Safe and Supportive Environments

Social and Emotional Connectedness of the School Community

In a school community, both the adults and children can perform at their best only when they communicate well and feel connected to one another. Everyone needs to feel safe, nurtured, and supported - or teaching and learning are compromised.

Connectedness among professional colleagues, teachers, and administrators

- Percent who report they agree or strongly agree that:
  - My job lets me use my skills and knowledge.
  - I help decide how school policies ought to be changed.
  - Teachers on my team or grade level respect each other's ideas and opinions.
  - There is a group spirit among the staff.

- Percent who report that most of the time or always:
  - Co-worker stimulation and support
  - Opportunities to accomplish something worthwhile

Connectedness between students and teachers

- Percent who report that most of the time or always:
  - Teachers take a personal interest in students.
  - Get individual help and advising from teachers.
  - Interact with children in ways that show interest and respect
  - Use positive approaches to help children behave constructively

- Percent who report that they often:
  - Teachers on my team or grade level respect each other's ideas and opinions.

- Percent who report that members of their team or grade level:
  - Agree or strongly agree that:
    - They have a sense (feeling) of belonging in this school.
    - Students in this school have trouble getting along with each other.

Connectedness throughout the school community as a whole

- Percent who agree or strongly agree that:
  - The school views parents as important partners.
  - Including parents on school committees such as curriculum, budget and school improvement

- Percent who report that the school does well at:
  - They have a sense (feeling) of belonging in this school.
  - Students in this school have trouble getting along with each other.

- Percent who report that most of the time or always:
  - It is essential for schools to provide instruction on conflict or violence reduction.
  - Students in my class enjoy working together.