



School Improvement Needs Assessment - Abbreviated Report Sample

Assessment Conducted by the
Iowa Association of School Boards

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The #1 Job of a School District -

to ensure that each and every
student acquires the
knowledge and skills needed
to be ready for college,
career, and life

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How do you know if you are getting the job done?

- Results from student achievement assessments that are well aligned to the Common Core Standards.
- Needs Assessment of the characteristics found in effective/high-performing schools.

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Needs Assessment Components

Characteristics Common to Effective/High-Performing Schools:

- Clear shared vision, purpose, and goals
- High expectations for student learning
- Leadership and teamwork at all levels
- Rigorous content standards and a comprehensive assessment system

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Needs Assessment Components

Characteristics Common to Effective/High-Performing Schools:

- High quality instruction
- Professional development focused on improvement
- Access to and use of data
- Family and community connections

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Your Roles as a Board/Leadership Team:



- Set clear expectations.
- Create conditions for success.
- Hold the system accountable to the expectations.
- Build public will.
- Learn together as a team.

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Needs Assessment Findings:



The results of the Needs Assessment are displayed graphically in the next sets of slides. Results are compared for district board members and staff, district parents and community members, and students.

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Caution:

The survey results represent peoples' perceptions or opinions about the current district status. It is not uncommon for perceptions to be different than reality. Therefore you should verify using other evidence.

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High Performing Schools Characteristic #1

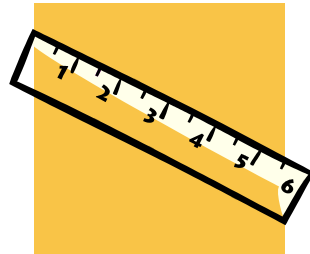


Goals and Expectations

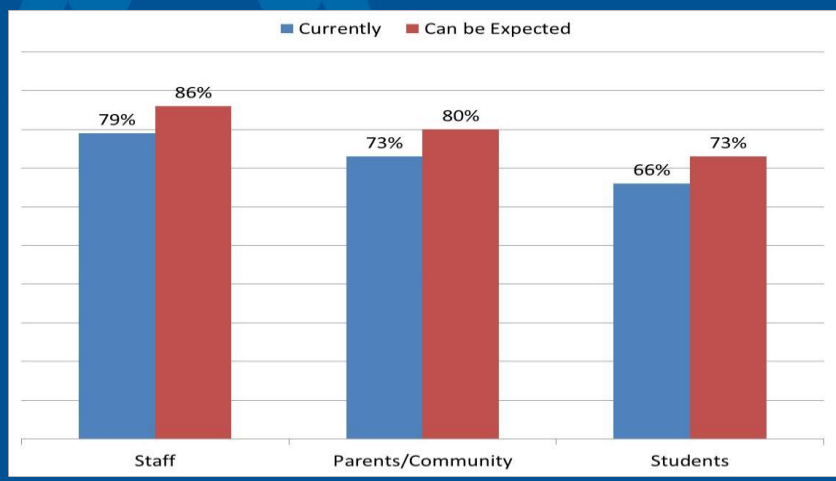


Indicators of Goals & Expectations

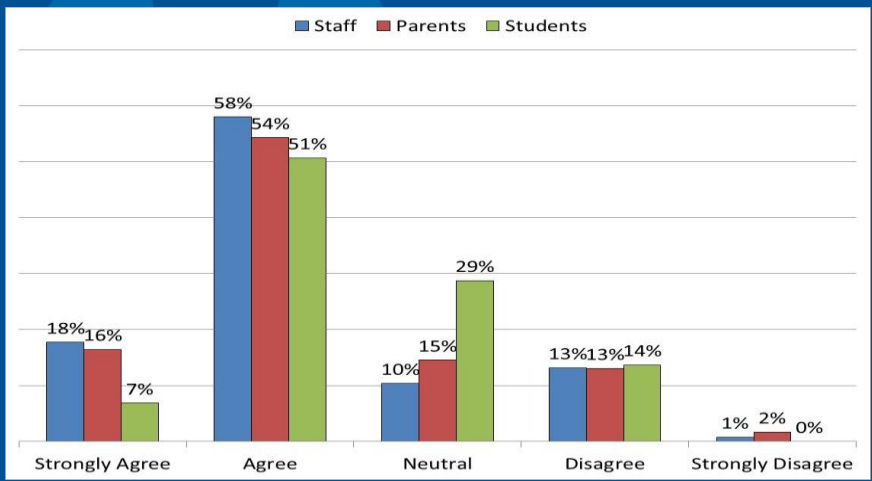
1. People indicate that they can get better.
2. There are ambitious/stretch goals.
3. There is a lack of excuses.



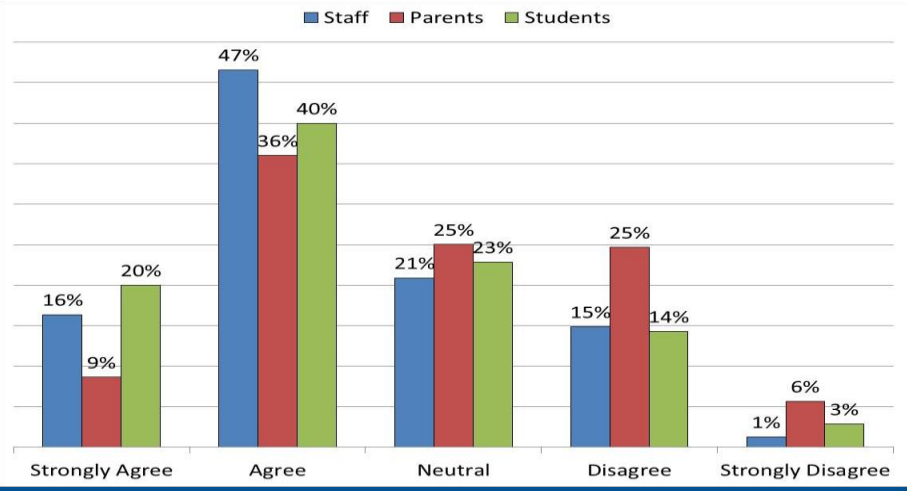
What Percentage of Students Are Meeting Standards/Grade-Level Expectations



Survey Item#1 - "The current level of student achievement is about what we can expect."



Survey Item#11 - "Student achievement barriers, such as poverty and lack of family support, can be overcome by quality teaching & learning."

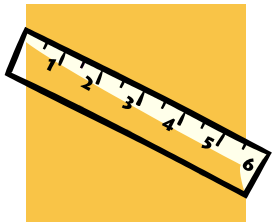


High-Performing Schools
Characteristic #5
High Quality Instruction

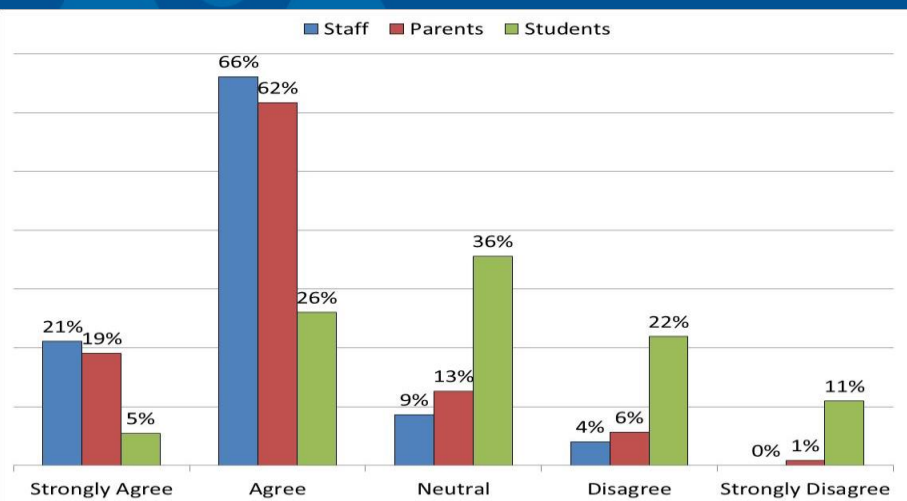


Indicators of High Quality Instruction

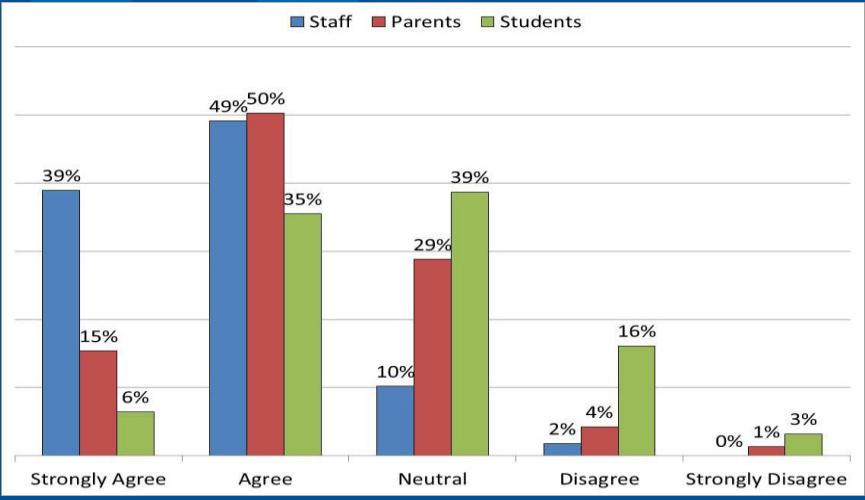
- 1. Instruction actively engages the students.
- 2. There is evidence of research-based instructional practices.
- 3. Instructional tasks include a blend of cognitive demand/rigor.



Survey Item#9 - "Our students are actively engaged in classroom learning tasks."



Survey Item#15 - "We use research-based instructional practices in this district."



Needs Assessment Survey

Open-Ended Responses





Major Strengths:

1. Most parents and staff members believe that there are strong leadership teams in the district.
2. Most staff say that they have a voice in decision making.
3. A strong majority of respondents believe that the school board can have a positive impact on student performance.

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Major Improvement Recommendations:

1. Create urgency consensus around the belief that virtually all students can learn at high levels, that barriers can be overcome, and that major improvements can and will be made in student achievement.
2. Focus attention and resources on improvement of instruction, rigor and relevance, and student engagement.
3. Continue to improve the assessment system to align to the content and rigor of the Common Core Standards.

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