditional knowledge

3.8 ★★★★★ (40 👤)

We need to provide more outdoor learning spaces/ environments for children Access to fresh air and safe space for learning sheltered from elements (ie: gazebos), comfortable seating, access to greenspace/ gardens

3.8 ★★★★★ (30 👤)

Provide resources and contact information for indigenous knowledge holders so that teachers can reach out to these individuals. It is hard to engage people in the community if we don't know who these people are.

3.8 ★★★★★ (25 👤)

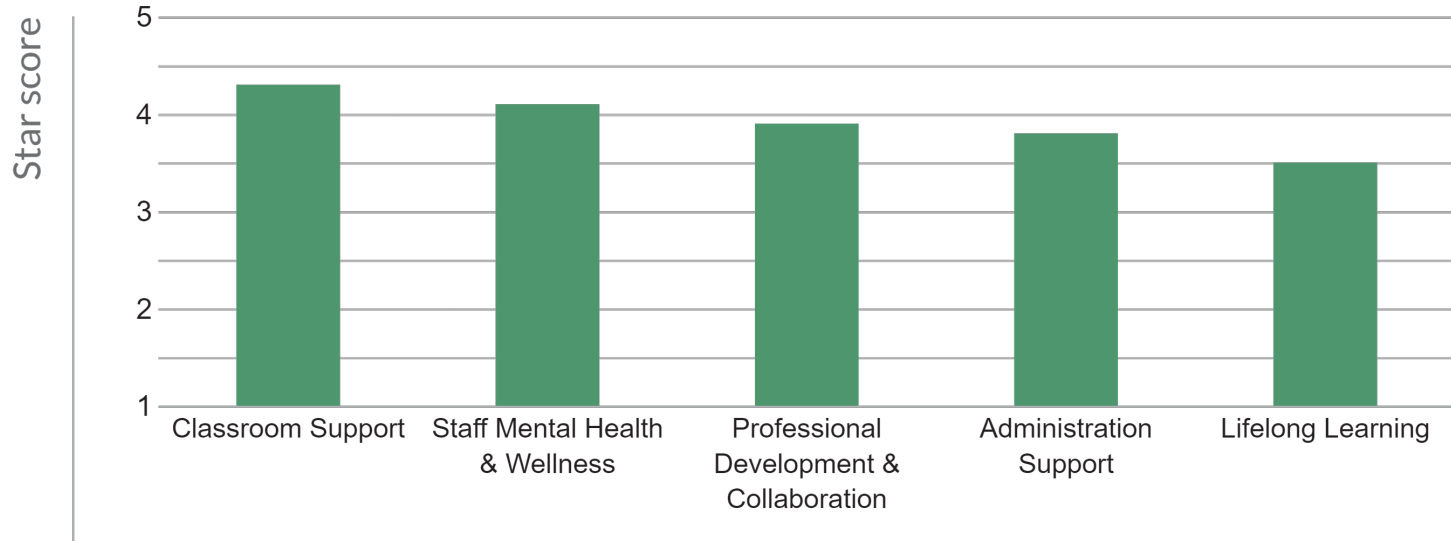
Very pleased with our indigenous learning! Please continue and build upon. Truth and reconciliation. Vitality important

3.6 ★★★★★ (41 👤)



TEACHING & LEADING

Top Themes by star score





THOUGHTS

Teaching & Leading / Classroom Support



Staffing. We need more staff allocated to each school. VP time and EA time are our hot spots. We need more manpower We have more needs than we have staff to manage them. We are just constantly putting out fires

4.3  (43 )

I believe the school board should look at hiring more EA to have in each class. I know that this is a dream but with the last few years being a dumpster fire, I think alot of teachers and students could benefit from extra help

4.3  (41 )

I agree with so many comments. Give us our support staff back. The school and the school board can only do so much without adequate government funding

4.3  (40 )



THOUGHTS

Teaching & Leading / Staff Mental Health & Wellness



- Teacher Wellness** When teachers are healthy they will perform better 4.3 ★★★★★ (35 👤)
- Focus on mental health of all. Students, staff, parents** When the community of learners is well, progress is possible. If the community is not well, anger and frustration will prevail 4.2 ★★★★★ (22 👤)
- Consider staff mental health** The last few years have been survival years teaching through COVID. It has been challenging for staff and students. 4.2 ★★★★★ (21 👤)



THOUGHTS

Teaching & Leading / Professional Development & Collaboration



- Time for teachers to collaborate** Some of our best work comes from sharing ideas and professional knowledge. 4.1 ★★★★★ (20 👤)
- Having more subject-specific PD instead of umbrella topics so teachers can focus in specifically on what they are teaching.** 4.0 ★★★★★ (29 👤)
- Provide time during the work day for collaboration within division groups . This could be with our learning coaches as well.** We can do so much together but finding time is hard. Teachers are busy and we are all trying to balance life and work to stay healthy and positive. 3.9 ★★★★★ (36 👤)



THOUGHTS

Teaching & Leading / Administration Support









- Staffing. We need more staff allocated to each school. VP time and EA time are our hot spots. We need more manpower** We have more needs than we have staff to manage them. We are just constantly putting out fires **4.3** ★★★★★ (43 👤)
- It might be nice to see some more staff - teachers, EA's, administration and volunteers** It would be nice to re-establish connections and communication between teachers, students and parents. **4.1** ★★★★★ (35 👤)
- We are small school. In the last 10 years we've had 6 very fine principals. That's too many. We need more consistency.** A principal sets the tone for the school. The school and community needs experience, wisdom, communication and consistency for student success. **4.0** ★★★★★ (41 👤)



THOUGHTS

Teaching & Leading / Lifelong Learning

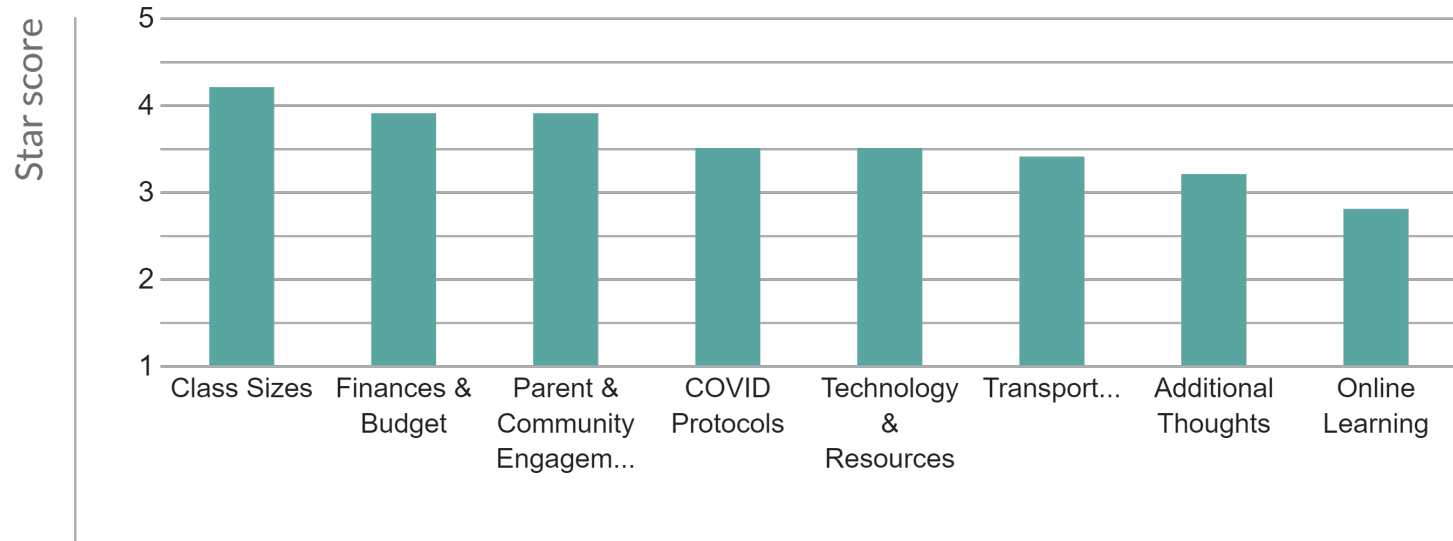


- Don't just say it, but actively demonstrate that academia is important.** We need to see that it is taken seriously, for all levels and areas of study. 3.9  (16 )
- Helping students see how current grades effect future paths.** To be able to recognize now that current actions/grades dictate your future 3.6  (18 )
- Parents needs to have some level of accountability when it comes to there child's learning and needs. I am reading comments about low literacy rates a COVID induced issues. Learning starts at home and school supplements it. A publicly funded education system has its limits.** 3.6  (17 )



GOVERNANCE

Top Themes by star score





THOUGHTS

Governance / Class Sizes



Maintain reasonable class sizes. Reduce demands on teachers time. Teachers need time to adequately and effectively respond to the needs of individuals and whole class. With large classes this is very difficult.

4.4 ★★★★★ (22 👤)

Smaller class sizes, ea support in each class, literacy support Individual student success

4.4 ★★★★★ (17 👤)

Smaller class sizes will help us better meet our students diverse needs. It's difficult to provide the extra instruction that so many of our students need right now.

4.3 ★★★★★ (38 👤)



THOUGHTS

Governance / Finances & Budget



Push the gov't for more funding so there are adequate numbers of staff..EA's, office admin., teachers. Kids are falling through cracks...emotionally and intellectually. Classrooms and playgrounds need more staff to supervise and support ALL students

4.1  (10 )

What good is a new building but not enough staff? Shame on the UCP for firing EA's. Shame on them for pulling funding for noon busses. FUND schools! Our kids futures depend on curriculums designed by educators and proper staff funding. Our kids deserve supports!

4.0  (41 )

Funding increases for children's learning. Children with special needs and require funding should not suffer because there is lack of proper funding. The more help children get at a younger age betters their chance at a successful future.

3.9  (40 )



THOUGHTS

Governance / Parent & Community Engagement



Clearer communication with parents on school year objectives, responsibilities, and role Parents want to feel engaged in their children's education. By creating clear expectations through a collaborative approach kids are better supported

3.8  (37 )

I would like to see the school help foster activities that engage parents in discussion and action around bullying and healthy peer interactions. Parents and teachers need to feel empowered to create change around how we define and deal with unhealthy peer interactions - no more silos.

3.8  (33 )

Sturgeon Public Schools are doing a great job communication with parents through there weekly new letters and seesaw portals. I feel this is easy access and a reference guide to keeping up with programming, fundraising and evolving guidelines.

3.8  (18 )



THOUGHTS

Governance / COVID Protocols



Should be allowing the kids to get back to normal play and lessons. Stop using covid as an excuse to restrict the playground into zones. Concerts too need to learn how to play in groups of all ages in order to learn how to treat and respect others. need to do plays to work on public speaking.

3.5  (38 )



THOUGHTS

Governance / Technology & Resources



- Provide additional resources for teachers and students in the classroom when they are required.** To support teachers and maximize learning for the students. 4.1 ★★★★★ (40 👤)
- For our learning centres, it has been time consuming to find resources and set-up courses for our online learning environment after ADLC closed.** Allow time during the school year for teachers to develop online Google Classrooms for subjects. Pre-made resources are good, but we need more. 3.9 ★★★★★ (6 👤)
- More counselling time for students, more united technology, easier avenue for sharing and lesson planning.** To ensure students emotional needs are met, to streamline this for teachers and educational assistants. 3.4 ★★★★★ (40 👤)



THOUGHTS

Governance / Transportation



Continue offering transportation services In order for many students and families to access education within Sturgeon County, in town and rural, they are dependent on transportation services.

3.8  (38 )

Don't cancel pre k busing Many parents/ guardians and day home providers rely on this service to get their children to school, for some it's an essential service.

3.8  (26 )

Mid day bussing should not be canceled for pre k/headstart Many families rely on daycare and bussing is the only way they can have children attend pre k, which could be crucial support for their development

3.7  (30 )



THOUGHTS

Governance / Additional Thoughts



Do everything possible to reject the UCP curriculum. It in itself will cripple future learning. Anything else we suggest will be counterproductive

3.7  (41 )

there needs to be a boundary with staff and parents there are things said about other kids to parents that's not okay foip I don't care what type of underlying issue a child has they should never be talked about from a teacher to another students parent ever.

3.7  (22 )

Facilitate appropriate spaces for asynchronous students to learn and work. Back rooms of schools and former board rooms in adult-focused building are not appropriate for students who already have aversion to school buildings.

3.7  (6 )



THOUGHTS

Governance / Online Learning



Access to online learning as well as in school With covid numbers still being high in schools, my child misses out when she has to stay home

2.8  (40 )

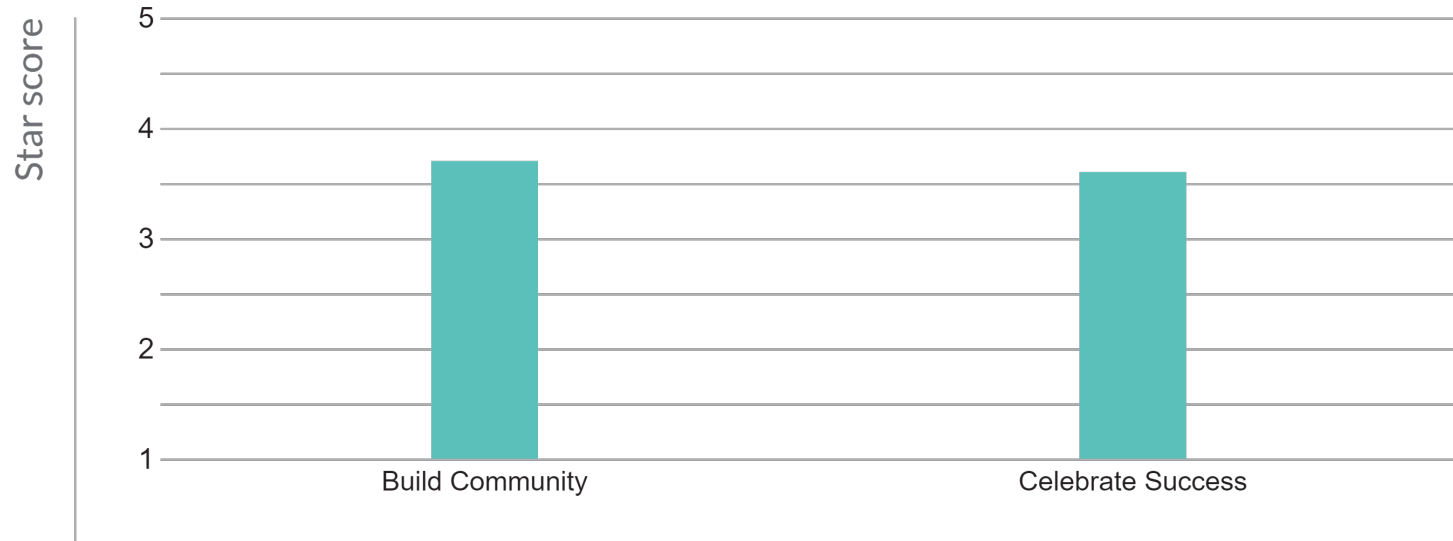
Online after school help Some teachers offer additional help after school but for children who don't drive and cannot get a ride, this should be offered electronically as well

2.7  (30 )



LOCAL & SOCIETAL CONTEXT

Top Themes by star score





THOUGHTS

Local & Societal Context / Build Community



- It might be nice to see some more staff - teachers, EA's, administration and volunteers** It would be nice to re-establish connections and communication between teachers, students and parents. 4.1 ★★★★★ (35 👤)
- Implement a targeted one on one intervention program for reading, using parent volunteers.** Edm Catholic and Public boards both run programs like this. It could alleviate workload from the teachers. We need much more community involvement. 4.0 ★★★★★ (26 👤)
- Positive Events that will motivate students - science fairs, outdoor classrooms, nickle drives, etc.** Community involvement, invites parents and families back into the schools, allows kids to take pride in their work and public speak. Challenges Knowle 3.8 ★★★★★ (36 👤)



THOUGHTS

Local & Societal Context / Celebrate Success



- Love to see group pics of events happening in the junior high classrooms and during their options.** Let's showcase our amazing junior high students and acknowledge what they accomplish through the year. Children will feel valued and acknowledged **3.9** ★★★★★ (35 👤)
- Positive Events that will motivate students - science fairs, outdoor classrooms, nickle drives, etc.** Community involvement, invites parents and families back into the schools, allows kids to take pride in their work and public speak. Challenges Knowle **3.8** ★★★★★ (36 👤)
- Having activities again** Having activities this helps inspire school spirit and enjoyment in your school. Having 'spirit week' is particularly enjoyable as you get to dress up **3.6** ★★★★★ (35 👤)