

## Ridgewood Public Schools

Annual Parent Survey

2009-2010 Report

## Ridgewood High 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
RHS	1656	1981	663	33%
District	5618	6697	2573	38%

### How can you use these survey results?

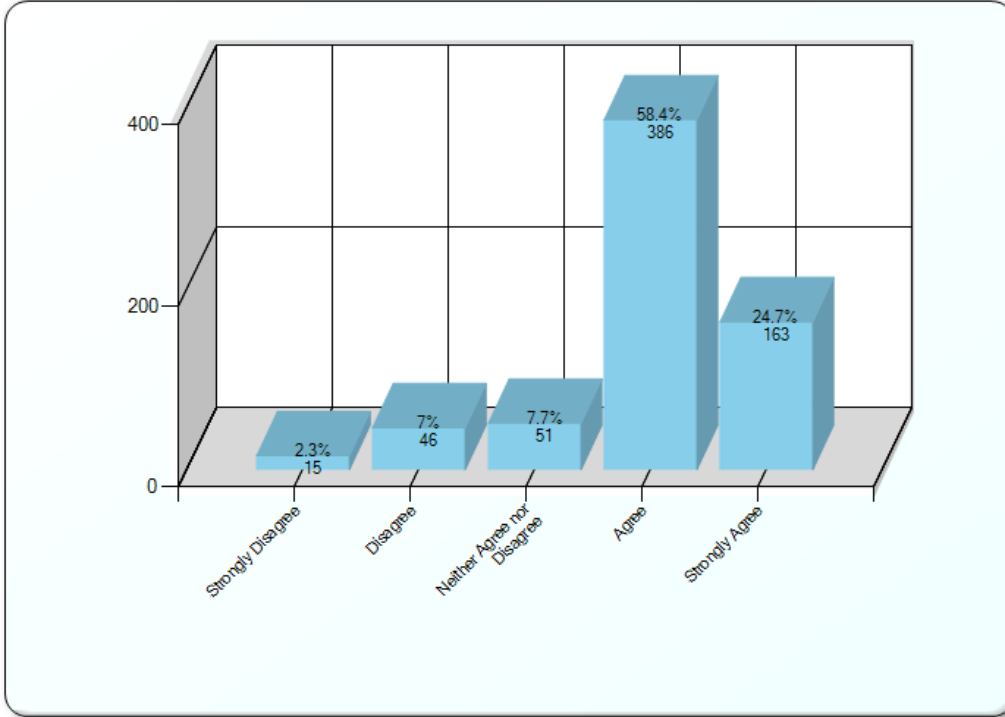
You and your school community can use the results of this survey to start conversations about your school, especially in terms of teaching and instruction, extracurricular activities, facilities, communications, parent engagement, administration and more. Parents are encouraged to talk with each other, 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.

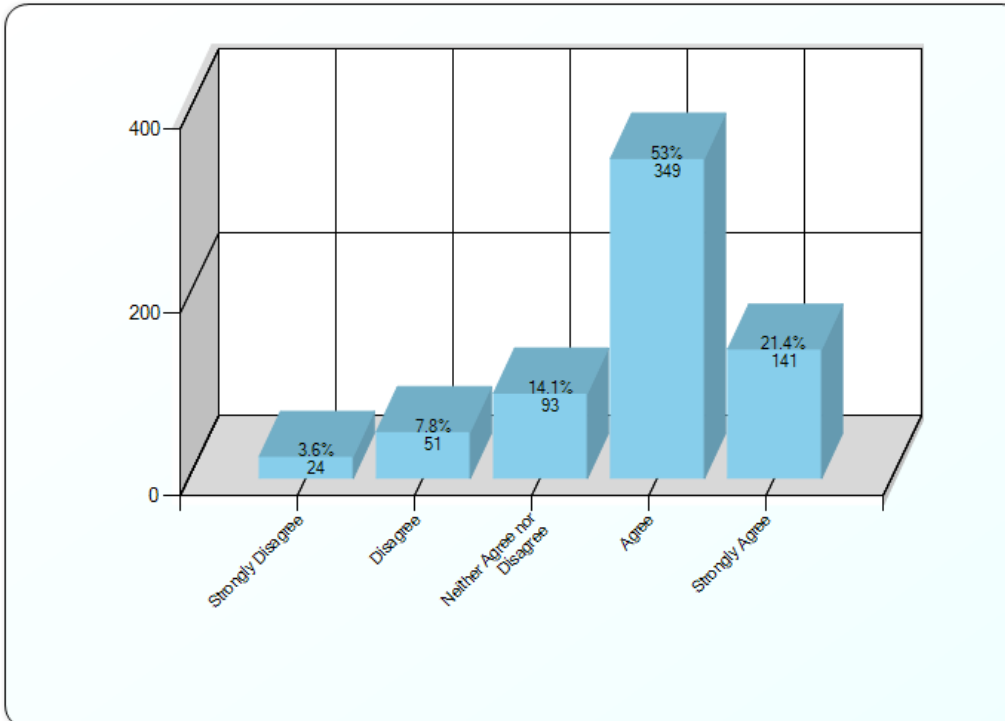
**RIDGEWOOD HIGH SCHOOL**  
**Results: Parent Opinion Survey 2009-10**

**GENERAL: OVERALL SATISFACTION AND CLIMATE**

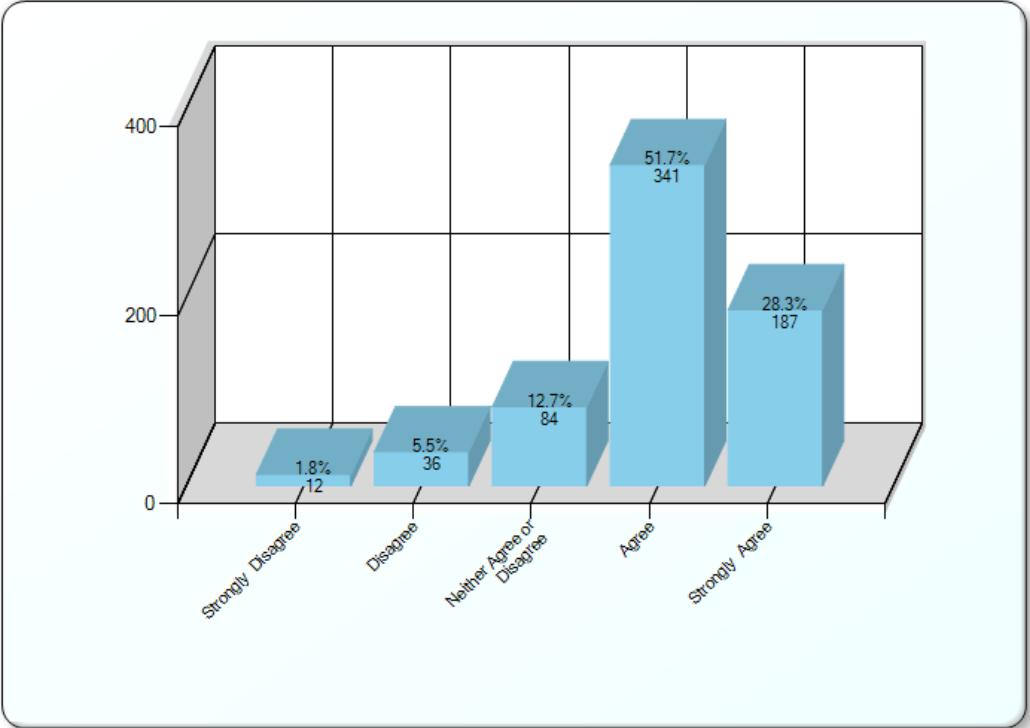
**1. I am satisfied with the overall quality of my child's education.**



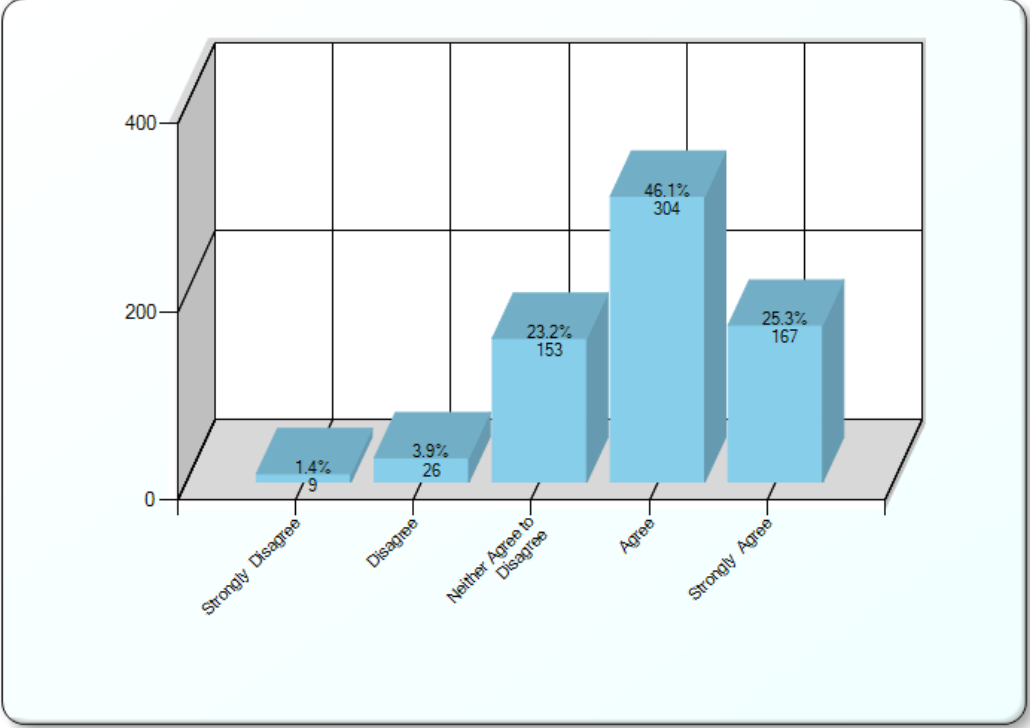
**2. My child likes going to school.**



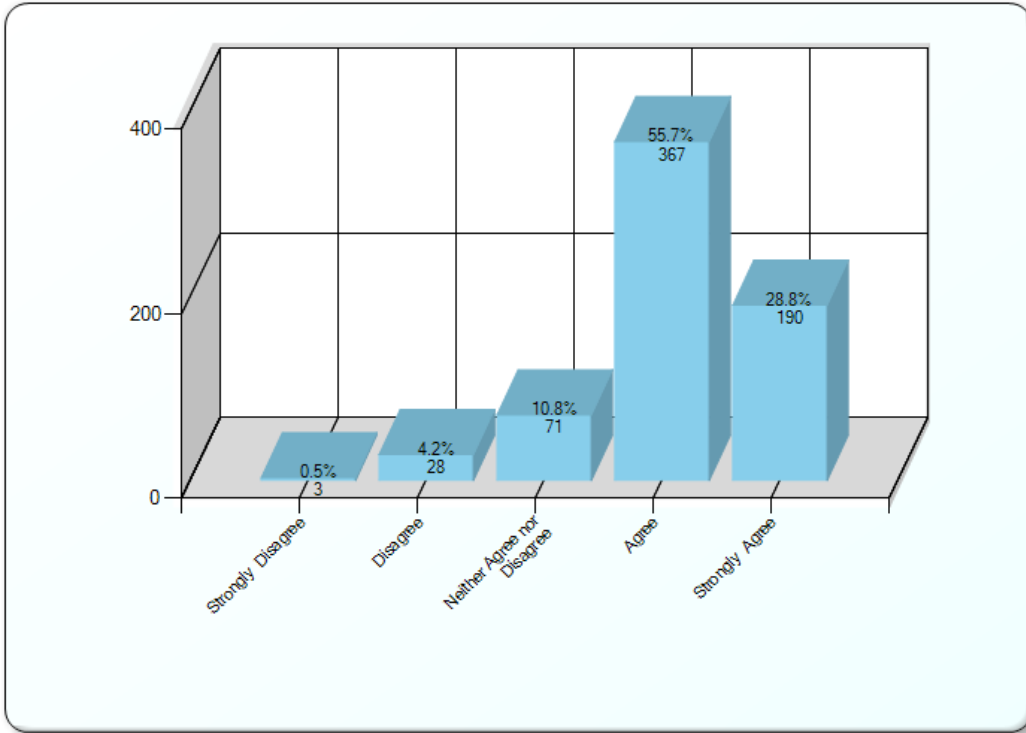
**3. I would recommend my child's school to other parents.**



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

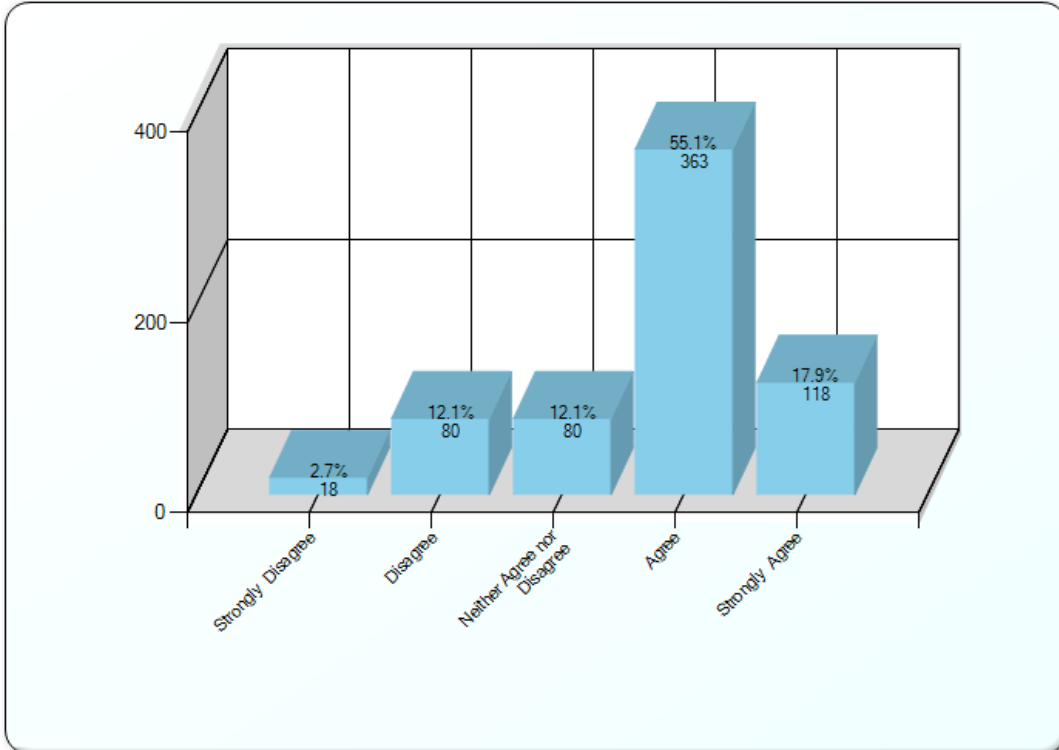


**5. My child is safe at school.**

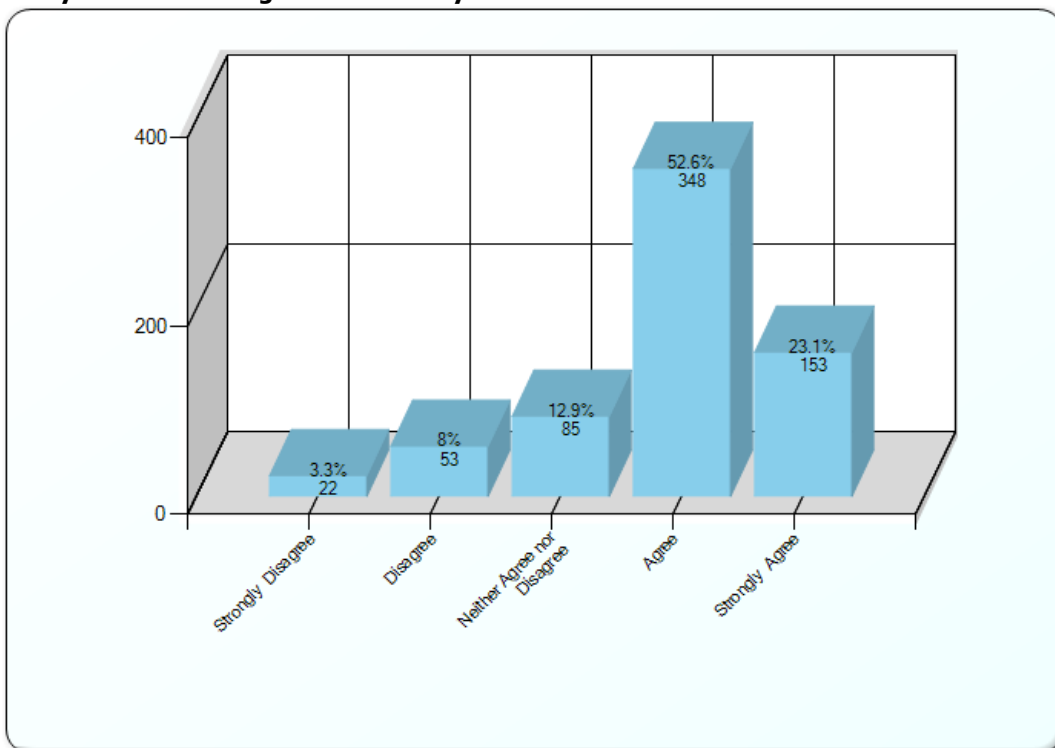


**ACADEMICS / CURRICULUM / INSTRUCTION**

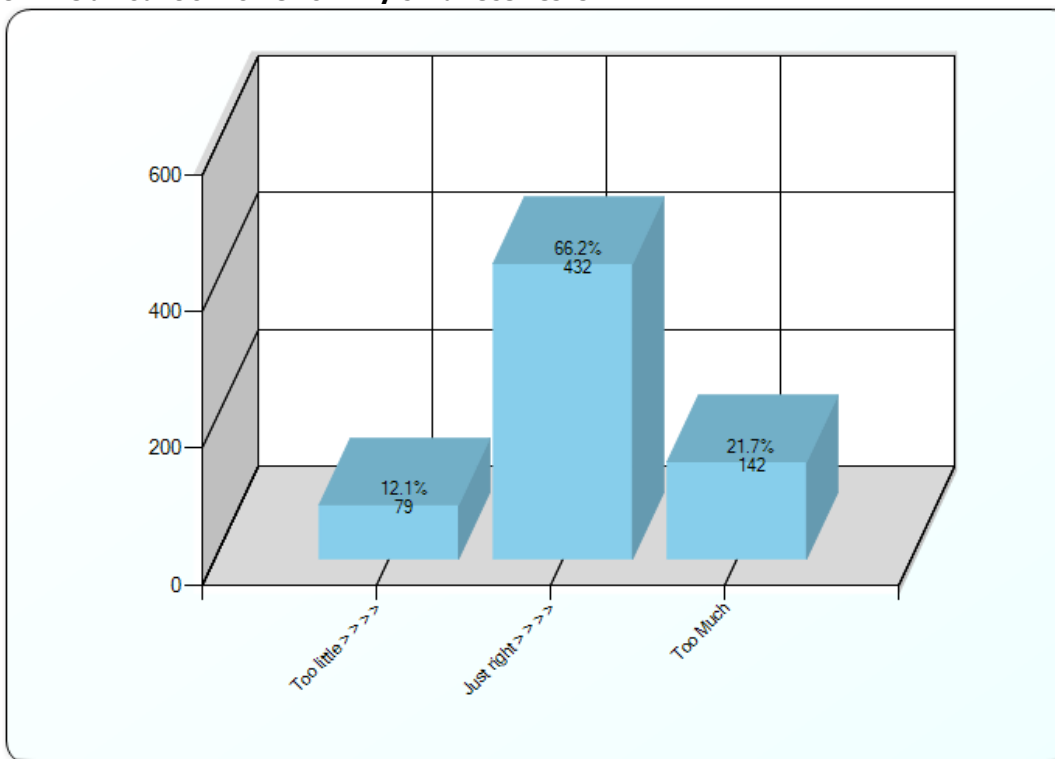
**6. I am pleased with the academic progress of my child.**



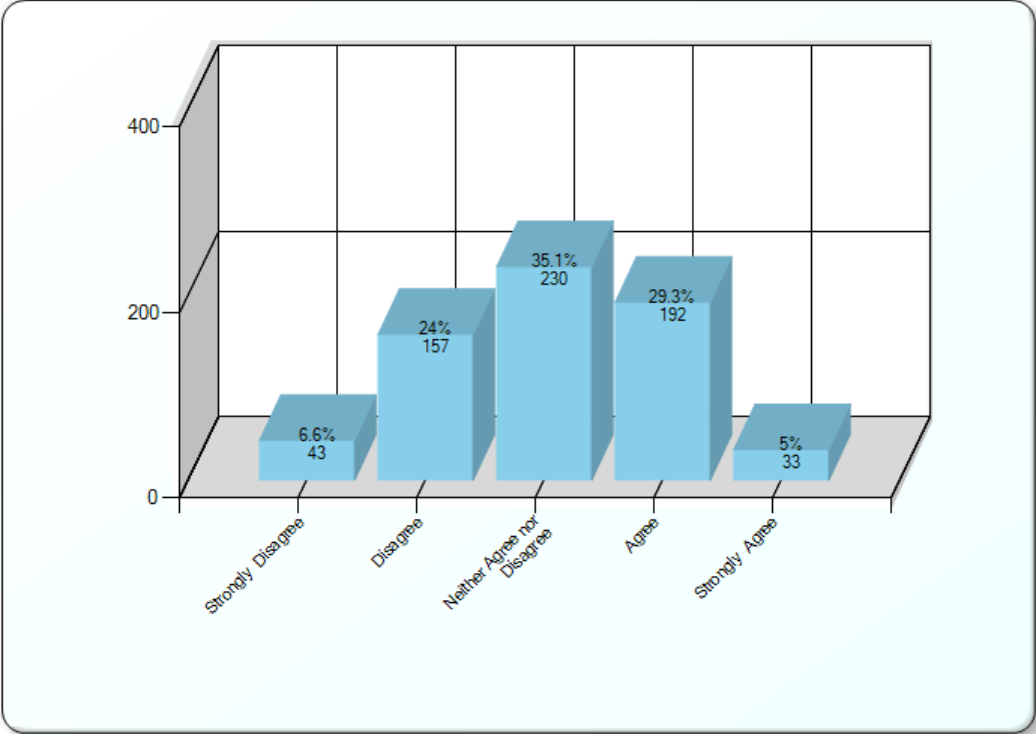
**7. My child is challenged academically.**



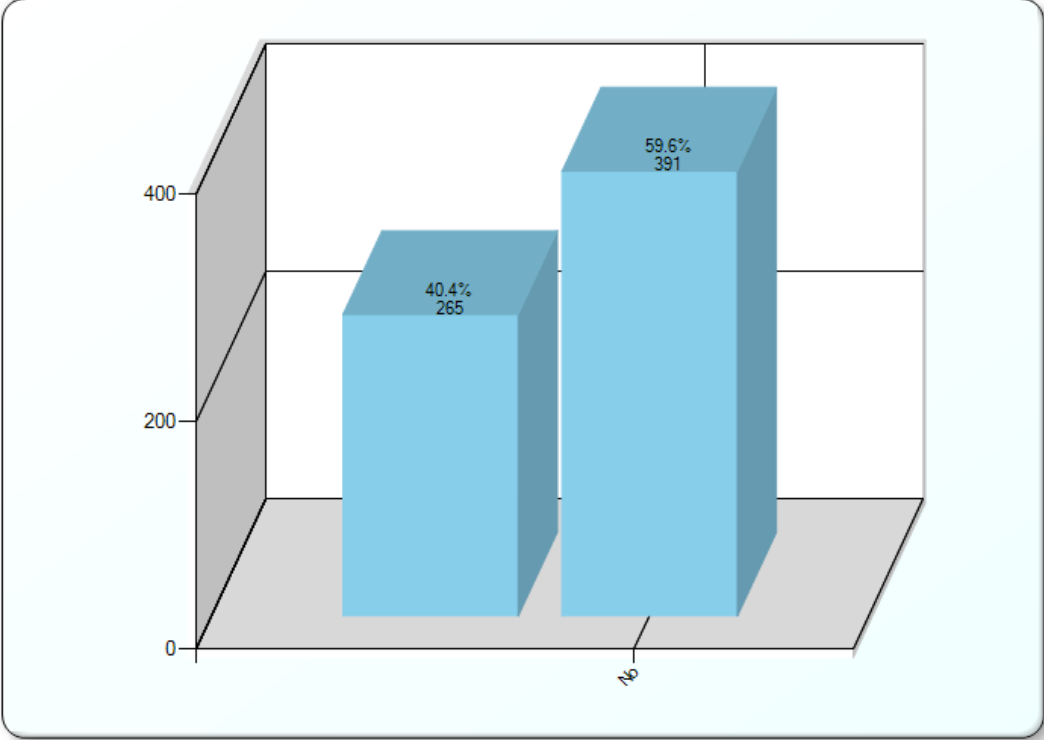
**8. The amount of homework my child receives is:**



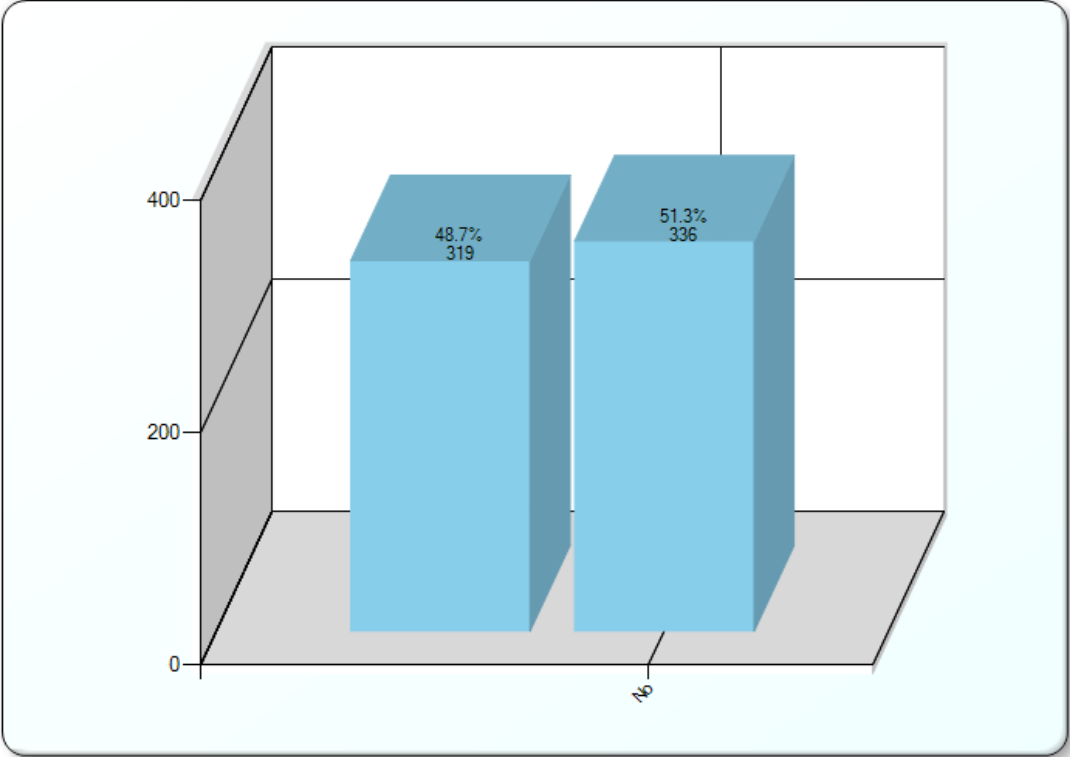
**9. The school gives me ideas and opportunities to help my child do his/her best.**



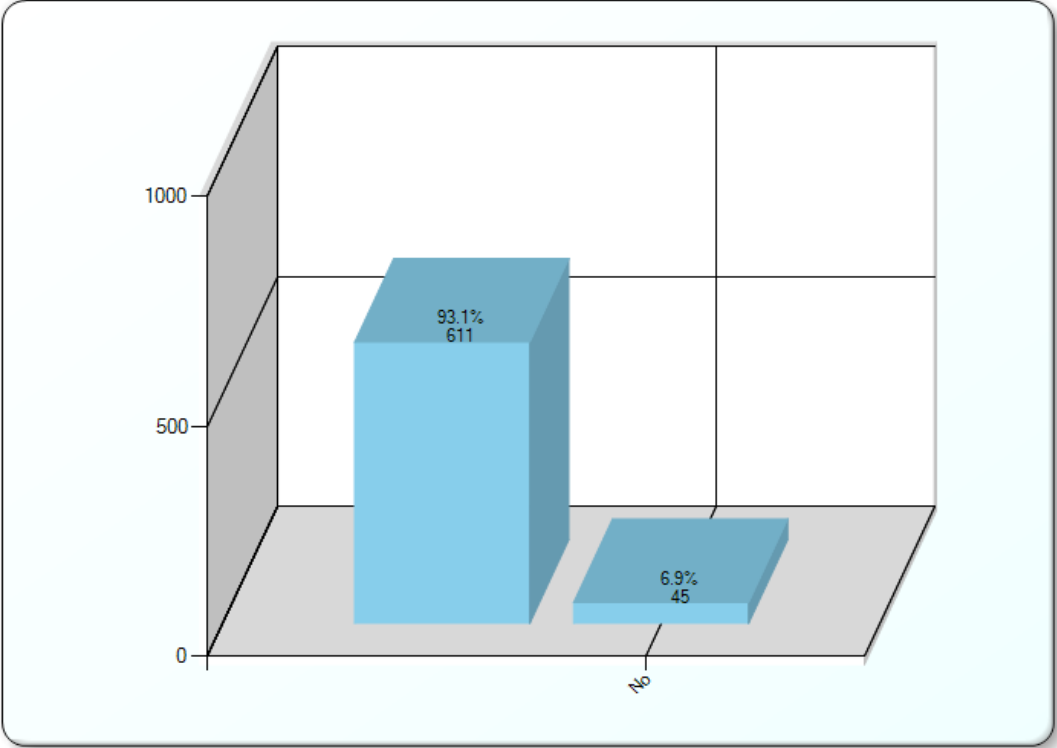
**10. I supplement my child's education with professional tutoring in core subjects such as math or reading (other than SAT prep).**



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

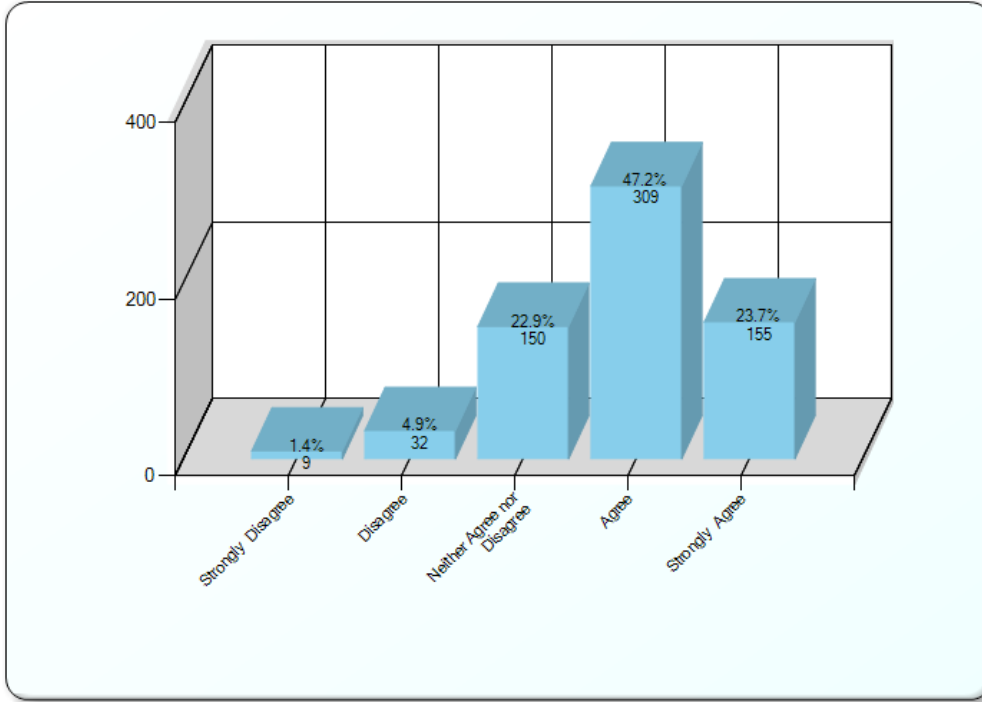


**12. My child attended pre-school prior to enrolling in kindergarten.**

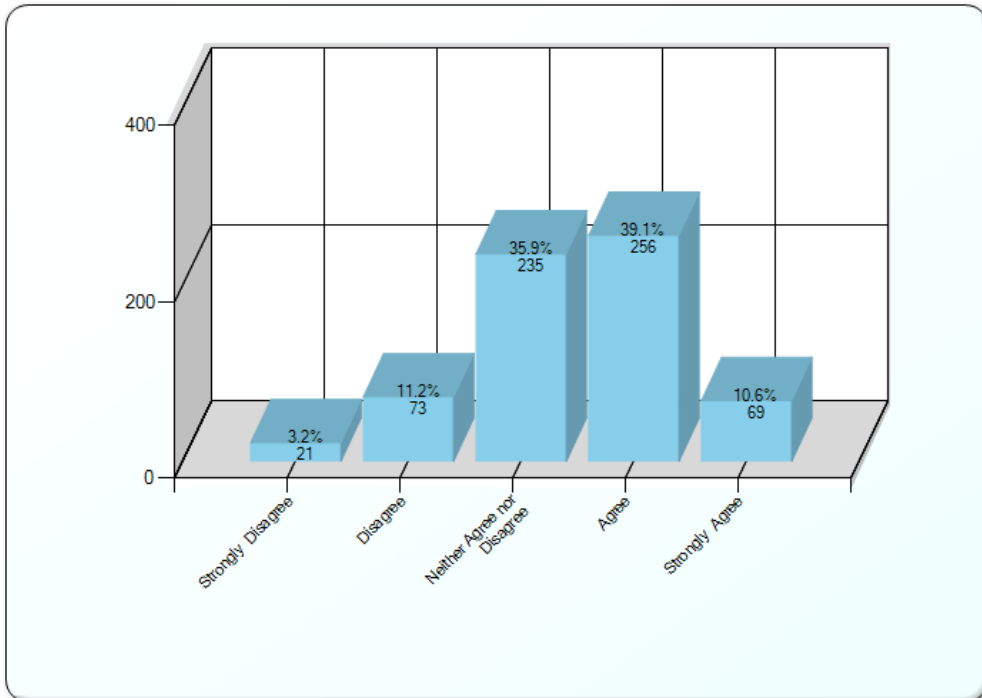


## EXTRACURRICULARS

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

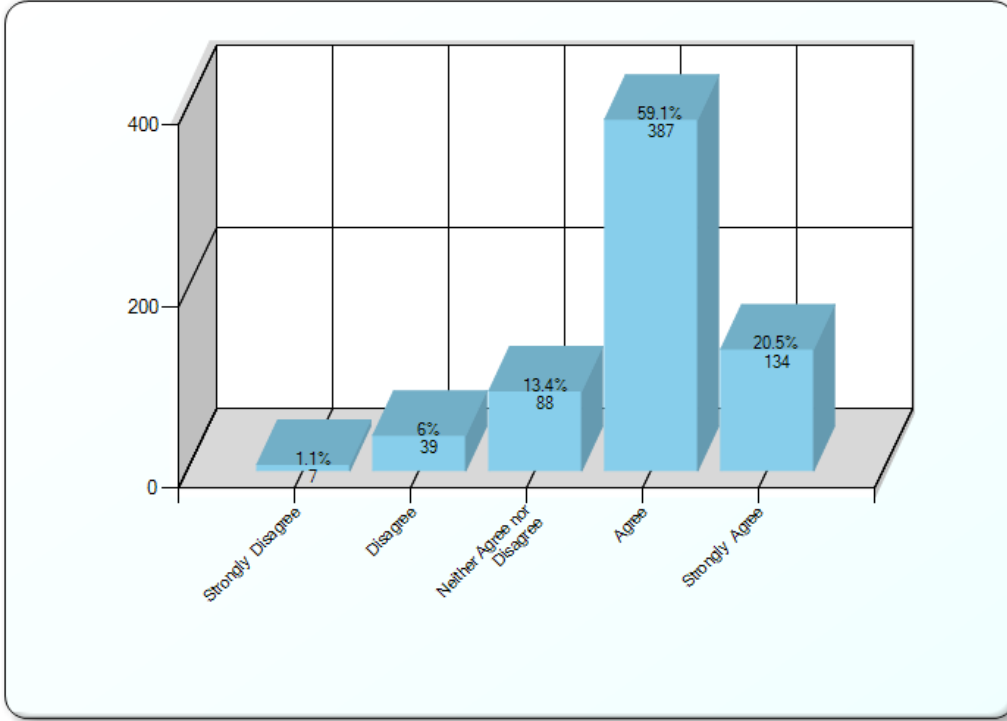


**14. My child is encouraged to try new things at school.**



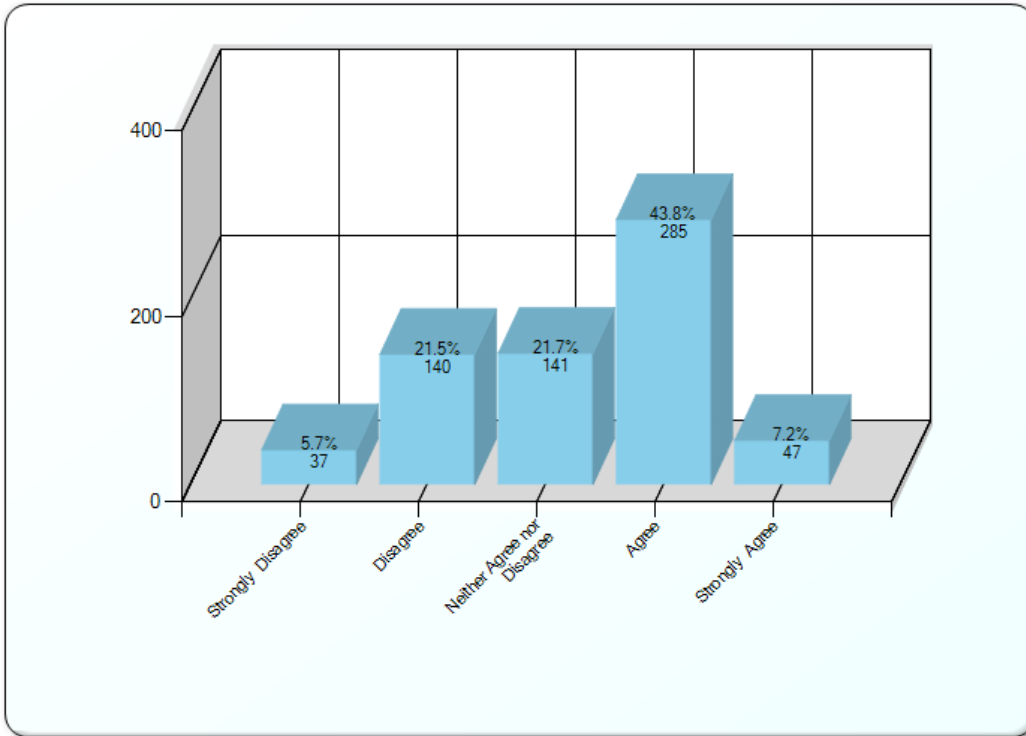


**15. I am satisfied with the health/wellness/fitness/sports offerings at school.**

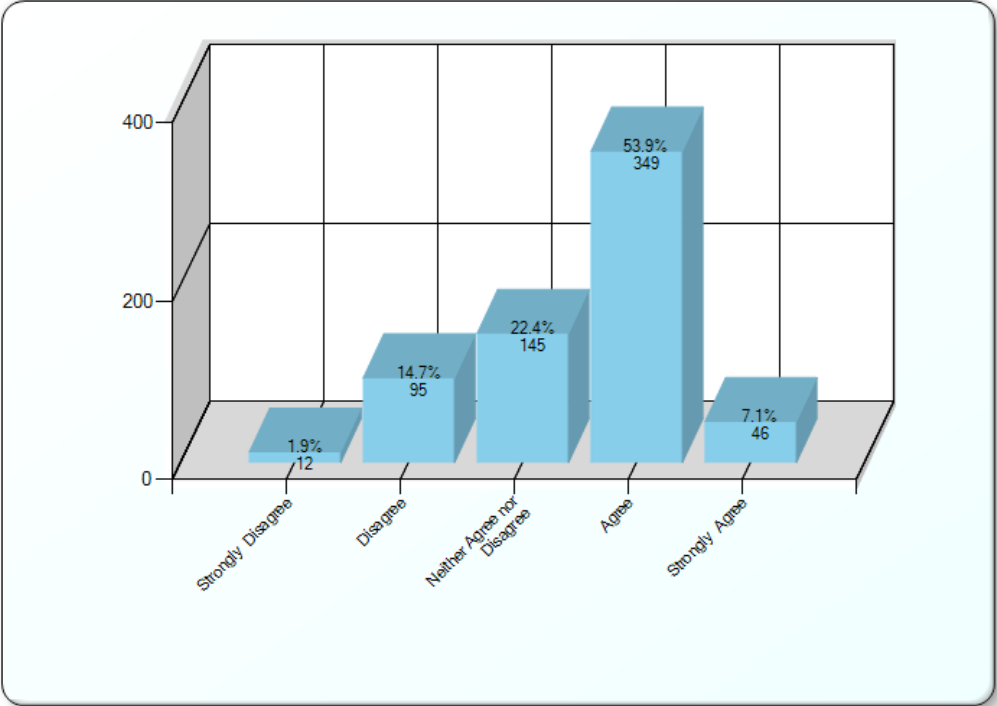


**FACILITIES**

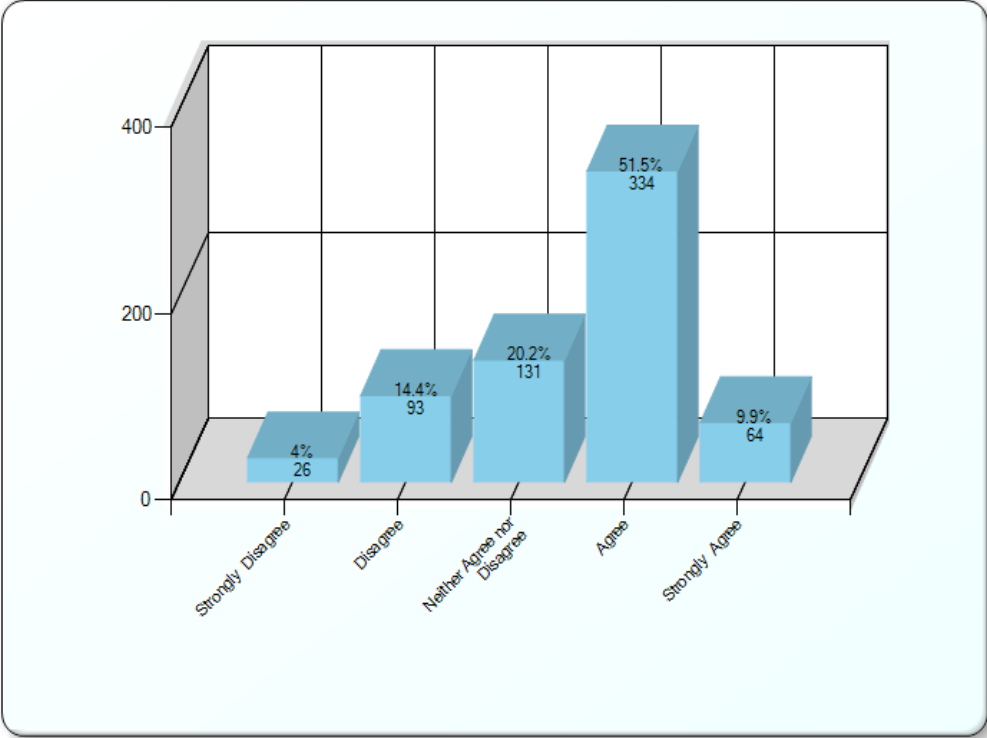
**16. I am satisfied with the quality of the physical spaces at my child's school.**



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

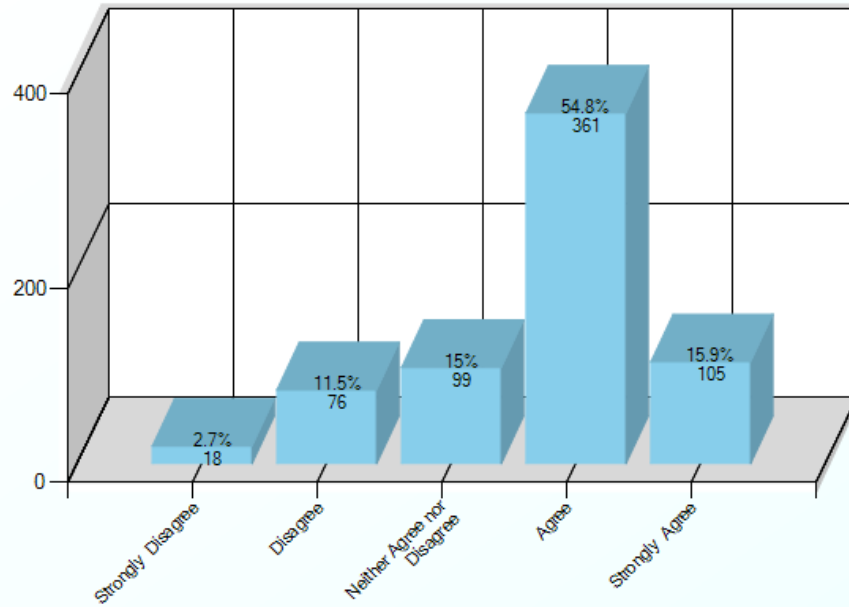


**18. The condition/quality of our school athletic facilities is acceptable.**

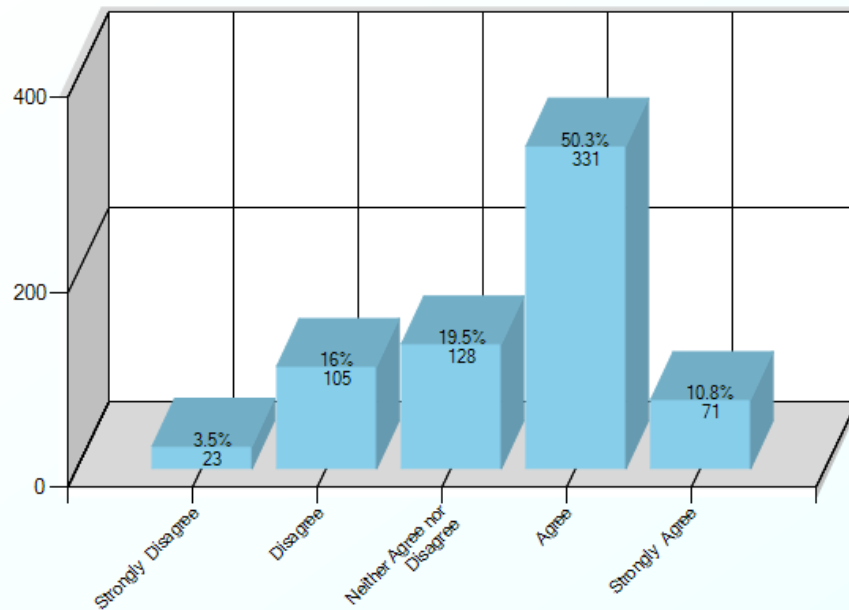


## COMMUNICATIONS

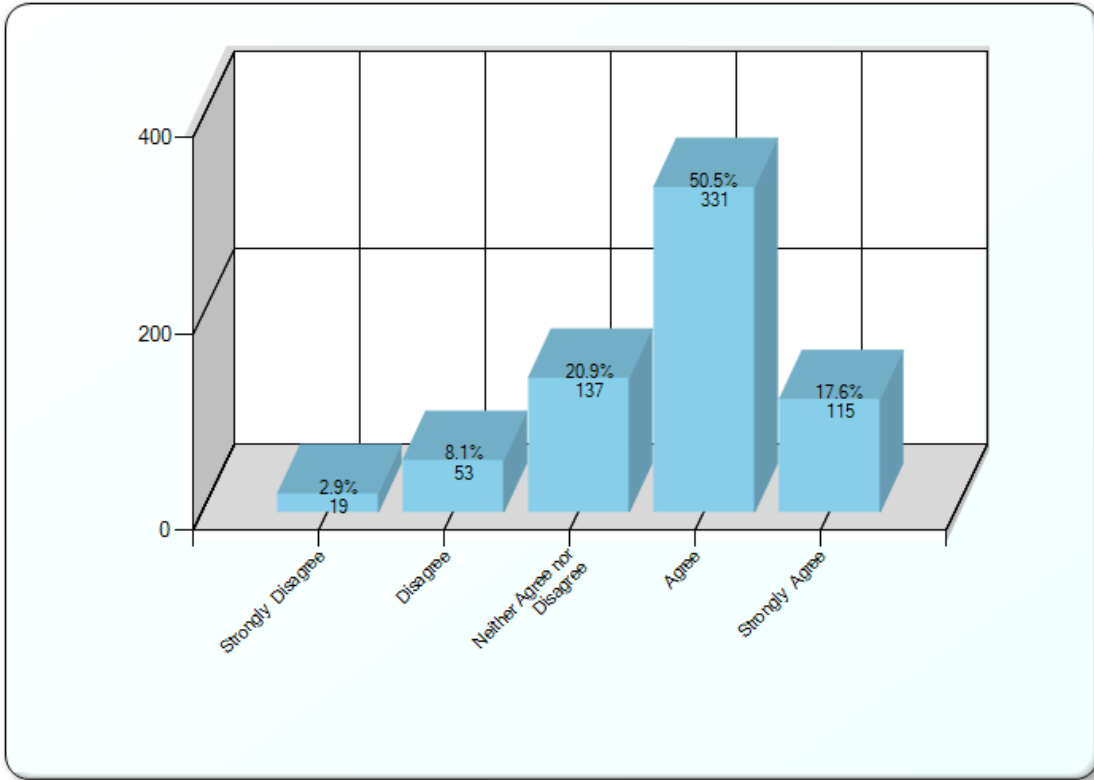
19. I feel well-informed about school programs/services/activities.



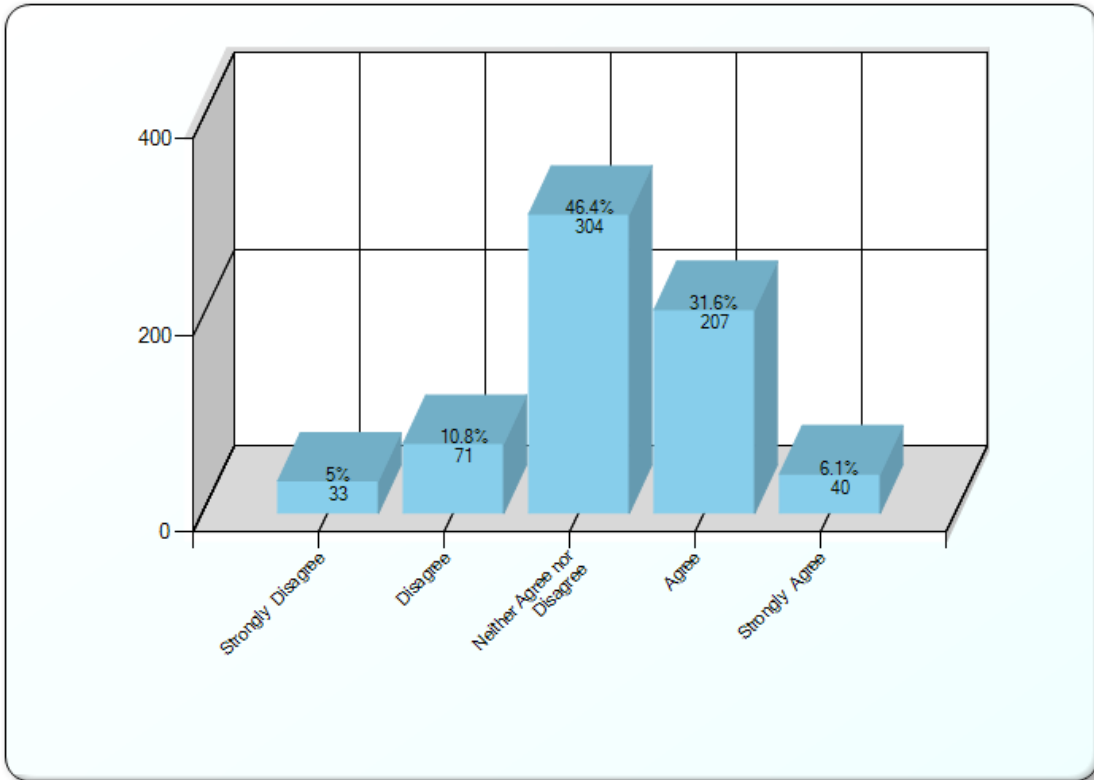
20. The school keeps me informed of my child's progress.



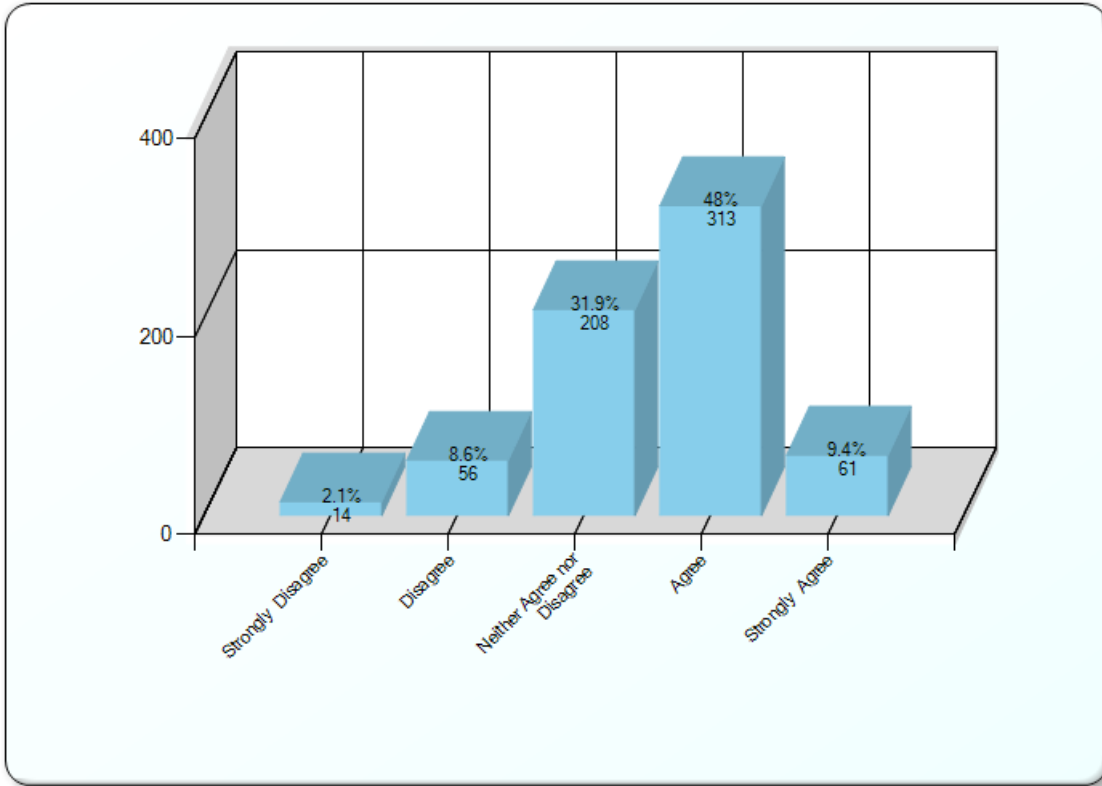
**21. School staff (teachers/principal) are responsive to parent concerns.**



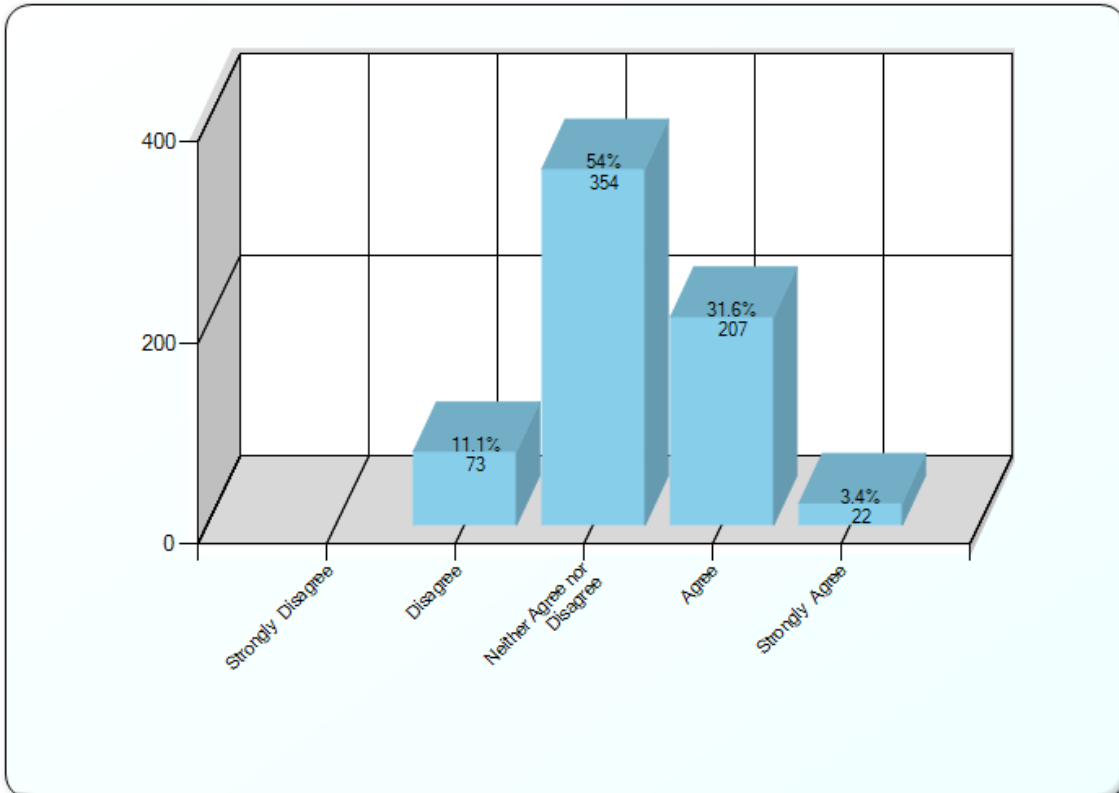
**22. District administration/Board of Ed are responsive to parent concerns.**



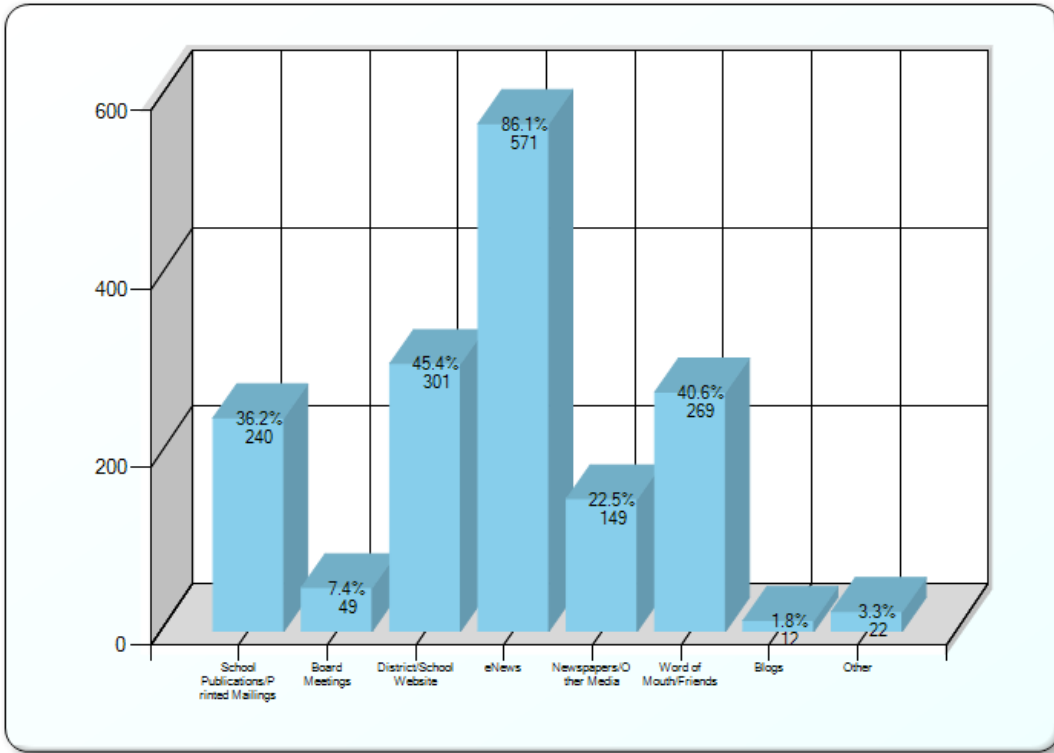
**23. I have sufficient opportunities to express my opinions or concerns regarding school.**



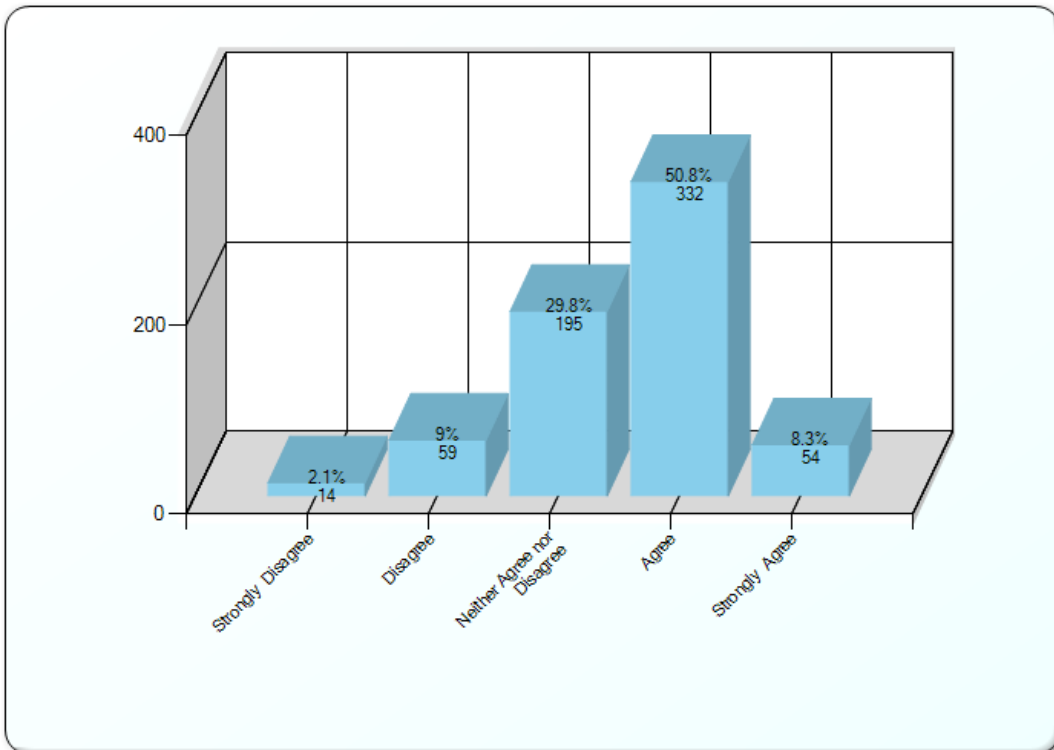
**24. I would like to be more involved in my child's school.**



**25. How do you receive most of your school information?**



**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 592 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 99 general comments were received. Of those comments, 15 expressed concern about the open campus and traffic; 10 commented about bullying/hate; and four commented about substance abuse.

### Academics/Curriculum/Instruction

A total of 179 comments referenced academics, curriculum and instruction. A limited number of parents raised concerns about teacher quality or differentiation, and also shared concerns in specific academic areas. Thirty-two comments were concerns about balancing homework with co-curricular activities, or types and length of homework assignments. While less than 50% of students receive tutoring for academics or SAT, comments reflected a concern about the cost of tutoring.

### Extra-Curricular

A total of 94 comments on extracurricular activities were received.

Respondents were positive about the non-sport extracurricular activities (music, art, drama) available, stating that their children were fortunate to have these opportunities. Concern was expressed that budget issues might impact these programs. Some questioned the need for athletes to participate in Physical Education classes.

### Facilities

A total of 100 comments were made about the high school facilities. Parents expressed satisfaction at the cleanliness of the building, particularly given its age, but felt the referendum work will solve most issues.

### Communications

A total of 120 comments were made about communications. Some respondents thought communications were satisfactory. Some respondents voiced concerns about communication, timely response and offered suggestions for improvement. Twenty-one respondents expressed concerns about receiving information and returning phone calls.

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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