C. **Update from Southwest Charter School Group**

The school has provided the attached report.

Southwest Learning Centers Updated PEC Progress December 2015

To: New Mexico Public Education Commission and the Charter School Division

From: Kirk Hartom, Head Administrator,

- Southwest Primary Learning Center (SPLC)
- Southwest Intermediate Learning Center (SILC)
- Southwest Secondary Learning Center (SSLC)
- Southwest Aeronautics, Mathematics & Science Academy (SAMS)

Date: December 11, 2015

RE: Southwest Learning Centers and SAMS Academy Status Report Regarding the Progress of the Schools

The purpose of this status report is to continue to provide on-going information to the Commission regarding the progress that the schools are making in the areas of management, finances, and academics.

Achievement: All of the Southwest Schools scored very well on the PARCC exam. ***(See attached results)***. In both areas of Math and Language Arts, Southwest students scored on the average from 20-25% above state averages, as well as 10-15% above national averages when compared to other states. ***(See New Jersey & Massachusetts comparison attached).***

Enrollment- stays steady as all schools exceeded projected enrollments for the 15-16 school year. The Primary and Intermediate schools maintain a waiting list of about 20 students each, while SAMS and SSLC maintain a waiting list of 20-30

students each. Enrollment numbers are on target based on budgeted numbers and projections as reflected in the following registrations to date:

- Southwest Primary 102
- Southwest Intermediate 112
- Southwest Secondary 272
- SAMS Academy 273

Since the last report to this body in August of 2015 at its regularly scheduled monthly meeting, the following have been initiated and/or completed:

Boards- Our Boards continue to meet monthly and we have established strong Financial Committees that examine financials thoroughly before approving those financials at the main Board Meetings.

Policy- The schools approved updated Governing Board Policies this past summer and continue to revise and refine the Employee Handbook along with the input from staff. The Boards are also re-vamping the Financial Internal Control Procedures to educate the staff on correct purchasing procedures and the importance of ''approval" of state monies before expenditures. All Boards' Members have become active participants in Board policy and finance and are not just receiving Board Training through the Charter School Coalition. All Boards are also members of the New Mexico School Boards Association.

Finance- The relationship between the state as our Board of Finance and the Vigil Group continues to improve. The schools, back in September, were caught in a watershed of back bills as old employees left and the Vigil Group was established. We have since been able to create POs for all of our vendors as well as pay them for past invoices from the 14-15 school year. The working relationship between the schools and our individual Budget Analysts has improved dramatically, and I am in constant contact with the NMPED Director of Financial Operations in approving correct financial processes for the schools.

Business Managers- We have hired two *Site Business Managers* to work hand-in-hand with the Vigil Business Managers in lieu of hiring one CEO. One BM works for SAMS and SPLC and the other for SSLC and SILC. This has been instrumental in establishing our key financial processes and smooth production of approving POs through the state as well as streamlining accounts payable, shipping, receiving, and payroll functions. The Public Education Department (PED) remains in control of all financial actions for the schools.

Audit- The results for the 14-15 were completed by AXIOM. It was determined that all schools only had two audit findings a piece and that most of the findings revolved around establishing stronger internal controls. A lot of personnel and financial records were taken during the FBI Investigation, but the auditors noted significant progress since last year's audit.

Salary Schedules - NMPED required that we go back and realign our salary schedule for teachers at each school. The Vigil Group has done this and we have adjusted accordingly as all teachers fit in the appropriate salary ranges as deemed by the three-tiered licensure system. All Boards approved the salary schedule and it has been sent on to the Secretary of Education for ratification.

The Lottery system, based on the InfoSnap tool, continues to provide prospective students where needed. Enrollments are on target based on budgeted numbers and projections as reflected in the following registrations to date as of the 40 day count.

- Southwest Primary 101
- Southwest Intermediate 109
- Southwest Secondary 272
- SAMS Academy 273

Consolidation- The task force continues to look at the consolidation of SILC and SPLC, but the financial impact would be great. The schools would lose small school funding in the $500,000 range.

Fall Parent Satisfaction Survey- ***(See Attached)***. All indications in our *SW Fall Parent Survey* are that our parents are extremely happy with the quality of education at our schools.

85% - 95% of Parents Agreed or Strongly Agreed that the Southwest Schools do well with:

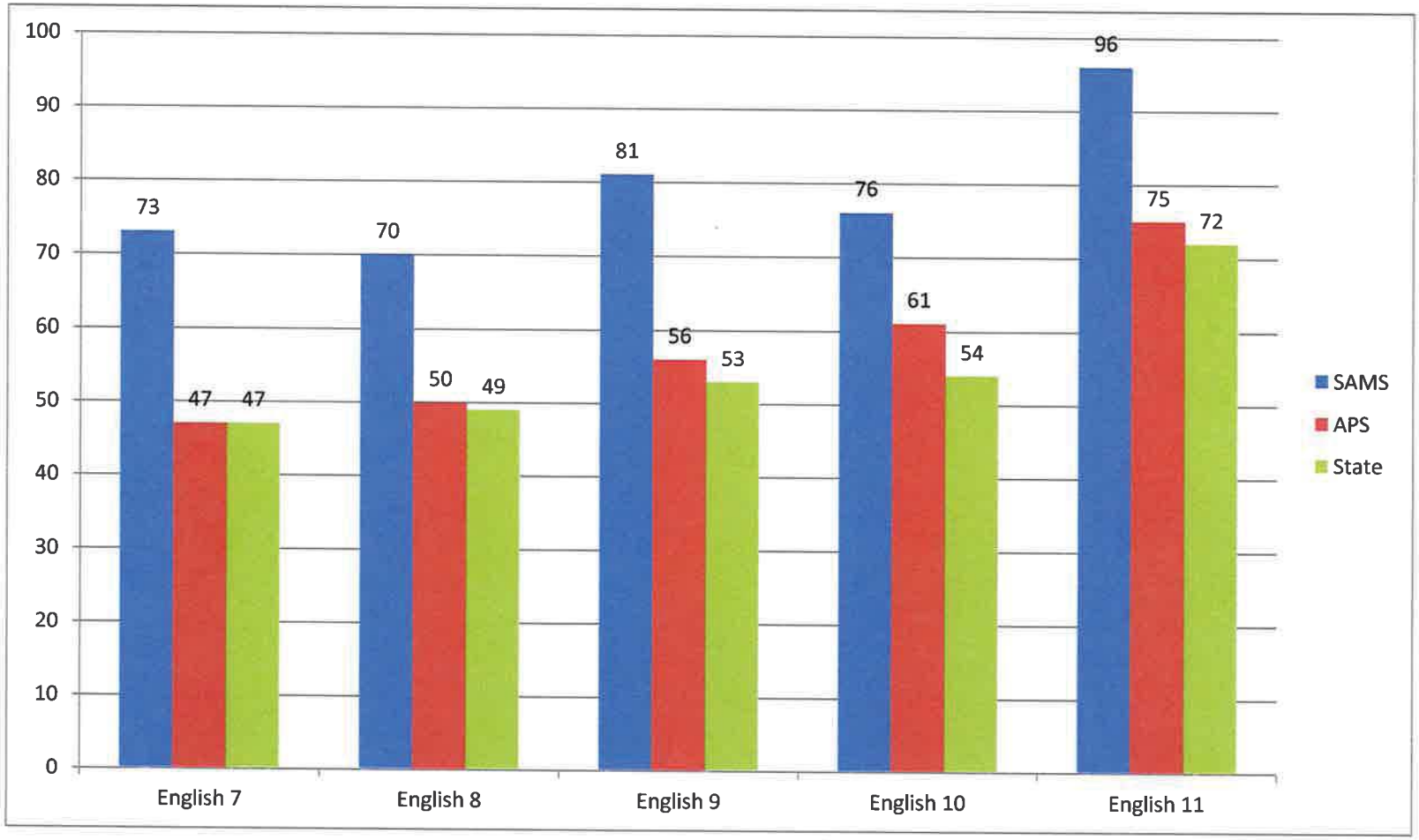
Our Schools . . .

- Have an excellent Digital Blended Learning Environment
- Have High Academic Expectations
- Have a High Quality and Well-Trained Staff
- Parents support the Vision and Missions of the Schools
- Have a caring environment for all students.

There is also an abundance of parent testimonials to the successes of their students due to the staff and structure of the Southwest Learning Centers.

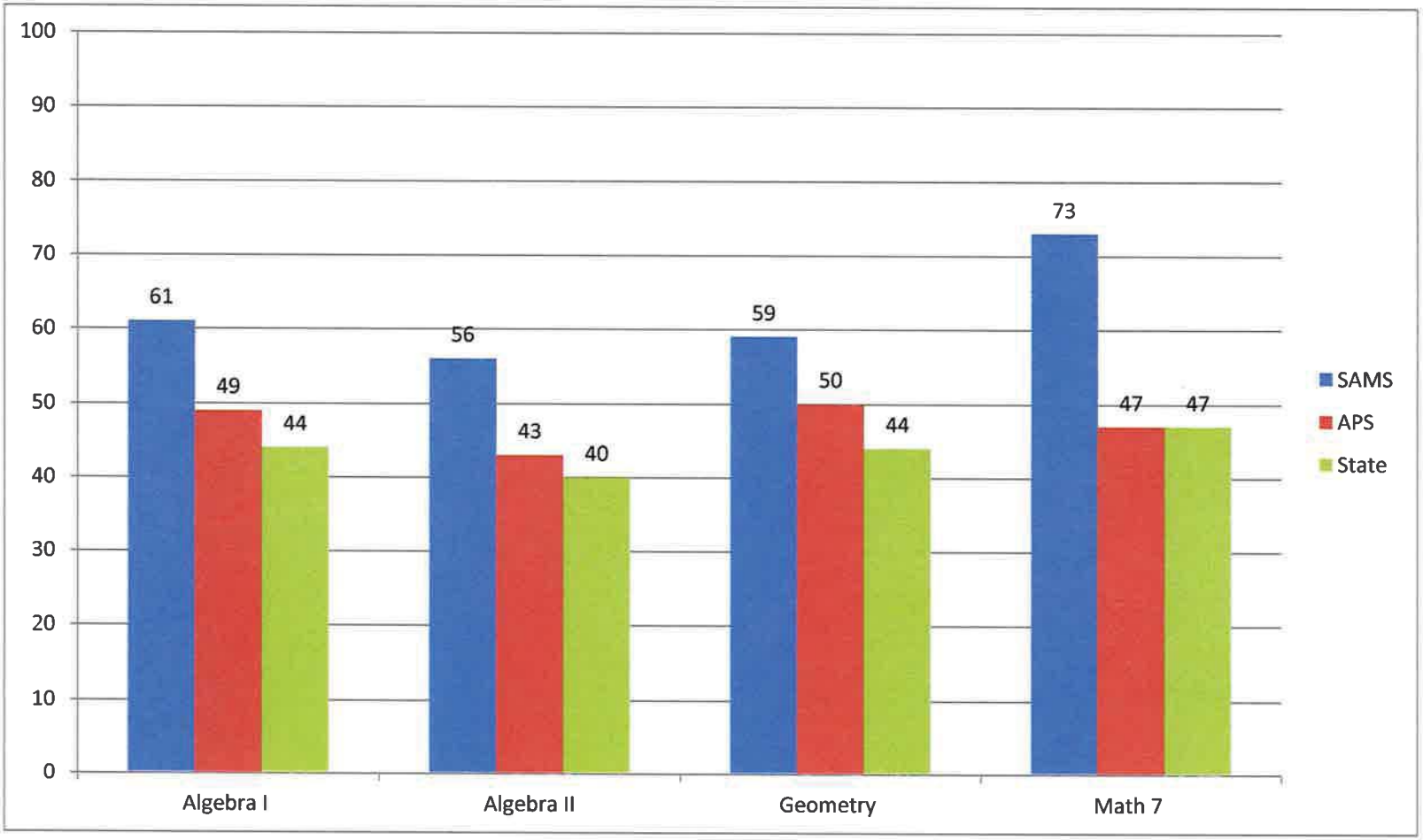
House of Representatives and Governor Office Visits- SAMS Academy received two visits this past month from Representative Steve Pierce and Lieutenant Governor John Sanchez. Both gentleman spoke highly of the educational program and gave inspirational messages to the student populations.

SAMS 2015 ELA PARCC Scores



*Percentage (%) of students scoring a 3,4, or 5 on the PARCC

SAMS 2015 Math PARCC Scores



*Percentage (%) of students scoring a 3,4, or 5 on the PARCC

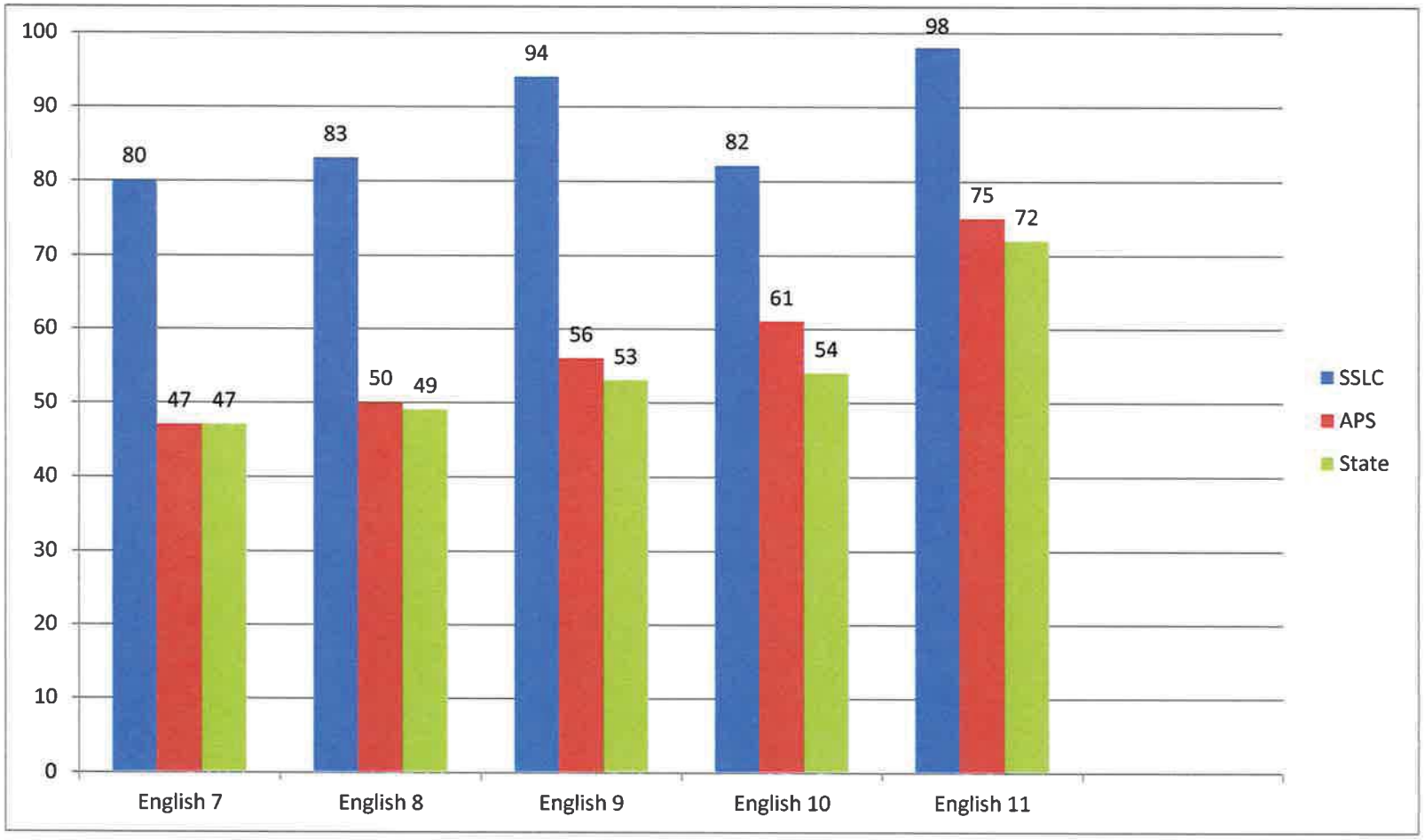
PARCC

SAMS ACADEMY

SAMS PARRC RESULTS

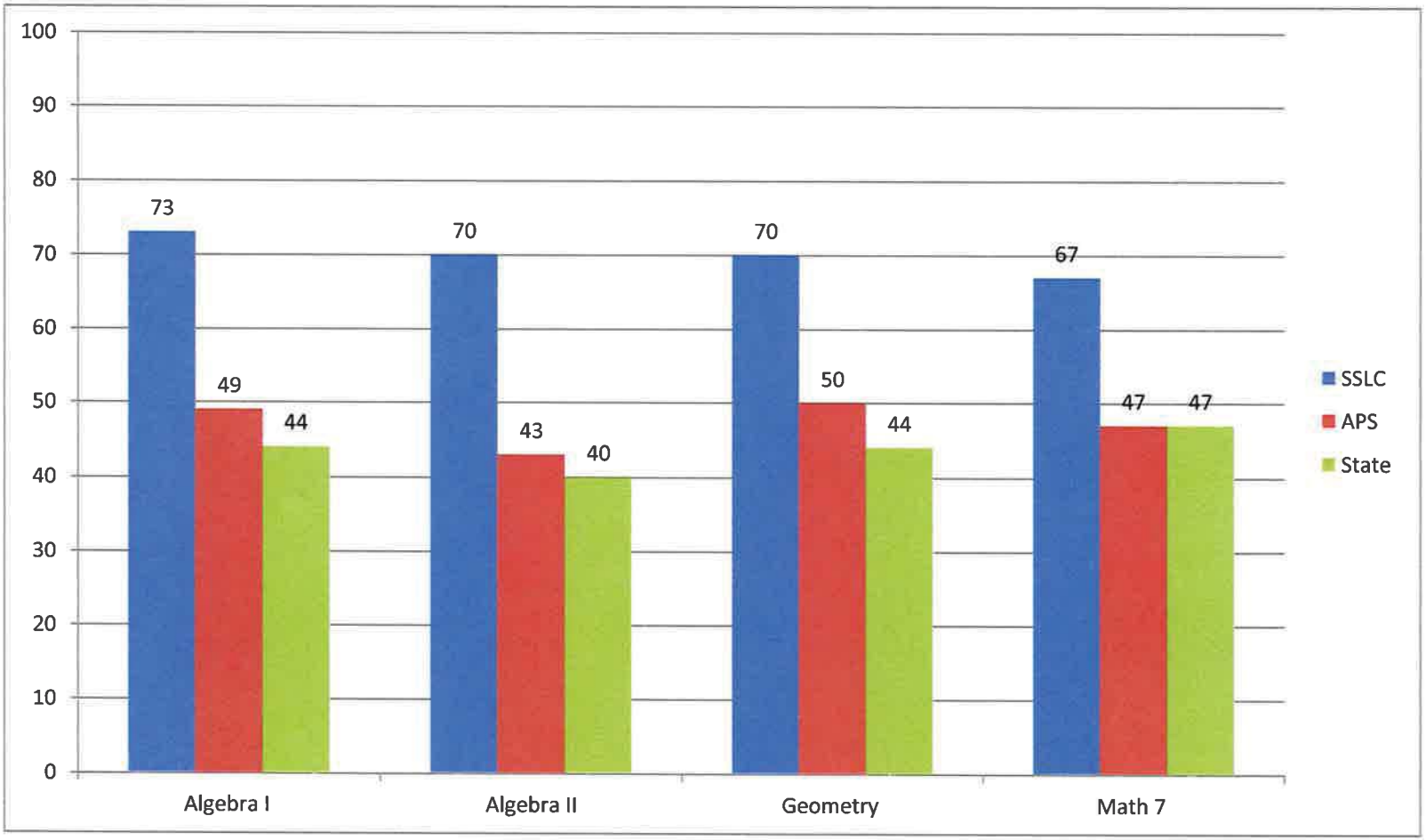
ELA LANGUAGE ARTS		ALL ELA SUBJECTS TESTED			MATH		ALL MATH SUBJECTS TESTED		
WHOLE SCHOOL					WHOLE SCHOOL				
1- DID NOT MEET	**2-PARTIALLY MET**	**3- APPROACHED**	**4- MET**	**5- EXCEEDED**	**1- DID NOT MEET**	**2-PARTIALLY MET**	**3- APPROACHED**	**4 MET**	**5- EXCEEDED**
SAMS									
8%	13%	31%	41.8%	6%	6%	32%	38%	24%	0%
NEW JERSEY									
18%	17%	24%	30%	11%	18%	25%	27%	27%	3%
MASSUCHUSETTS									
12%	15%	23%	37%	13%	18%	25%	28%	26%	3%
NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN ELA WHO WERE "3" ***APPROACHING*** OR ABOVE	SAMS 79% NEW JERSEY 65% MASSACHUSETTS 73%	NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN ELA WHO WERE "4" OR "5" ***MEETING OR EXCEEDING***	SAMS 48% NEW JERSEY 41% MASSACHUSETTS 50%		NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN MATH WHO WERE "3" ***APPROACHING*** OR ABOVE	SAMS 62% NEW JERSEY 57% MASSACHUSETTS 47%	NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN MATH WHO WERE "4" OR "5" ***MEETING EXCEEDING***	SAMS 24% NEW JERSEY 30% MASSUCHUSETTS 29%	

SSLC 2015 ELA PARCC Scores



*Percentage (%) of students scoring a 3,4, or 5 on the PARCC

SSLC 2015 Math PARCC Scores

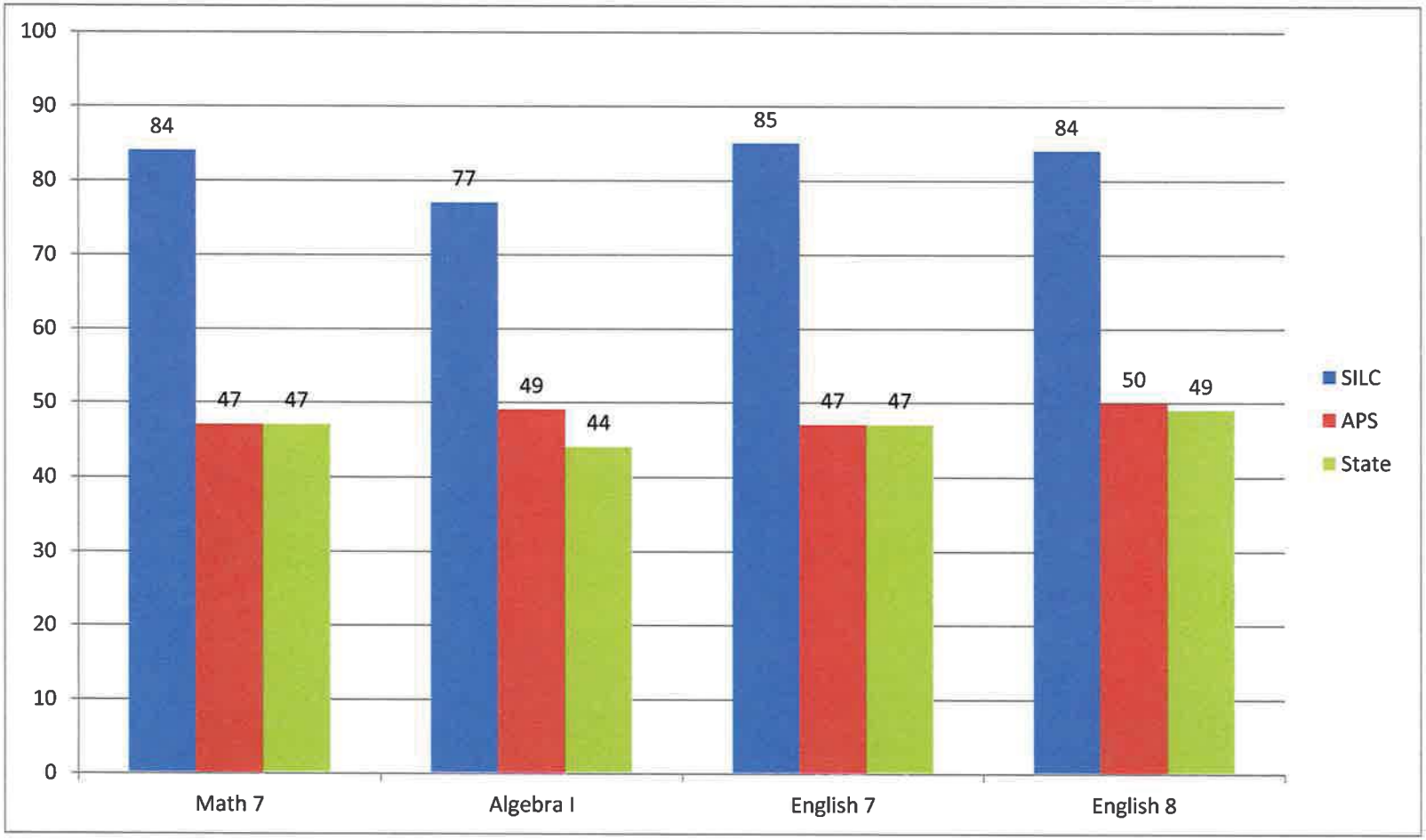


*Percentage (%) of students scoring a 3,4, or 5 on the PARCC

SSLC PARCC RESULTS

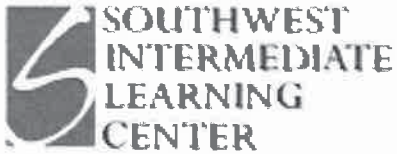
ELA LANGUAGE ARTS					MATH				
1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
DID NOT MEET	**PARTIALLY MET**	**APPROACHED**	**MET**	**EXCEEDED**	**DID NOT MEET**	**PARTIALLY MET**	**APPROACHED**	**MET**	**EXCEEDED**
SSLC									
5%	12%	27%	46%	20%	5%	18%	25%	38%	14%
NEW JERSEY									
18%	17%	24%	30%	11%	18%	25%	27%	27%	3%
MASSACHUSETTS									
12%	15%	23%	37%	13%	18%	25%	28%	26%	3%
NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN ELA WHO WERE "3" ***APPROACHING*** OR ABOVE	SSLC 93% NEW JERSEY 65% MASSACHUSETTS 73%	NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN ELA WHO WERE "4" OR "5" ***MEETING OR EXCEEDING***	SSLC 66% NEW JERSEY 41% MASSACHUSETTS 50%		NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN MATH WHO WERE "3" ***APPROACHING*** OR ABOVE	SSLC 77% NEW JERSEY 57% MASSACHUSETTS 47%	NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN MATH WHO WERE "4" OR "5" ***MEETING OR EXCEEDING***	SSLC 52% NEW JERSEY 30% MASSACHUSETTS 29%	

SILC 2015 PARCC Scores



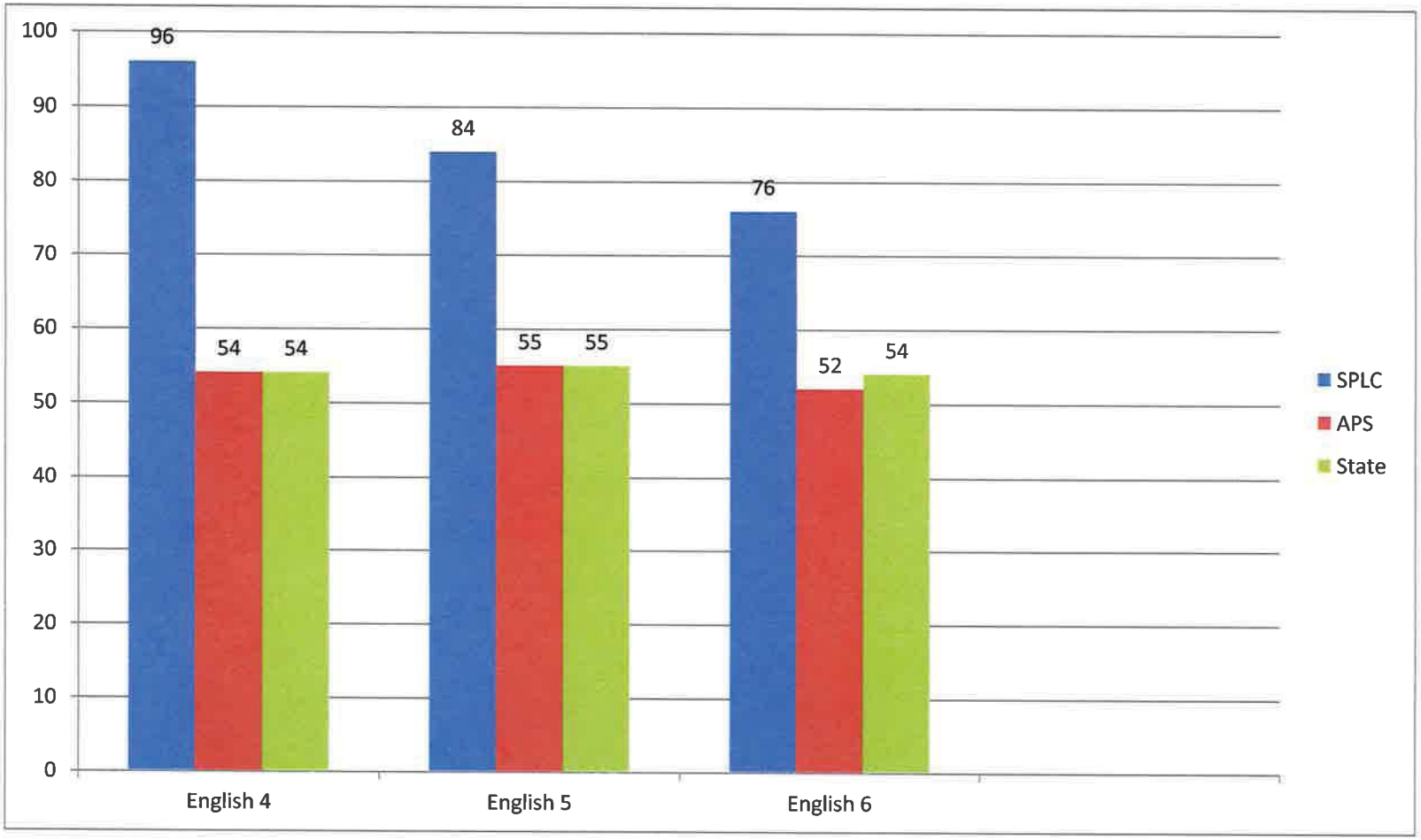
*Percentage (%) of students scoring a 3,4, or 5 on the PARCC

SILC PARCC RESULTS



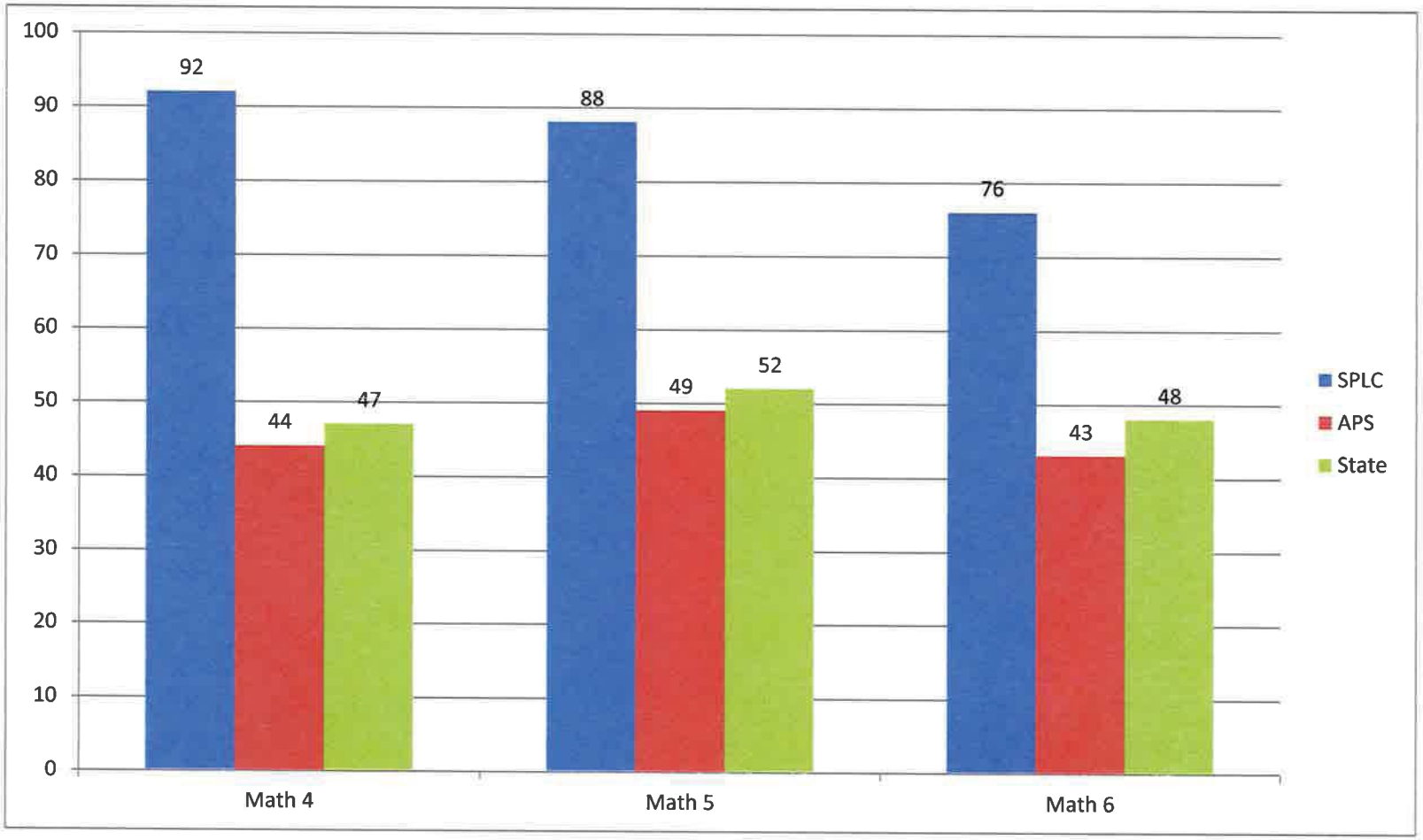
ELA		ALL ELA SUBJECTS TESTED			MATH		ALL MATH SUBJECTS TESTED		
1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
DID NOT MEET	**PARTIALLY MET**	**APPROACHED**	**MET**	**EXCEEDEED**	**DID NOT MEET**	**PARTIALLY MET**	**APPROACHED**	**MET**	**EXCEEDED**
SILC					SILC				
3%	12%	23%	51%	11%	1%	18%	40%	39%	2%
NEW JERSEY					NEW JERSEY				
12%	15%	23%	35%	15%	15%	24%	30%	28%	3%
NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN ELA WHO WERE "3" ***APPROACHING*** OR ABOVE	SILC 85% NEW JERSEY 73%	NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN ELA WHO WERE "4" OR "5" ***MEETING OR EXCEEDING***	SILC 62% NEW JERSEY 50%		NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN MATH WHO WERE "3" ***APPROACHING*** OR ABOVE	SILC 81% NEW JERSEY 61%	NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN MATH WHO WERE "4" OR "5" ***MEETING OR EXCEEDING***	SILC 41% NEW JERSEY 31%	

SPLC 2015 ELA PARCC Scores

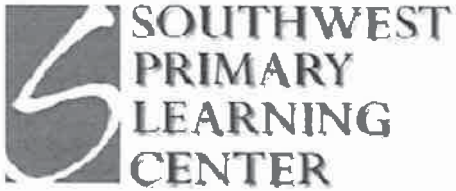


*Percentage (%) of students scoring a 3,4, or 5 on the PARCC

SPLC 2015 Math PARCC Scores



*Percentage (%) of students scoring a 3,4, or 5 on the PARCC

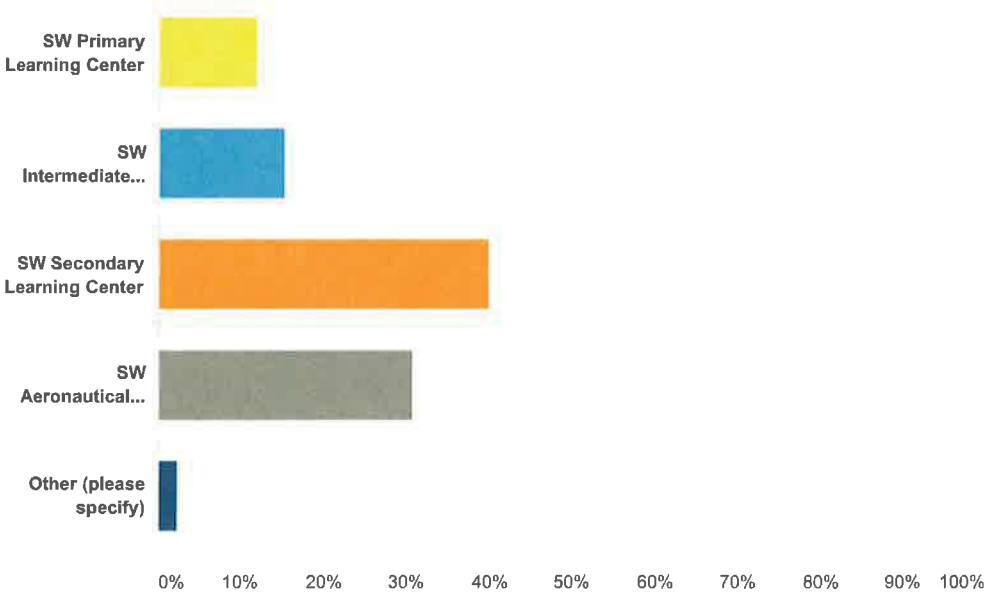


SPLC PARCC RESULTS

ELA LANGUAGE ARTS					MATH				
1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
DID NOT MEET	**PARTIALLY MET**	**APPROACHED**	**MET**	**EXCEEDEED**	**DID NOT MEET**	**PARTIALLY MET**	**APPROACHED**	**MET**	**EXCEEDED**
SPLC					SPLC				
4%	13%	38%	42%	3%	3%	11%	31%	52%	3%
NEW JERSEY					NEW JERSEY				
8%	15%	27%	41%	9%	7%	21%	32%	35%	5%
NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN ELA WHO WERE "3" ***APPROACHING*** OR ABOVE	SPLC 83% NEW JERSEY 77%	NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN ELA WHO WERE "4" OR "5" ***MEETING OR EXCEEDING***	SPLC 45% NEW JERSEY 50%		NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN MATH WHO WERE "3" ***APPROACHING*** OR ABOVE	SPLC 86% NEW JERSEY 72%	NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN MATH WHO WERE "4" OR "5" ***MEETING OR EXCEEDING***	SPLC 55% NEW JERSEY 40%	

Q1 Which School Does Your Student Attend?

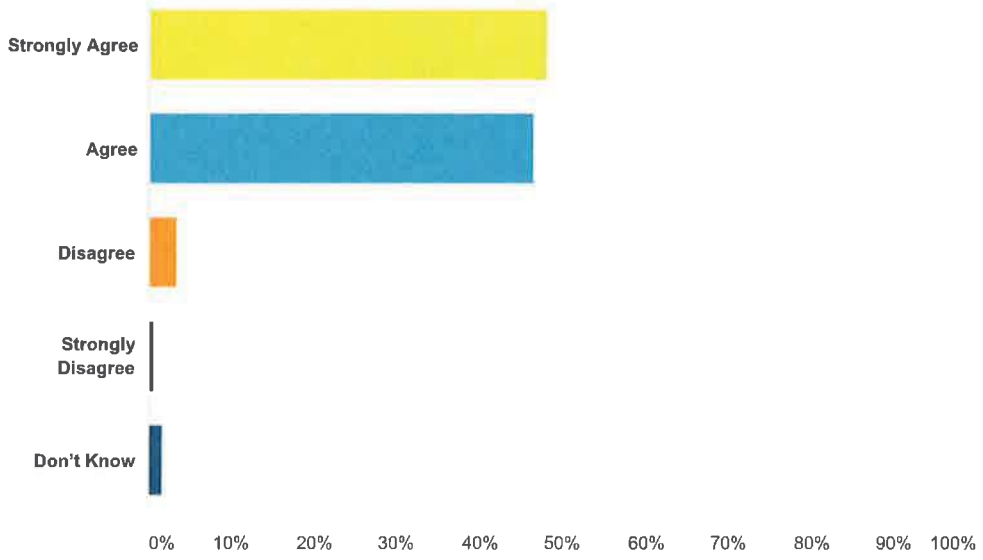
Answered: 176 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses	
SW Primary Learning Center	11.93%	21
SW Intermediate Learning Center	15.34%	27
SW Secondary Learning Center	39.77%	70
SW Aeronautical. Math, and Science Academy	30.68%	54
Other (please specify)	2.27%	4
Total		**176**

Q2 My child is provided with an environment that promotes utilizing blended and traditional education with accelerated instruction sustaining a high-performing learning community.

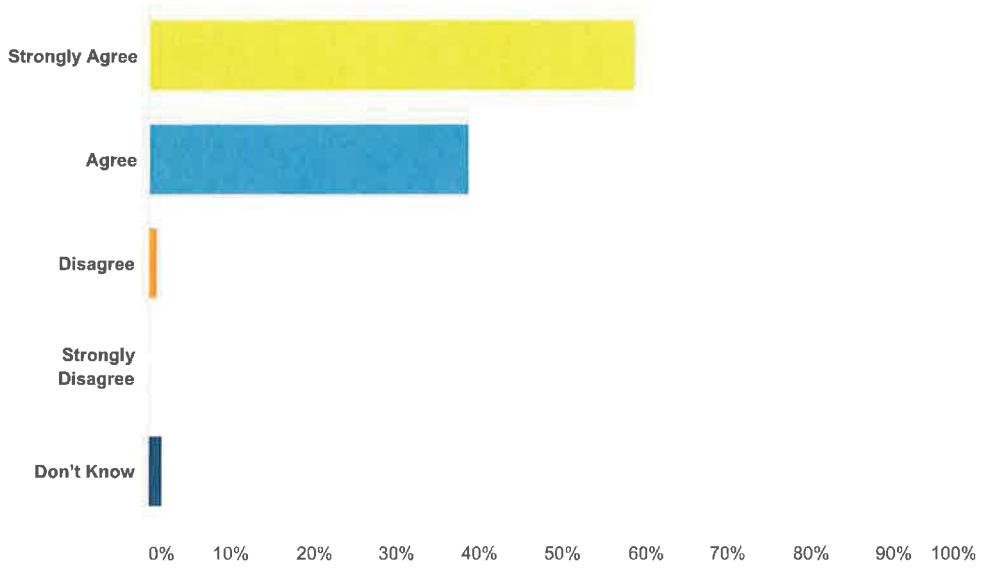
Answered: 175 Skipped: 2



Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly Agree	48.00%	84
Agree	46.29%	81
Disagree	3.43%	6
Strongly Disagree	0.57%	1
Don't Know	1.71%	3
Total Respondents: 175		

Q3 My child's school building is in good repair and has sufficient space to support quality education

Answered: 176 Skipped: 1

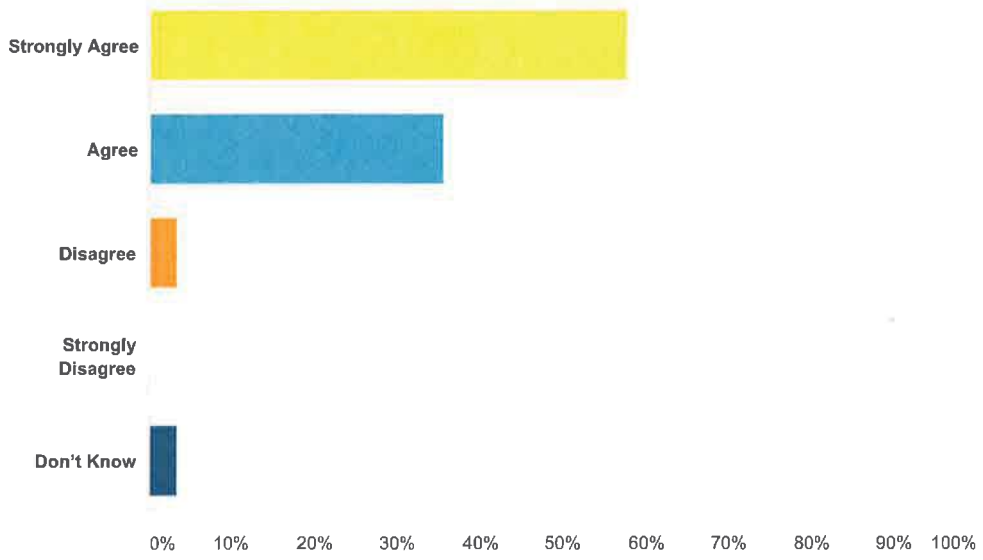


Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly Agree	58.52%	103
Agree	38.64%	68
Disagree	1.14%	2
Strongly Disagree	0.00%	0
Don't Know	1.70%	3

Total Respondents: 176

Q4 My child's school holds high expectations for academic achievement.

Answered: 175 Skipped: 2

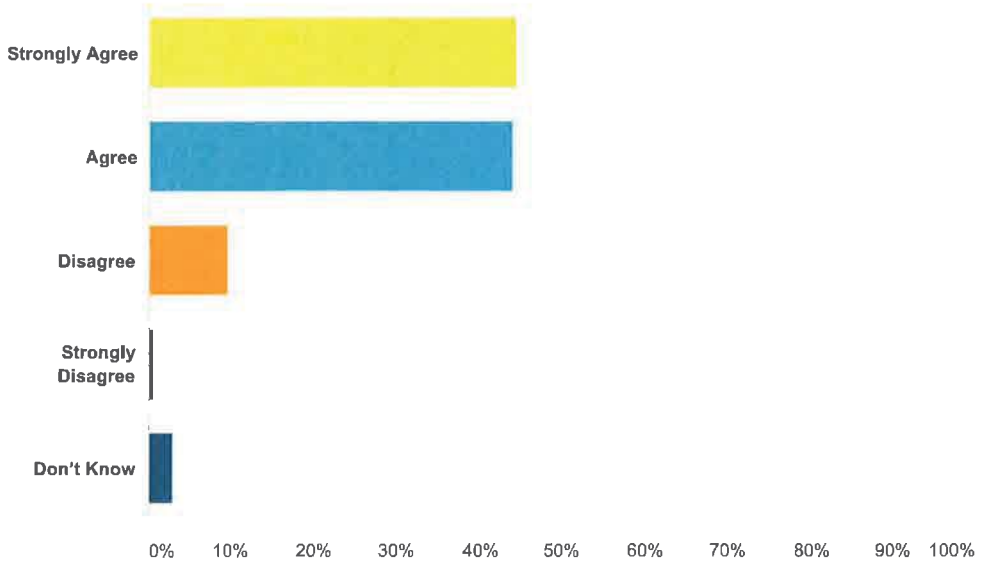


Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly Agree	57.71%	101
Agree	35.43%	62
Disagree	3.43%	6
Strongly Disagree	0.00%	0
Don't Know	3.43%	6

Total Respondents: 175

Q5 School staff encourage me to participate in my child's education

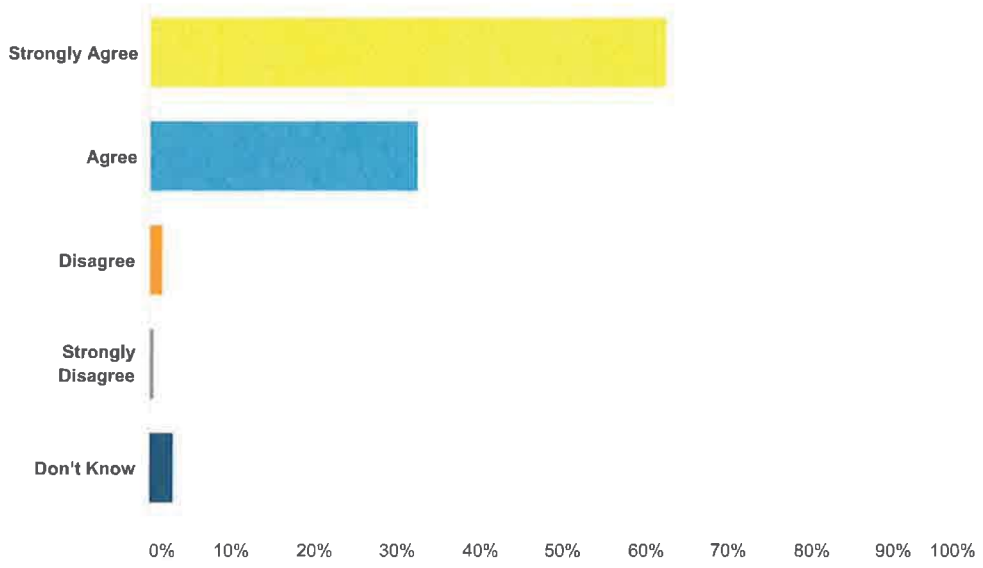
Answered: 176 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly Agree	44.32%	78
Agree	43.75%	77
Disagree	9.66%	17
Strongly Disagree	0.57%	1
Don't Know	2.84%	5
Total Respondents: 176		

Q6 The school offers adequate access to up-to-date computers and technology.

Answered: 176 Skipped: 1

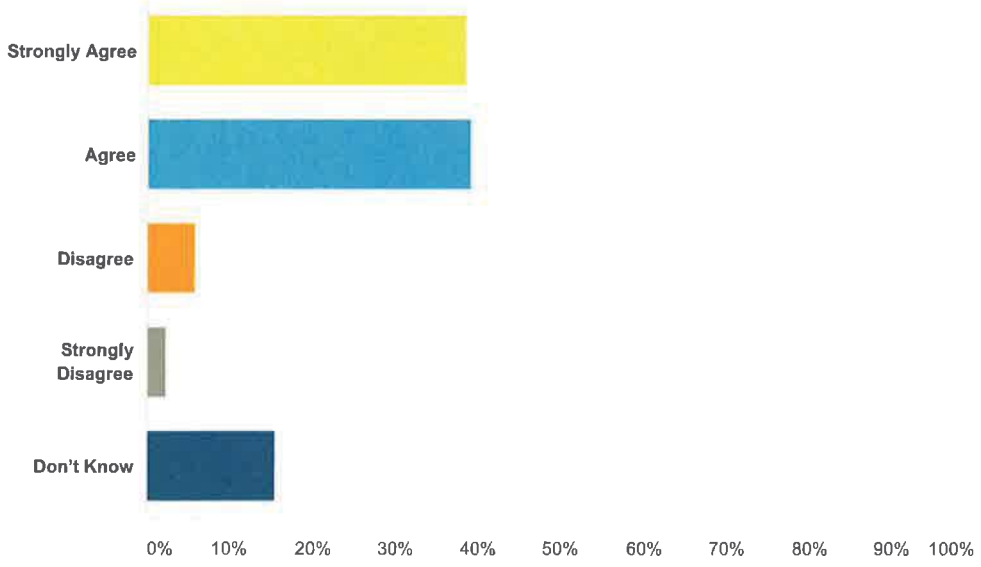


Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly Agree	62.50%	110
Agree	32.39%	57
Disagree	1.70%	3
Strongly Disagree	0.57%	1
Don't Know	2.84%	5

Total Respondents: 176

Q7 School staff maintains consistent discipline which makes it possible for learning to happen.

Answered: 174 Skipped: 3

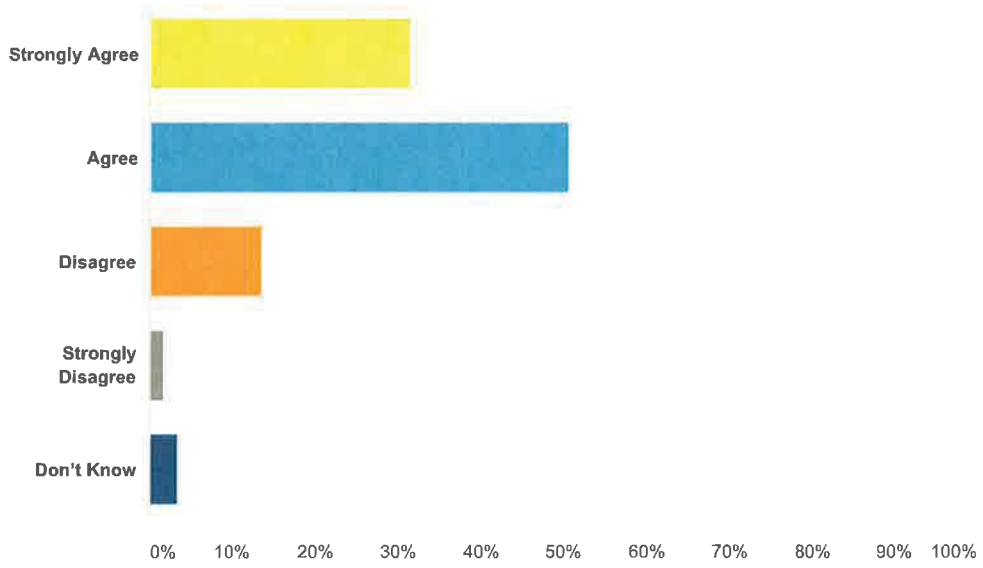


Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly Agree	38.51%	67
Agree	39.08%	68
Disagree	5.75%	10
Strongly Disagree	2.30%	4
Don't Know	15.52%	27

Total Respondents: 174

Q8 My child has an adequate choice of school-sponsored extracurricular activities.

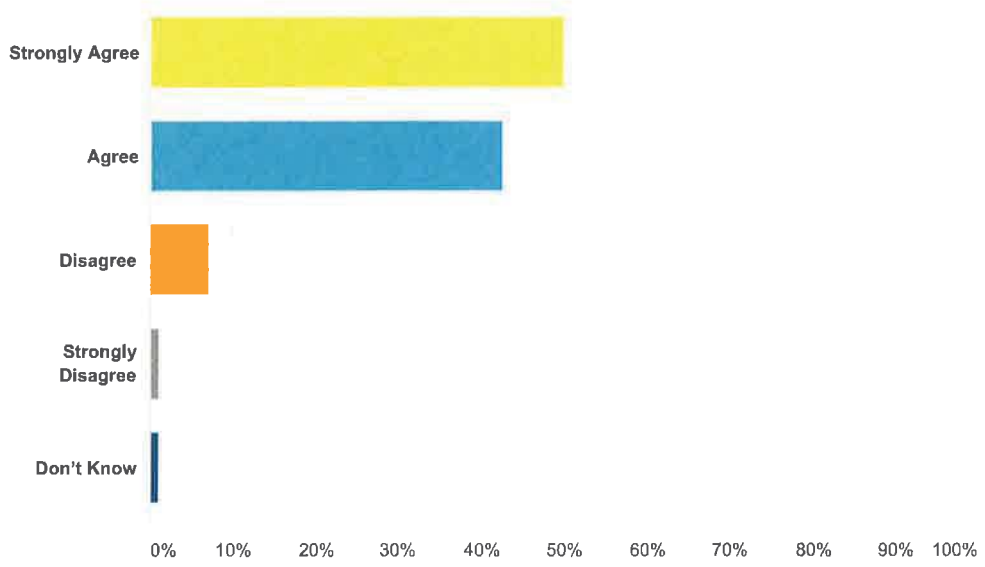
Answered: 176 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly Agree	31.25%	55
Agree	50.57%	89
Disagree	13.64%	24
Strongly Disagree	1.70%	3
Don't Know	3.41%	6
Total Respondents: 176		

Q9 My child's teacher(s) provide sufficient and appropriate information regarding my child's academic progress.

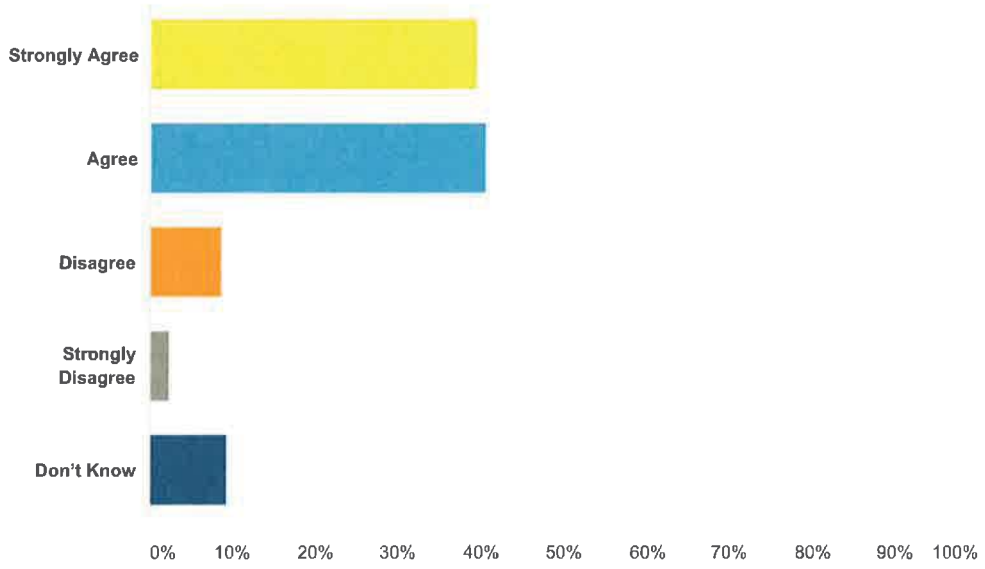
Answered: 175 Skipped: 2



Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly Agree	49.71%	87
Agree	42.29%	74
Disagree	6.86%	12
Strongly Disagree	1.14%	2
Don't Know	1.14%	2
Total Respondents: 175		

Q10 The school staff employs various instructional methods and strategies to meet my child's needs.

Answered: 175 Skipped: 2

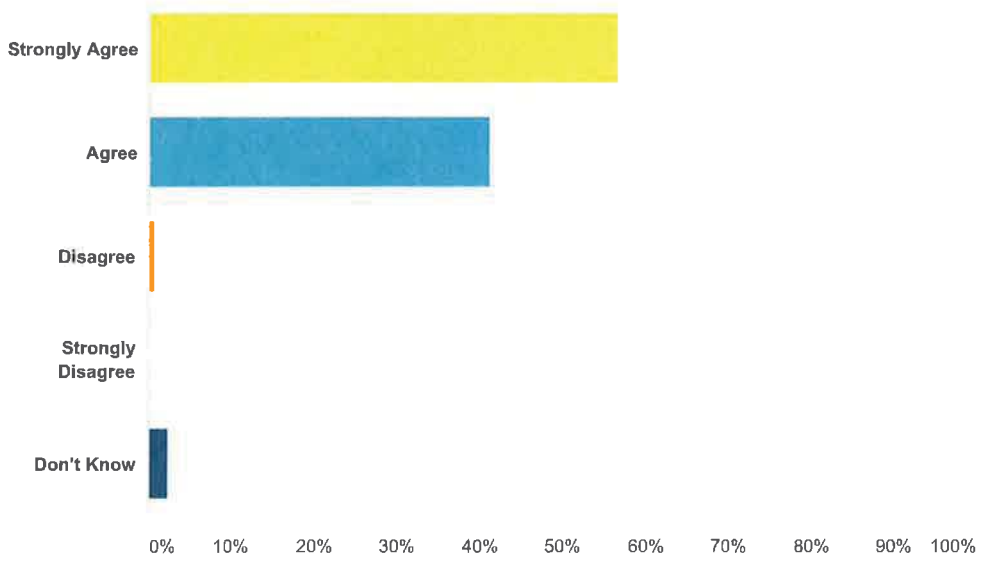


Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly Agree	39.43%	69
Agree	40.57%	71
Disagree	8.57%	15
Strongly Disagree	2.29%	4
Don't Know	9.14%	16

Total Respondents: 175

Q11 My child feels safe at school.

Answered: 175 Skipped: 2

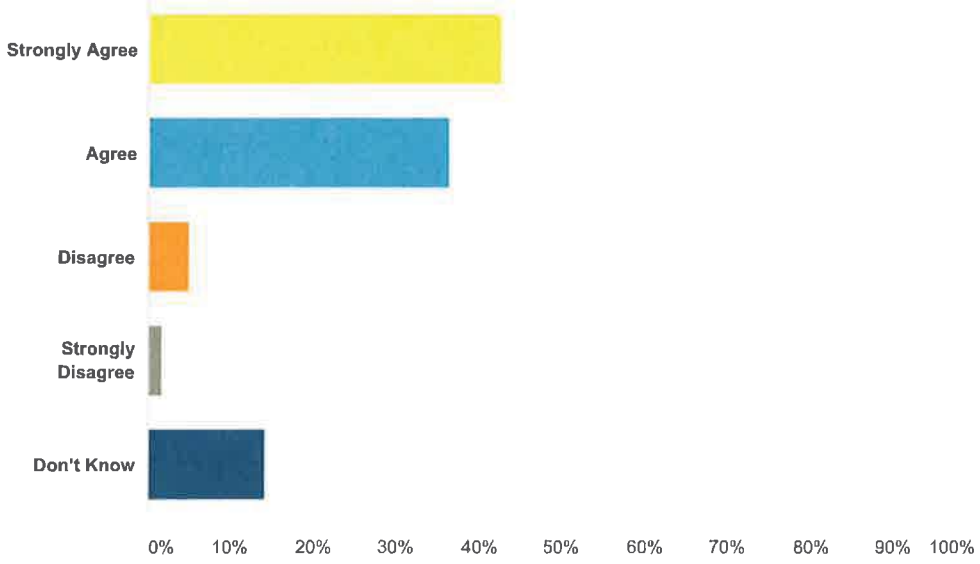


Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly Agree	56.57%	99
Agree	41.14%	72
Disagree	0.57%	1
Strongly Disagree	0.00%	0
Don't Know	2.29%	4

Total Respondents: 175

Q12 The Administrators make decisions that are in the best interest of students.

Answered: 176 Skipped: 1

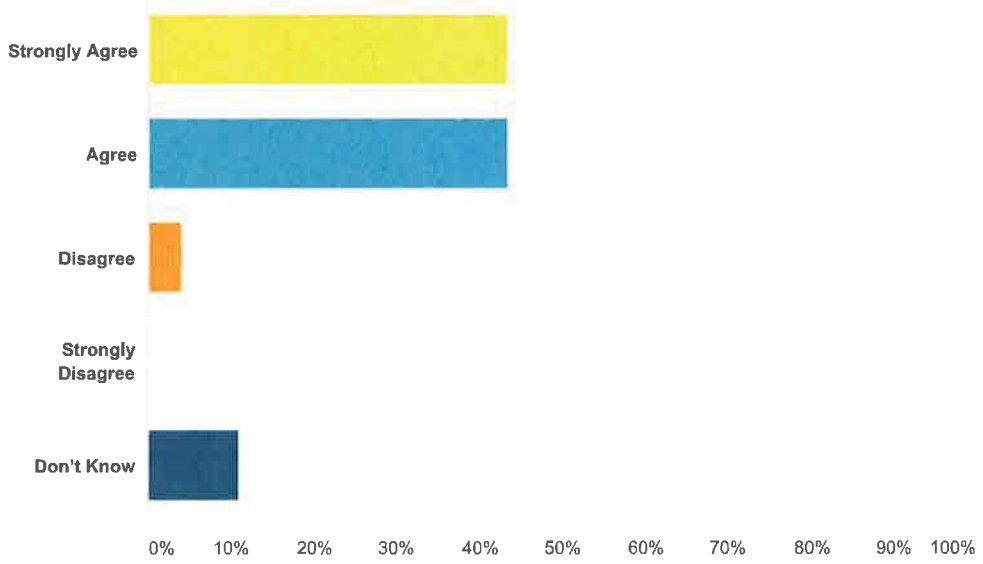


Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly Agree	42.61%	75
Agree	36.36%	64
Disagree	5.11%	9
Strongly Disagree	1.70%	3
Don't Know	14.20%	25

Total Respondents: 176

Q13 The school staff is well-trained to meet the needs of my child.

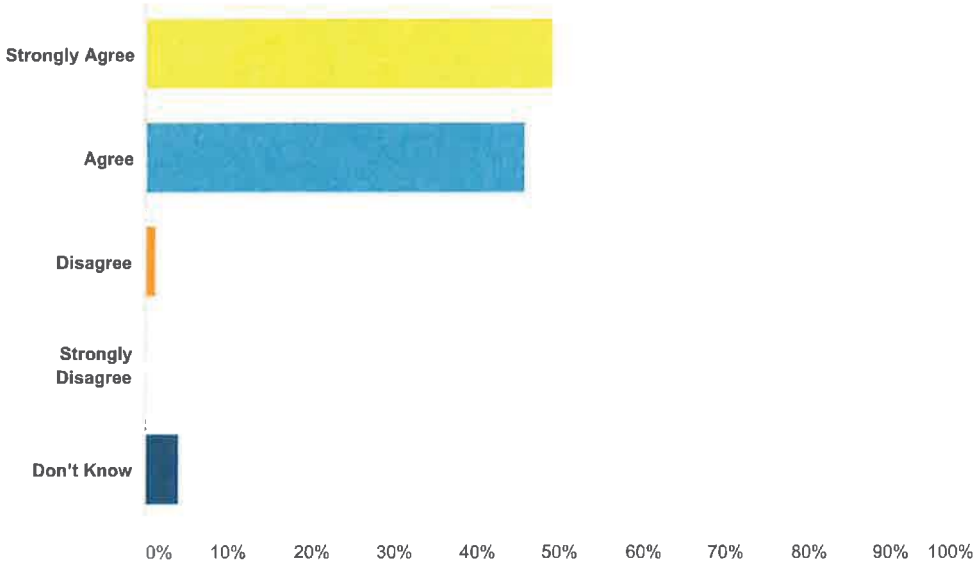
Answered: 176 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly Agree	43.18%	76
Agree	43.18%	76
Disagree	3.98%	7
Strongly Disagree	0.00%	0
Don't Know	10.80%	19
Total Respondents: 176		

Q14 The school has a vision and educational program I support.

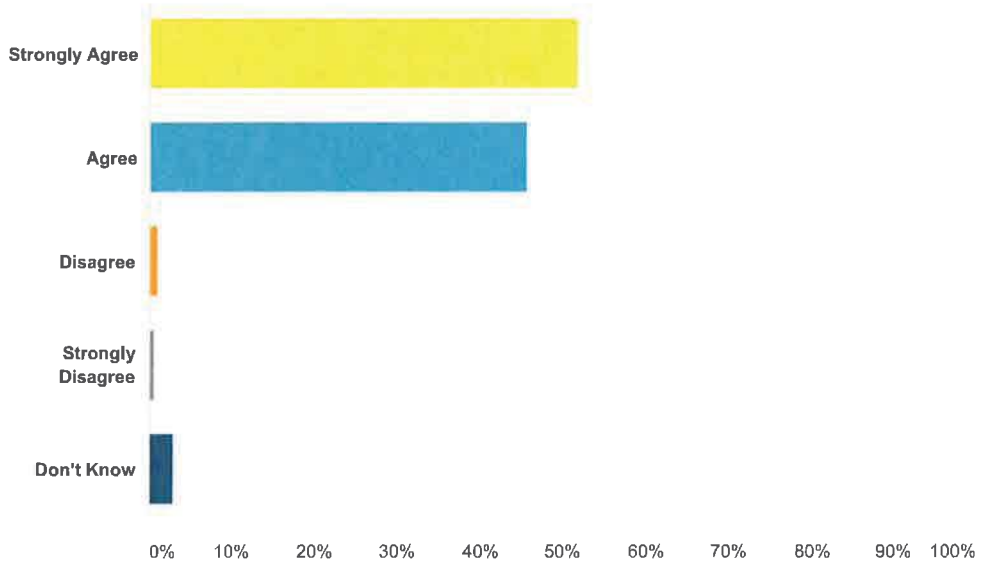
Answered: 173 Skipped: 4



Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly Agree	49.13%	85
Agree	45.66%	79
Disagree	1.16%	2
Strongly Disagree	0.00%	0
Don't Know	4.05%	7
Total Respondents: 173		

Q15 The Office Staff supports our school and is responsive to our needs.

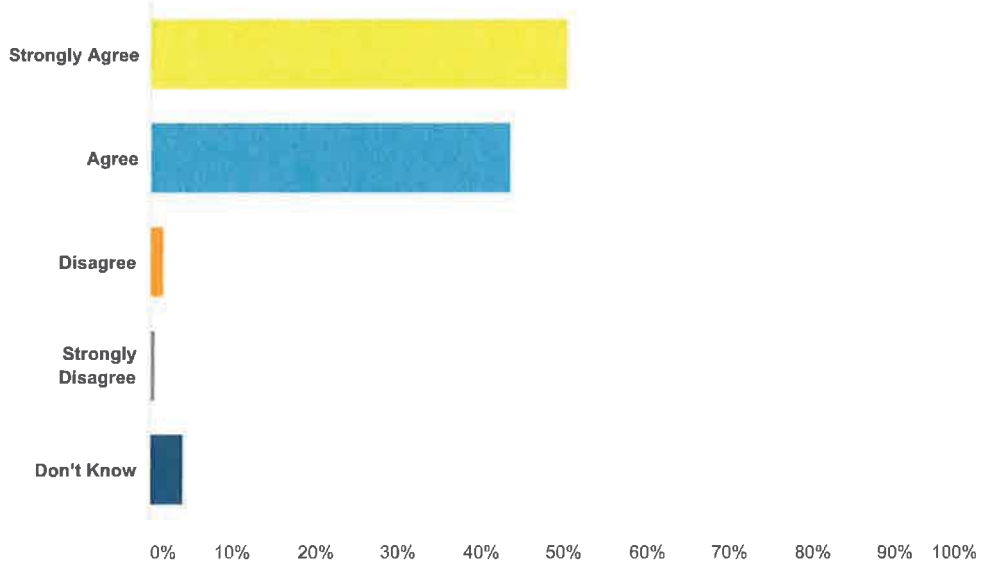
Answered: 176 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly Agree	51.70%	91
Agree	45.45%	80
Disagree	1.14%	2
Strongly Disagree	0.57%	1
Don't Know	2.84%	5
Total Respondents: 176		

Q16 School staff provide a caring environment for both students and parents.

Answered: 175 Skipped: 2



Answer Choices	Responses	
Strongly Agree	50.29%	88
Agree	43.43%	76
Disagree	1.71%	3
Strongly Disagree	0.57%	1
Don't Know	4.00%	7
Total Respondents: 175		

Q17 Please describe an area that you strongly agreed and appreciate with your student's school.

Answered: 98 Skipped: 79

Q18 Please describe an area in need of improvement for your student's school.

Answered: 79 Skipped: 98