



BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT

Excellence in Education Summit 2026

October 2, 2026

Normal Community High School



WHERE IT STARTED

District Equity Leadership Team



The Professional Development strand of DELT turned an idea into an experience!

Excellence and Equity Framework Session Alignment

Inner Resources

The values, beliefs, and practices that support our personal well-being and fuel reflection and growth.

School & Systems Resources

The resources, policies, and learning conditions that create foundational support for equitable teaching and learning.

Curriculum

What we teach, focusing on lessons that integrate academics, anti-racism, and social, emotional, cognitive, and identity development.

Radically Inclusive Relationships

Focus on identities, mindsets, relationships, and practices that support an equitable learning community where all belong and thrive.

Equitable Instructional Practices

How teaching and learning happen live in the classroom, with focus on the interplay between students, teachers, and content.

AT A GLANCE

Whole District Learning Together



1,400

staff registrations

55

unique sessions across
three time blocks

90

presenters sharing their
expertise

4.2/5

overall rating from 479
feedback responses

PLANNING

Learning Strands for Sessions

Belonging and School Culture

Excellence Through Presence: Building Inclusive Classrooms

Equitable and Inclusive Practices

Designing Accessible Instruction to Include Multilingual Learners

High Impact Instruction

Fluency for All: Number Talks in Action

Innovative Digital Learning Strategies

Intentional Use of AI in Education

Professional Growth and Career Planning

TRS/IMRF - Plan Smarter, Retire Stronger

Social Emotional Supports

Social Emotional Learning in Extracurricular Activities

Specialized Services

IEP Crash Course

Student Supports for Sensory

Vision and Learning: It's More Than Just Glasses

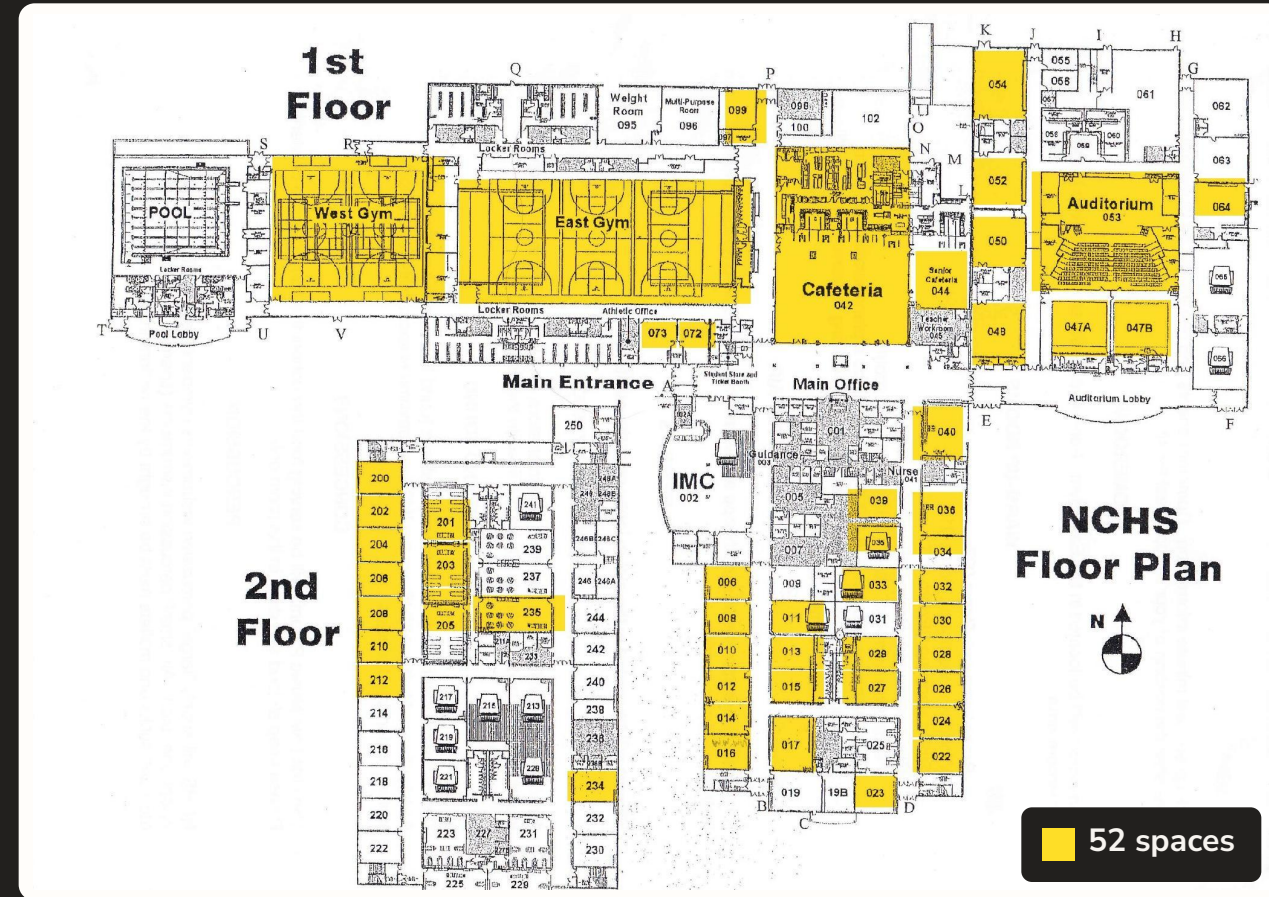
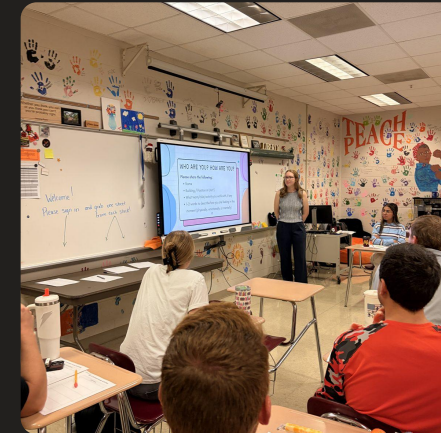
Systems, Data and Operations

Clarity over Chaos: Fixing Data, Residency and Process Gaps

Resource Fair

36 Community Organizations

Learning in Every Space



Connecting Staff with our Community

36 partner tables filled the gym, across four strands of community resources

Health and wellness

- OSF HealthCare
- Hy-Vee nutrition and flu shots
- American Heart Association
- American Cancer Society
- Chestnut
- ABC Counseling
- Yoga Lab

Education and libraries

- Heartland Community College
- Illinois State University
- Regional Office of Education
- Bloomington Public Library
- Normal Public Library
- Unit 5 Education Foundation

Youth and community

- Stay Another Day
- YWCA
- YMCA
- Big Brothers Big Sisters
- Promise Council
- Ecology Action Center
- Commerce Bank

Arts, culture, and local fun

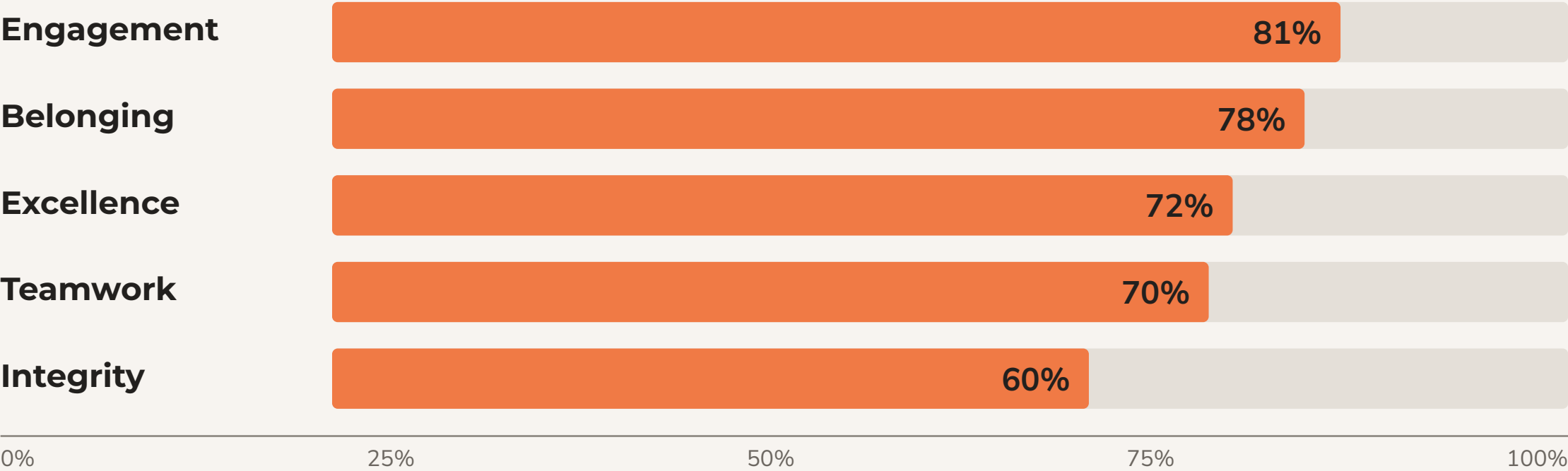
- Children's Museum
- McLean County Museum
- Illinois Art Station
- Cornbelters
- ISU Athletics
- Sneaker Box
- Zozzaro
- Bison

DEPARTMENT SPOTLIGHT

It Took the Whole District

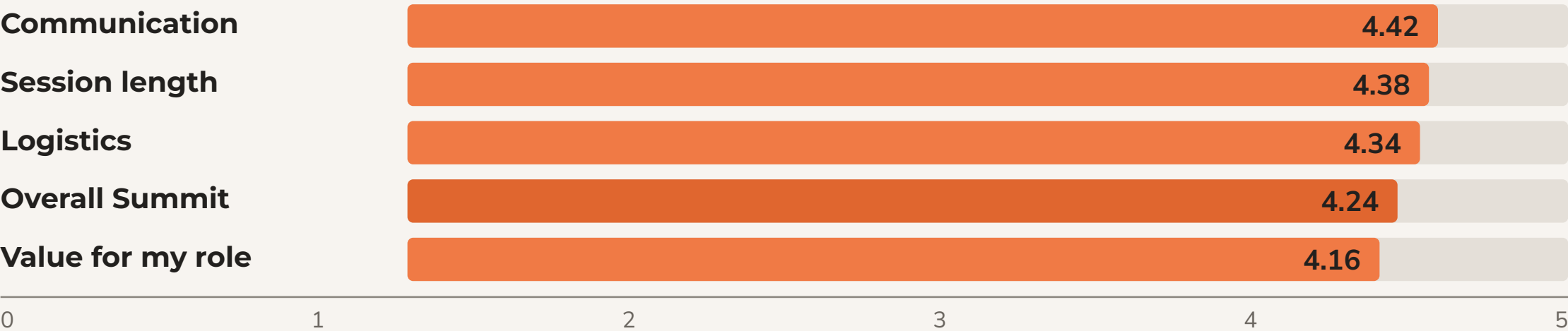
 Superintendent Opening message to welcome staff	 Student Services Oversaw the DELT and led session selection and review	 Communications Resource Fair and food trucks	 Legal Reviewed presentations for policy alignment
 Facilities Custodial support and building setup at NCHS	 Finance Payroll processing for staff extra time	 Food Service Breakfast and snack stations	 Technology On-site IT support for the walkthrough and sessions
 Transportation Shuttles with First Student from Eastview parking	 Principals Support for staff and service throughout the day	 DELT Vision to Implementation	 Directors From presenting to facilitating to planning

Strategic Plan In Action



FEEDBACK • 479 RESPONSES

87% rated the Summit 4 or 5 stars



Sessions staff can use right away

86% agreed their session was relevant to their role

81% agreed they can use something from it in their work

"One thing I will use or try..."

"I will try to incorporate more chants in my classroom."

"I'll try to be WCAG compliant with future content I create."

"Being more intentional with recognizing body signals and emotions."

FEEDBACK · IN THEIR WORDS

What staff told us

“

I love that you are using the expertise in our district and we get to learn from each other.

“

The sessions were good and not too overwhelming. A nice, well planned summit. Great resource fair.

“

It was nice for everyone to be in one place. I appreciate the hard work it took to pull off this event!

“

I appreciate the opportunity for school staff to become leaders and teachers for their peers.

LOOKING AHEAD

Feedback for a Purpose

Topics staff asked for

Topic	Mentions
Wellness and self-care	38
Role-specific sessions	34
AI and technology	28
Social-emotional learning	22
Behavior and classroom management	18

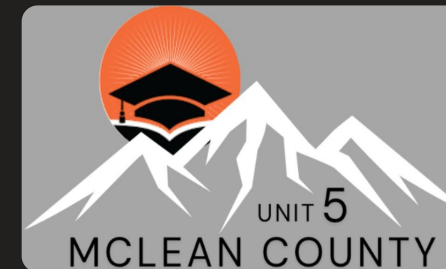
Feedback for Improvement

- Clearer signs and room maps
- A simpler sign-up with fewer reminder emails
- An easier-to-use Summit Google Site
- More seats in the most popular sessions
- More sessions for secondary, EOP, nursing, and support staff



To our 90 presenters, every
department that pitched in, and the
1,400 staff who came to learn
together...

Thank you



Questions?