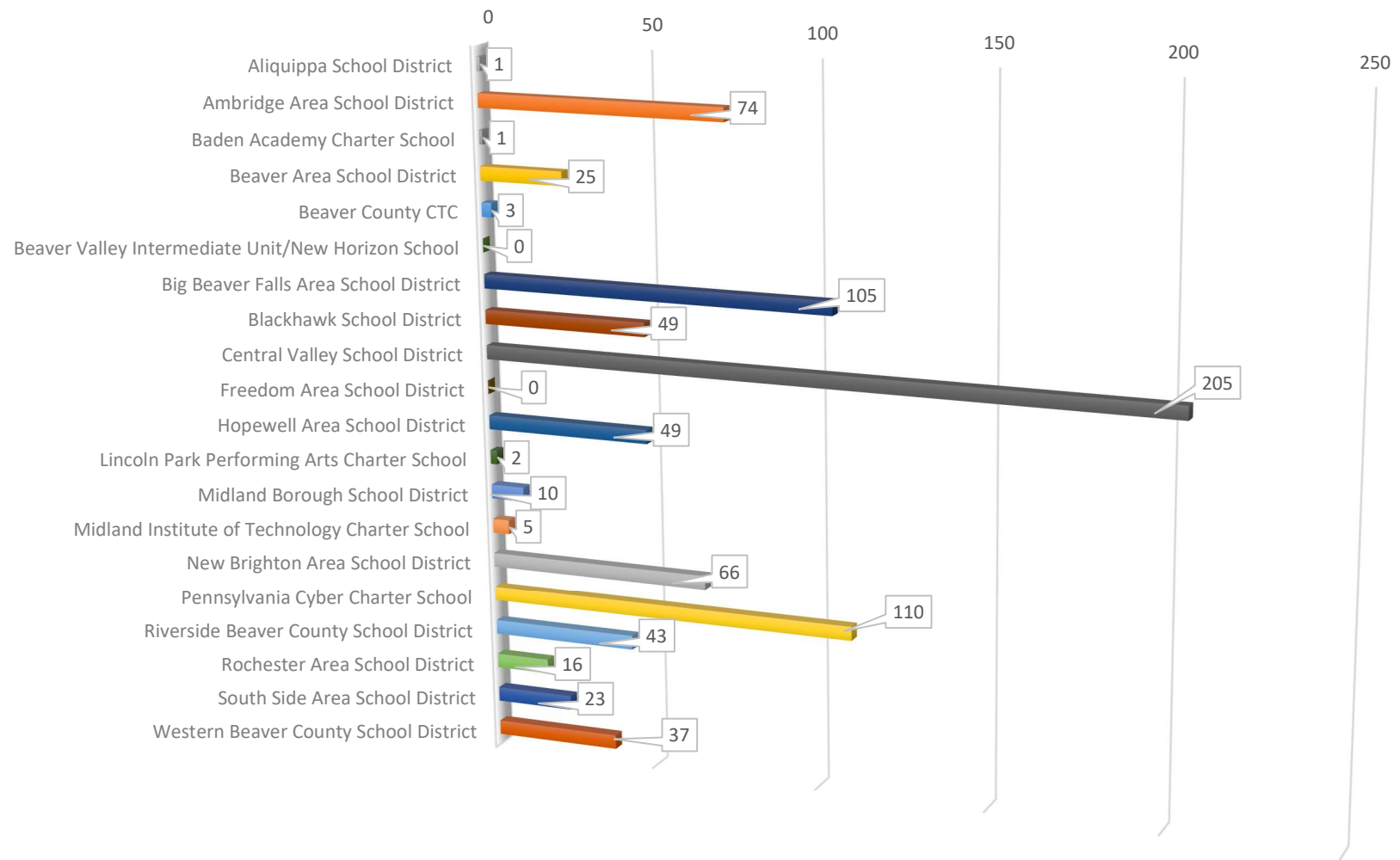


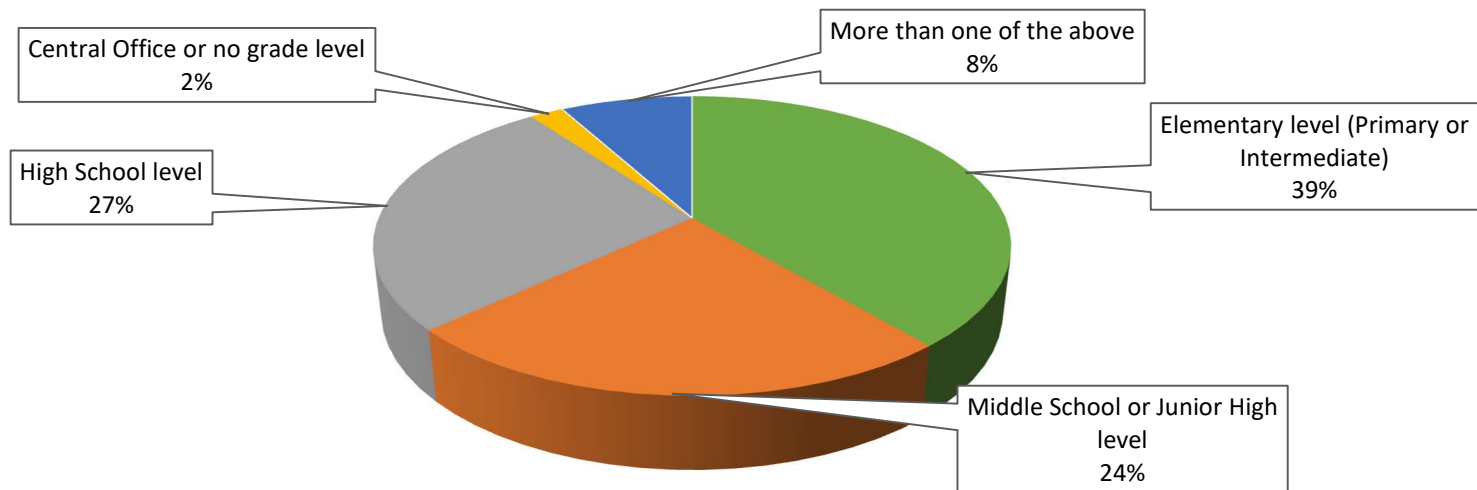
*BEAVER VALLEY INTERMEDIATE UNIT*  
*DISTRICT NEEDS ASSESSMENT COMPILATION*  
*2023-2024*



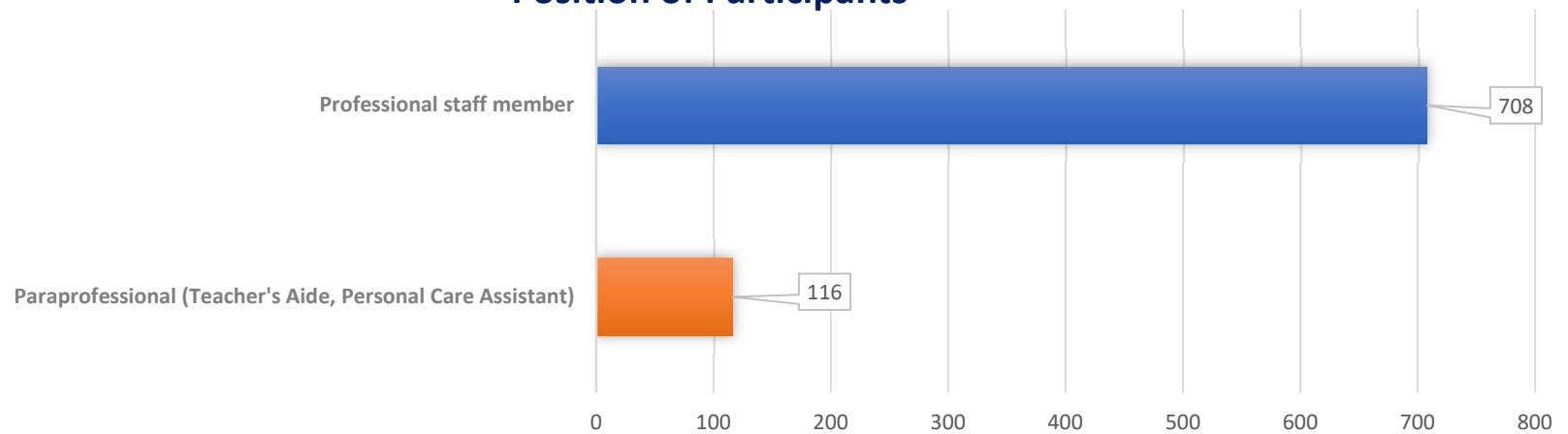
The following chart identifies the number of participants per school district/agency across the county who participated in this assessment survey.



## Grade levels Taught

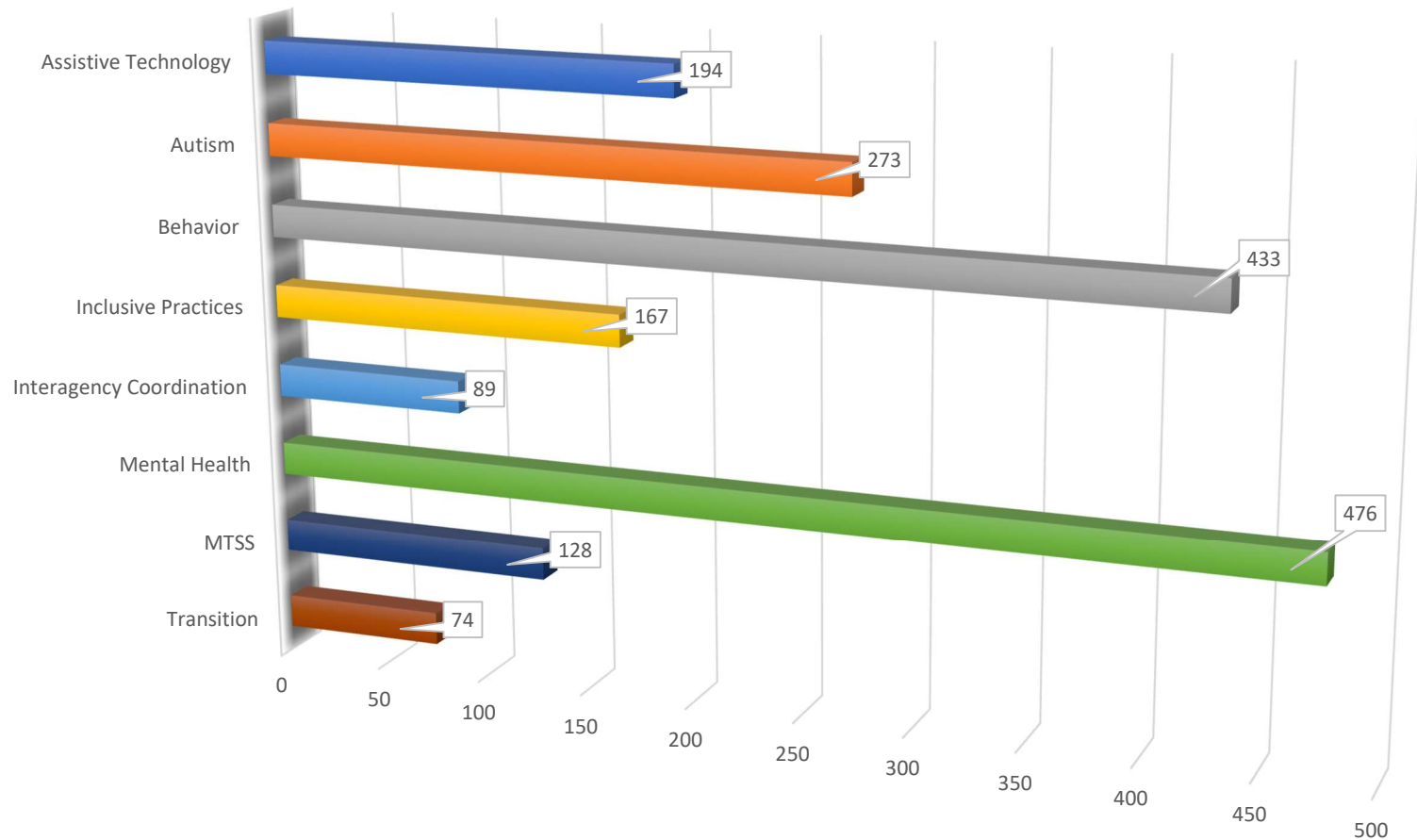


## Position of Participants

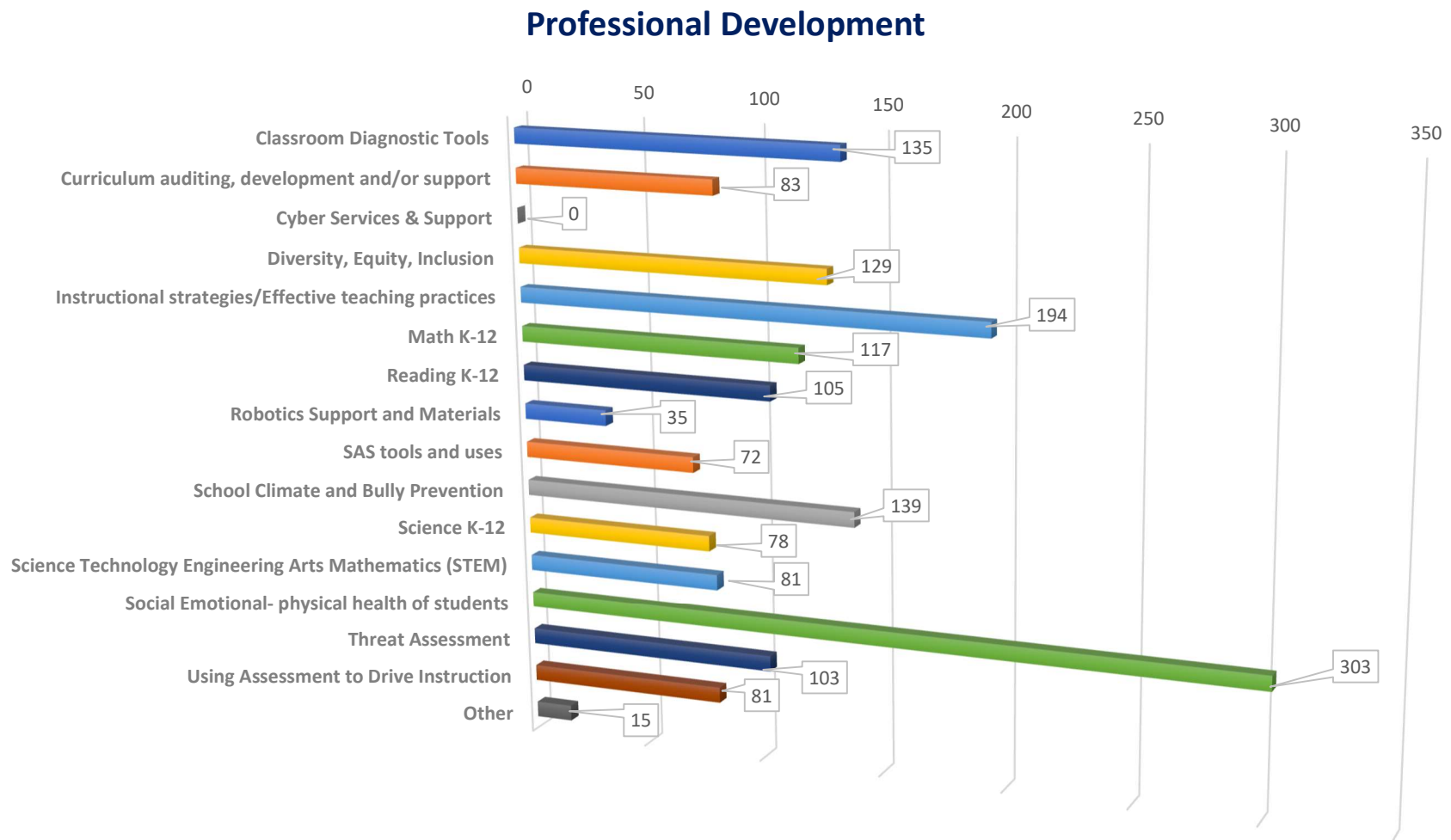


The following chart indicates the Training and Consultation Initiatives identified as needs across the county by those that participated in this assessment survey.

**TaC Initiatives**

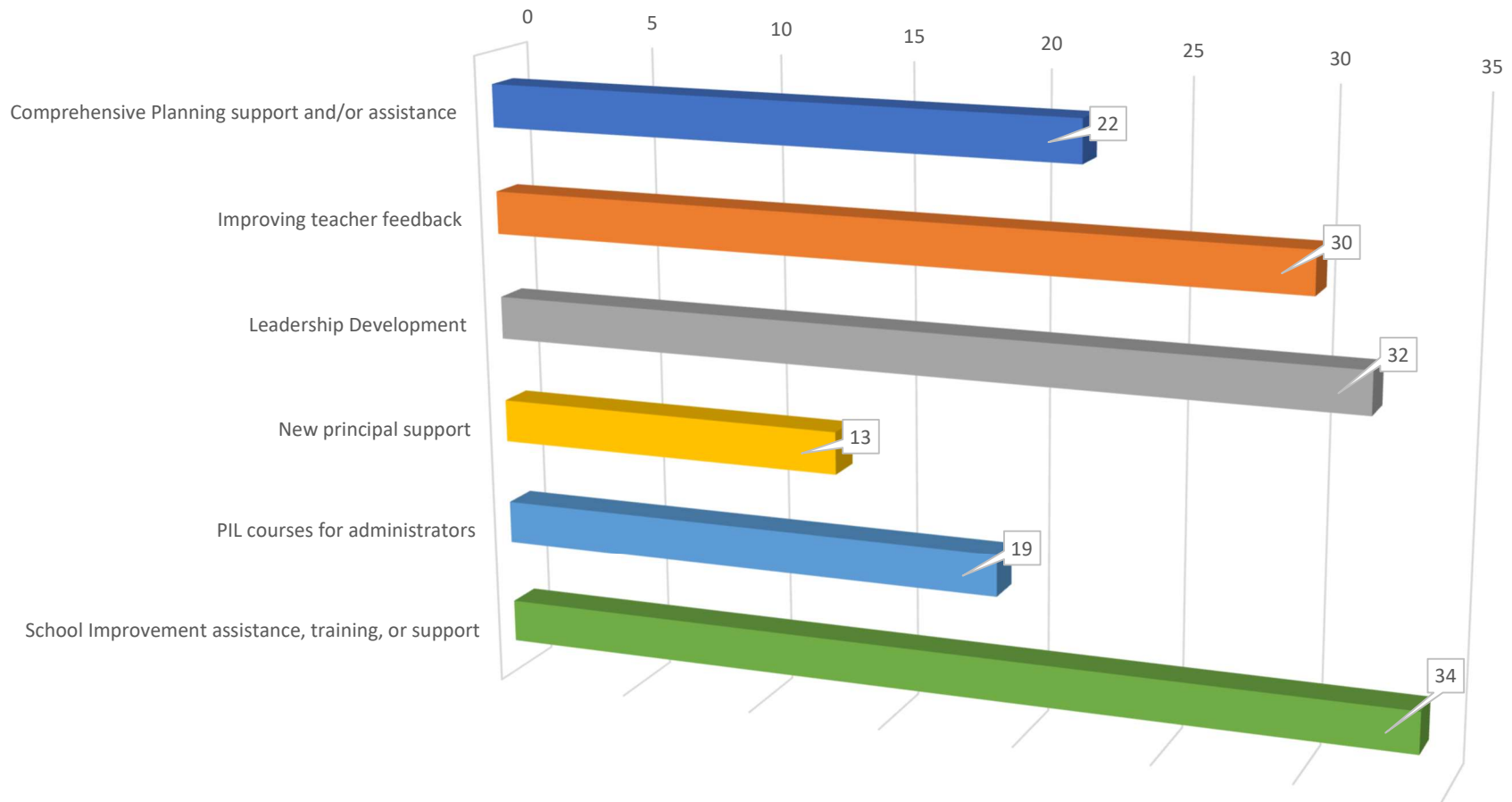


The following chart indicates the Professional Development areas identified as needs across the county by those that participated in this assessment survey. These are the Professional Development areas that the BVIU Curriculum Department provides technical assistance for.



The following chart defines the support needs of School Administrators.

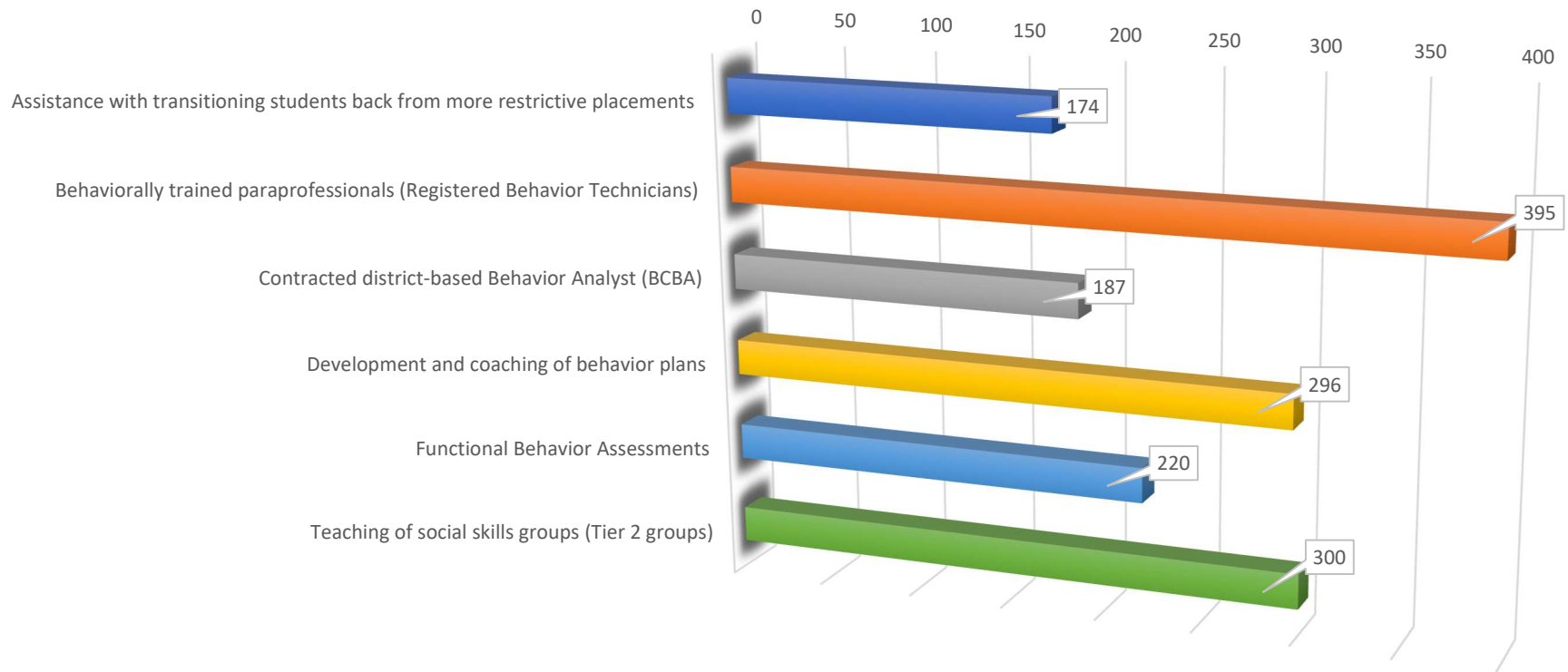
**As an administrator, what are some of the support needs for your district?**





The following chart defines the Behavioral Services needs across the county based on program needs by those that participated in this assessment survey.

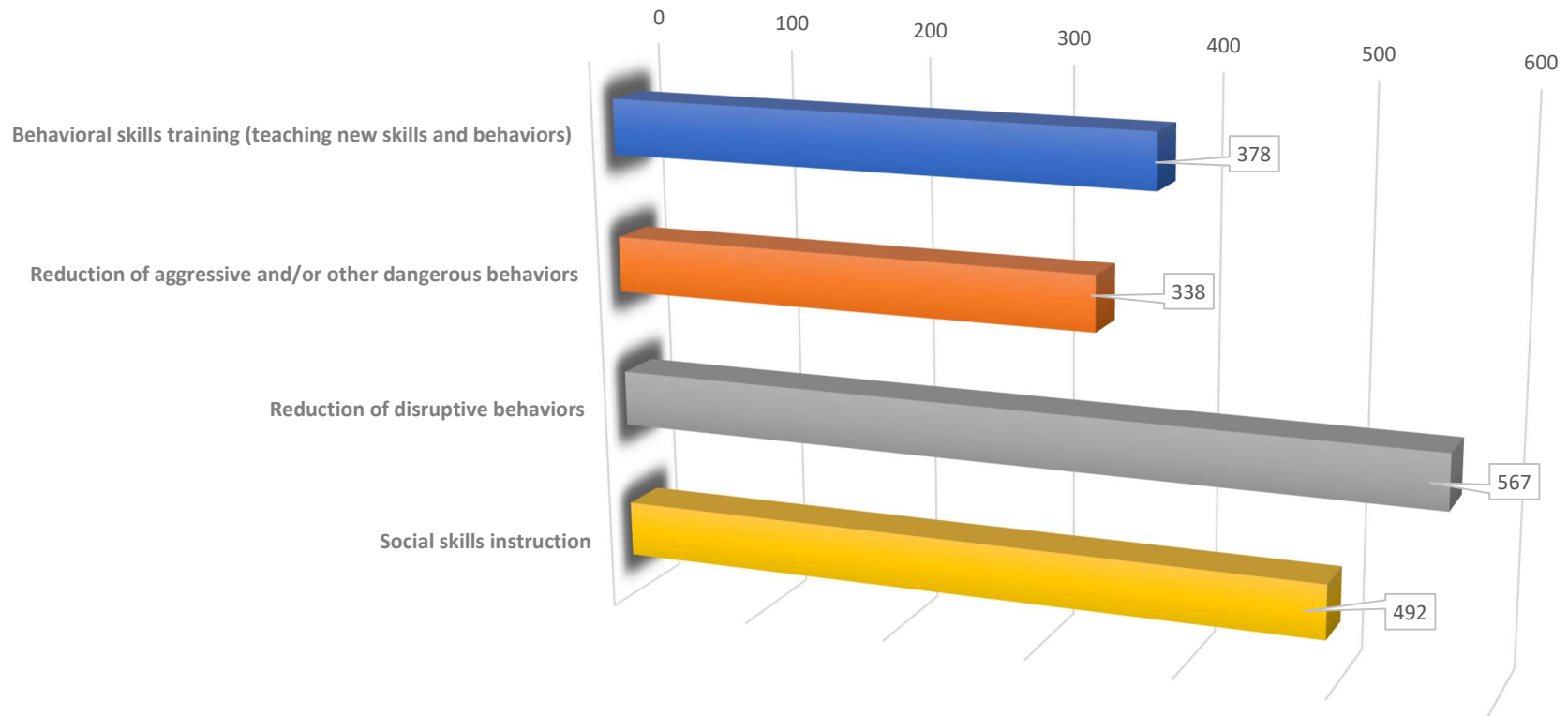
**Which of the following behavior services, if any, would you find beneficial to your program?**



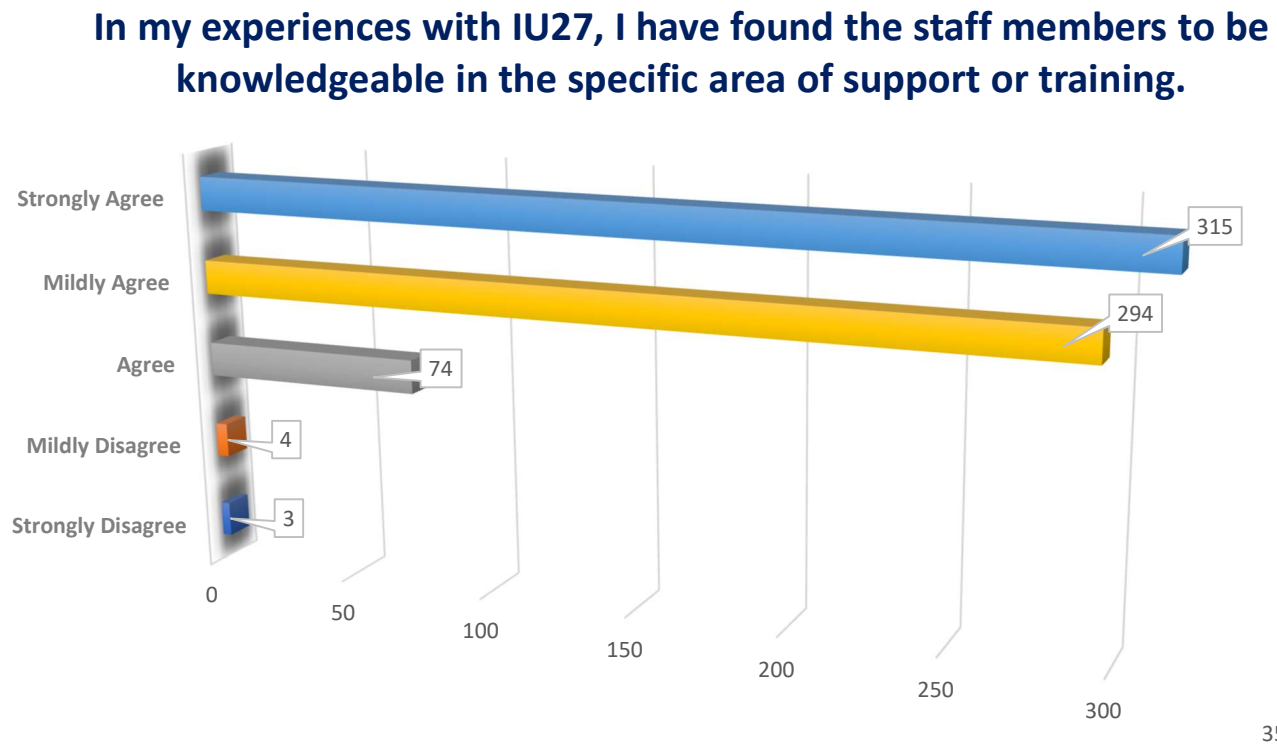


The following chart defines the Behavioral Support needs across the county based on student needs by those that participated in this assessment survey.

**Which of the following behavioral supports do you feel would most benefit your students?**



The following chart defines the overall knowledge of the IU Trainers and Facilitators related to Professional Development based off participant responses in the assessment survey.



## The following are the Future Professional Development suggestions that the IU currently does not offer that the respondents entered in the survey.

Writing goals for GIEPs and differentiating in the classroom.

Mental Health Awareness in children

Co-teaching model trainings, roles of a paraprofessional in the classroom

Currently in development

Trainings/information on AI tools.

I think mental health is a very important part of what is going on in today's climate. I think expanded mental health supports to our districts would be a great addition on top of what you are already doing within the IU. I feel like many times mental health training is pushed toward special education teachers and our regular education teachers are left leaning on the special education teachers for advice in dealing with problem students. Expanding mental health trainings that are geared more towards a whole group learning environment I feel would greatly reduce problematic behaviors within the classroom setting before they become bigger issues.

Structured Literacy applicable for secondary staff members who need it to maintain certification

Tier 2 and 3 Behavior Supports for SWPBIS Teams

we never go to programs

More principal meetings throughout the year.

I would say anything that would be AI-related.

I'm not sure what is offered for Paraprofessionals. I would like to attend additional trainings beyond what we have during our in service days.

Specials Area specific professional development (art, music, phys ed, library, technology)

Cannot say

Truthfully, I have seen zero benefit. We don't receive support. Our administration is responsible for scheduling professional development and teachers have no input. When teachers request training we are typically denied.

ESL support services

None are coming to mind!

More for paraprofessionals anything to help make me better at my job and help the kids/school

Mental health issues in children

integrating new,current technology resources into the classroom

see answers to assessment

More Act 45 opportunities

More technology based instruction especially for the upcoming STEELS transition.

More on teaching in the cyber setting

Restorative practices

I don't know what's offered.

Parent and Community Engagement: Courses on parent and community engagement can provide strategies for building positive relationships with families, involving parents in their child's education, and connecting with community resources.

English Language Learner (ELL) Strategies: Courses on ELL strategies can help educators support the language development and academic achievement of students who are learning English as a second language.

I don't know what is even offered

Science of Reading, non CKLA provided

Training for teachers on helping students deal with the emotional toll of high school social networks.

High school emotional support strategies.

I am certified staff but don't work in a teaching role.

I would like updated training on writing Reevaluation Reports and IEPs.

Train principals on discipline

I would like to see some tailored to my specific content area, world language teaching. In the past, I worked with content-based instruction in the world language class, but this would require some curriculum changes, too, at my school, but would definitely be interested in anything pertaining to my content area. Also, we don't currently have a large population of ELLs, but I think this might be a need in the future.

TDA Training (Potential for 2024-2025)

Behavioral/emotional support training/certification (in person, not as a module) for paraprofessionals.

In person behavior/emotional support training/certification

Training on TEACCH

Ways to handle disruptive behaviors in large classes that are not punitive. Writing a student up does not change the behavior, EVER, yet that seems to be the answer when a disruption is big enough to take the teacher away from teaching. Fear of Punishment is not a deterrent; detentions are not enough to change behaviors.

Im happy with the PD provided

Not sure at this time

Science of Reading based strategies to support both regular education and special education students.

Supporting students with GIEPs

CPI ( or similar training) team training and procedures.

health-related problems with students

I am unaware of anything that the IU does, so it would be nice to just know what services they provide and how I can access those services.

Programs about AI would be beneficial. Most teachers are not aware of their capabilities and/or how to recognize student work that was created by AI.

Student engagement in the virtual environment

Unknown

Legal briefings, legal topics, school law topics

I would like to see CPR and AED training offered to all staff.

handling students with behaviors, setting consequences, supporting other students who are witnessing behaviors, etc.  
Literacy training was great with Jeff, now we have not heard anything since his retirement and things have come to a halt.

Social media and tik tok trends and dangers

I have no additional comments at this time.

Current drug trends

Bring Back County-Wide in-Service day!!!

Strategies to be more effective working with students with IEP's

Curriculum for teaching science and social studies

Curriculum development based on new STEELS standards

Unsure

I think it would be beneficial for some of the paraprofessional staff to be trained in appropriate behavior within the classroom. Some paraprofessional are disruptive in the classroom or hallways or are not helpful to the students they are working with. I have watched some paraprofessionals give answers to test questions when they are "helping" students.

Technology Integration

A program that teaches schools how to utilize students who are often disruptions to feel needed in the school setting, to feel they have a place...sorting lunch tickets, wiping tables, things such as this, to channel their energy into places other than being disruptive, and to build confidence in feeling that they matter. Schools need something like this as a program, though, not just attempts with this student or that.

?

Mental Health

ADHD

Emotional Support

It would be nice to have Technology Education (Industrial arts and maintenance of program materials, robots, 3D printers etc.) act 48 classes through the IU.

How to best work with students who refuse to comply with the standards of the school.

Working with ESL and non-english speaking students

Behavior and mental health

Math Intervention Strategies

Teaching Strategies to Increase Engagement in Math

Strategies for Building Positive School Culture

Orton Gillingham training along with the Science of Reading trainings.

ESL trainings for regular Ed teachers.

Wasn't offered any developmental trainings, so I wouldn't know what is out there.

Unsure

Life Skills students behavior support training, effectively managing attention seeking behaviors

The following are the Other Curriculum Services that respondents would like to see.

AI  
Classroom Management  
CDT how to pull information  
uniform discipline in the building for all students (excluding extreme cases)  
ELL  
SOR approaches to teaching reading  
AI  
STEELS Training  
Writing  
special education resources for students with complex needs  
Reading/Math/Writing Coaches (as we've had in the past) These positions were phenomenal for students and teachers to put skills into practice!  
free coding  
Supporting areas of Technology Education (industrial arts, 3D printer maintenance for act 48  
Getting administration to listen to teachers  
Teaching ELL students

## The following are the Behavioral Services that the respondents suggested in the survey.

Emotional support

Yes for most but I do think we need an emotional support classroom

Behavior Support Classroom/teacher

Middle school life skills

Sticking to the progressive behavior punishments so that we see a change in student behavior

encouraging students to attend class and complete homework assignments.

More staff and proper locations for students in need so other identified students don't have to leave their place of learning

Behavioral classrooms so learning of typical students is not interrupted daily

Helping students with their behavior in the cyber setting. Much of this really falls on the parents which makes managing behaviors difficult at our school.

Techniques on how classroom teachers should address behavior without having to send students directly to administration., along with alternatives to punitive steps.

More than 1 guidance counselor for 700 students. An Emotional Support classroom for K-2 and one for 3-4th more teachers

Additional Guidance Counselor

mental health support

Teaching apathetic students/what supports to provide

A clear, tiered system of consequences based upon level of misbehavior, and follow-through with the consequences

Additional Staff

Appropriate discipline measures for students who threaten teachers. Make the district do something

transitioning out of elementary behavior behavior plans

Behavior mangement/ ISS



## The following are the Behavioral Supports that the respondents suggested in the survey.

any that can be provided

Students could benefit from learning coping skills.

Training paraprofessionals before they start on the job working with students. A program that all paras must go through before they enter a classroom.

The lists provided within this survey cover a lot of ground. I don't feel that I could add anything to this list. Implementing these things would be great, especially at the middle school level.

Our students' behavioral needs are excessive (spitting on desks, on students, aggression toward students and teachers, jumping from desk to desk, destroying classrooms..etc) and our administration and guidance counselor are ill-equipped to provide support to classroom teachers. There is no known protocol. Teachers without behavior training are expected to support students and staff. We were told that the administration and the guidance counselor are the last to be contacted and we are expected to contact our encore (music, gym, art, stem, library) staff first. Student learning is disrupted regularly. Behaviors of students continue without efficient and effective interventions.

DeEscalation Strategies

Emotional Support supports, services, and curriculum. At this time, we have a few Emotional Support teachers (I believe one or two) who will pop into classes and run Social Skills groups. It would be nice to have a whole program for the students, or to at least have more than one teacher.

more guidance counselors/social workers to help with mental health

Cultural acceptance / appreciation of ELL peers or peers from other countries

addiction to video games / phone

More paraprofessionals in classrooms in general

Our district needs to raise the salaries for our paraprofessionals so they can hire more. They deserve more.

Parents and caregivers need to be involved as well.

Preventative lessons from counselors (feelings, emotions,) to all students. Groups meeting weekly for T2 and daily for T3, people being available to assist classroom teacher immediately and students needs being met

High School Emotional Support strategies.

Available services / resources for placements and assistance outside of school for extreme behavioral issues / mental health needs.

Administrative training on how to address teachers who are not teaching to their curriculum

We do not have enough staff/appropriate staff to deal with behaviors. Our school counselor often has to deal with behaviors which is not what she should be focusing her time on. A few disruptive and aggressive children take up the majority of her time.

We don't have the ability to meet ED diagnosed students at the elementary level.

The students need curriculum and lessons based on dealing various traumatic events that have occurred in their lives. Focusing on coping skills and CBT strategies that can be applied to the students' lives on a daily basis is necessary, especially at the high school level.

Emotional support for classes that have many IEP and 504 together.

Additional behavior-trained support staff to model interventions within the classroom or support the teachers so that they can continue to teach the other students as well.

Our biggest issue are students with behavioral issues in the cyber environment because we are limited on what we can provide as support.

Emotional Support services for primary level. If this was in place, we may see a reduction in some behaviors.

Guidance support at each primary building at all times i.e. another guidance counselor.

Having an emotional support teacher and more staff to handle students with social/emotional needs.

- \*\*\*\*An Emotional Support Classroom for K-2 and one for 3-4 would greatly help with the increase in behaviors we are seeing with students. We are seeing a significant increase in students coming in diagnosed with ADHD, ODD, trauma, and other behavioral problems. We have very little support to help these students.

- We have 1 guidance counselor for 700 students (2 buildings share 1 guidance counselor). We need to hire another guidance counselor to help support the behavioral and mental health issues our students are facing.

- We need to have a learning support teacher for each grade level - one for Kindergarten, one for 1st, one for 2nd, etc. Currently we share 1 LS teacher for K-2. 3rd and 4th each have their own LS teacher.

- We need more para support than just paras supporting the LS students. We have many lower students who need extra support but are not able to receive extra support/help.

- A closer look at how students qualify for special education - a more clear and consistent way of qualifying students for special education.

- More supports offered for our younger learners - start title 1 before January. Offer a 'fine motor' club for students struggling in OT since we are limited in OT evaluations. We need to build solid foundations with our youngest learners and get them the interventions but we are very limited with staff.

Teaching parents to parent!

Motivation, organization, time management

Our staff and students need a plan in place to support the behavioral issues for those students who are disruptive, disrespectful, aggressive, etc. We also need to support the other students who follow the classroom rules. They are becoming increasingly anxious and scared of the aggressive students. Even if they are not being physically hurt, they are still being subjected to witnessing these unacceptable behaviors. The increase in the number of these behaviors is impeding the learning of other students while disrupting lessons. Additionally, the same teachers get behaviors every year, while other teachers never experience these behaviors in their classrooms. Consequences need to be enforced and consistent.

Support that would be less embarrassing for students and more supportive of social emotional learning. Support that would be consistent and appropriate, but not fully rest only on the classroom teacher's shoulders if needs arise above the classroom level.

I have no additional comments at this time.

Not applicable

Someone actually teaching skills to Tier 2 & 3 kids not just managing behavior and putting it all on the teachers. We have enough on our plates.

Primarily teaching.

more guidance counselors to have counseling sessions

Social Media awareness

We are understaffed when it comes to the behavioral needs of our students. We don't have enough time to adequately plan for students with major needs.

I rarely gain little information from the inservices that are sponsored by the BVIU. Most of the presenters try to avoid questions and place most of the blame for a struggling district on the educators. My colleagues have been insulted and spoken down to by your presenters. Some have chosen not to participate in your programs.

Management of repeat offenders in our school!

Developing emotional maturity.

Emotional and behavioral training together as skills to use as one

I would love to have more training on how to better meet the needs of the life skills students in my classroom. I would benefit from a training pertaining to ideas on how frequently to give them breaks, how to better help them to follow our routine, etc.

## The following are the Expanded Supports that the respondents suggested in the survey.

Collaboration opportunities currently in development.

Mental Health training for regular education teachers/ paraprofessionals especially de-escalation techniques to be used in the whole group setting.

AI

STEELS

STEAM

Emotional support staffing

Autism support and emotional support

any ideas

We need more behavioral support staff, mental health support staff, etc.

Michelle McKinley is a vital part of our Beaver County team and her along with many others continue to be critical to the success of all schools in BC.

More support in the early childhood classrooms (pre-K).

More social-emotional supports and outlets for our students.

I would really like to see a social skills and life skills class at the middle school level as there is at the elementary level and high school level. We are missing an opportunity to set them up for success at a critical age

Emotional Support

More services related to behaviors and mental health beyond crisis, prevention, and SAP.

Specialists in dealing with aggressive behavior

Mental Health and how to help/ deal with students who are having trouble.

mental health services for young adults and children

I don't currently see any support being provided. We are often pushed off. We are blamed for student behaviors. We are accused of being unable to do our job when we have student behaviors in our classroom and are provided zero support. So, how does one receive support from IU27?

More paraprofessionals in the building to assist students.

Have enough classroom aides and paraprofessionals to support the number of kids that are supposed to have someone with them all day. I currently have students who get no aide, but are supposed to have one all day. That is not right.

ESL support services

Paraprofessional training that counts toward our 20 hours of additional training each year.

Student Behavioral Needs, Trainings for Behaviors and SWPBIS

Weekly grief groups, social skills groups, and having a Prevention Specialist at the district.

What exactly is a paraprofessional's job duty in the classroom and how could we be better used.

I'm not sure.

Since our trainings lately are all self guided via SAS website, it would be nice to have some IU staff physically in the building to assist with our Wednesday Intervention groups

Assistance with FBAs

Consistency within the classrooms as far as following the rules and have the rules reinforced.

none

Educationally and for the entire district, I would like to see a Beaver County History class/New Brighton Local History as this is where the students live more behavioral support we have a lot of kids coming from different areas, schools and home lifestyles and almost all have some sort of trauma mental health issues in children

Mental Health

Transition, Mental Health, Emotional Support Services

more guidance counselors/implementation of school social workers

A social worker would be very beneficial.

Students with emotional distress.

AI-Based Teaching Tools and Resources: The course could focus on exploring specific AI tools and resources that can support teaching and learning in elementary education. Educators can learn about educational software, virtual tutors, adaptive learning platforms, and AI-powered educational games designed for young learners.

Ethical Considerations in AI Education: An important aspect of AI professional development is understanding the ethical implications of using AI in education. This course could help educators navigate ethical issues related to data privacy, bias, equity, and the responsible use of AI technologies in the classroom.

AI-Powered Educational Apps and Tools: Educators can learn how to integrate AI-powered educational apps and tools into their teaching practice, including applications for language learning, math instruction, and creative storytelling

Same as above

Behavioral support personnel on staff.

Shared services and potential mergers.

Education on Classroom Management and Mental Health Issues / Behavioral Issues

Social services; like an onsite LEA who is for the district, a social worker to deal with social issues that arise and truancy, and programs that address student behavior on and offline.

Continued trainings and discussions on AI for all stakeholders.

How to navigate social media and the potential dangers of it.

I strongly feel we need an emotional support classroom at the elementary level.

More staff

Social and behavioral skills among students have diminished through the years. The lack of caring about success/grades is more apparent. Services that address these issues is needed.

Administrative training

curriculum review and recommendations

Having more counseling services on site and available to students every single day.

Utilization of the many fine programs the IU has to offer.

More community based instruction or outings.

Most likely behavioral and disruption

More with mental health

Collaboration between the IU professional and district employee on specific students and behavior strategies and techniques. For example, if an individual from the IU is coming in for observations and evaluations with the result of writing an FBA on a particular student, open conversation and the ability to collaborate to is essential. Both professionals can work together to develop a plan and resources to support the child in need.

Computer sciences.

Please see previous comments

I have received feedback from parents of students who are bullied or struggling socially, stating that it would be more beneficial to have the bullies participate in groups and interventions, rather than offering support to the victims of bullying. I would like resources or input on how to begin and incorporate such approaches, if they exist. I liked this input, as it was more preventative and did not just address the behavior/discipline.

I would like teachers to be more involved in the IU and to know more about what they do/offer.

County-wide trainings led by expert teachers in a variety of subject areas (ie: music teachers go to one school and are led by a music teacher through a music training, science teachers go to another school and are led by a science teacher through a science training, etc.)

Emotional/behavioral support

Mental health resources for our students. Behavior supports in place for our students. Additional paraprofessionals, special education teachers, BCBA, and other in-house people for our students.

I feel like the regular education teachers are not well equipped to manage and understand students with Autism.

Overall, more staff is needed. There are many students who need emotional/ behavior support. Most times the special education teachers and paras are the ones who support this. If a student is having a behavior this interrupts the support that our other students may get.

- Create an Emotional Support K-2 program
- Hire another guidance counselor for K-4
- Hire more Learning support teachers per K-2 grade levels.
- Hire more OT and speech and language staff
- Hire more paras

We need more science and steel training

More emotional behavior supports. There are multiple incidents of students with escalating behaviors, and there aren't enough staff to help support them. Additional help in the Learning Support setting should be expanded as well. More students are qualifying into Learning Support, and the amount of time students are being supported in the general education setting has decreased, due to the Learning Support teachers splitting time between multiple classrooms.

I liked the Beaver County-wide In-Service Day. We could all use a day of mental health services and relaxation for staff.

Behavior coaching for Paraprofessionals and other support staff members on professionalism, positivity in the workplace, job requirements, and student focused strategies and practices.

handling behaviors more appropriately so that it isn't impeding learning

More extensive training for paraprofessionals.

We need more assistance with at-risk and IEP students in the general education classes. We have teachers who are NOT special education teachers leading classes with half or more students with accommodations. We cannot do it. We need more help.

LETRS training, continued support for literacy development. MTSS.

De escalation

I have no additional comments at this time.

Behavioral and emotional support services.

More paraprofessionals to help with Special Education students/with IEP's & 504 's.

More support with behaviors.

Assisting students with autism

Not sure...

Corrective Math program with teaching materials

Maybe more RBT support, but I know that costs money. Maybe a training for the paras for some kind of support like that would be helpful.

more qualified paraprofessionals and counselors to assist with these students needs

Technology Integration, New Apps for the classroom

Mental / behavioral health awareness and services

Funding

I would like to see more SPED support, sensory room, behavior specialist!

Help with emotional support

I haven't used it yet but the lending library for STEAM sounds great.

Dangers of vaping

Dangers of social media

How to deal with behaviors and needs that use to be placed and now are in the public schools without the proper support.

ESL

guest speakers and shared programs... a robotics boot camp where equipment needed is brought by IU... Co-Teaching with regular teacher... maybe even multi-day sessions.

I'd like to see continued trainings of what to do with specific threats in the building. We do have our school officers train us, but I feel there should be more training. Prevention.

Behavior and mental health

English as a Second Language

Behavioral trainings

Trauma



Positive School Culture (PBIS)

behavior issues

ESL supports and trainings for regular educators.

English Language Learners

Unknown

Behavior training

Transition skills from 5th to 6th grade ( elementary to middle school)

Communicating with Others( Middle/Elementary) Ex: who would benefit from pull out classes?

Mental health stuff

Mental Health

Mental health therapy for kindergarten students