

Ridgewood Public Schools

Annual Parent Survey

2009-2010 Report

George Washington Middle School

Dear Parents and Guardians,

This report offers a snapshot of what parents said about your school and the district in our first annual survey, which was conducted last June. The Board of Education hopes this information will contribute to a dialogue among all members of the school community, and will become one of the important resources we can use to make the school the best it can be.

Thank you to all the parents who completed the survey last June. We look forward to your feedback, as we endeavor to make this process of reflection a regular activity among the Ridgewood Public Schools.

Ridgewood Board of Education
Michele Lenhard, President
Robert Hutton, Vice President
Sheila Brogan
Laurie Goodman
Charles Reilly

How to read this report.

The data in this report reflects survey results for your school only. For each survey question, results are displayed as bar graphs. At the end of the report you will find summaries of the comments that were received for each section.

Please note that not all parents participated in the survey. Your school's participation rate is noted below, along with the overall District participation rate.

How was the survey conducted?

The survey was conducted via email during the week of June 10-17, 2010. Email invitations with private links were sent to all parent/guardian email addresses on file with the District. Survey respondents participated on a secure survey website, and only one response was allowed for each email address.

Numerical survey data was compiled, and charts were created, by members of the District IT Department. A committee of parents, administrators and school board members reviewed the data and summarized the comments for this report. The Board's Communications

Committee presented the report to the full Board of Education on December 20, 2010.

What were the results for the District as a whole?

A total of 2573 parents or guardians filled out a survey, representing a 38% participation rate. [Click here](#) for a District summary of the survey data.

How many parents participated in your school's survey?

	# Students	# Emails Available	# Participants	Participation Rate 09-10
GWMS	680	906	323	36%
District	5618	6697	2573	38%

How can you use these survey results?

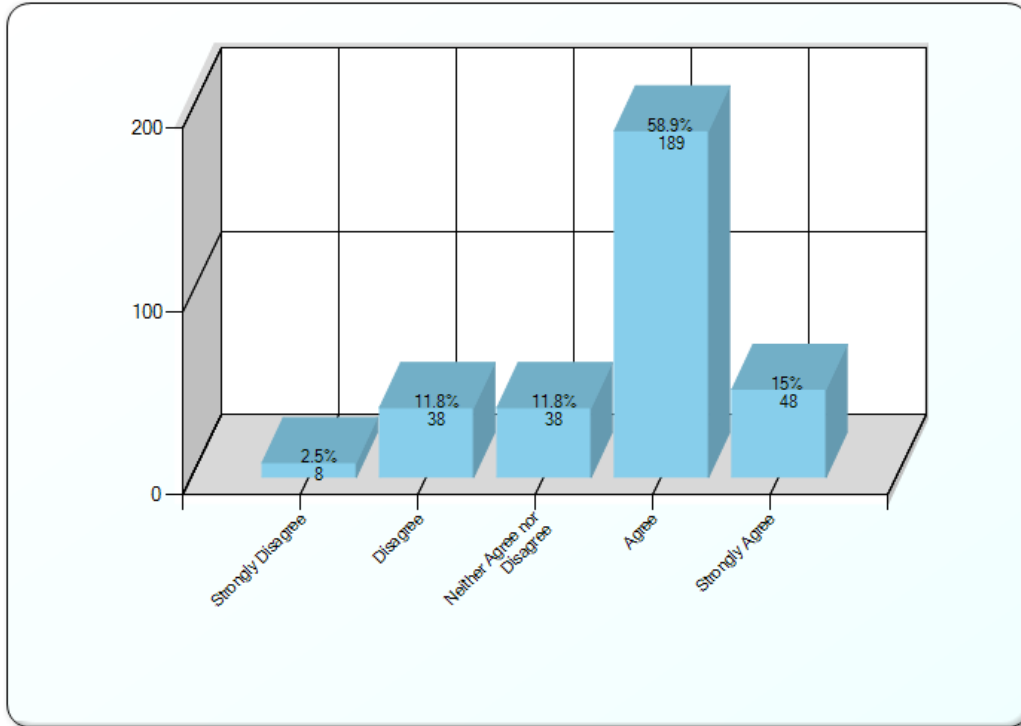
You and your school community can use the results of this survey to start conversations about your school, especially in terms of teaching and instruction, extracurricular activities, facilities, communications, parent engagement, administration and more. Parents are encouraged to talk with each other, your child's teacher(s), school administrators and/or your Home & School Association regarding any specific issues, ideas or suggestions that arise from the survey results.

Complete survey results have been provided to your school's principal, as well as central administration at the Ed Center and members of the Board of Education.

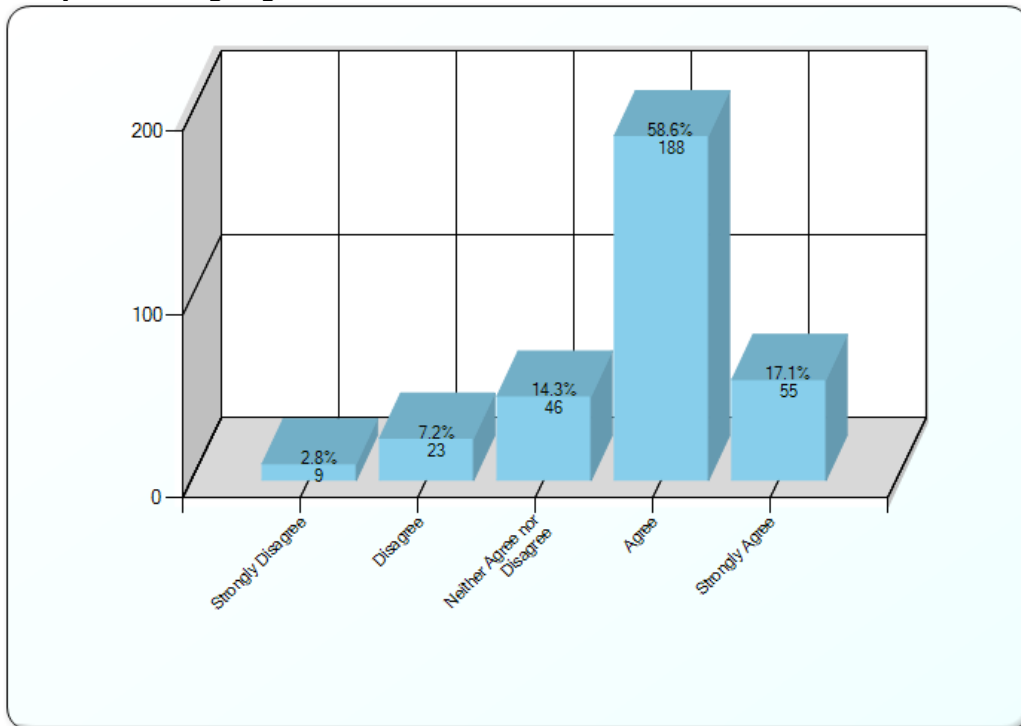
**GEORGE WASHINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL
Results: Parent Opinion Survey 2009 – 2010**

GENERAL: OVERALL SATISFACTION AND CLIMATE

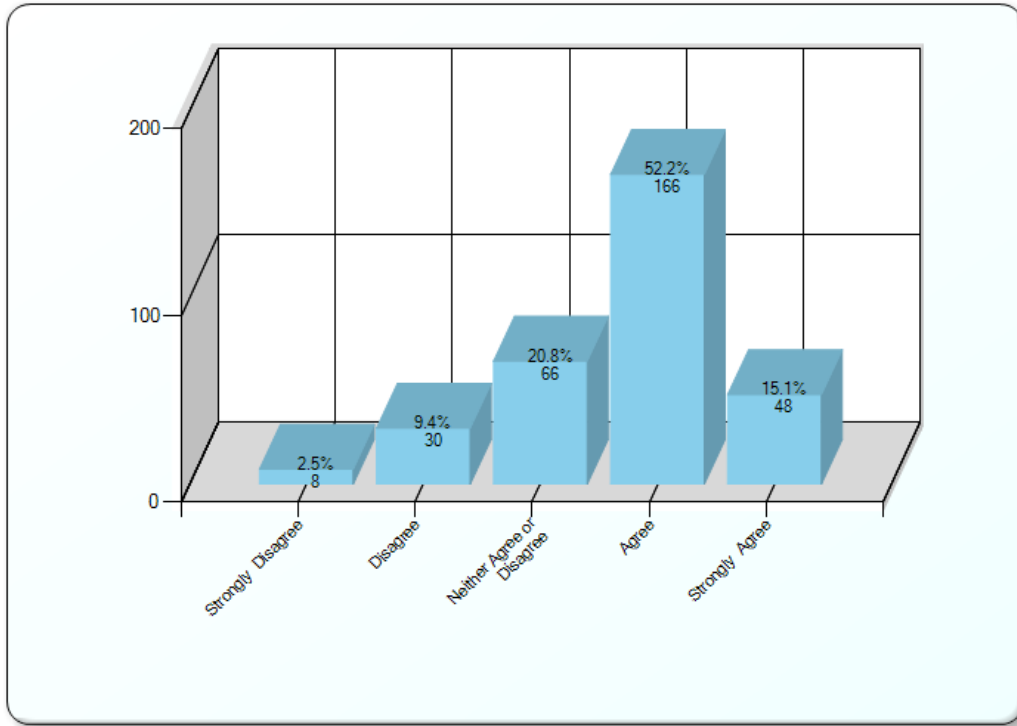
1. I am satisfied with the overall quality of my child's education.



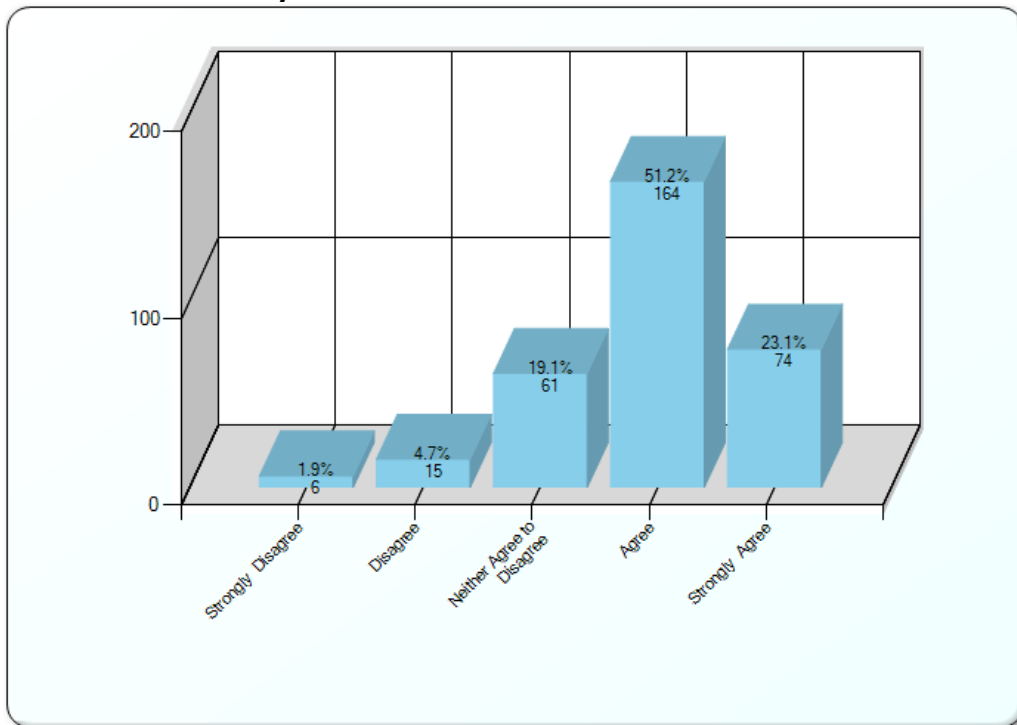
2. My child likes going to school.



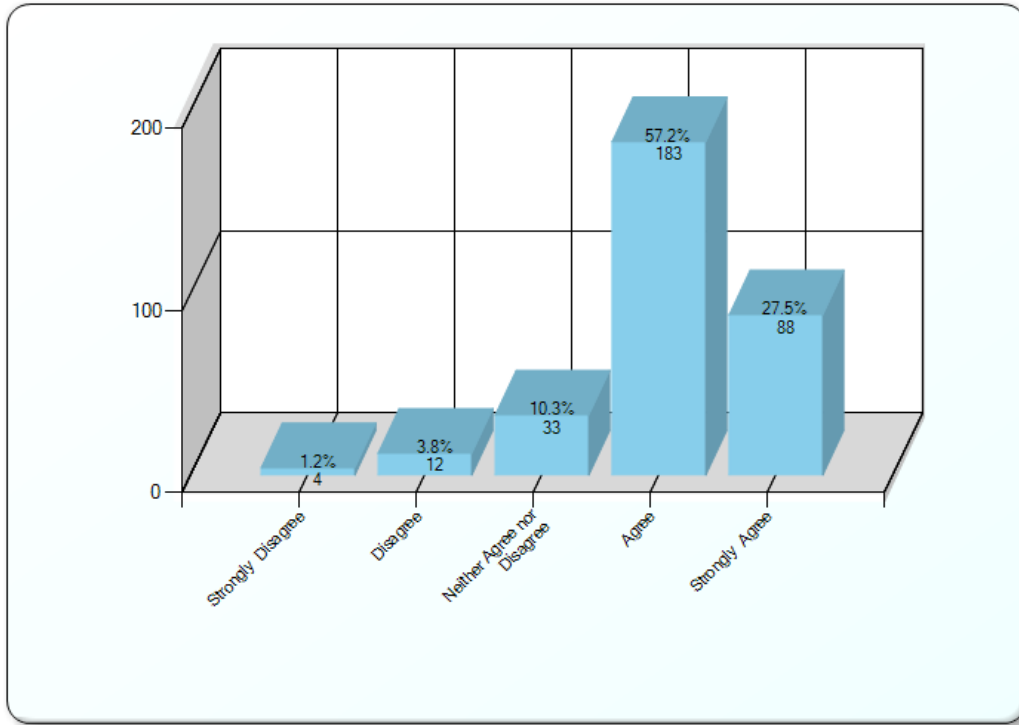
3. I would recommend my child's school to other parents.



4. I feel welcome in my child's school.

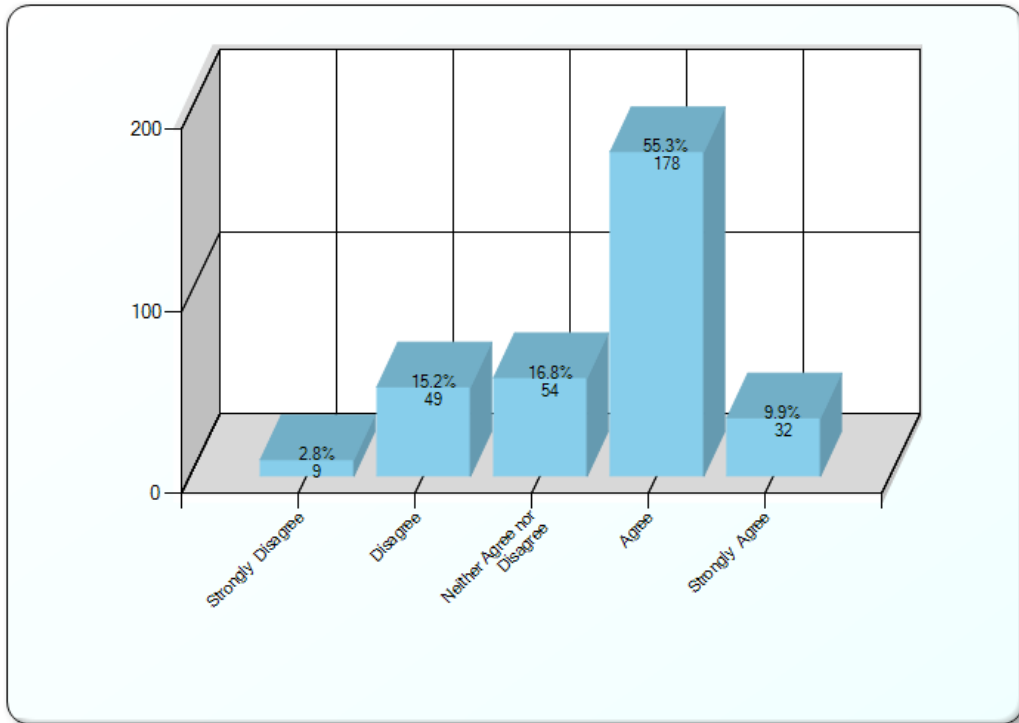


5. My child is safe at school

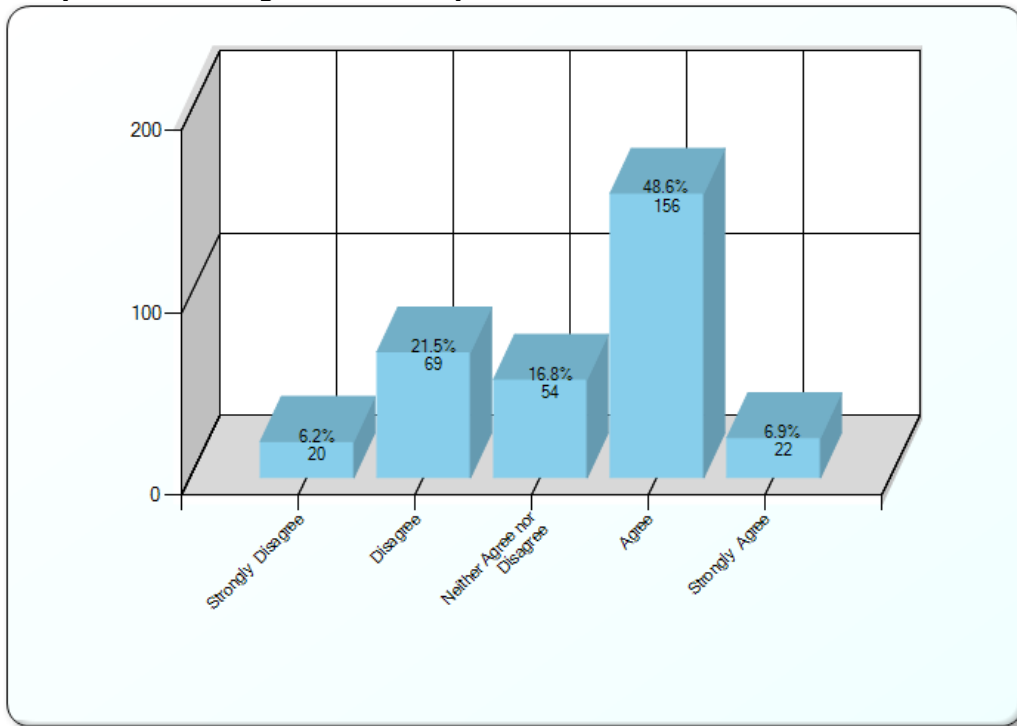


ACADEMICS / CURRICULUM / INSTRUCTION

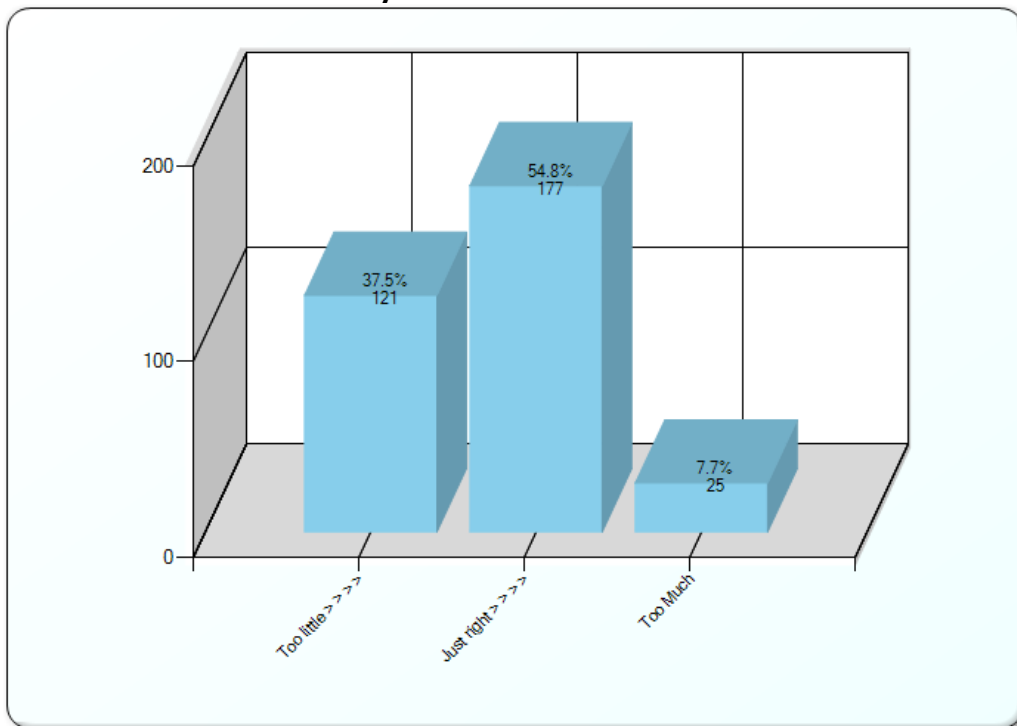
6. I am pleased with the academic progress of my child.



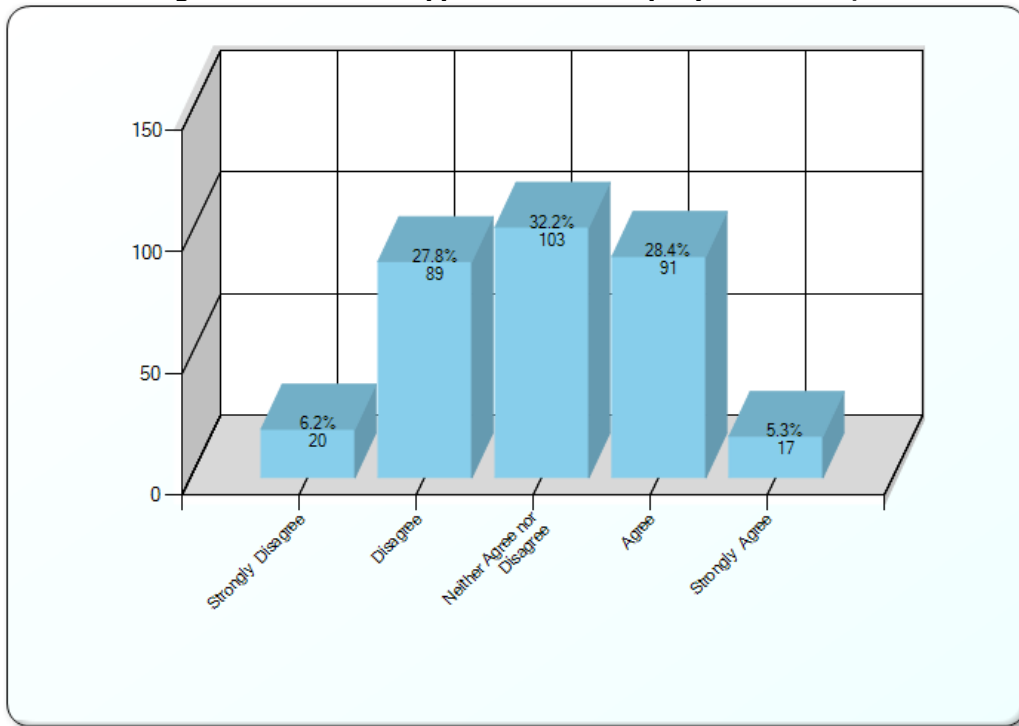
7. My child is challenged academically.



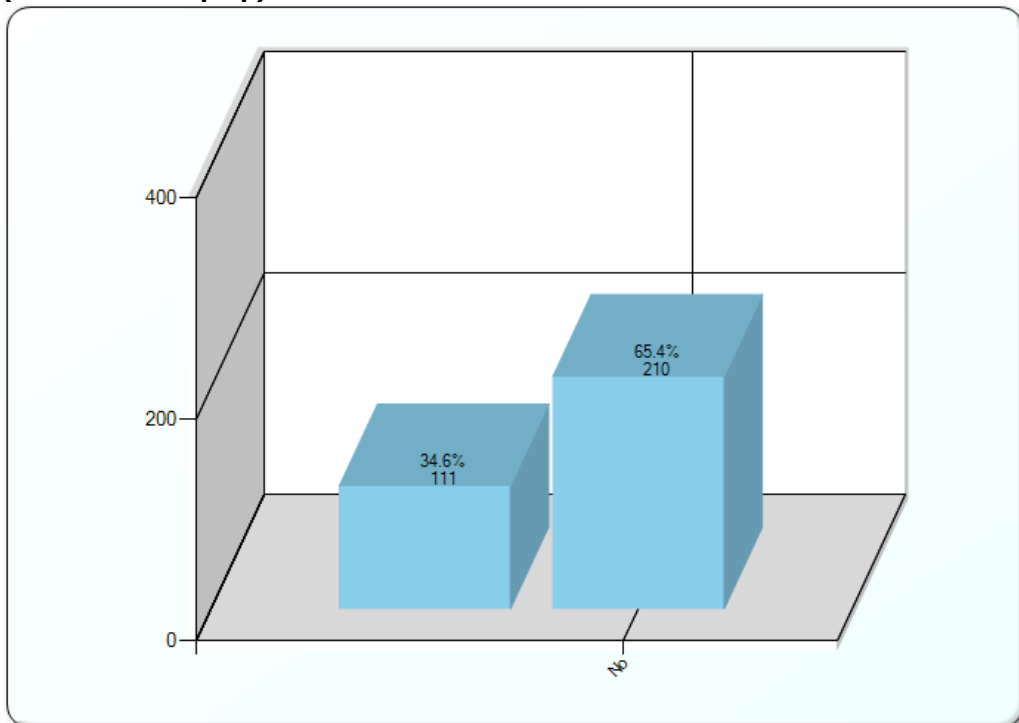
8. The amount of homework my child receives is:



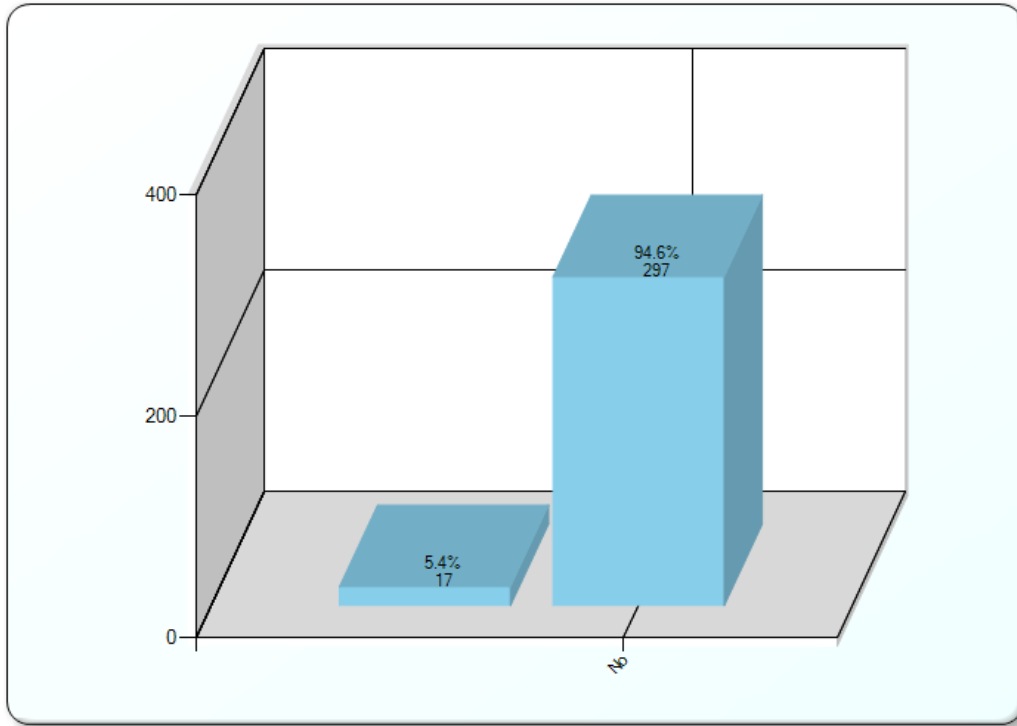
9. The school gives me ideas and opportunities to help my child do his/her best.



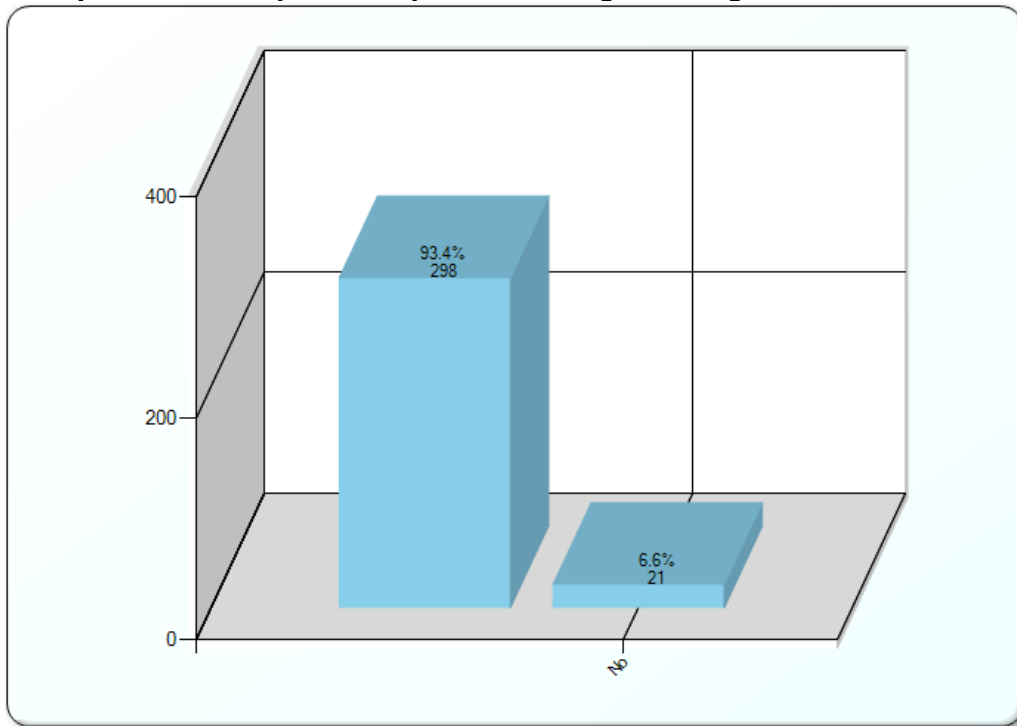
10. I supplement my child's education with professional tutoring in core subjects such as math or reading (other than SAT prep).



11. My child participates in SAT prep (tutor, prep classes, etc.)

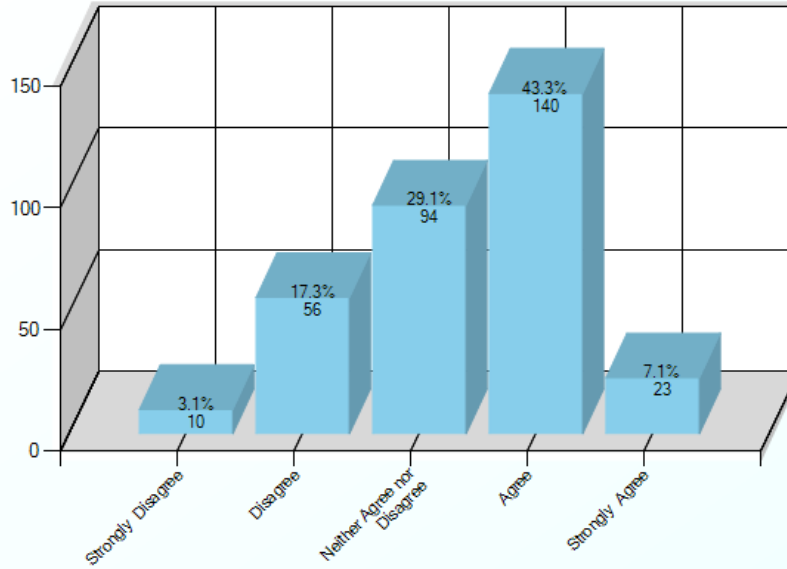


12. My child attended pre-school prior to enrolling in kindergarten.

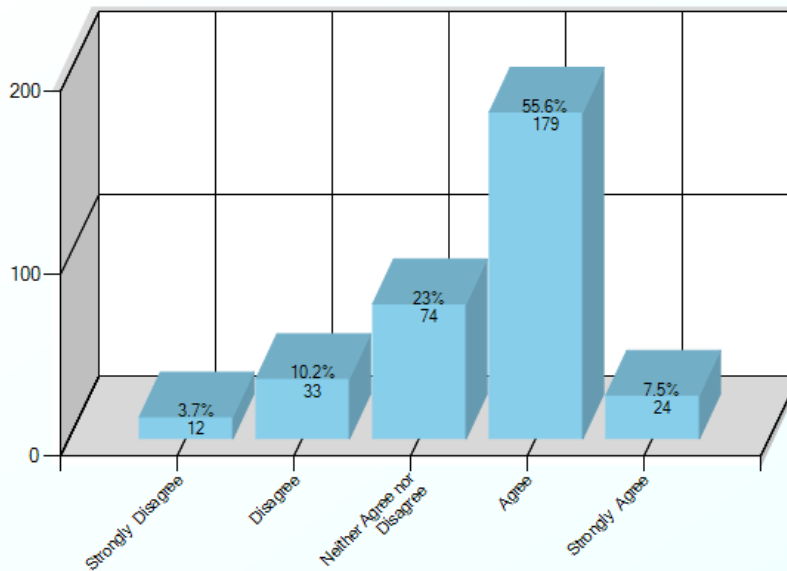


EXTRACURRICULARS

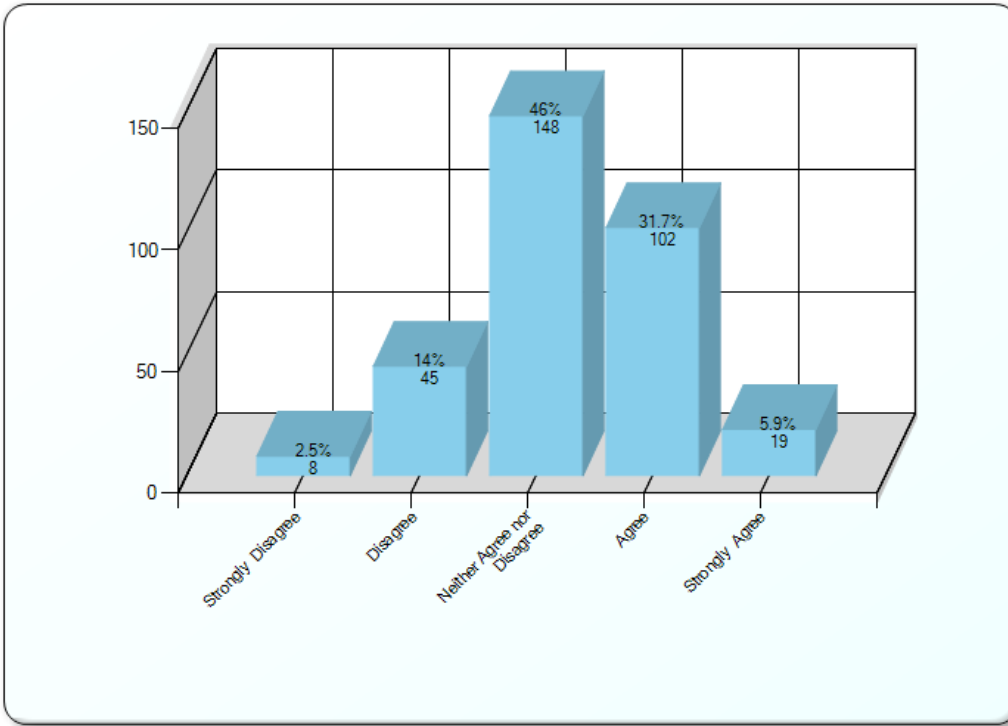
13. I am satisfied with the non-sports extracurricular opportunities (music, drama, art, etc.) in school.



14. I am satisfied with the health/wellness/fitness/sports offerings at school.

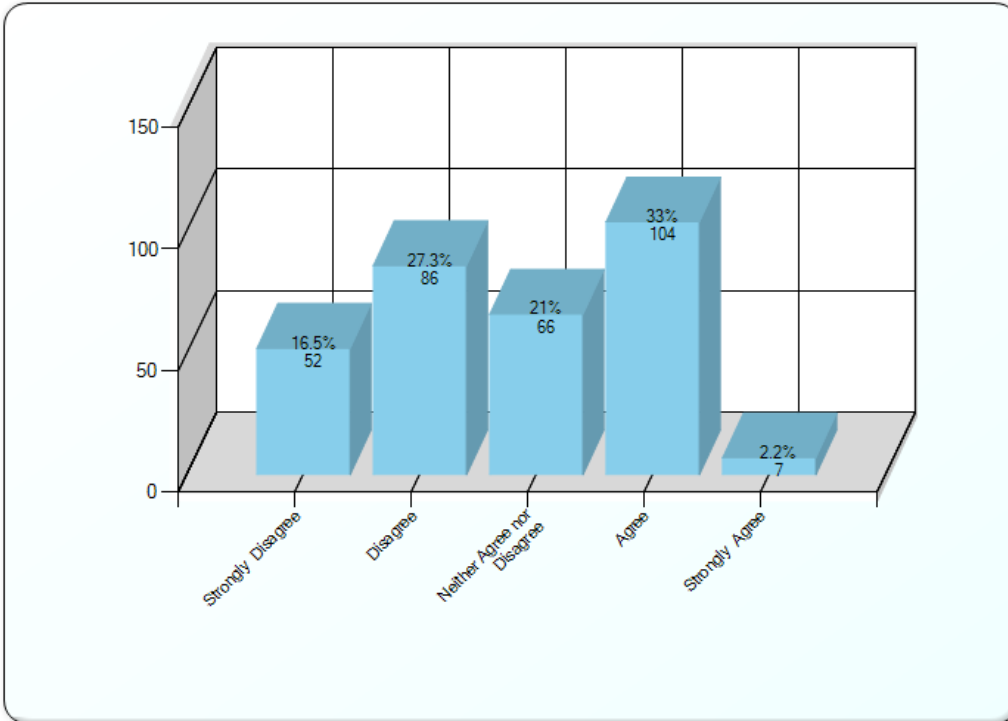


15. My child is encouraged to try new things at school.

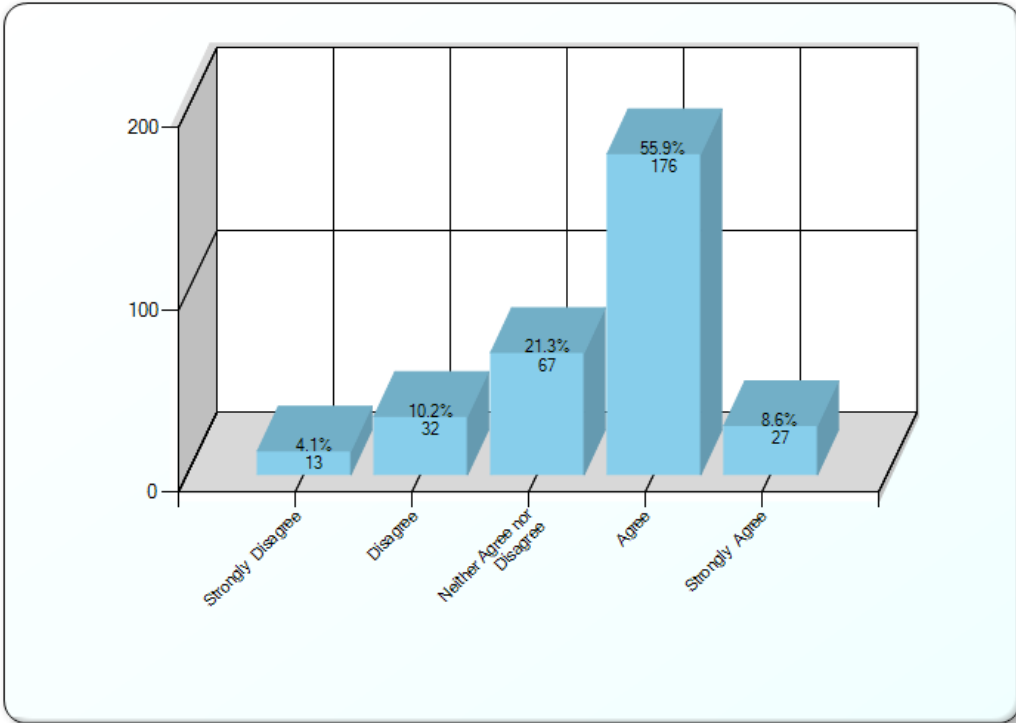


FACILITIES

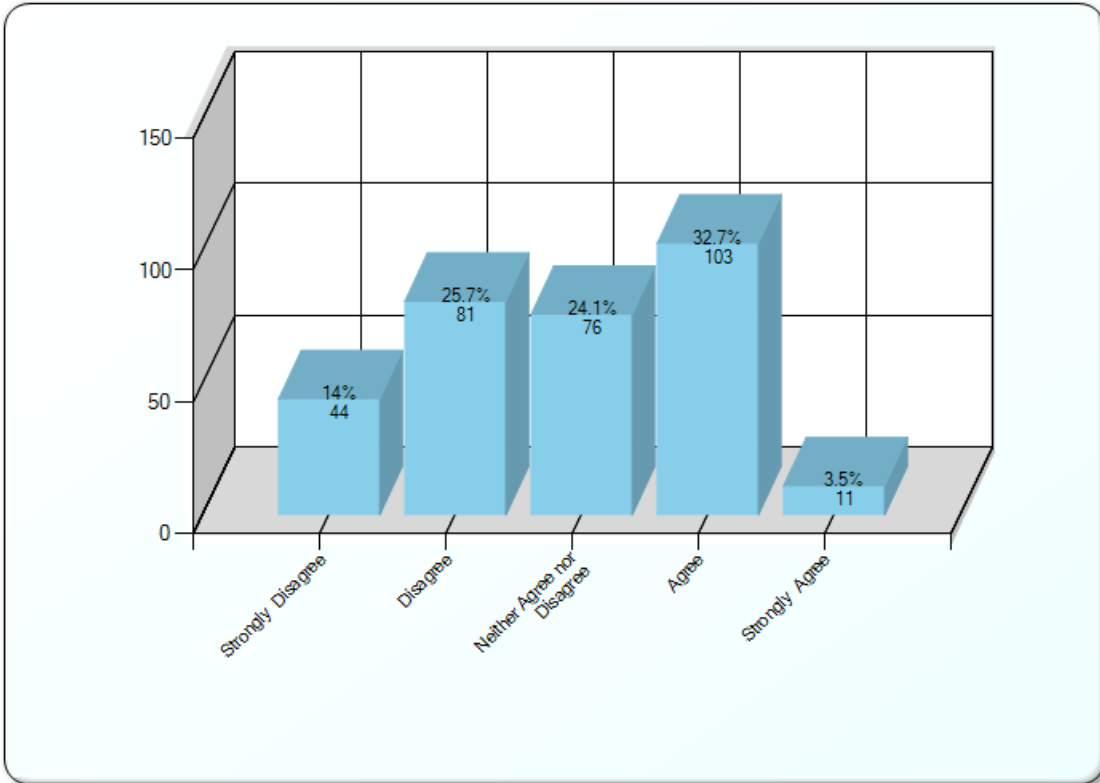
16. I am satisfied with the quality of the physical spaces at my child's school.



17. My child's school is clean and well-maintained.

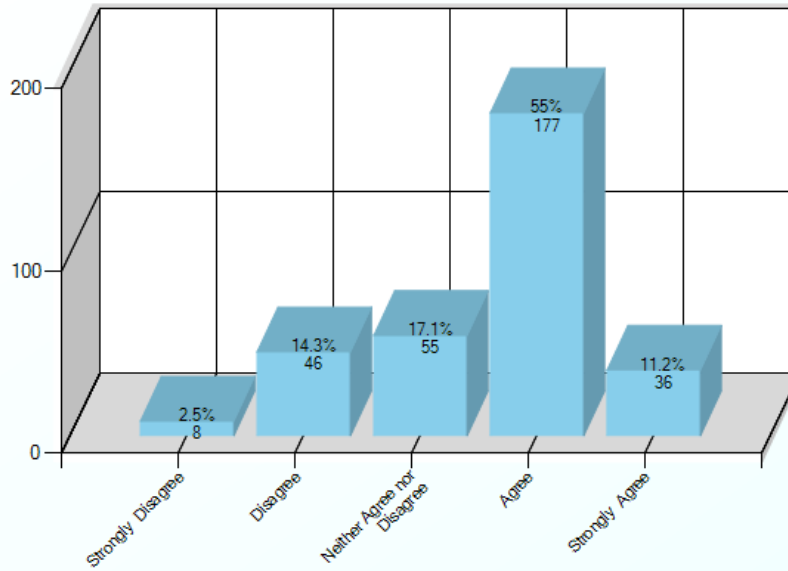


18. The condition/quality of our school athletic facilities is acceptable.

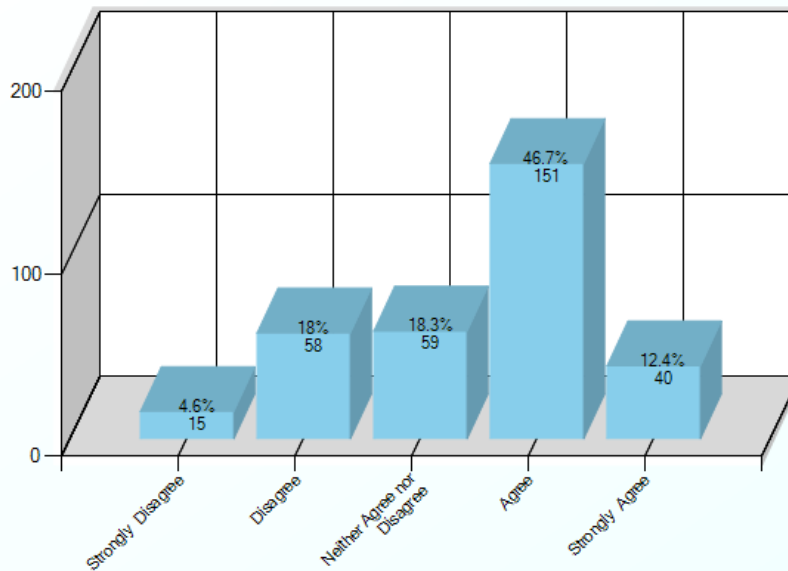


COMMUNICATIONS

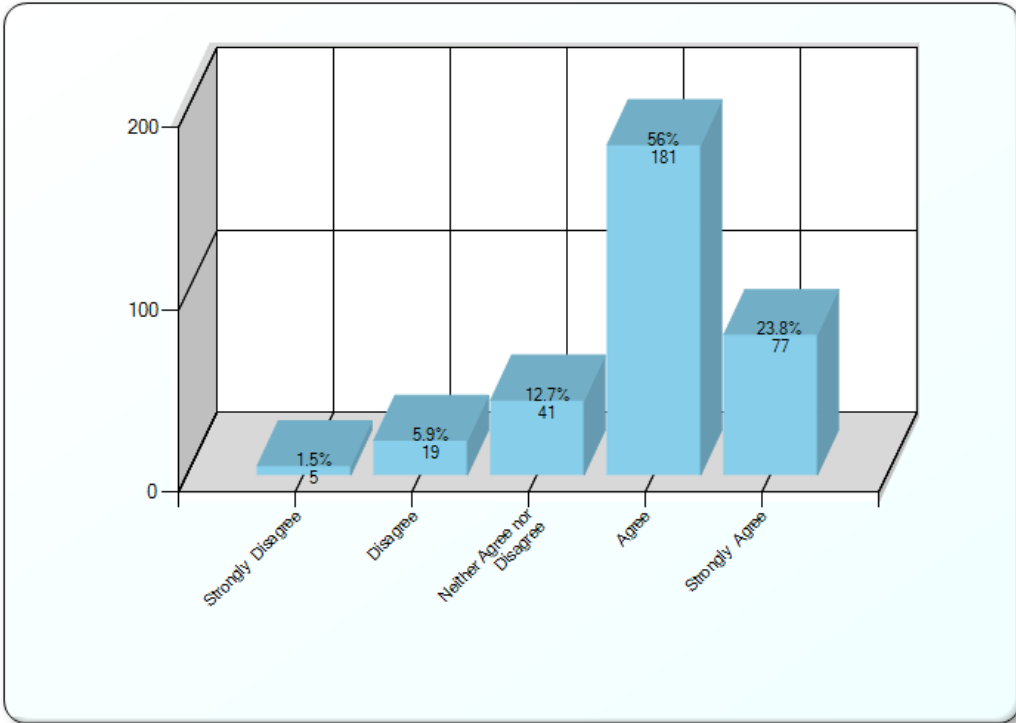
19. I feel well-informed about school programs/services/activities.



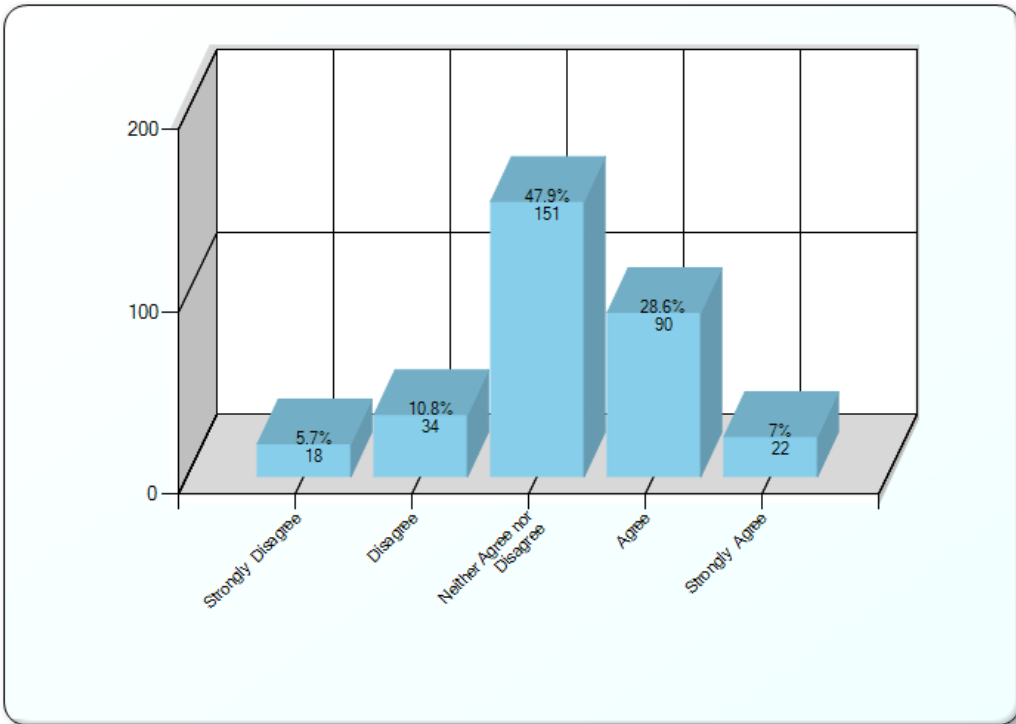
20. The school keeps me informed of my child's progress.



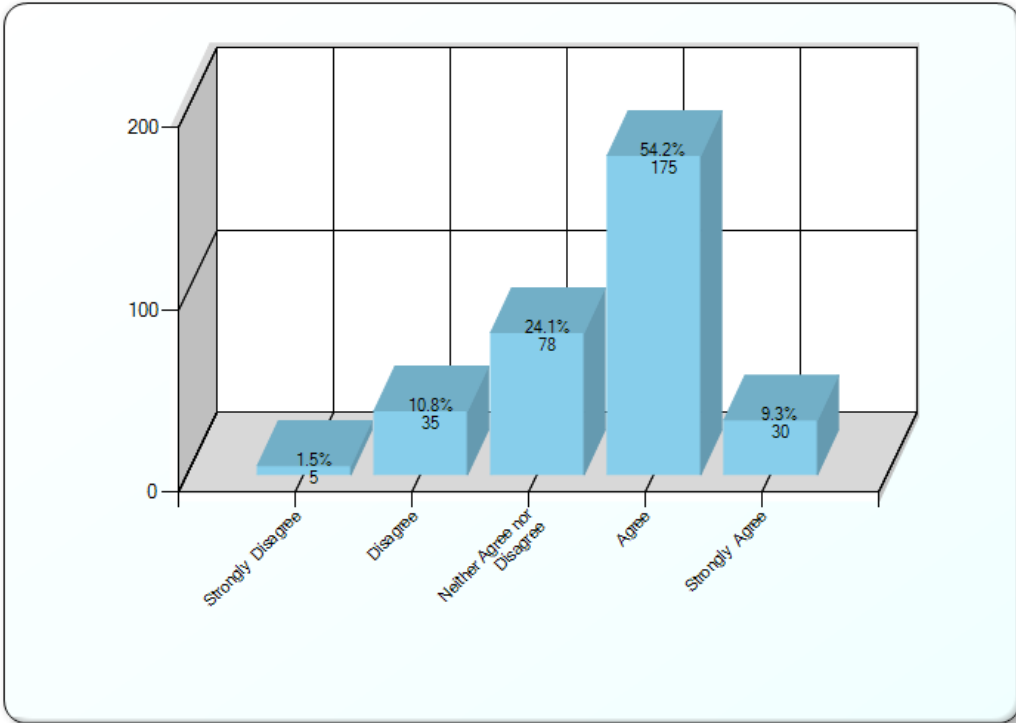
21. School staff (teachers/principal) are responsive to parent concerns.



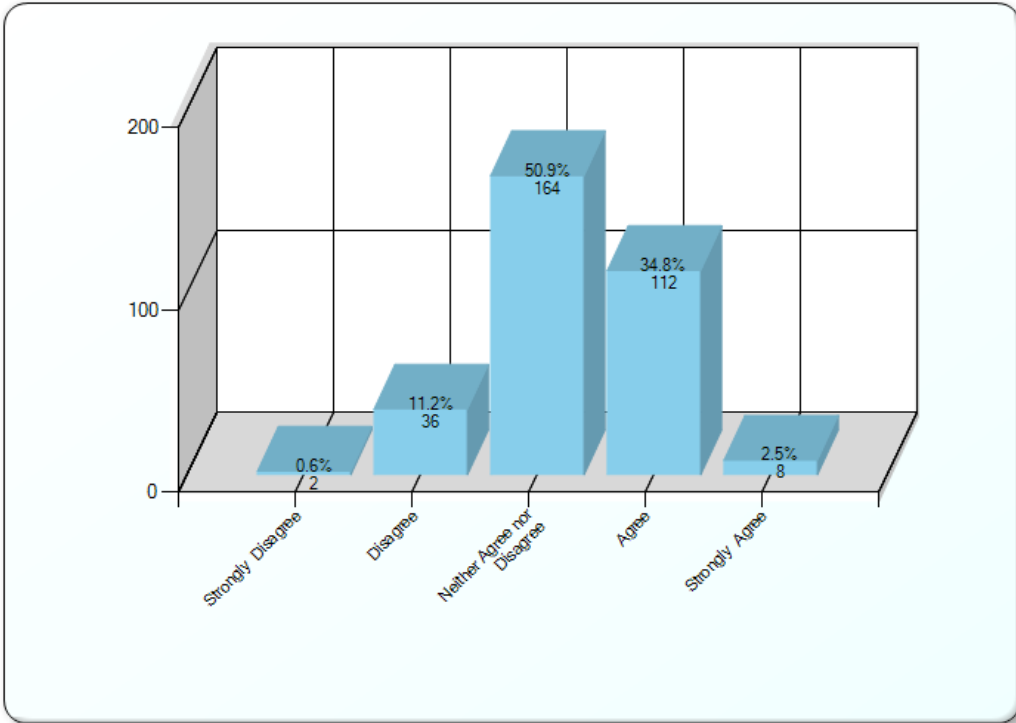
22. District administration/Board of Ed are responsive to parent concerns.



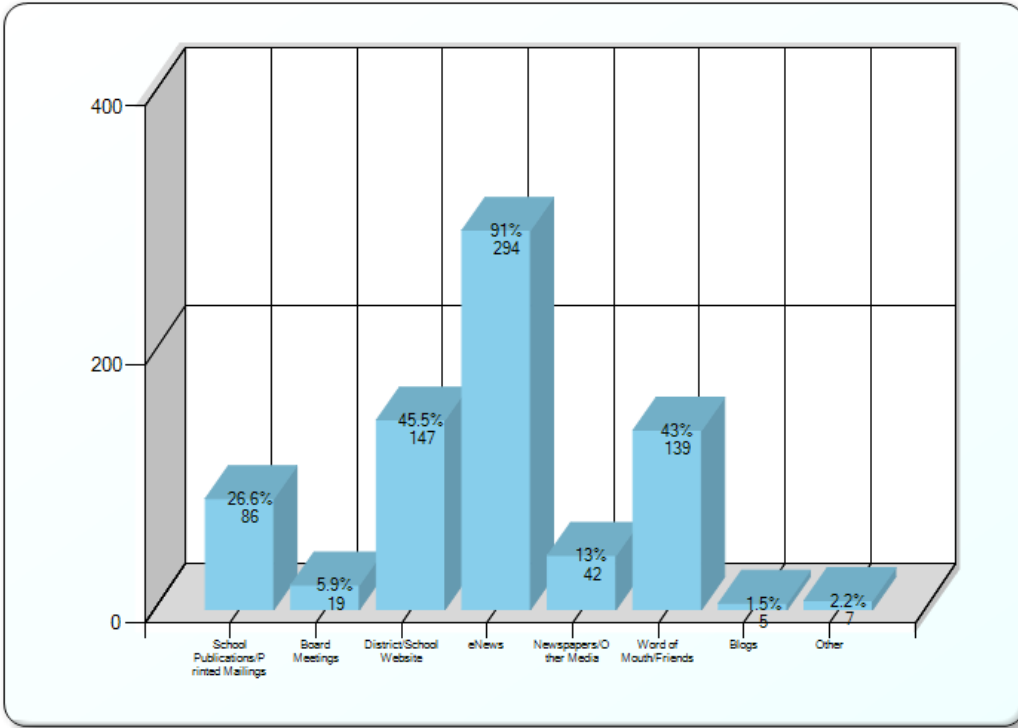
23. I have sufficient opportunities to express my opinions or concerns regarding school.



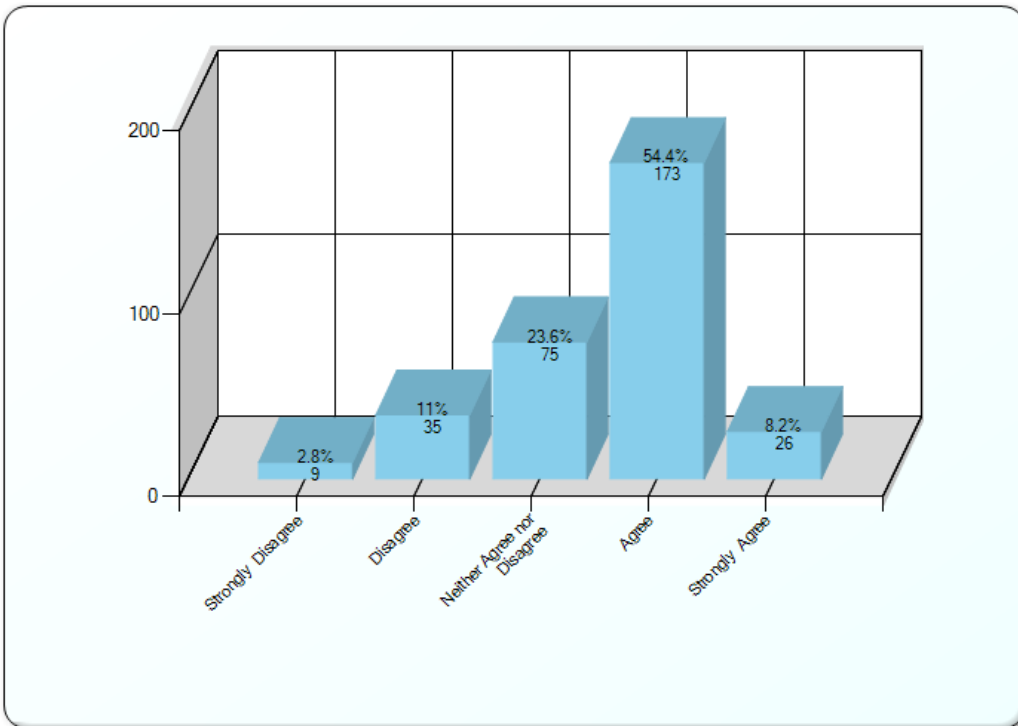
24. I would like to be more involved in my child's school.



25. How do you receive most of your school information? (Check all that apply)



26. The District website is a useful source for everything I need to know about Ridgewood Public Schools.



Comments

Your school received a total of 412 comments in all sections. All comments were reviewed by a committee of administrators, Board of Education members and parents. A summary of key themes is included here. Note: *All* comments have been provided to relevant administrators for follow-up, and the full text of comments is available on your school's website. (In the interest of privacy, comments that personally identified staff members or students have been removed.)

General

A total of 78 comments were received in the General category. Of those comments, 10 were about safety, with six related to concerns about bullying.

Academics/Curriculum/Instruction

A total of 106 comments referenced academics, curriculum and instruction. Forty-one comments expressed dissatisfaction with the level of rigor, with some using phrases such as "too easy" or "bored." Thirteen comments were critical of the math program and six comments discussed writing or English. Fifteen comments stated that there is "not enough" homework.

Extracurricular

A total of 67 comments referenced extracurricular activities, of which 15 expressed a desire for more afterschool/intramural sports. Twelve were critical of communication and organization of clubs and afterschool activities. Eleven comments offered suggestions for better or different clubs or afterschool activities.

Facilities

A total of 82 comments referenced facilities. Thirty-nine of these comments were critical of the condition of the facilities, using terms such as "run down" or "inadequate." A total of 34 comments addressed the school space as "too small" or "not enough."

Communications

A total of 78 comments referenced communications. Of this number, 16 expressed a desire for more or better progress reporting and 21 were critical of school and/or teacher communications.

We're sorry. The full unedited comments are unavailable at this time.

Thank you for your participation in our Annual Parent Survey!

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