



CCSD 46 Strategic Plan

Survey Analysis of Family Responses

September 2026

284 Family Responses

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Executive Summary

This report looks at survey answers from CCSD 46 Family responses (n=284) in August-September 2026 as part of planning for the next five years in CCSD 46. Several clear patterns came up that can help guide the district's goals.

Considerations for CCSD 46 Regarding the Next Five Years

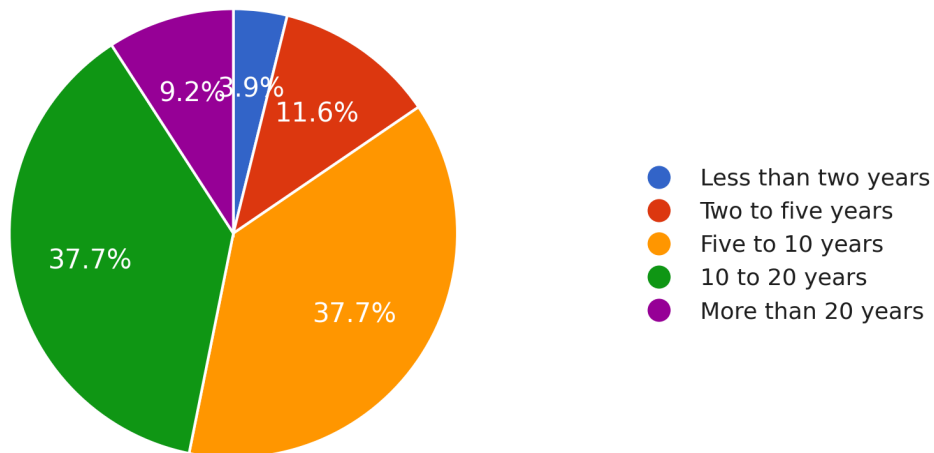
- 1. Financial and operational transparency:** Many parents have a positive overall attitude about the district and what it provides to the community. But family responses referenced the need for transparent budget management and smart operational planning that puts modern resources in front of students.
- 2. Academic Programming:** Many parents praised the district's instruction and curriculum. At the same time, parents had interest in expanding many programs, including gifted and advanced classes, foreign language opportunities and STEM opportunities. At the same time, parents recognized the need to continue supporting foundational skills in core areas. They also shared interest in expanded extracurricular and summer offerings. There is a strong desire to reduce screen time and Chromebook reliance—especially for younger learners—in favor of traditional physical books, paper-and-pencil assignments, and hands-on learning
- 3. Student Support and Culture:** Parents felt the schools were safe and clean, and that “excellent and supportive staff” were the greatest asset for their children. Some parents are hoping that district discipline policies can improve the sense of safety and support for students. Parents also brought up the need for consistent implementation of support plans through 504s and IEPs as well as social-emotional learning efforts.
- 4. Communication:** Families seek clear, timely, and consolidated communication through direct channels like email and ParentSquare regarding district policy decisions, budget management, and student progress.

Survey Responses

Family Information, Experience and Overview of CCSD 46

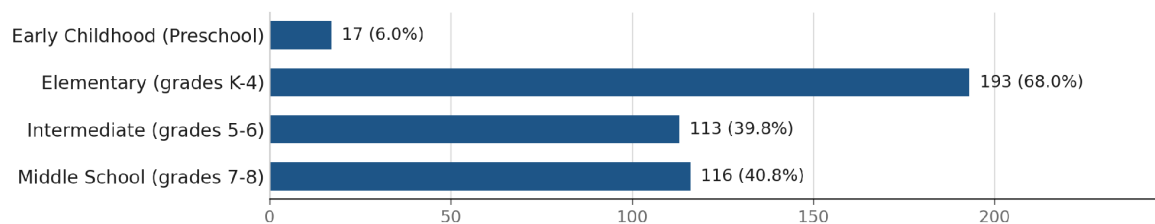
How long have you lived in Community Consolidated School District 46?

284 responses



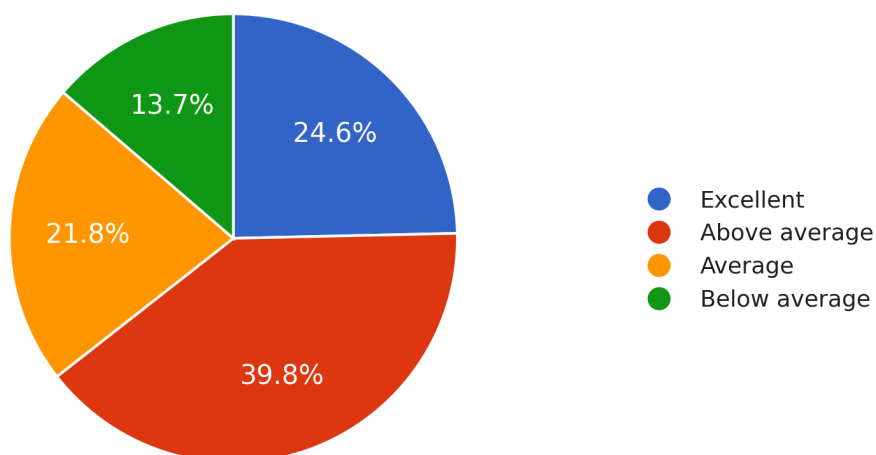
I currently have a student(s) at the following level(s) in CCSD 46.

284 responses



The overall rating I would give the district is:

284 responses

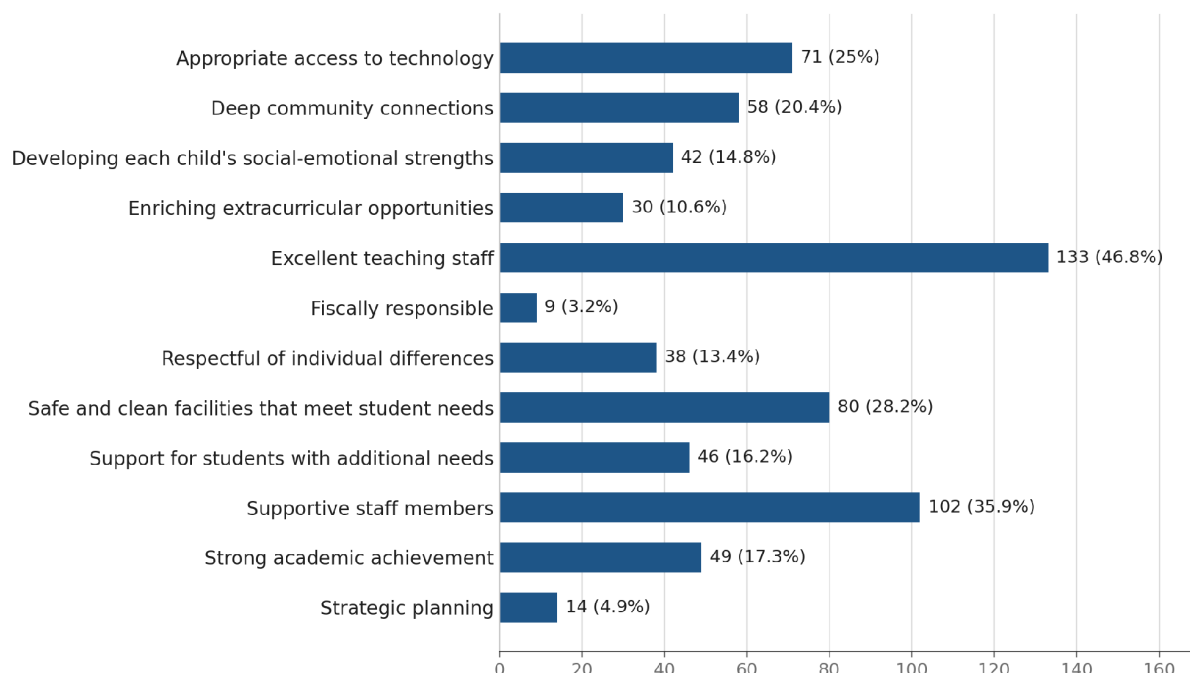


Please explain your reasoning for the above overall rating: *(summary, Google Forms Gemini generated)*

- **Instructional Quality and Curriculum:** Many respondents praise the dedicated and caring teachers who provide a strong foundation for student growth. However, there is a recurring desire for more robust academic rigor, including advanced programming for gifted learners, expanded STEM/STEAM opportunities, and the addition of foreign language programs. Some concerns exist regarding dated teaching methods, a heavy reliance on technology over traditional instruction, and frequent curriculum changes.
- **Support Services and Special Education:** Experiences with special education and individualized support are mixed. While some families report positive interactions and successful outcomes, others highlight significant challenges with the consistency of IEP/504 implementation, a lack of resources for neurodivergent students, and insufficient support staff.
- **Communication and District Leadership:** Feedback on communication is varied; while many appreciate proactive outreach from teachers, others cite inconsistent communication regarding student progress, IEPs, and district-wide decisions. There is a notable sentiment of frustration regarding district transparency, fiscal management, and the prioritization of administrative decisions over student-facing needs.
- **School Environment and Resources:** Families value the safe, community-oriented atmosphere fostered by the district. Conversely, there are concerns regarding aging facilities, limited extracurricular offerings, and the management of student behavioral issues, which some feel disrupt the learning environment.

What are the top TWO strengths that you associate with CCSD 46?

284 responses



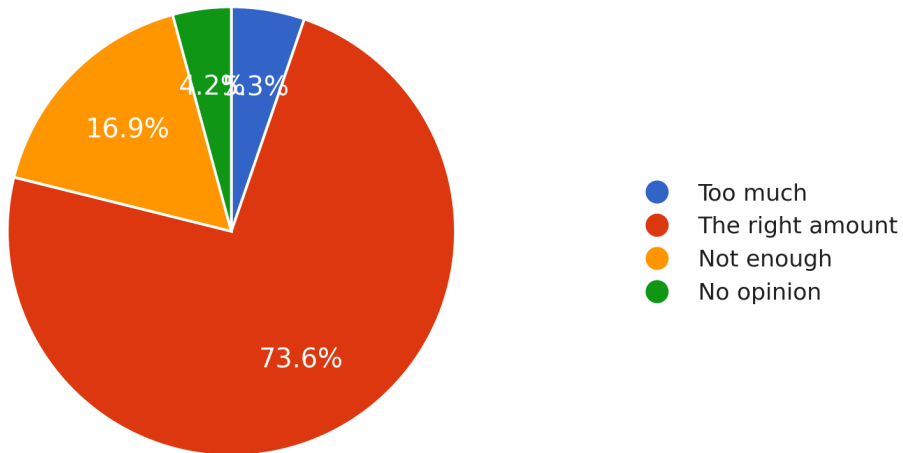
What are areas you would identify for improvement for CCSD 46? *(summary, Google Forms Gemini generated)*

- **Technology and Curriculum:** Many parents advocate for a reduction in Chromebook and screen usage, particularly for younger students, favoring more traditional paper-and-pencil instruction and physical books. There is also a strong desire for more robust enrichment opportunities, including foreign language programs starting at the elementary level, advanced placement options for high-performing students, and consistent daily science and social studies instruction.
- **School Climate and Student Safety:** A primary concern is the handling of bullying and reports of discriminatory or racist behavior, with many respondents expressing frustration that current administrative responses are inadequate or dismissive. Parents emphasize the need for more professional, respectful, and supportive interactions between staff, teachers, and students, noting that negative experiences in these areas significantly impact student well-being. A number of families also raised concerns about behavior and safety on school buses and the responsiveness of transportation staff.
- **Fiscal Responsibility and Resource Allocation:** Numerous respondents called for greater transparency and fiscal accountability, especially regarding the recently disclosed budget shortfall, facility maintenance, and teacher compensation. There is a perceived need to prioritize funding for competitive teacher salaries to improve retention, modernize aging school buildings, and ensure that resources are directed toward classroom instruction and support staff rather than excessive technology or administrative costs.
- **Communication and Extracurriculars:** Families seek more timely and consistent communication regarding school changes, student progress, and behavioral concerns. Additionally, there is a recurring request for a wider variety of accessible, affordable extracurricular activities—including sports, arts, and clubs—at the elementary level, along with improvements to bus transportation reliability and coordination.

CCSD 46 Communication

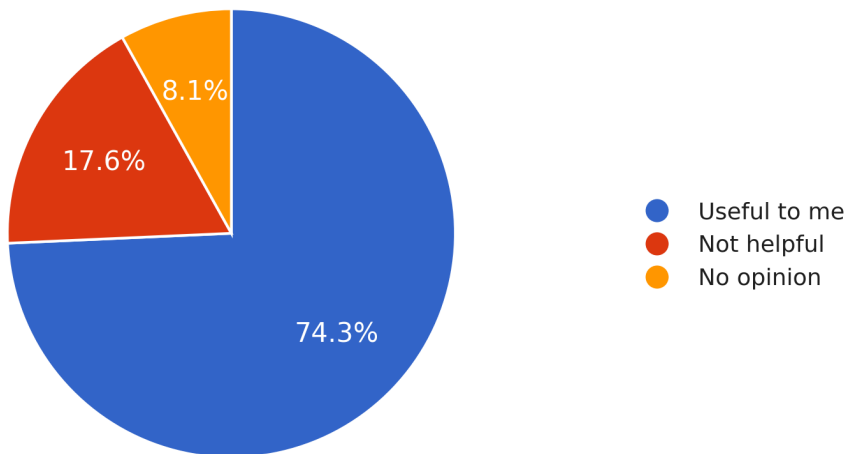
In general, the amount of communication from the district is:

284 responses



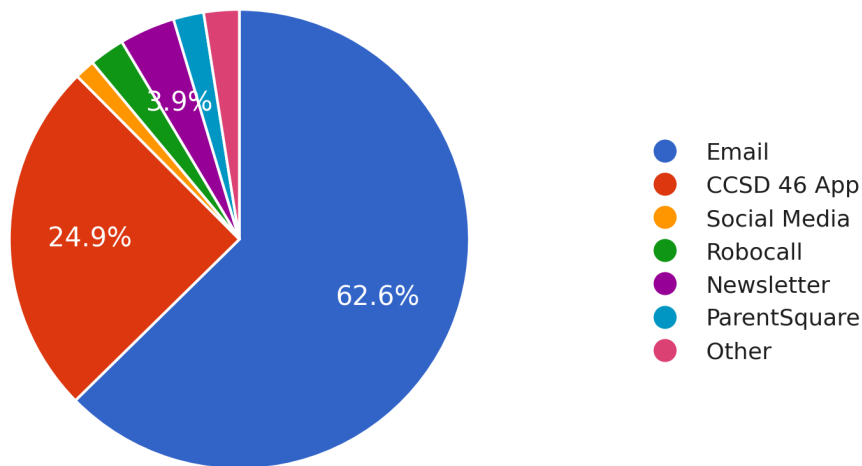
In general, the district's communication is:

284 responses



When thinking about the ways that your family receives CCSD 46 information, which of the following is the most effective:

281 responses

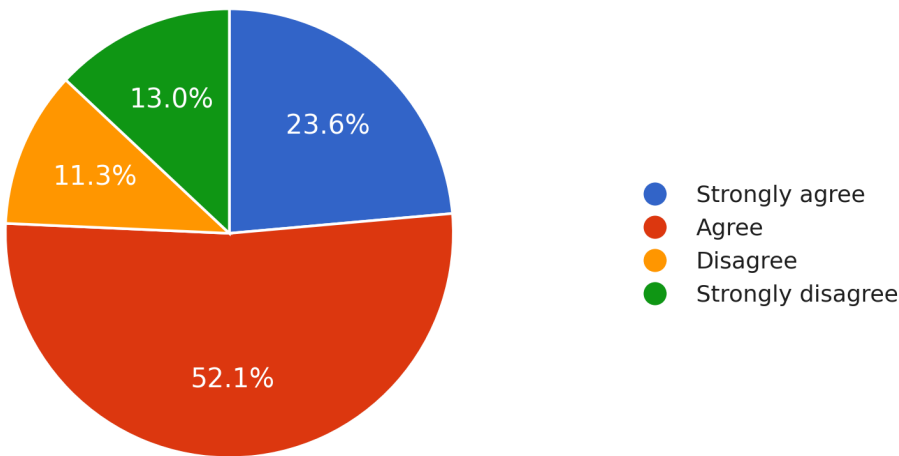


If you chose "Other" for the question above, please share your specific communication preference below: *(summary, Google Forms Gemini generated)*

- **Preferred Platforms:** ParentSquare, email, and text messages are the most frequently requested communication channels due to their ease of access and visibility.
- **Consolidated Communication:** Many prefer streamlined updates, noting that having multiple disconnected outlets can feel overwhelming, while others value the ability to easily reference past announcements.
- **Alternative Formats:** There is interest in receiving information through physical paper forms sent home with students, as well as via the district app or direct text alerts for more immediate notification.
- **Notification Experience:** Some find current automated phone calls inefficient because they require visiting a website to retrieve the actual message content.

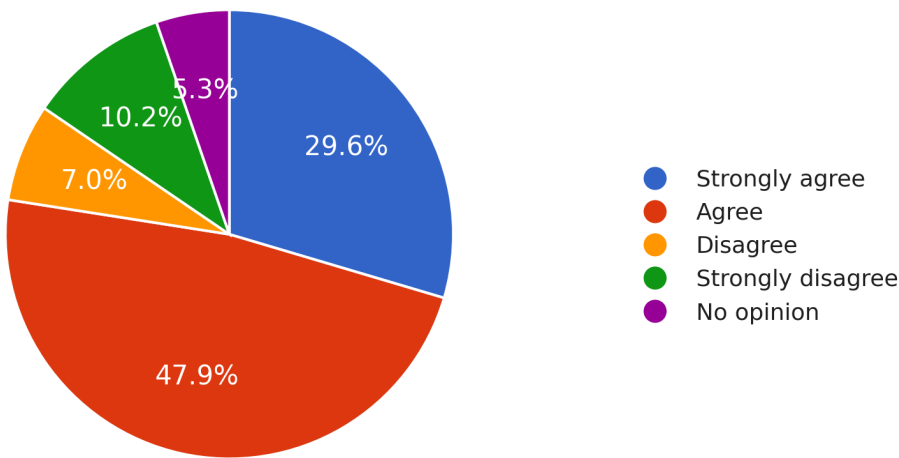
My child's school encourages feedback from parents and the community.

284 responses



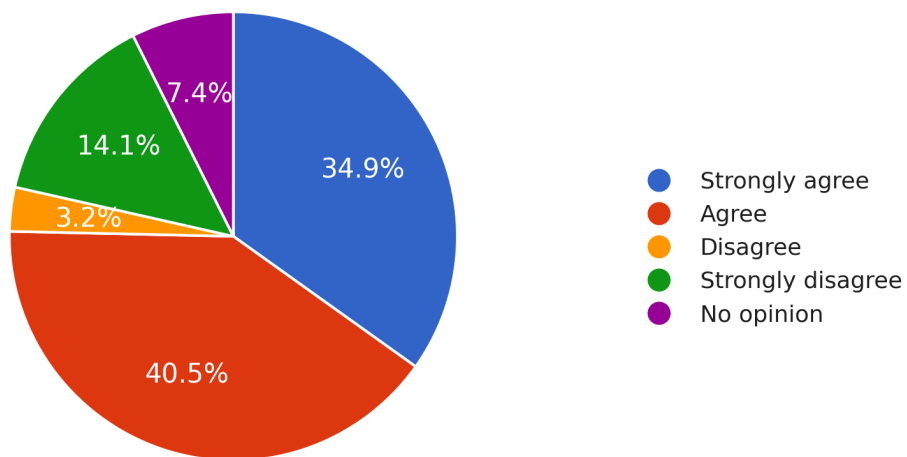
I am satisfied with the level of communication with my child's teachers.

284 responses



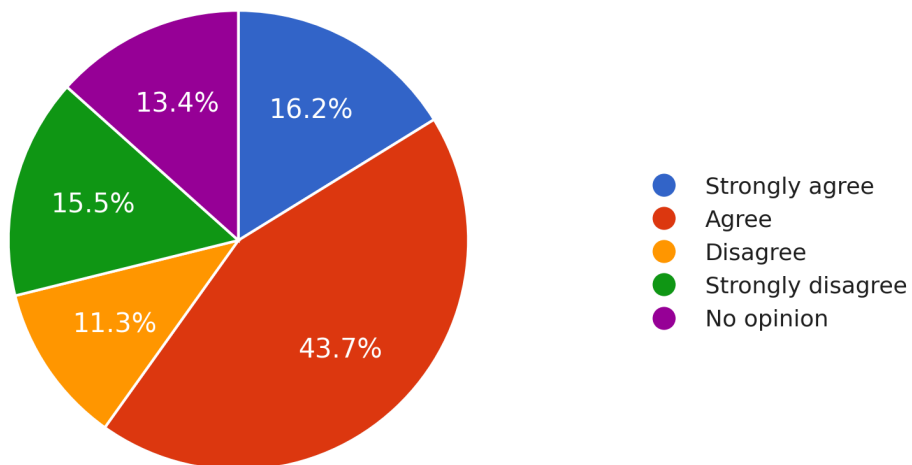
I am satisfied with the level of communication from my child's principal.

284 responses



I am satisfied with the level of communication from the superintendent and district administrators.

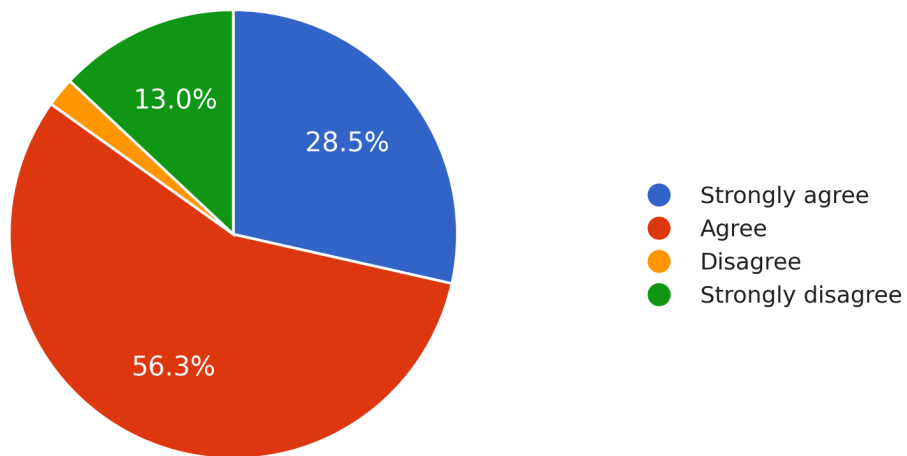
284 responses



CCSD Culture and Student Experience

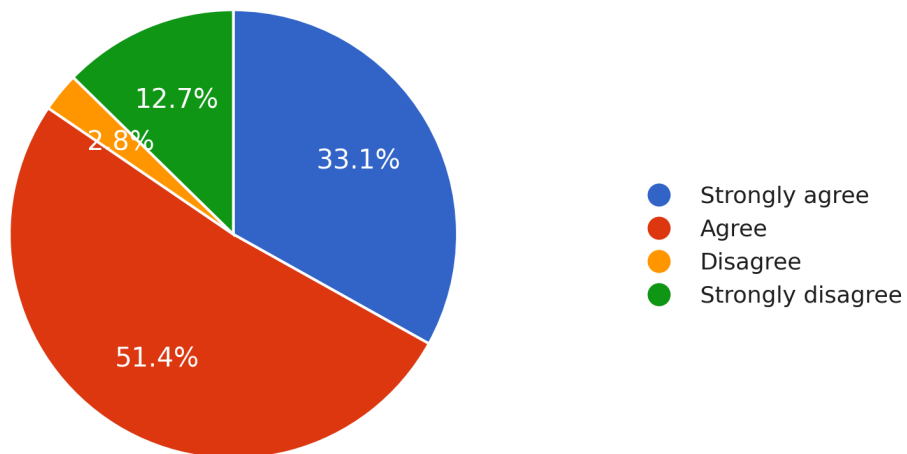
The district respects diverse cultural, racial, and socio-economic groups.

284 responses



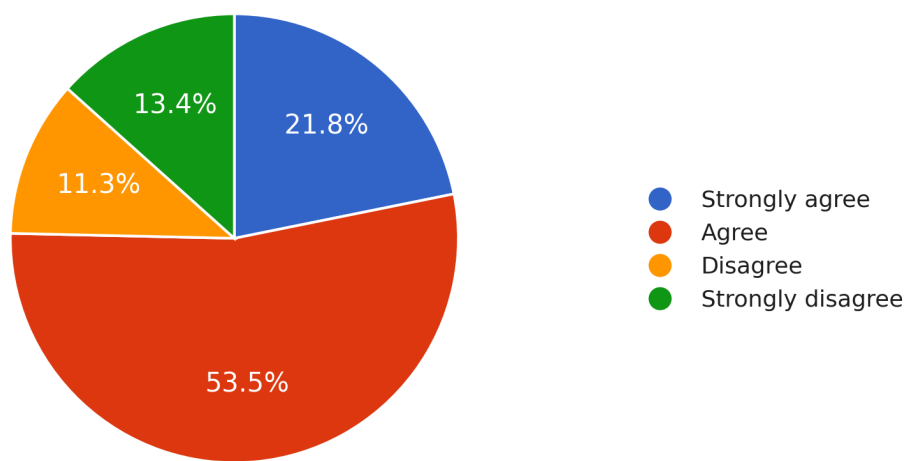
My child's school has a culture of respect for individual differences.

284 responses



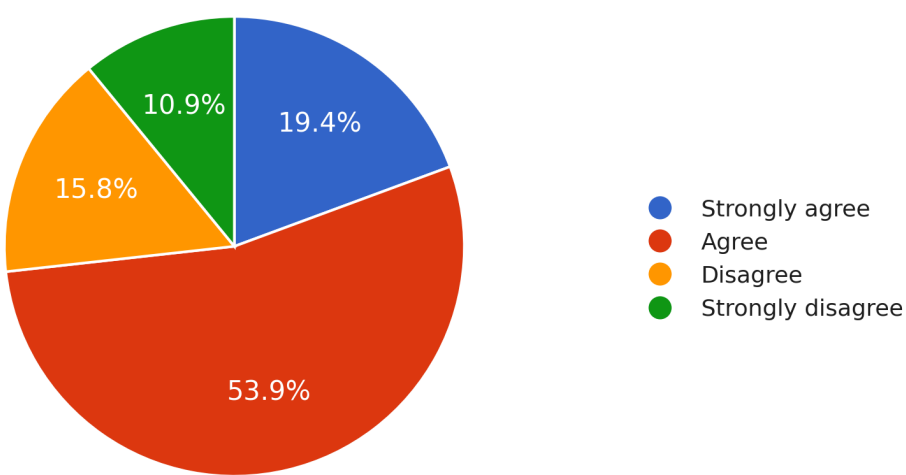
My child's school has high expectations for all students.

284 responses



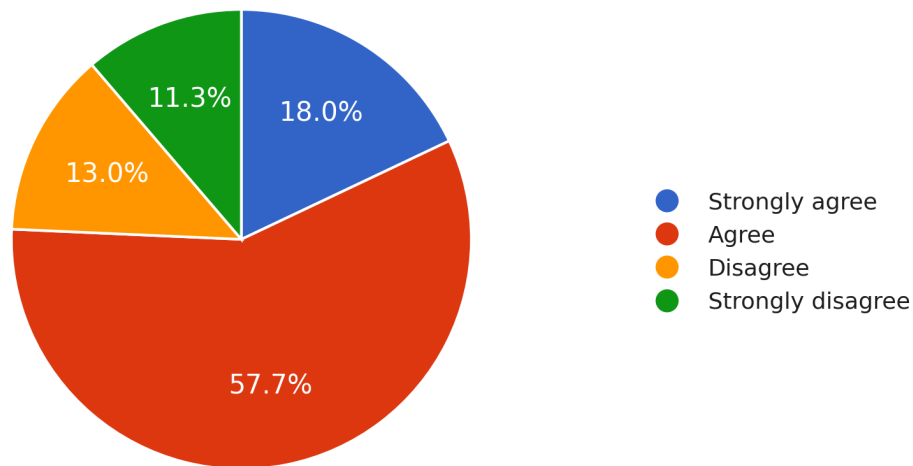
My child's schoolwork is appropriately challenging - not too easy and not too difficult.

284 responses



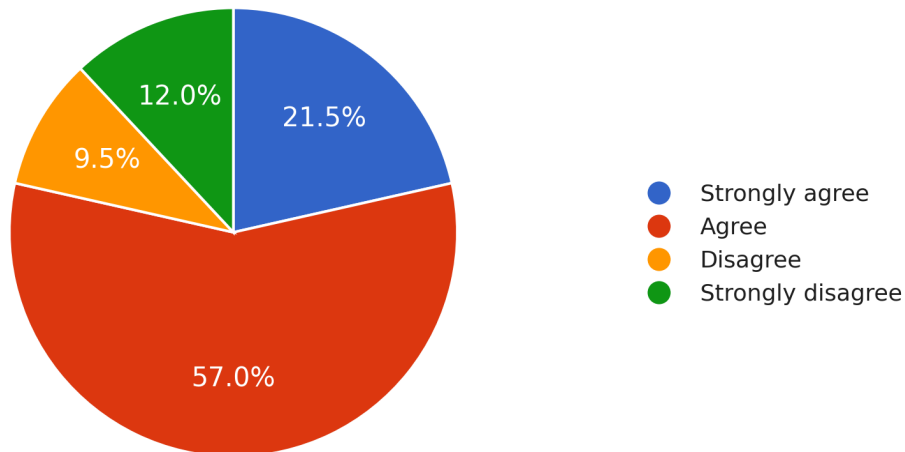
My child's schoolwork/homework assignments are meaningful and help them make academic progress.

284 responses



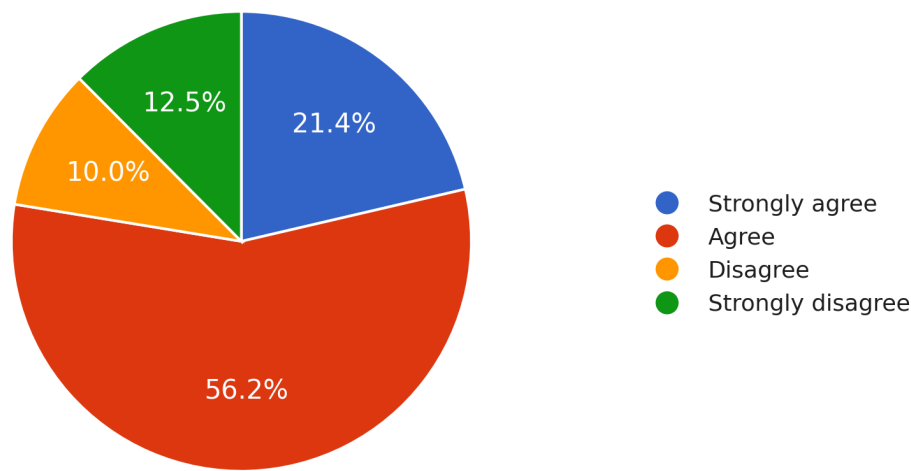
In general, I am satisfied with the overall educational programs in CCSD 46.

284 responses



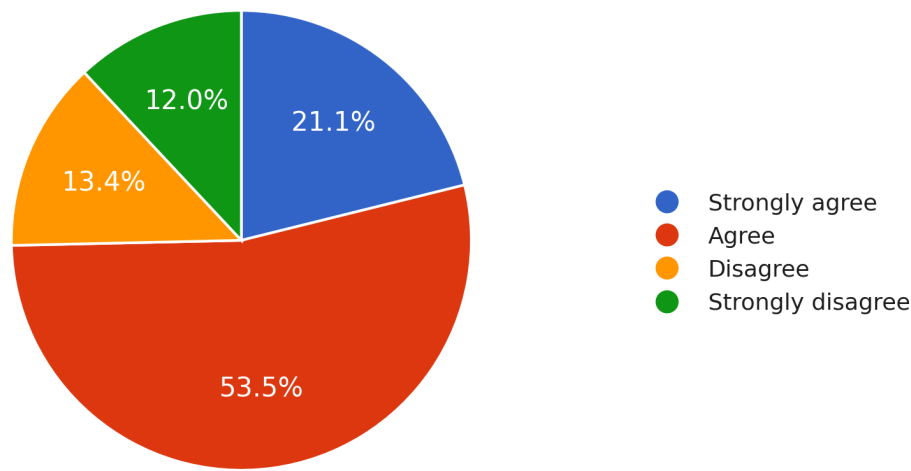
My child's school provides the necessary support for my child to succeed academically.

281 responses



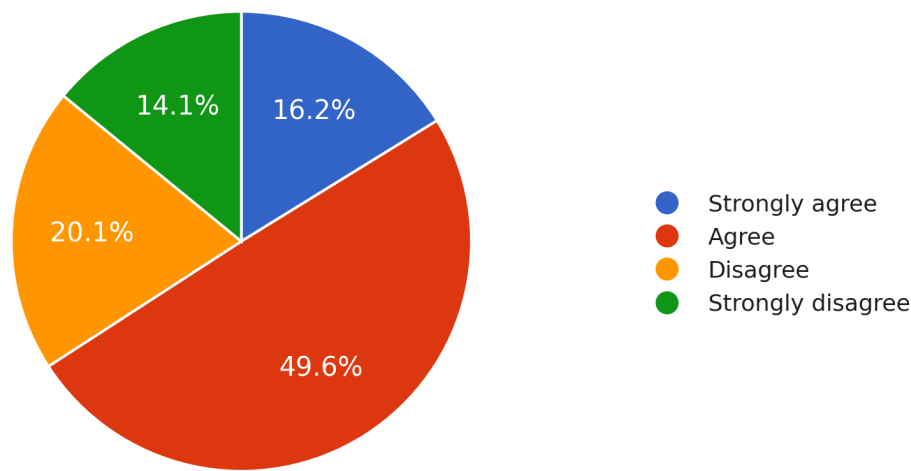
Overall, my school monitors student performance in a proactive manner to identify and address learning needs through appropriate assessments and responsive learning supports.

284 responses



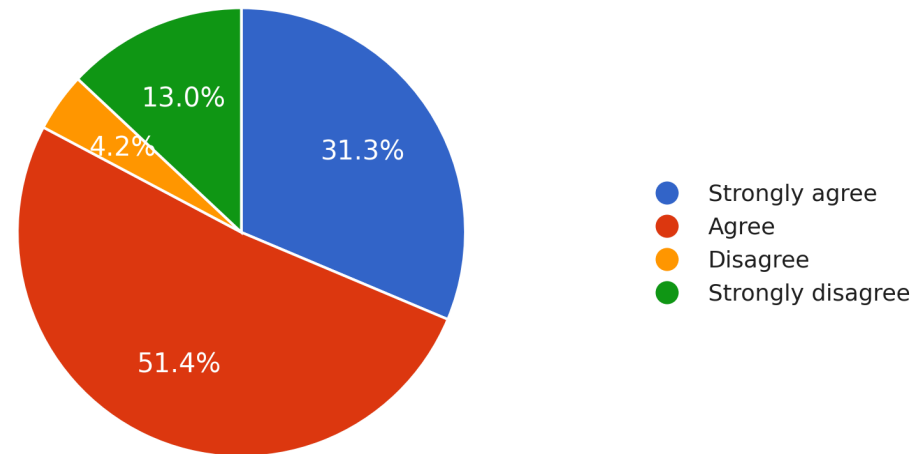
Overall, my school proactively provides students with opportunities for academic enrichment and acceleration.

284 responses



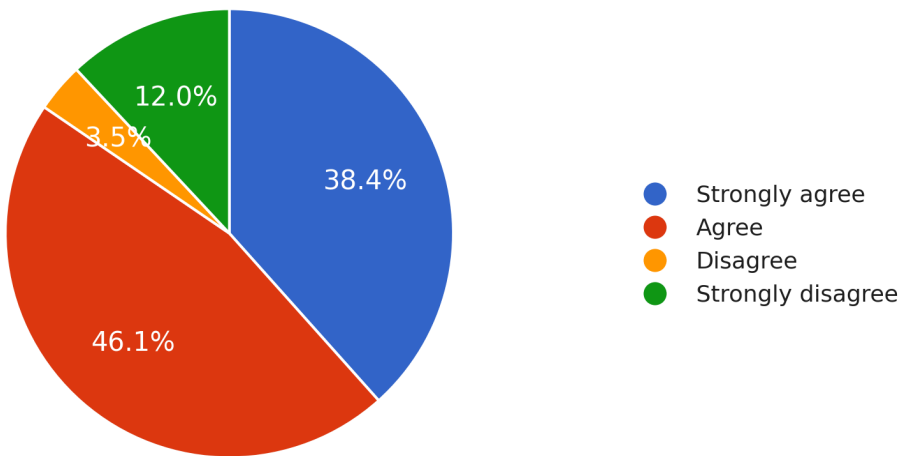
My child's school culture is positive and promotes learning.

284 responses



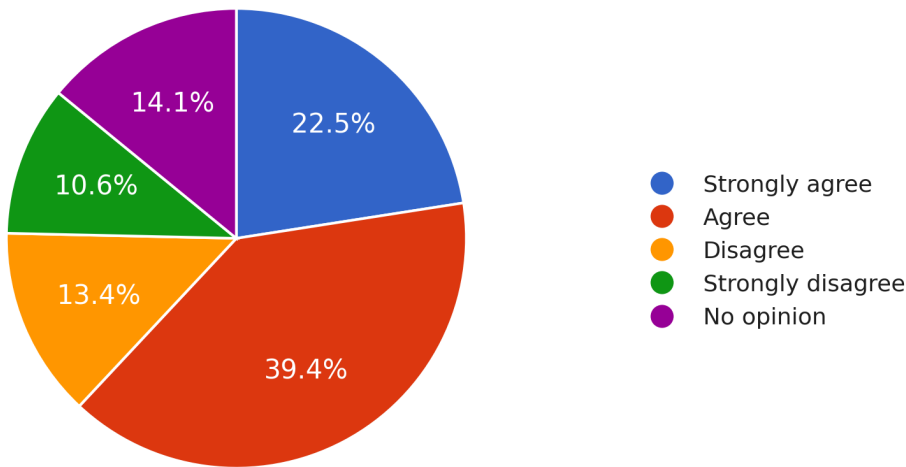
In general, my child feels safe at their school.

284 responses



My child has opportunities to participate in extracurricular activities through school.

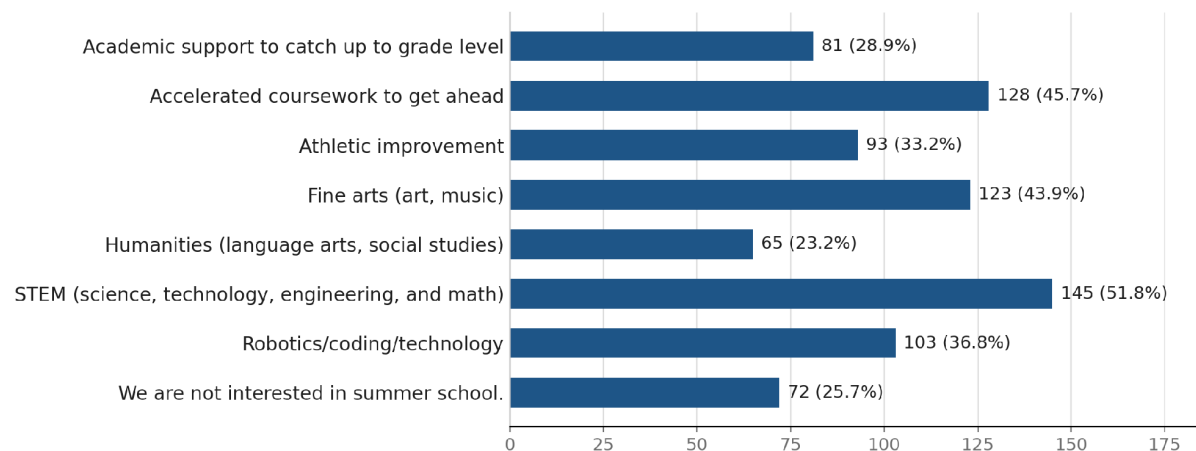
284 responses



If summer school were offered in CCSD 46, what topics would you want your child to participate in?
(choose all that apply)

If summer school were offered in CCSD 46, what topics would you want your child to participate in?
(choose all that apply)

280 responses

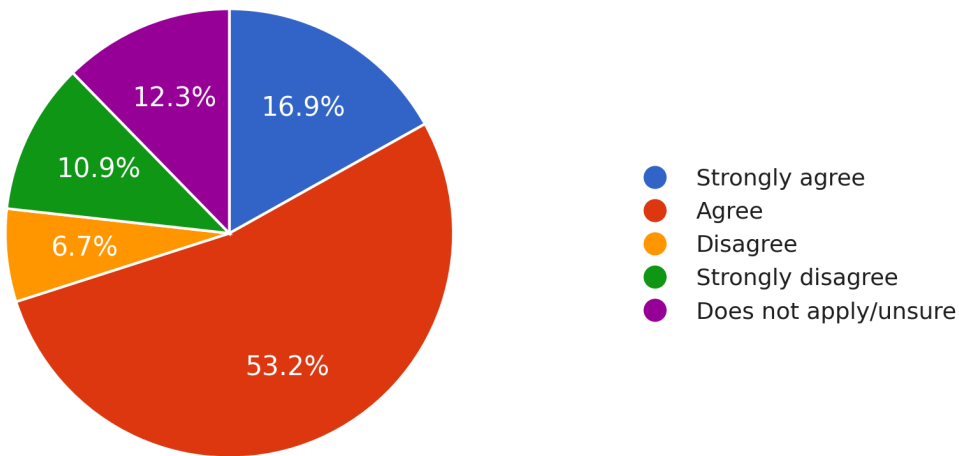


If you selected "Other" please list a few topics you that would interest your child in summer school that are not listed above: *(summary, Google Forms Gemini generated)*

- **Academic and Skill Development:** Respondents expressed interest in core academic tutoring, state-required credit recovery, specialized computer literacy (programming and software formatting), and introductory trade skills like wood and metalworking.
- **Extracurricular and Creative Arts:** There is a strong desire for enrichment activities, including theater, various art and craft programs, cooking, and music-focused opportunities.
- **Language and Nature:** Many families suggested foreign language immersion—specifically Spanish—alongside nature exploration, conservation, gardening, and outdoor physical activities.
- **Structured Camp Experiences:** Families favor flexible, weekly-themed camp structures that offer sports, babysitting certifications, and specialized STEM opportunities for students with scheduling conflicts during the school year.

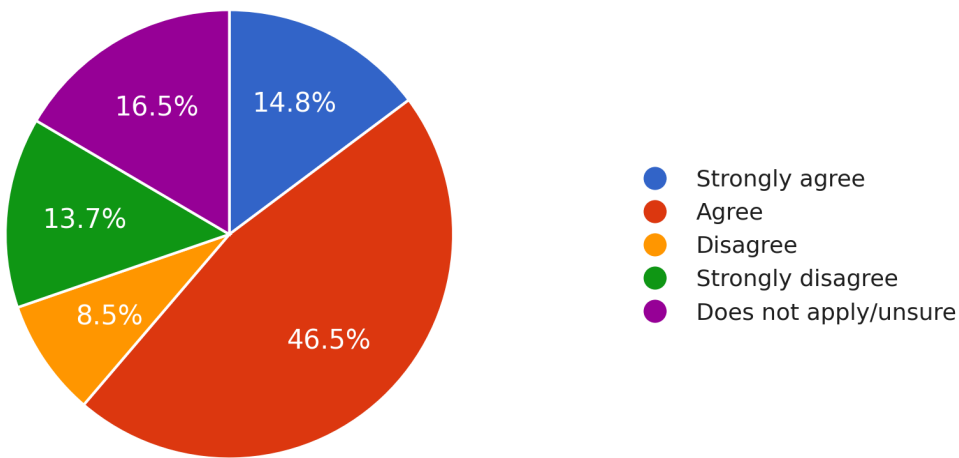
Elementary school prepares/is preparing my child for success in middle school.

284 responses



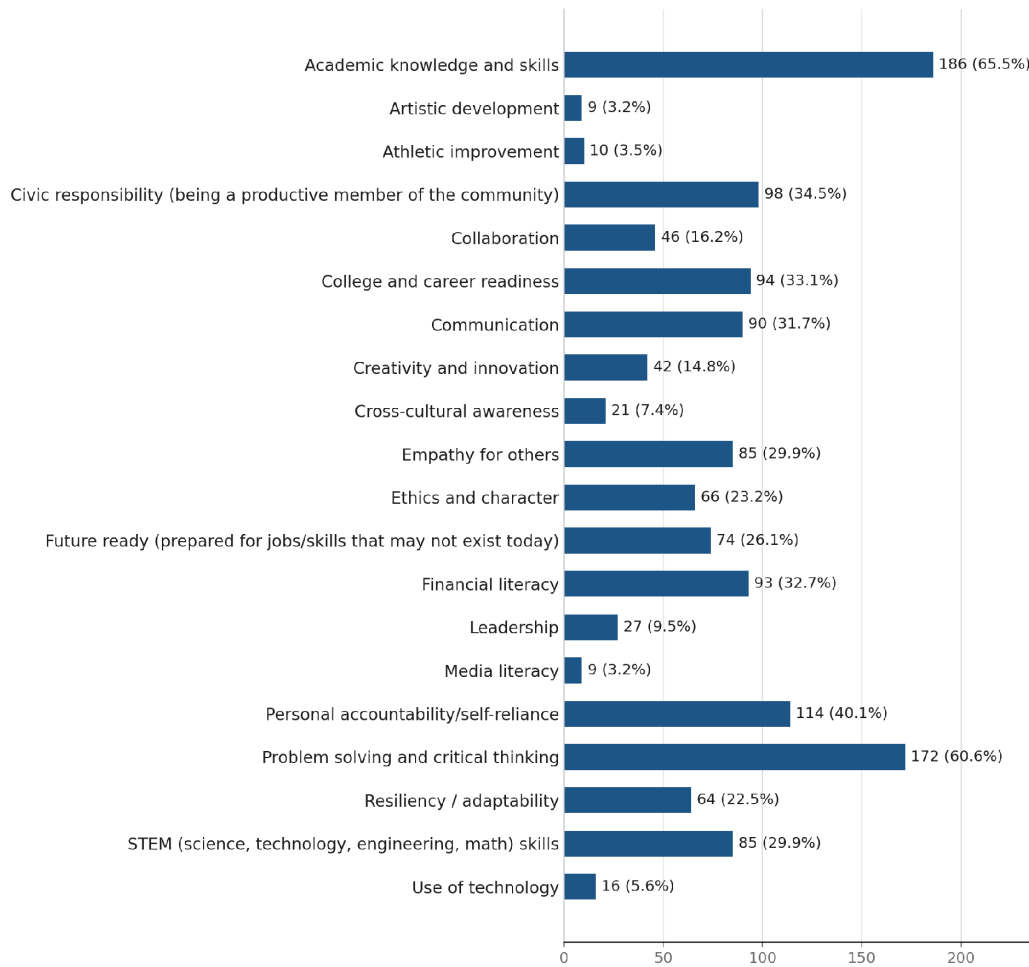
CCSD 46 is preparing my child for high school and beyond.

284 responses



The most important skills current students should learn before graduating are:

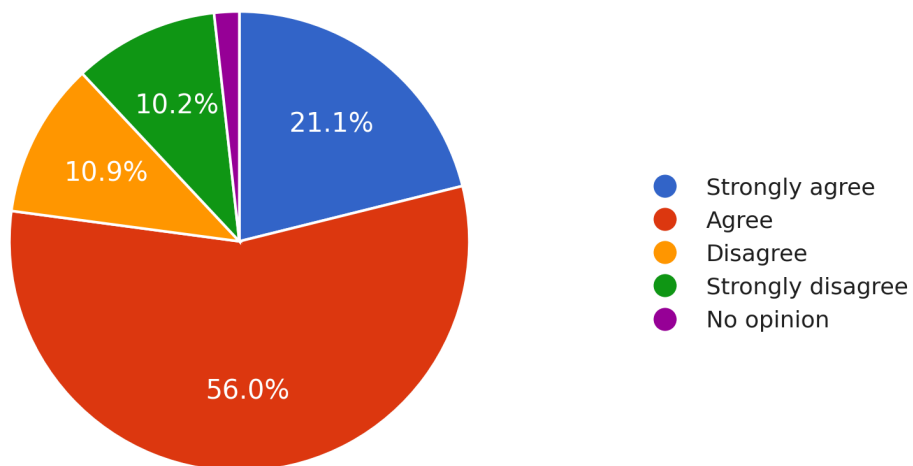
284 responses



Instructional Facilities and transportation

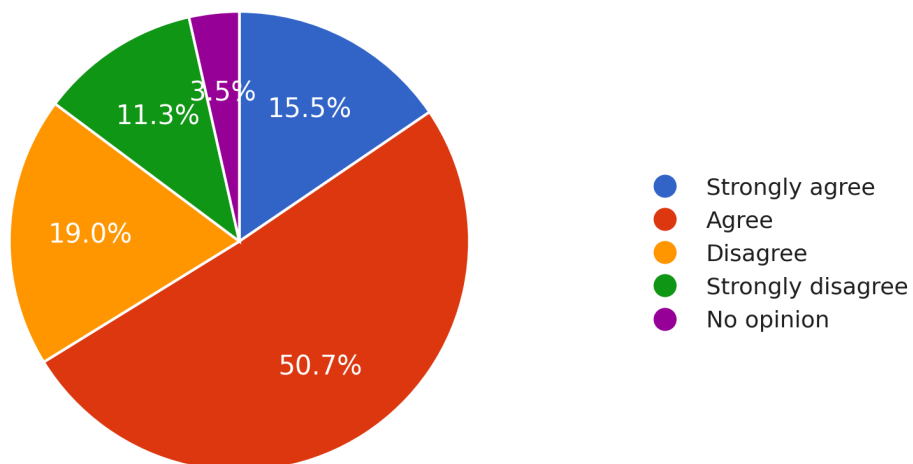
I am satisfied with the district's instructional facilities (for example: classrooms and physical school buildings).

284 responses



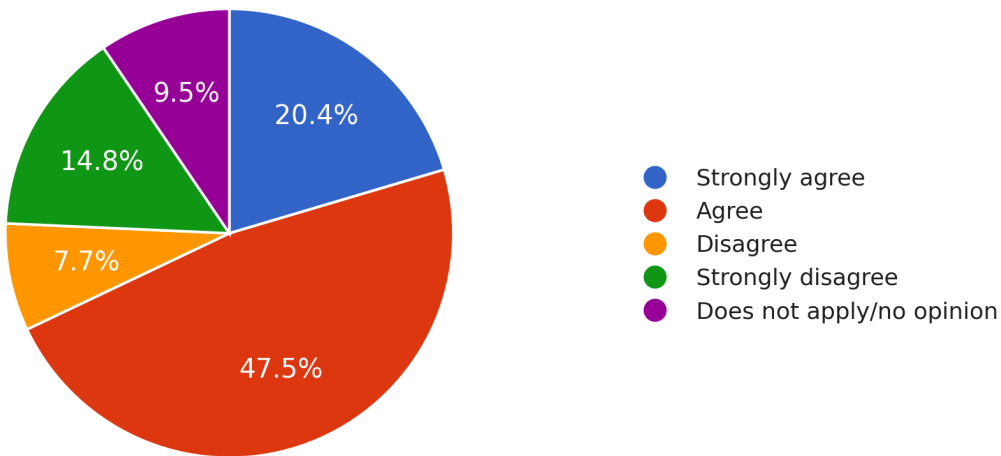
I am satisfied with non-classroom spaces. (For example: outdoor areas/fields, cafeterias, playgrounds, etc.)

284 responses



I am satisfied with the transportation services provided to students.

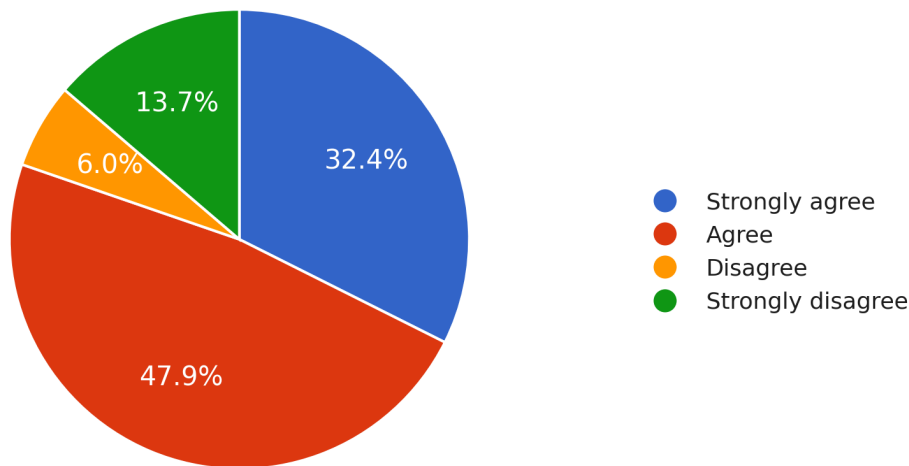
284 responses



Parent Perception and Open Input

I would recommend this school district to a family that is searching for a new place to live.

284 responses



Please list ONE or TWO goals you would like Community Consolidated School District 46 to put significant focus on or accomplish during the next five years. (*summary, Google Forms Gemini generated*)

- **Academic Enrichment and Curriculum:** Stakeholders emphasize expanding offerings through world language programs, advanced courses for high-achieving students, and broader extracurricular opportunities, including sports and arts, at the elementary and intermediate levels. There is a strong call to re-evaluate current teaching methods in literacy and mathematics, with some advocating for more hands-on, project-based learning and an increased focus on foundational skills like writing and critical thinking.
- **Technology and Learning Tools:** Many respondents express concern over the reliance on technology, specifically Chromebooks, for younger students. Suggestions include reducing screen time, limiting the daily transport of devices, and re-incorporating traditional physical books, handwriting, and paper-based assignments to support cognitive development and fundamental academic skills.
- **Facilities and Financial Stewardship:** There is a significant focus on fiscal responsibility, transparent budget management, and equitable investment in infrastructure across all school buildings. Priorities include updating outdated equipment, improving facility safety and functionality—such as adding air conditioning to gyms and enhancing playgrounds—and ensuring that tax dollars are effectively utilized to maintain high-quality learning environments.
- **Staff Support and School Climate:** Strengthening the culture and climate of the district is a priority, with recommendations to increase competitive compensation to attract and retain high-quality teachers and staff. Stakeholders also advocate for improved communication with families, more reliable bus transportation, consistent behavior support systems, enhanced professional development for educators, and a greater emphasis on social-emotional learning and inclusive practices for students with special needs.