

Friends of Albert Einstein Academies

2023/24 FoAEA Community Survey - Responses

May 2024

Survey execution



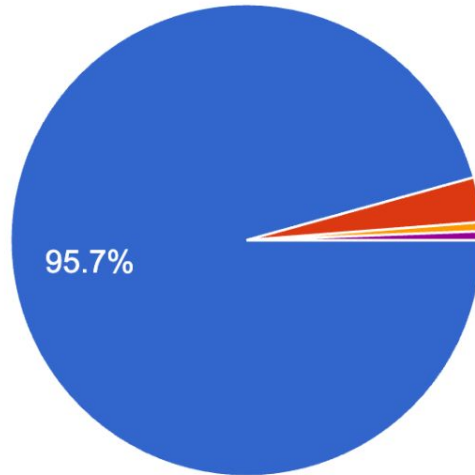
- Collected responses between 3/22/24 - 4/30/24
- Communicated to entire AEA community (ES & MS parents, teacher, staff) via
 - Email & text
 - FoAEA Social Media
 - FoAEA Newsletter
 - Paper Calendars
- 166 responses
- High engagement through comments

Community make-up



How are you connected to the AEA community? / ¿Cómo está conectado a la comunidad AEA?
/ Wie sind Sie mit der AEA-Gemeinschaft verbunden?

163 responses



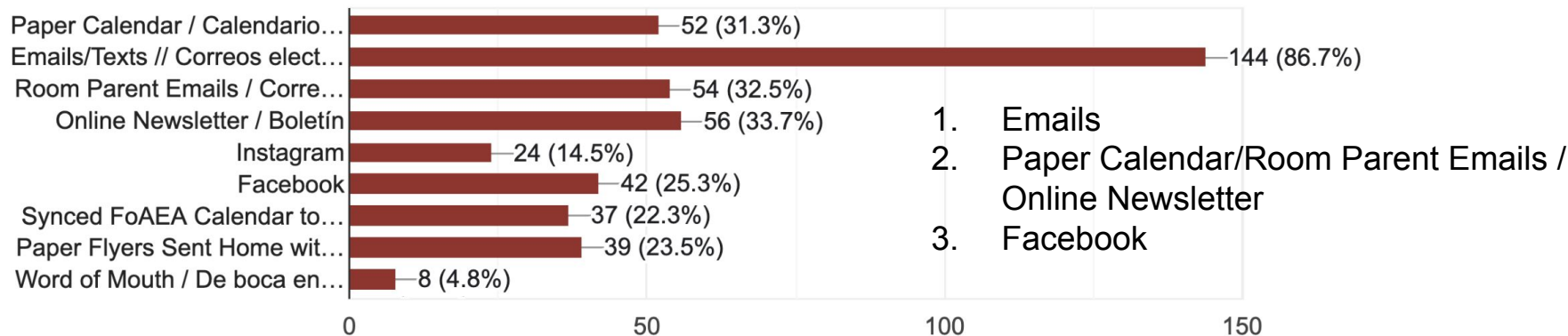
- Family Member of a Student / Familiar de un estudiante / Familienmitglied eines Schülers
- AEA Staff Member / Personal de AEA / AEA-Mitarbeiter
- Alumni Family / Familia de ex-alumnos / Alumni-Familie
- Community Member / Miembro de la Comunidad / Mitglied der Gemeinschaft
- Parent/Guardian of a Student

Communication preferences



How do you PREFER to receive Friends of AEA Information? Check ALL that apply: / ¿Cómo prefiere recibir la información de FoAEA? Marque TODO lo q... zu erhalten? Kreuzen Sie ALLES an, was zutrifft:

166 responses

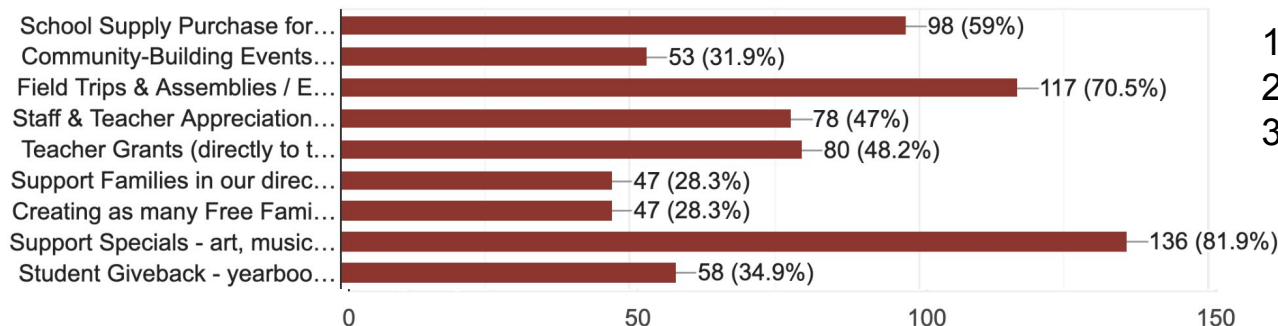


Allocation of FoAEA budget (166)



How would you like to see Friends of AEA spend our fundraised monies? / ¿Cómo le gustaría que FoAEA empleara el dinero recaudado? / Wie sollt...r Meinung nach die gesammelten Gelder ausgeben?

166 responses



1. Support Specials
2. Field Trips
3. School Supplies

Comments (127):

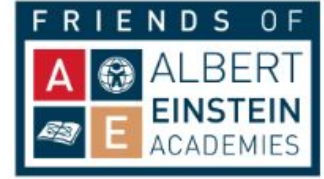
1. Appreciation (34)
2. Specials (22)
3. After school (15)

Comments (127)



1. FoAEA Appreciation (34)
2. Specials (22)
3. Students (19)
4. After school (15)
5. Events (14)
6. Core school topics (11)
7. School supplies (10)
8. Field trips (9)
9. Teacher grants (8)
10. Teacher appreciation (5)
11. Fundraising (4)

Appreciation/As is (34)



Love the fact that someone cares what members of our community think and don't presume to know what we want or worse yet don't care what the people they have volunteered to represent and serve care about and need.

As is

Beside that I really think you are doing such an amazing job! It is hard work and a lot of time which you put in there, thank you for doing that!

A si bien usado

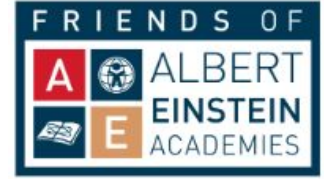
I appreciate all that you do and the thought you put behind your choices. Thank you so much for volunteering!

Todo me parece bien

No feedback, I think the organization has done a good job

Funds seem adequately distributed

Specials (22)



- Generic statement (7)
- Music (9)
- Art (6)
- Science (6)
- Gardening (5)
- Sport (2)

I would like to suggest more FoAEA funding be put into academic programs for students; ranging from during-the-school days specials, funding additional learning experiences via outside partners (e.g., industry), before/after school academic enrichment, and before/after school visual and performing arts programs. The before-school options are scant and few after-school options are limited or costly (except German Soccer Academy with Coach Craig). Additionally, I wonder how FoAEA funds can support professional learning at the ES and especially at the MS - funding professional learning costs or substitute teacher fees to allow our wonderful AEA teachers to receive the most current and rigorous pedagogical knowledge.

Music classes with provided instruments.

Special are a big reason I came to AEA and in the four years I have been here I feel they have lost focus. I believe music art and science should play a bigger part in our weekly education from k-5th.

En materiales de musica y artes

I think funds should focus on specials such as art, music, PE, gardening, science, and field trips.

Bring gardening back

Advance curriculums!

Students (19)



- Students
 - ALL/MOST (3)
 - in general (5)
 - in need (1)
- Sun Shades (3)
- Uniforms (2)
- English for parents

I would love to see more student involvement with friends at Elementary level.

In general supporting the school activities and students seems best to me.

Un poco de inversion en arboles que den sombra, o sombrillas

Funds should be used toward initiatives that benefit all students rather than small groups of students

After School (15)



- for all
- Sport, Spanish, Coding, German, Lego Robotics, Music, Math, English,

Maybe more afterschool tutoring to kids who may need extra help in German, English and math

Afterschool support for ALL students to make it equitable

More club activities, Lego robotics, soccer, school sponsored team building events.

Events (14)



- Existing events (5)
- German culture (2)
- MS tailored (2)
- New events (2: Christmas & Childrens Fest)

old version of the Wintermarket

Focus on family/community events, welcoming new families

Also, more gardening and nature based events would be great. Also, really love any events that teach our daughter more about German culture!

We love the lantern fest, but the setup last year was dangerous. Maybe spend some money on having a police approved route and ability to stop traffic.

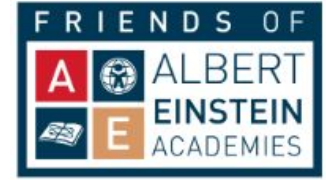
Social engagement in between children to foster community with kids

The events above - more multikulti?

Festival navideño

Events that MS students might enjoy such as a Haunted House/Trail maybe at the park, SD Padres assembly with players or a carnival.

I like all the activities; make as many of them for all ages at one campus. Off campus activities should continue to have a cost and could continue to be for ES only and MS only or both.



Core School topics (11)

- Parents @ school (4)
- Security (2)
- Food options (2)
- German (2)
- Teacher <> parent communication (1)

Armed security

Better food choices for free meals.

Building a stronger community where parents are involved w/ students

More events w parents involved at school

Teachers need to communicate with parents more consistently

The middle school needs additional staffing and resources to handle the multitude of behavior issues.

Pay for German teachers/programs

More assemblies at the school for parents to come to. Have the students showcase what they've been learning for us, Christmas musical, spelling bee, awards etc.

Field Trips (9)



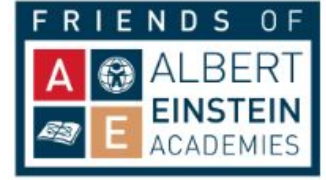
- More field trips
- More Family involvement opportunities

Small educational field trips

Mas escurciones, vicitas a museos sentros recreación.

Would love to have more field trips/family involved activities.

Teacher grants (8)



- Teacher grants
- Professional learning & substitute teacher

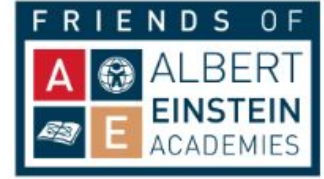
buy books, fidgets, wobbly chairs etc items to support our neurodivergent students.

Invest in teachers and students.

Teacher determined needs.

professional learning at the ES and especially middle school. funding professional learning costs or substitute teacher fees to allow our wonderful AEA teachers to receive the most current and rigorous pedagogical knowledge.

Teacher/Staff appreciation (5)



- General support (4)
- More staff appreciation (1)

Teacher and staff appreciation

staff appreciation (Principal's Day/Administrative
Professional's Day (front office) [from staff/teacher]

Fundraising (4)

- Donator appreciation (1)
- More accessibility for sidewalk fundraisers (1)
- Fundraisers for specific usage (1)
- Restaurant fundraisers (1)

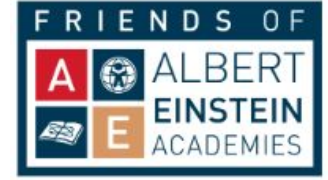
Fundraisers for more specific (vs. general) projects or usages. For example, "We are raising money to have 10 'wobble chairs' in each classroom"

I would love to see more accessibility for some of the sidewalk fundraisers. The parents in the drive up lane would probably purchase if there was someone set up specifically to sell to the cars waiting. Also, I think there are better options than using Kona Ice as frequently as you have been in the past. A local truck like Gelu would be a better option.

I love fundraisers that are at restaurants and then that restaurant gives back a certain amount... no pressure for the families to eat there that night, but if they do X amount of dollars goes to the school

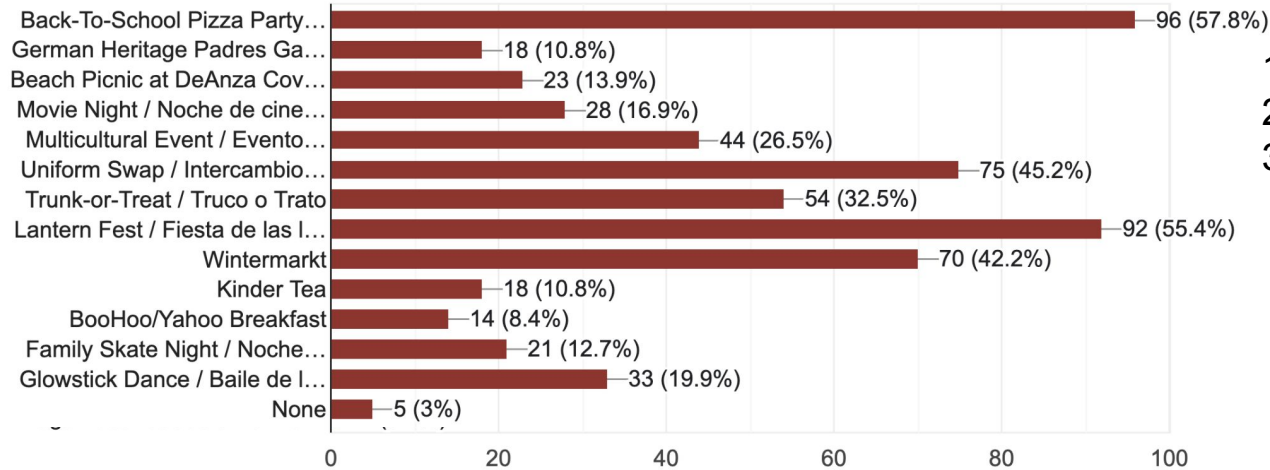
We donated over \$10,000 through Events and nobody cares. People who donated often and a lot should be recognized in some way shape or form it can be publicly or privately, but there should be ledger of high donors and not only is this good to make donors feel better, they'll likely continue to do so, if you hit them up in the future.

Events (166)



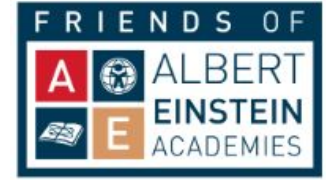
Which Friends of AEA events have you attended this year? / ¿A qué eventos ha asistido este año?
/ Welche Veranstaltungen haben Sie dieses Jahr besucht?

166 responses



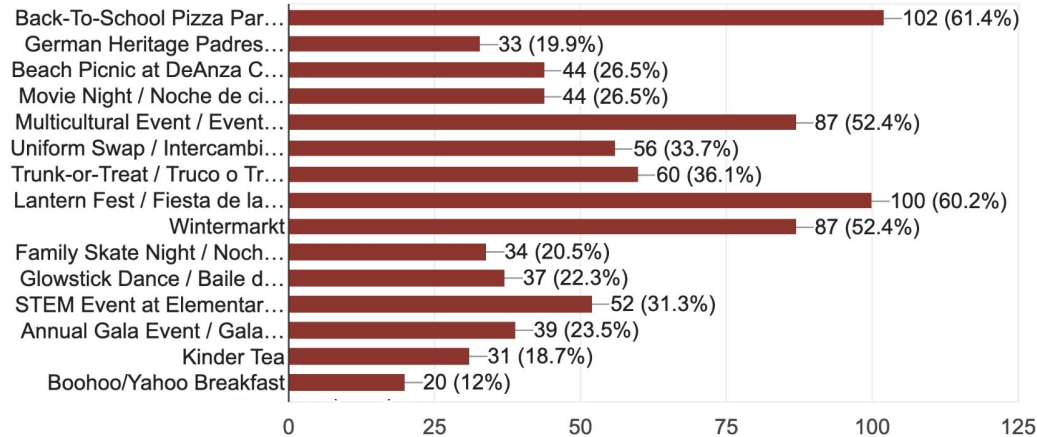
1. Back to school Pizza Party
2. Lantern Fest
3. Uniform Swap, Wintermarkt

Meaningful Family Engagement (166)



Which Friends of AEA events do you feel create MEANINGFUL FAMILY ENGAGEMENT for ALL AEA families? / ¿Qué eventos cree que crean un COM...ES FAMILIENENGAGEMENT für ALLE AEA-Familien?

166 responses



1. Back to school Pizza Party, Lantern Fest
2. Wintermarkt, Multicultural
3. Trunk or treat, uniform swap, STEM event

Meaningful Family Engagement (49)

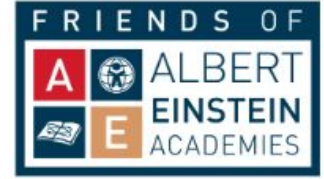
What (11)

Where (8)

When (6)

Communications (6)

Other (5)



What (11)

In particular, activities on the campus(es) or nearby tied to the AEA German-American-IB cultural focus. The lanternwalk is an example of an event we always attend and appreciate because there is no cost to enter, lots of families attend, and right by campus in the evening on a school night. Weekends are prohibitive for our family with sports/activities mainly on Saturdays.



- Park play dates
- child-focussed
- Class meet and greets
- Grade-level events
- Contests
- Talent show
- MS focussed events
- Connected to German/American culture / IB pillars

Separating events by grade level and offering points for attendance or maybe a raffle

Eventos deportivos donde acudan padres e hijos

I think building stonger family bonds within each class will lead to more engagement in community events. I know less than a handful of parents in my son's class. In my daughter's class (different school), I know ALL parents and we look forward to seeing each other at the community events. I don't feel very motivated going to a large community event where I don't know anybody. Its not much different than taking my family to the farmer market for example...we stroll around by ourselves, appreciate what's offered and return home.

Maybe group events around grade level if possible? I would like to see community service events too if possible especially for middle schoolers.

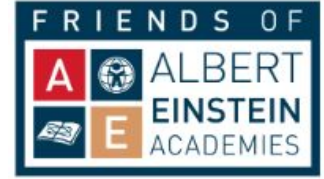
More kid-focused, cultural, and family-oriented: less food sales, emphasis on fundraising, and events such as the Gala that all families cannot afford to raise money not needed by the school or for things that FoAEA Board members might like for themselves or their children but haven't considered whether their ideas were shared by other families

Mas concursos de estudiantes.

More child focused fun near school is accessible to more families.

Play dates at local parks, meet and greet with classes, would be great! Especially if staff were there!

Where (8)



- At school (4)
- Near school (1)
- At a park (2)
- Different locations across San Diego (1)

More assemblies at the school that parents are allowed to come too

As low cost as possible, different days/times of day for different events to increase chances to participate, different locations across San Diego,

Play dates at local parks, meet and greet with classes, would be great! Especially if staff were there!

More park/open events and less space constrained events.

When (6)

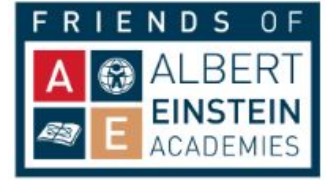
- During the week (2)
- After school (2)
- Morning on the weekend
- Sunday
- Evenings

If there was anything that could happen right after school it would be easier to attend rather than driving back later in the evening

More Sunday options please. I work Tues-Sat. so I miss so much. Evening options are great too!

Mas eventos entre semana.

different days/times of day for different events to increase chances to participate,



Communications (6)

- social media & room parents (1)
- outside of FB & Word of Mouth (1)
- in person outside of gate / student council (1)
- More centralized communications / newsletter link/QR code on all physical flyers
- physical calendar (1)
- Advanced notice (1)
- Create a platform for parents to interact and create interest groups of their liking. Don't do it all, 'just' create a platform - in the end people have to engage, create and shape themselves.(1)

Lots of advance notice of dates. We would have loved to attend other events but had scheduling conflicts.

More in-person communication! Have a person out front at pickup before events! Can be accomplished using a student-council as resource. More centralized communication-newsletter link/QR Code included on all physical flyers.

Find a way to advertise events outside of Facebook or word of mouth. Many families aren't on these or don't know the people who disseminate the info. It's a bit cliquy/exclusive I feel. I know families that are completely out of the loop.

Create a platform for parents to interact and create interest groups of their liking. Don't do it all, 'just' create a platform - in the end people have to engage, create and shape themselves.

Me gustaría tener un calendario físico de todas las actividades que se realizan durante todo el ciclo escolar

More communications to parents through social media and room parents.

Other (5)

- German culture focus (2)
- Safety (1)
- Be intentionally inclusive (1)
- Parent engagement opportunities (2)

Bring back German as the primary focus of AEA. That is what brought most to the elementary school and with the lack there of at the middle school is why the exodus of existing students and the lack of interest of the core group will continue to decline at the middle school.

More parent volunteer opportunities

More parent engagement

I'm More concerned about my kids' safety and their German immersion.

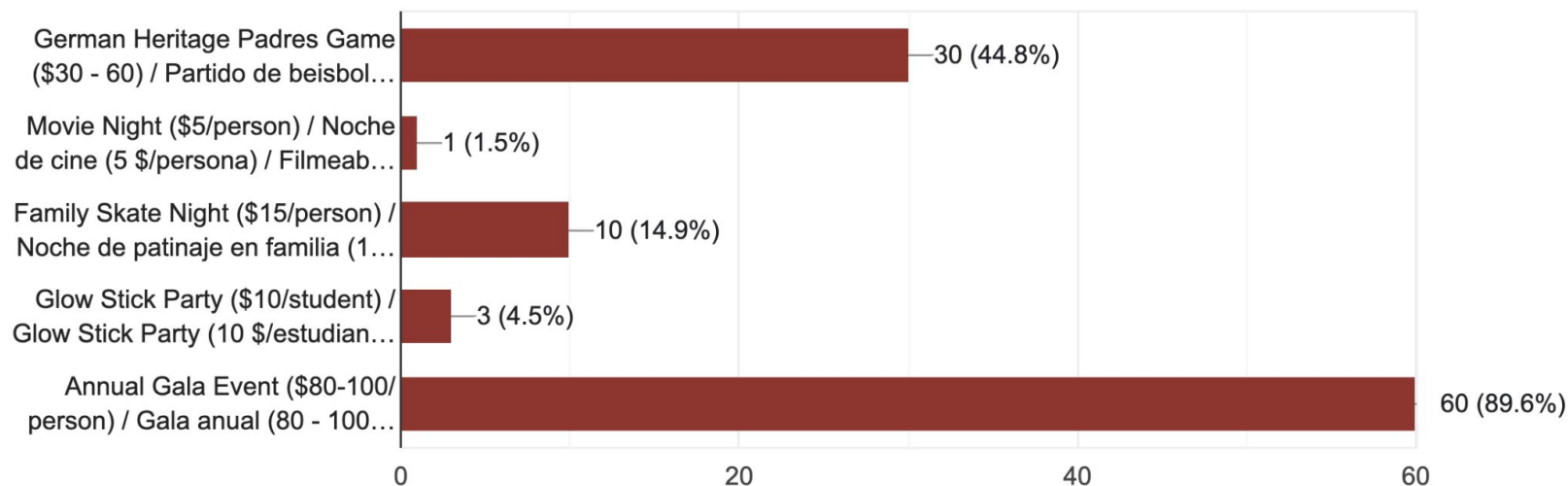
Be intentionally inclusive of everyone. Take note of the demographics of your attendees and encourage diversity.

Cost-prohibitive events (67)



Has Friends of AEA held any events that you feel are cost-prohibitive? / ¿Ha celebrado AEA algún evento que le parezca prohibitivo desde el punto de ...altungen durchgeführt, die Sie für zu teuer halten?

67 responses



FoAEA Mission



Our mission as members of Friends of AEA is to enhance our school's capacity to provide the best possible education for our students. We strive to do this through:

- 1) Focused support of enrichment programs** (including Art, Music, Outdoor Education, Physical Education, and Science) within the set curriculum, as well as overall support for Assemblies and Field Trips.
- 2) Athletic, academic, and cultural experiences** (including both German and Spanish) for our entire student body that are both social and educational, and consistent with our International Baccalaureate (IB) curriculum.
- 3) Teacher and staff appreciation** and support throughout the entire school year (including our Teacher Grant program and Staff and Teacher Appreciation Week).
- 4) Meaningful Family Engagement** (including meetings and events that promote an open discourse between families, our teachers and staff, school administrators, and our larger community).
- 5) Special Events which create lifelong Memories** and help to **cultivate a sense of community** (both on campus and in the world in which we live).
- 6) Facilitating and promoting Communication** between our families and with AEA (facilitated by volunteer Room Parents as well as through Social Media).

Preferred allocation of FoAEA budget per Community feedback



	Community Survey
Enrichment Program	48%
Athletic, academic & cultural experiences	27%
Teacher and staff appreciation	11%
Meaningful Family Engagement	7%
Special events --> lifelong memories	7%
Communication between families and AEA	0%