

Spring 2023 Barr Engage New England Student Survey - Nowell Leadership Academy Full Report

SRI Education researchers surveyed Nowell Leadership Academy (Nowell) students in spring 2023. At Nowell, 109 out of 162 students responded to the survey, for a school response rate of 67%. Across the Beyond ENE initiative, 352 out of 527 students responded to the survey, for an initiative response rate of 67%.

This report presents item-level responses of students from Nowell. As a comparison, we also present the distribution of school means (mean, standard deviation, minimum, and maximum) for the 5 Beyond ENE schools.

Table 1. Sense of Belonging

	N	Mean	SD	Min	Max
Sense of Belonging (construct)					
Nowell	106	3.88	0.70	2.30	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.79	0.26	3.48	4.19
People at this school are friendly to me.					
Nowell	106	4.03	0.76	2.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.94	0.32	3.68	4.46
Other students here like me the way I am.					
Nowell	105	3.75	0.79	2.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.72	0.15	3.51	3.93
People at my school care if I am absent.					
Nowell	106	3.82	0.99	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.71	0.27	3.40	4.10
People really listen to me when I am at school.					
Nowell	106	3.88	0.81	2.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.74	0.33	3.30	4.20

Note: Responses fall on the following scale: 1 = strongly disagree, 2 = disagree, 3 = neither agree nor disagree, 4 = agree, and 5 = strongly agree.

Table 2. Student-Teacher Relationships

	N	Mean	SD	Min	Max
Student-Teacher Relationships (construct)					
Nowell	106	4.20	0.73	2.30	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	4.18	0.24	3.96	4.59
Teachers at my school listen to me.					
Nowell	105	4.16	0.79	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	4.17	0.29	3.91	4.65
My teachers care about me.					
Nowell	104	4.22	0.80	2.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	4.18	0.22	4.02	4.55
My teachers are there for me when I need them.					
Nowell	105	4.21	0.82	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	4.18	0.24	3.93	4.56

Note: Responses fall on the following scale: 1 = strongly disagree, 2 = disagree, 3 = neither agree nor disagree, 4 = agree, and 5 = strongly agree.

Table 3. Classroom Engagement Comfort Level

For these items, students were asked to indicate for how many of their classes the following statements were true.

	N	Mean	SD	Min	Max
Classroom Engagement Comfort Level (construct)					
Nowell	106	3.75	0.88	1.30	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.58	0.21	3.33	3.78
I feel comfortable sharing my ideas.					
Nowell	106	3.83	0.96	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.51	0.24	3.26	3.83
I feel it is okay to make mistakes in front of my classmates.					
Nowell	106	3.46	1.18	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.55	0.18	3.33	3.79
I feel comfortable asking questions if I don't understand something.					
Nowell	106	3.93	0.98	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.69	0.25	3.41	3.94

Note: Responses fall on the following scale: 1 = none, 2 = a few, 3 = about half, 4 = most, and 5 = all.

Table 4. Competency-Based Instructional Approaches

For these items, students were asked how often the following activities happened in their classes.

	N	Mean	SD	Min	Max
Competency-based Instruction (construct)					
Nowell	109	4.16	0.70	1.20	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	4.08	0.18	3.90	4.35
My teachers share examples of student work for each major assignment to help me understand the expectations.					
Nowell	108	3.88	1.01	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.72	0.26	3.42	4.07
My teachers let me know how my work will be assessed or graded for each major assignment.					
Nowell	107	4.25	0.92	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	4.17	0.15	3.95	4.34
My teachers give me feedback (written or verbal) on my work that helps me improve my work.					
Nowell	108	4.34	0.84	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	4.27	0.22	4.00	4.56
My teachers use similar language—words or terms—when they give me feedback (written or verbal) on my work.					
Nowell	108	4.05	0.94	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	4.00	0.23	3.69	4.27
My teachers give me multiple chances to meet the expectations for an assignment.					
Nowell	108	4.26	0.84	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	4.22	0.18	4.00	4.49
My teachers give me multiple chances within a project or unit to show that I've mastered a skill.					
Nowell	107	4.20	0.87	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	4.11	0.22	3.78	4.38

Note: Responses fall on the following scale: 1 = never, 2 = seldom, 3 = sometimes, 4 = often, and 5 = always.

Table 5. Academic Rigor

For these items, students were asked to indicate for how many of their classes the following statements were true.

	N	Mean	SD	Min	Max
Academic Rigor (construct)					
Nowell	109	3.90	0.71	2.12	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.74	0.11	3.64	3.90
I understand my teacher's expectations for high-quality work.					
Nowell	108	3.97	0.93	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	4.02	0.13	3.90	4.17
My teacher accepts nothing less than my full effort.					
Nowell	104	4.05	0.86	2.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.97	0.10	3.84	4.07
Most assignments focus on a question that lacks an obvious answer.					
Nowell	106	3.62	1.04	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.38	0.18	3.20	3.62
Most assignments require me to do more than simply memorize things or look up facts or formulas.					
Nowell	105	3.84	1.01	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.66	0.19	3.46	3.84
Most assignments expose me to new ideas and perspectives.					
Nowell	107	3.94	0.92	2.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.67	0.25	3.33	3.94
Major assignments in my classes require multiple drafts so I can strengthen my argument.					
Nowell	107	3.82	0.96	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.59	0.17	3.37	3.82
Major assignments in my classes require multiple drafts so I can make my final product clearer.					
Nowell	108	3.83	1.00	2.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.66	0.16	3.46	3.83
Major assignments challenge me to do my very best work.					
Nowell	109	4.12	0.87	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	4.00	0.21	3.76	4.30

Note: Responses fall on the following scale: 1 = none, 2 = a few, 3 = about half, 4 = most, and 5 = all.

Table 6. Purpose

For these items, students were asked to indicate for how many of their classes the following statements were true.

	N	Mean	SD	Min	Max
Purpose (construct)					
Nowell	109	3.97	0.70	2.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.83	0.22	3.55	4.12
I understand the purpose of the work we do in class.					
Nowell	107	3.87	0.90	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.94	0.18	3.77	4.25
The assignments help me gain the skills and knowledge I need to make a positive change in my world.					
Nowell	108	4.02	0.84	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.93	0.17	3.74	4.18
The topics we learn about matter to me.					
Nowell	108	3.94	0.82	2.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.60	0.35	3.23	3.98
We study issues that are important to my community.					
Nowell	108	3.93	0.89	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.77	0.19	3.53	3.99
It's clear how what we are learning will help me after I finish high school.					
Nowell	109	4.01	0.90	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.86	0.23	3.58	4.11
I understand why what we are learning is important.					
Nowell	109	4.05	0.91	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.88	0.29	3.48	4.24

Note: Responses fall on the following scale: 1 = none, 2 = a few, 3 = about half, 4 = most, and 5 = all.

Table 7. Additional item related to rigor and purpose

For these items, students were asked to indicate for how many of their classes the following statements were true.

	N	Mean	SD	Min	Max
Students - not the teacher - do most of the talking.					
Nowell	106	3.03	1.05	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.00	0.08	2.86	3.05

Note: Responses fall on the following scale: 1 = none, 2 = a few, 3 = about half, 4 = most, and 5 = all.

Table 8. Items related to authenticity

For these items, students were asked how often the following activities happened in their classes.

	N	Mean	SD	Min	Max
Had outside experts or community members come to your class to discuss what you are learning?					
Nowell	108	2.60	1.27	0.00	4.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	2.38	0.42	2.04	3.02
Taken field trips connected to what you are learning in class?					
Nowell	109	2.51	1.32	0.00	4.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	1.82	0.88	0.97	2.98
Received feedback on your work from outside experts or community members?					
Nowell	107	2.24	1.43	0.00	4.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	1.96	0.46	1.49	2.58
Presented your work to an audience that includes outside experts or community members?					
Nowell	107	2.15	1.41	0.00	4.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	1.67	0.44	1.21	2.15

Note: Responses fall on the following scale: 0 = never, 1 = once, 2 = twice, 3 = three times, and 4 = four or more times.

Table 9. Goal Setting

For these items, students were asked how true statements were for them.

	N	Mean	SD	Min	Max
Goal Setting (construct)					
Nowell	107	4.09	0.78	1.80	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.86	0.21	3.54	4.09
I set goals for my performance in school.					
Nowell	107	4.11	0.94	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.65	0.30	3.29	4.11
I know the steps I need to take to accomplish my goals.					
Nowell	107	4.02	0.86	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.88	0.20	3.57	4.08
I know whether or not I am on track to meet my goals.					
Nowell	107	4.11	0.87	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.90	0.17	3.67	4.11
I know the areas in which I need to improve to meet my goals.					
Nowell	107	4.08	0.89	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.92	0.23	3.55	4.11

Note: Responses fall on the following scale: 1 = not at all true, 2 = a little true, 3 = somewhat true, 4 = mostly true, and 5 = completely true.

Table 10. Growth Mindset

For these items, students were asked how true statements were for them.

	N	Mean	SD	Min	Max
Growth Mindset (construct)					
Nowell	109	4.19	0.82	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.94	0.30	3.49	4.21
I can become smarter by challenging myself.					
Nowell	106	4.27	0.86	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	4.04	0.28	3.62	4.32
I can do well in a subject even if I am not naturally good at it.					
Nowell	108	4.05	1.03	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.78	0.35	3.22	4.05
I can increase my intelligence with hard work.					
Nowell	109	4.21	0.89	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	4.00	0.26	3.64	4.26

Note: Responses fall on the following scale: 1 = not at all true, 2 = a little true, 3 = somewhat true, 4 = mostly true, and 5 = completely true.

Table 11. Self-Efficacy

For these items, students were asked how true statements were for them.

	N	Mean	SD	Min	Max
Self-Efficacy (construct)					
Nowell	108	4.16	0.76	2.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.92	0.24	3.58	4.16
I know I can do many different things well.					
Nowell	108	4.14	0.86	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.90	0.20	3.65	4.14
I believe I will be able to overcome challenges.					
Nowell	108	4.16	0.86	2.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.92	0.23	3.60	4.16
I know I can complete difficult tasks.					
Nowell	108	4.10	0.86	2.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.87	0.23	3.55	4.10
I believe I will be able to reach my goals.					
Nowell	108	4.22	0.81	2.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.95	0.31	3.45	4.22

Note: Responses fall on the following scale: 1 = not at all true, 2 = a little true, 3 = somewhat true, 4 = mostly true, and 5 = completely true.

Table 12. Collaboration

For these items, students were asked to think about the times this year that they worked in a group in class.

	N	Mean	SD	Min	Max
Collaboration (construct)					
Nowell	109	4.10	0.85	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.94	0.26	3.59	4.25
I considered everyone's ideas.					
Nowell	109	4.04	1.01	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.91	0.24	3.65	4.23
I paid attention when my teammates talked.					
Nowell	108	4.16	0.95	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	4.05	0.31	3.57	4.42
I helped my group figure out and fix any problem we faced.					
Nowell	106	4.08	0.96	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.92	0.23	3.62	4.20
I shared my ideas with my group.					
Nowell	108	4.08	0.97	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.85	0.27	3.47	4.11

Note: Responses fall on the following scale: 1 = not at all true, 2 = a little true, 3 = somewhat true, 4 = mostly true, and 5 = completely true.

Table 13. Social Awareness

For these items, students were asked how true statements were for them in the previous 30 days.

	N	Mean	SD	Min	Max
Social Awareness (construct)					
Nowell	108	4.18	0.78	1.33	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	4.04	0.28	3.65	4.32
I was respectful of others even when they disagreed with me.					
Nowell	108	4.13	0.94	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.96	0.36	3.57	4.34
I carefully listened to other people's points of view.					
Nowell	108	4.25	0.86	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	4.08	0.34	3.64	4.40
I got along with people who are different from me.					
Nowell	108	4.17	0.92	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	4.10	0.23	3.74	4.29

Note: Responses fall on the following scale: 1 = not at all true, 2 = a little true, 3 = somewhat true, 4 = mostly true, and 5 = completely true.

Table 14. Professional Communication

For these items, students were asked how well prepared they felt to do the following activities in a school or work environment.

	N	Mean	SD	Min	Max
Professional Communication (construct)					
Nowell	106	3.54	0.95	1.50	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.37	0.13	3.18	3.54
Communicate in writing.					
Nowell	106	3.71	1.07	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.53	0.16	3.37	3.71
Communicate with adults outside of my family.					
Nowell	106	3.78	1.00	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.65	0.22	3.39	3.94
Make a presentation.					
Nowell	106	3.42	1.24	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.25	0.18	3.07	3.46
Speak in public.					
Nowell	106	3.18	1.35	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.00	0.13	2.84	3.18

Note: Responses fall on the following scale: 1 = I do not feel prepared, 2 = I feel slightly prepared, 3 = I feel moderately prepared, 4 = I feel well prepared, and 5 = I feel very well prepared.

Table 15. Overall Primary Person System

	N	Nowell	Beyond ENE Schools (n = 5)
This school year, is there an adult at your school who you have been assigned to meet with regularly to discuss your academic progress?	109	90.8%	81.8%

Table 16. Primary Person Meeting Frequency

	N	Mean	SD	Min	Max
This school year, about how often have you met one-on-one with this person?					
Nowell	98	4.44	1.16	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.48	0.65	2.86	4.44

Note: Only asked of students who indicated that they have been assigned an adult to meet with regularly to discuss their academic progress. Responses fall on the following scale: 0 = never, 1 = once or twice this year, 2 = a few times this year, 3 = monthly or almost monthly, 4 = two or three times a month, and 5 = once a week or more.

Table 17. Primary Person Relationship

	N	Mean	SD	Min	Max
My advisor knows me well.					
Nowell	97	3.85	1.04	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.72	0.13	3.56	3.85
My advisor believes I can succeed.					
Nowell	92	4.27	0.84	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	4.42	0.10	4.27	4.56

Note: Only asked of students who indicated that they have been assigned an adult to meet with regularly to discuss their academic progress. Responses fall on the following scale: 1 = strongly disagree, 2 = disagree, 3 = neither agree nor disagree, 4 = agree, and 5 = strongly agree.

Table 18. On-Track Knowledge

	N	Mean	SD	Min	Max
On-track Knowledge (construct)					
Nowell	107	4.02	0.90	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	4.07	0.10	3.92	4.19
I know what classes I need to take to graduate.					
Nowell	106	3.89	0.98	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	4.05	0.14	3.89	4.23
I know how I am doing in my classes right now.					
Nowell	103	4.11	0.97	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	4.03	0.16	3.81	4.19
I know what I need to do to improve my grades.					
Nowell	105	4.17	0.92	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	4.17	0.07	4.07	4.27

Note: Responses fall on the following scale: 1 = strongly disagree, 2 = disagree, 3 = neither agree nor disagree, 4 = agree, and 5 = strongly agree.

Table 19. Postsecondary Guidance

	N	Mean	SD	Min	Max
Postsecondary Guidance (construct)					
Nowell	109	3.94	0.73	2.30	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.77	0.17	3.60	3.96
My school has helped me understand what I want to do after I graduate from high school.					
Nowell	107	3.95	0.92	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.77	0.20	3.55	3.98
My school has helped me understand what kind of education or training I will need after high school to help prepare me for my possible career.					
Nowell	106	3.98	0.92	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.85	0.16	3.64	4.00
My school has helped me understand what high school courses I will need to get into college.					
Nowell	107	4.14	0.85	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.88	0.22	3.64	4.14
My school has helped me understand the financial benefit of attending college.					
Nowell	109	3.89	0.93	1.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.78	0.13	3.61	3.94
My school has encouraged me to consider a 4-year college.					
Nowell	108	3.94	0.90	2.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.67	0.23	3.40	3.94
My school has helped me understand my financial aid options (how to pay for college or a training program).					
Nowell	108	3.87	0.88	2.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	3.71	0.17	3.53	3.90

Note: Responses fall on the following scale: 1 = strongly disagree, 2 = disagree, 3 = neither agree nor disagree, 4 = agree, and 5 = strongly agree.

Table 20. Postsecondary Plan

	N	Nowell	Beyond ENE Schools (n = 5)
I have created a written postsecondary plan that describes what I will do after I graduate from high school.	107	38.3%	41.0%

Table 21. Postsecondary Plan Self-Efficacy

	N	Mean	SD	Min	Max
Postsecondary Plan Self-Efficacy (construct)					
Nowell	41	4.22	0.74	2.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	4.21	0.18	4.01	4.48
I feel good about my plan.					
Nowell	41	4.20	0.81	2.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	4.19	0.16	4.00	4.42
I believe that I can achieve this plan.					
Nowell	41	4.27	0.78	2.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	4.17	0.22	3.87	4.44
I know what steps I need to take to achieve this plan.					
Nowell	41	4.24	0.80	2.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	4.24	0.17	4.07	4.53
I am confident that this plan is right for me					
Nowell	41	4.15	0.85	2.00	5.00
Beyond ENE School Means	5	4.18	0.19	4.04	4.50

Note: Items only asked of student who indicated they have a written postsecondary plan. Responses fall on the following scale: 1 = strongly disagree, 2 = disagree, 3 = neither agree nor disagree, 4 = agree, and 5 = strongly agree.

Table 22. Postsecondary Preparation Activities and Exploration

	N	Nowell	Beyond ENE Schools (n = 5)
During this school year, did you get help at school with resume writing?	109	64.2%	57.5%
During this school year, did you get help at school with cover letter writing?	109	49.5%	49.9%
I have researched a career that interests me.	109	78.0%	75.5%
I have reviewed college admissions requirements.	109	54.1%	44.4%
I have compared the costs of different colleges.	108	48.1%	43.2%
I have toured a college.	108	57.4%	44.4%
I have found out how much it would cost to attend college.	108	56.5%	50.6%

Table 23. Next Steps after High School

Students were asked what they plan to do immediately after high school.

	N	Nowell	Beyond ENE Schools (n = 5)
Attend a trade or technical school	22	20.6%	18.4%
Attend a 2-year college	37	34.6%	26.5%
Attend a 4-year college	32	29.9%	23.8%
Pursue my career full time, without continuing my education	10	9.3%	23.0%
Join the military	6	5.6%	8.3%
Total	107	100.0%	-

Table 24. Postsecondary Aspirations

Students were asked how far they would go in their education if they could do exactly what they wanted.

	N	Nowell	Beyond ENE Schools (n = 5)
Attend some high school	7	6.5%	3.7%
Graduate from high school	19	17.6%	25.7%
Attend some college	18	16.7%	12.5%
Graduate from a two-year college or technical/trade school	19	17.6%	18.4%
Graduate from a four-year college	10	9.3%	10.9%
Earn a master's or higher degree	35	32.4%	28.8%
Total	108	100.0%	-

Table 25. Postsecondary Expectations

Students were asked how far they THINK they would go in their education.

	N	Nowell	Beyond ENE Schools (n = 5)
Attend some high school	3	2.8%	3.6%
Graduate from high school	26	24.1%	32.1%
Attend some college	19	17.6%	20.4%
Graduate from a two-year college or technical/trade school	18	16.7%	18.8%
Graduate from a four-year college	19	17.6%	12.7%
Earn a master's or higher degree	23	21.3%	12.4%
Total	108	100.0%	-