



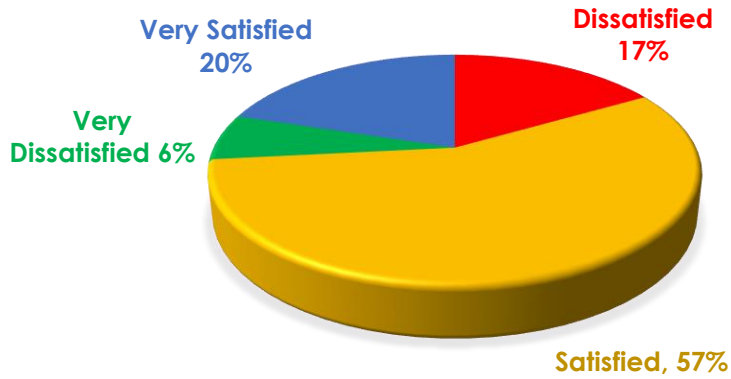
Central Bucks Middle School Survey Data



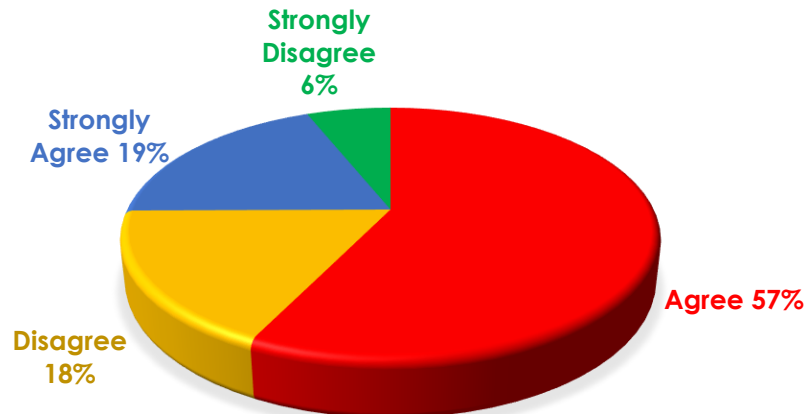
Total Group Results

Total Surveyed: 2,901

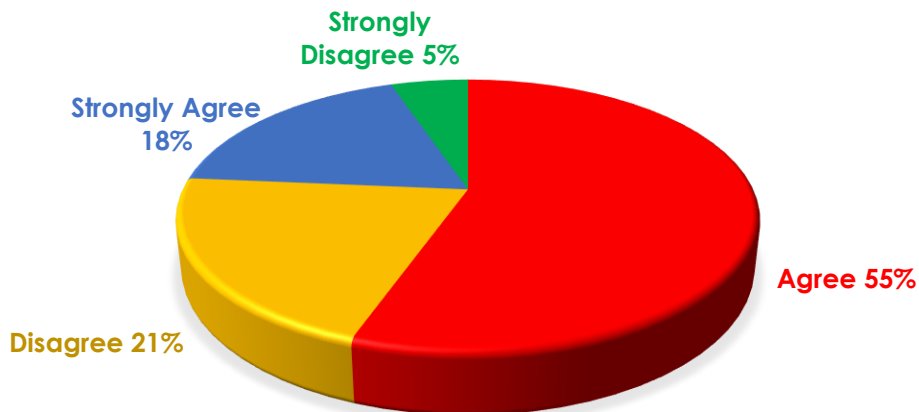
1. How satisfied are you with the current middle school academic schedule?



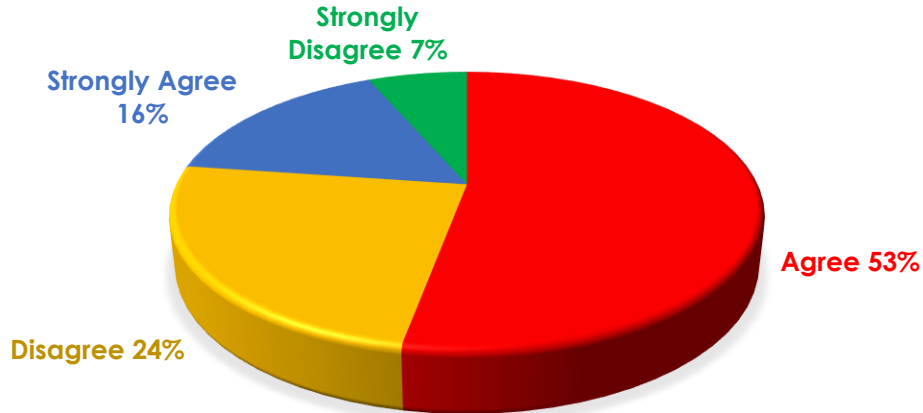
2. The current middle school academic schedule meets the needs of students.



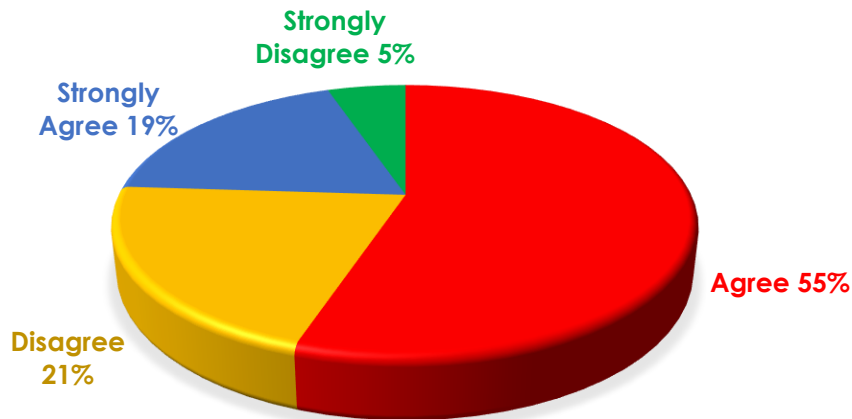
3. The current middle school academic schedule helps improve students' academic outcomes.



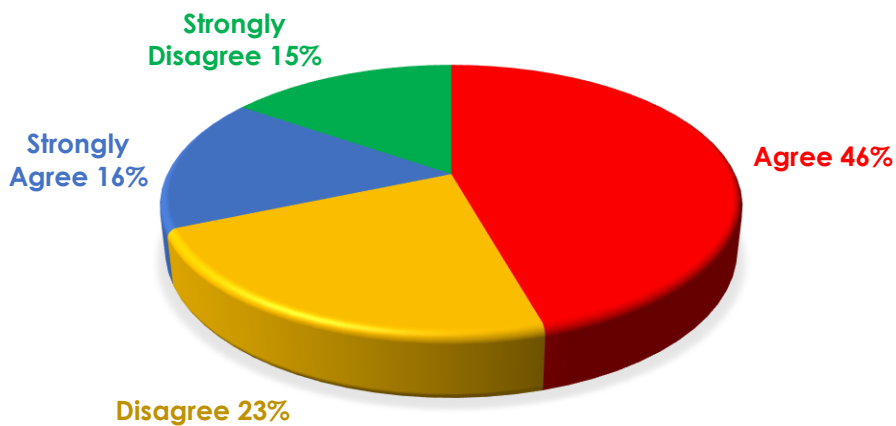
4. The current middle school academic schedule helps improve students' learning behavior outcomes.



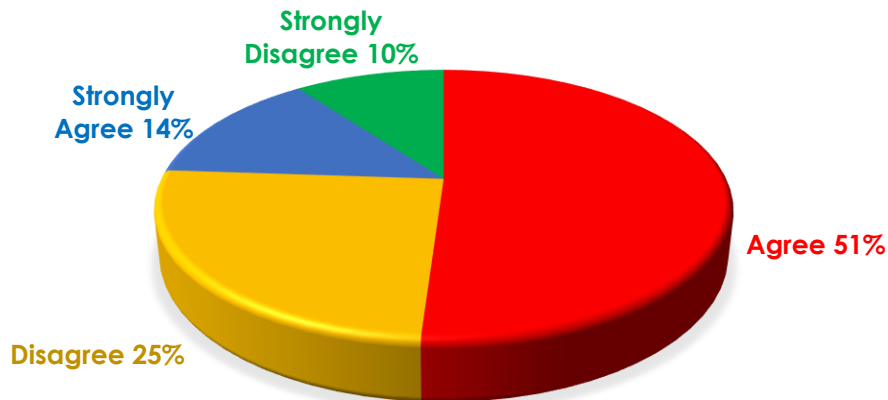
5. The current middle school academic schedule has a positive influence on student learning.



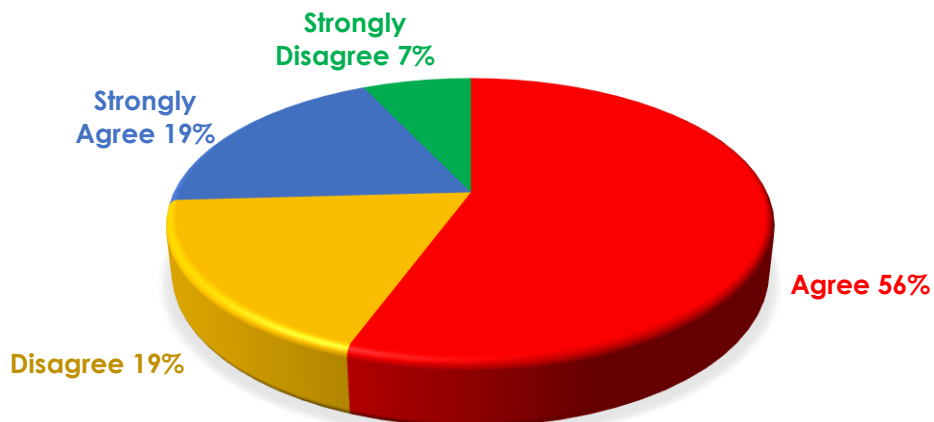
6. The current middle school academic schedule provides opportunities for exploration in "specials" classes.



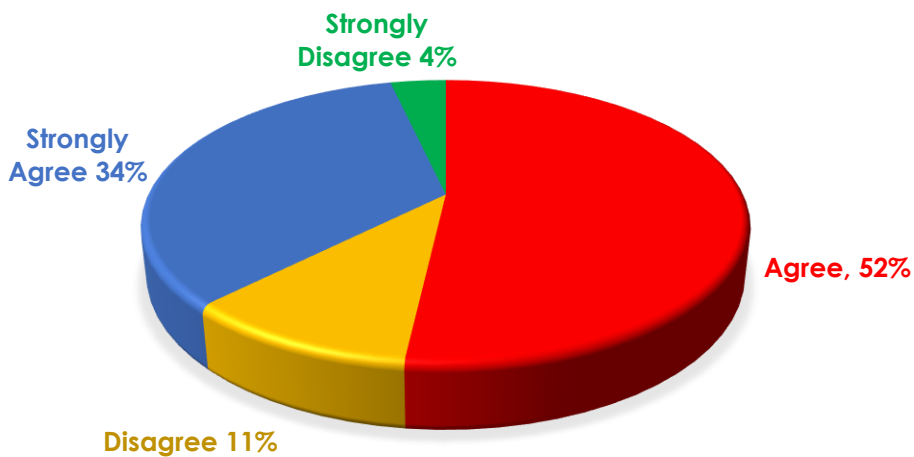
7. The current middle school academic schedule allows teachers an opportunity to see students at different times during the school day.



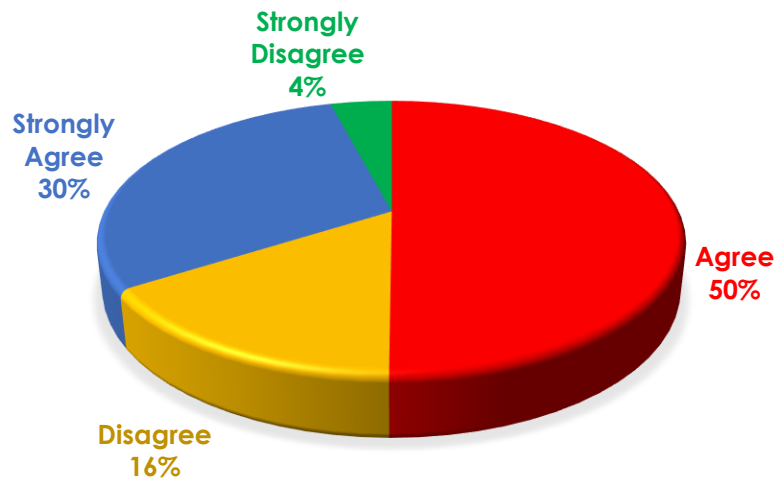
8. The current middle school academic schedule prepares middle school students for high school.



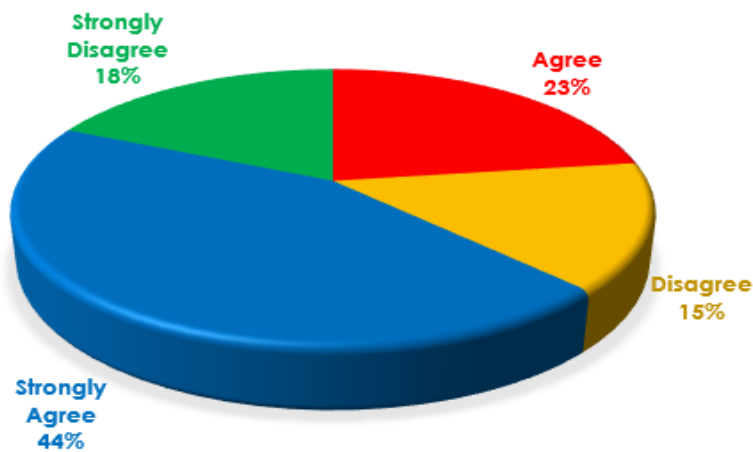
9. Teaming has a positive influence on the culture of learning within the school.



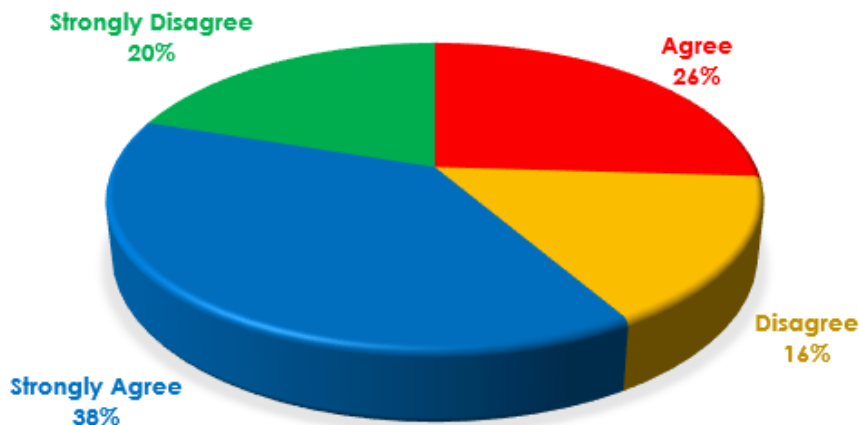
10. Teaming provides students with a greater sense of identity and belonging.



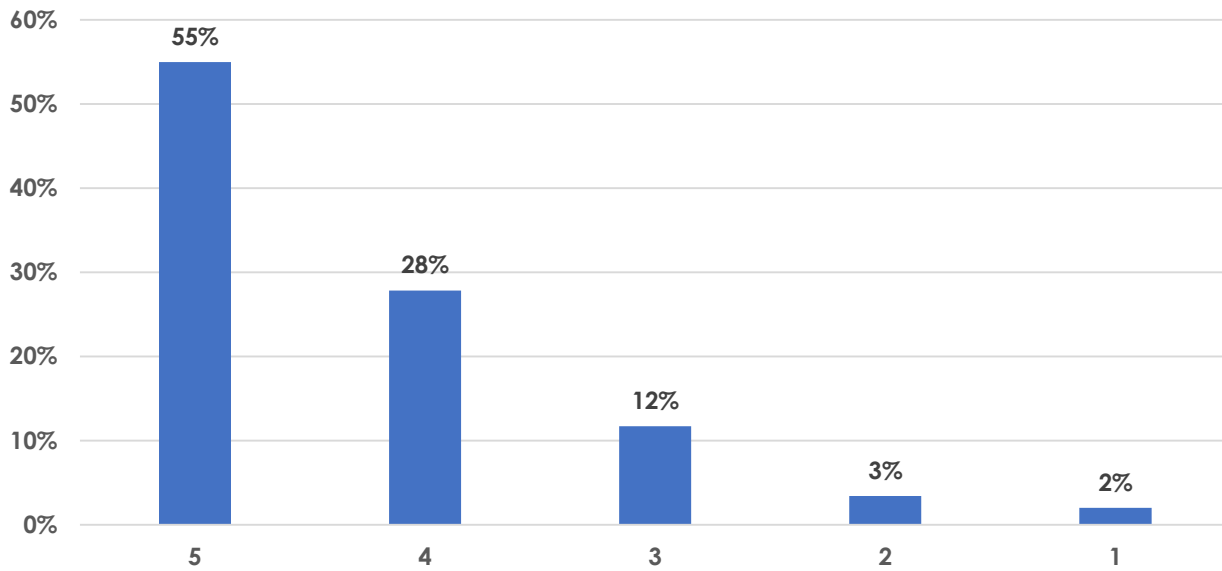
11. Common team planning time for teachers in the current middle school academic schedule has a positive influence on the culture of learning within the school.



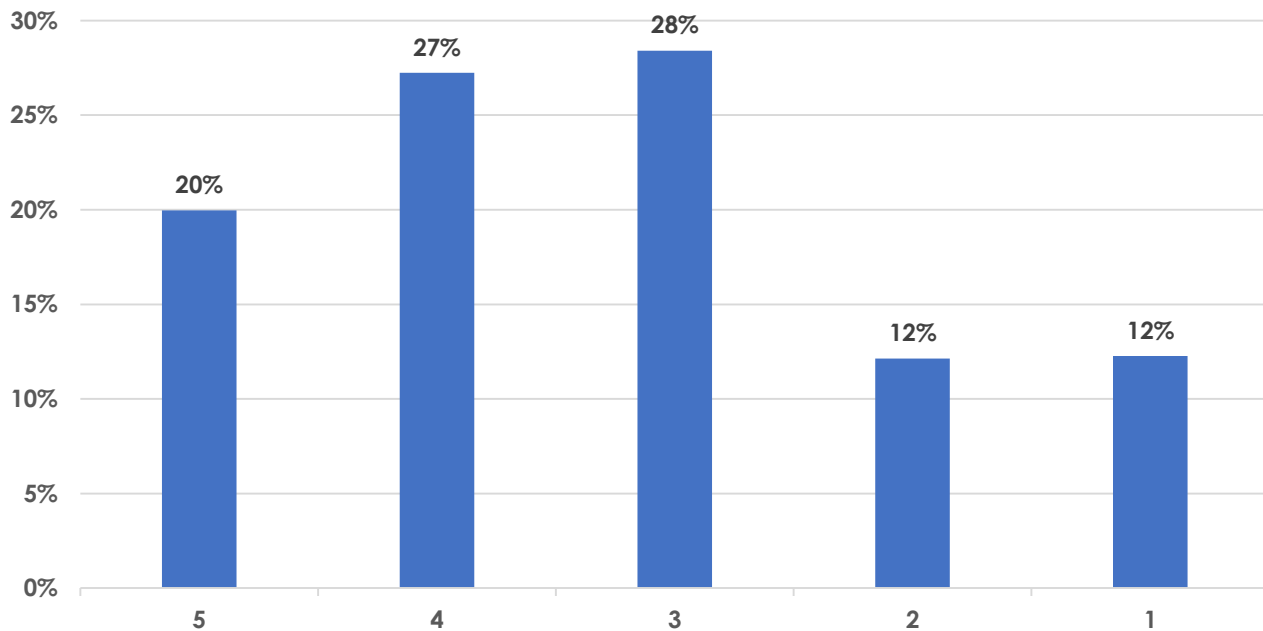
12. Common team planning time for teachers in the current middle school academic schedule has a positive influence on student learning.



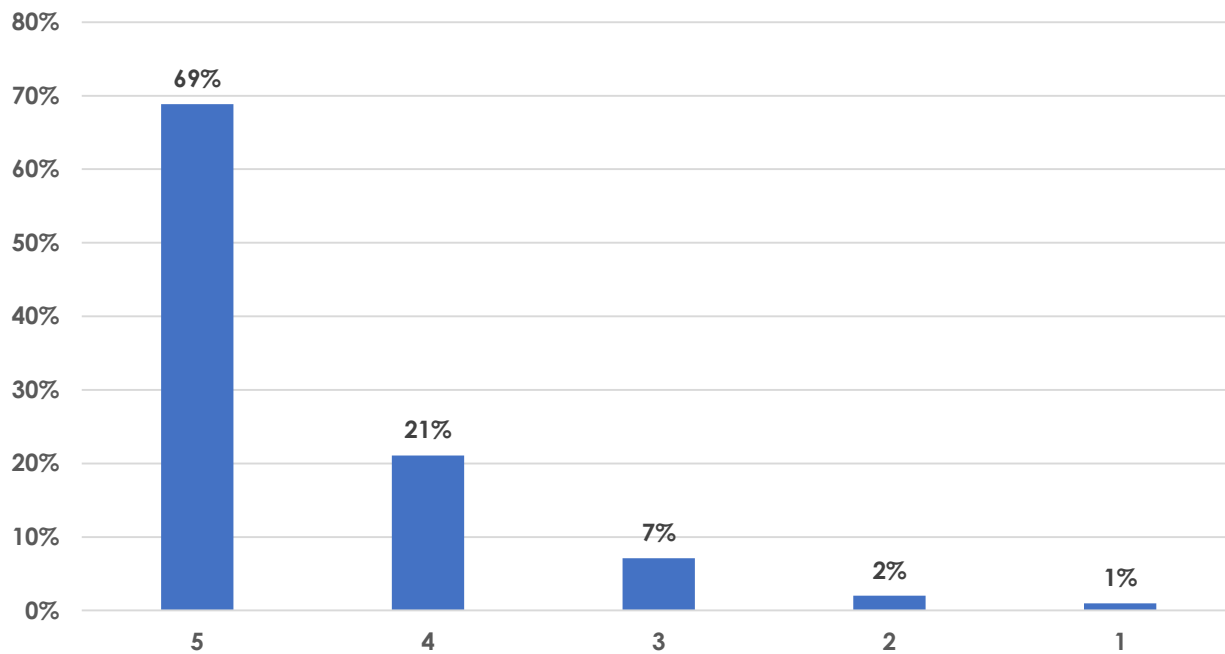
13. How important is it to include social and emotional instruction in the middle school academic schedule?



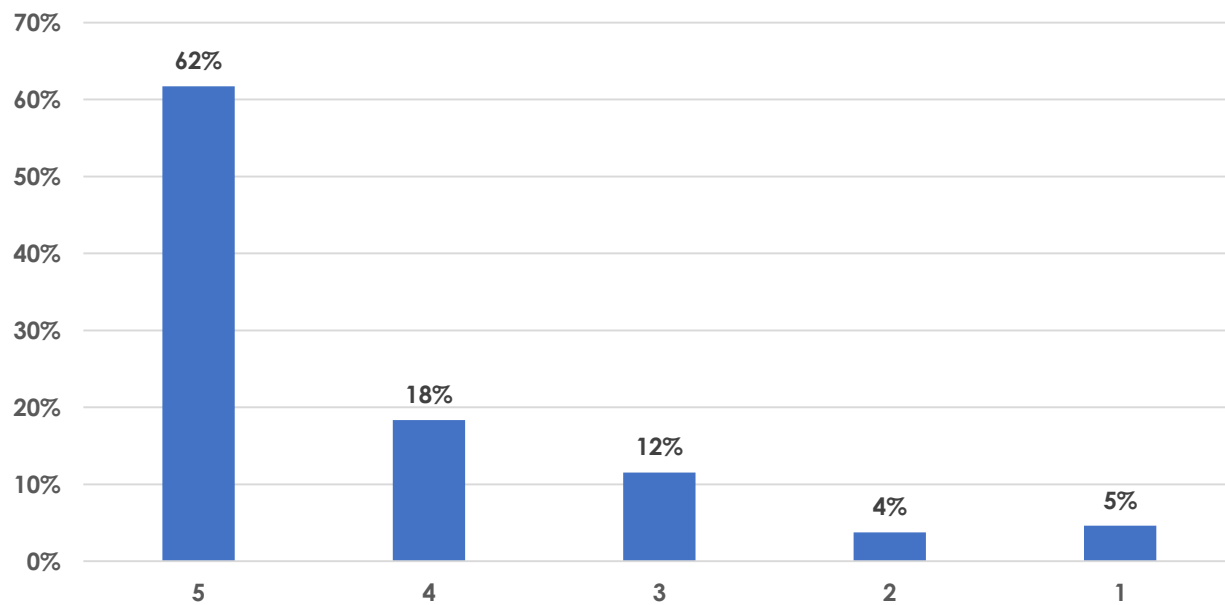
14. How important is it to maintain the current 56-minute class periods in the middle school?



15. How important is it to teach digital citizenship and other 21st Century skills related to technology usage?

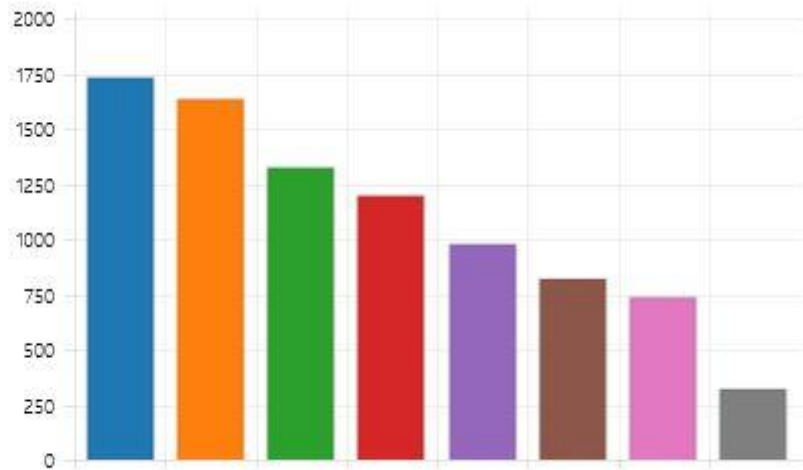


16. How important is it to maintain a Resource Period in the middle school academic schedule?



17. Select the three (3) most important characteristics of a middle school academic schedule.

● Challenging Curricul	1739
● Technology Integrat	1641
● Exploratory Specials	1331
● Resource Period	1203
● Programs for Social	984
● Extra-Curricular Acti	827
● Teaming	743
● Team Planning	328



18. What do you feel are the strengths of the current middle school schedule?

19. What do you feel are the weaknesses of the current middle school schedule?

PARENT GROUP THEMES	
Strengths	Weaknesses
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Challenging curriculum & excellent teachers 2. Resource – time for study, extra help from teachers, & socialization/team activities 3. Longer time in core content/all classes – more time for instruction & helpful for transition to block scheduling in high school 4. Teaming for both teachers to communicate regarding assignments, student needs, behavior concerns and plan activities (noted for 7th & 8th grade) 5. Preparation for high school 6. Differentiated options of classes based on student ability and offering of advanced classes 7. Move toward technology integration in all classes 8. Environment helps students transition from elementary school 9. Communication of teachers and staff internally to help students with needs 10. Variety of course options (specials & core classes) available 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lack of specials/elective options – need more technology/21st century courses and time in schedule to take these classes 2. Lack of Technology Instruction (including basic word, excel, typing) 3. Start time too early 4. Too much homework 5. Too much focus on standardized testing 6. Music “track” students – not enough options in other areas 7. 9th Grade – need for weighted classes & block scheduling (treated more like high school) 8. Lack of communication & consistency of how teachers use team concept (tests on same day, planning of activities) 9. Lack of supports & accessibility of staff for academic, planning & social-emotional needs 10. Lack of Extracurricular options

ADMINISTRATOR & SUPERVISOR GROUP THEMES	
Strengths	Weaknesses
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Supports best practice - longer instructional periods yield academic value for students to more deeply engage in content exploration. 2. Management of Absenteeism and Remediation - resource has value for remediation of students and for those who need to make up tests 3. Rigor – the new schedule contains increased academic rigor and a viable curriculum 4. Teacher Accountability in Use of Time - after school team meeting structure has increased teacher accountability and effectively eliminated misuse of time 5. Transition Benefits for Students – the new schedule provides MS students with greater acclimation to HS schedule and demands 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Limiting for the whole child – there is an inability to deeply explore interests via electives courses 2. Team Planning – the lack of extended team planning time creates inability for teachers to pull in students, cover classes and tie up loose ends (coverage issue should be presently rectified) 3. Technological proficiency and progress – the schedule impedes the acclimation of students’ technology skills; additional focus needed in digital citizenship and literacy within that context 4. Meeting the diverse social/emotional needs - lack of flexibility to meet the social & emotional needs of students (offshoot of reduced team meeting time).

TEACHER & STAFF GROUP THEMES

Strengths

1. **56 minute periods** – more time on instruction, digging into content, projects, vary instructional activities, get curriculum in – more to teach
2. **Resource** – allows for students to receive support from teachers, time to do homework, make-up work
3. **Less passing time and fewer interruptions allow for increased focus on instruction and academics**
4. **Benefit to special needs students** – more time in class for deeper learning
5. **Teaming** – still in place on some level

Weaknesses

1. **Lack of common team meeting time during school day** – teachers cannot collaborate to discuss students, plan activities, meet with struggling students, lack of times to meet for IEP's and other meetings (START, Child Study), counselors cannot meet with all teams
2. **Lack of exposure to specials** – students need to be exposed to more than 1 special/elective each day, need this outlet for several reasons
3. **Lack of focused computer/technology instruction** – lack of focused instruction on basic computer skills (Word, Excel, Email) and new technology (OneNote, Office 365) – other teachers being asked to teach these when they don't have skills and takes time away from curriculum
4. **Lack of pure teaming of students** – many students "cross-teamed" in math and other courses, teachers that float cannot attend meetings, lack of time & investment in building/culture (faculty meetings, parent conferences, etc.)
5. **Meetings after school** – 2:30 – 2:56 not effective meeting time, not all teachers available (coaching, supervision, helping students), can't address issues or plan activities effectively in this short of time
6. **Music track and Non-music track** – students should not be forced into these categories because they will not be exposed to other specials
7. **Time for teachers** – One plan and no team time not enough meet all requirements imposed upon teachers – meeting with team members, grade-level teachers, parent emails, pulling in students, meet with PD coach – results in teacher exhaustion and lack of investment in coaching/sponsoring other activities
8. **Lack of time for social-emotional learning and support** – lack of time to meet with students and build relationships, no time for students and nurses to meet with students unless pulled from academic courses
9. **Lack of academic support for students** – students cannot get academic support during school day other than resource or lunch, when other activities are taking place
10. **Longer class times** – create more stress for students, lack of focus for 56 minutes, no proof that extended time results in improved achievement, students exhausted by end of day

STUDENT GROUP THEMES

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Teaming – the maintenance of this practice permits students to maintain a sense of community and establish positive relationships with their teachers. Keeping Resource – students expressed a desire to have this flexibility to see teachers, catch up on HW, address issues related to absenteeism, and socialize. Extended class time – students spoke positively about having longer classes that did not seem as rushed daily. Better preparation for the transition to the 90-minute block – the longer periods, while not parallel, do provide a better glimpse into what lies ahead in the three high schools. Positive learning environment – while not necessarily a situation of causation in terms of the scheduling impact, there were multiple references to the environment of the MS being overwhelmingly supportive and encouraging. Technology – another emerging theme was the integration of technology into classrooms and the positive student response to this integration/attempts at integration. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The loss of specials – music is undervalued, and the technology classes need to be brought back, and in different forms. Students forced to make choices that are unjustified. If you are a music student, there is even less opportunity for expanded exploration. Start time – an emerging and re-emerging theme, though not germane to the schedule No encouragement of creative thinking – an imbedded theme within the loss of specials touched upon in several responses Increased homework load – the extension of more class time has manifested itself in increased HW volume.

20. Please select the statement below that best describes how you feel about the current middle school academic schedule.

