



MERSD Strategic Vision Quantitative Study Results

May 25, 2021



**Creative
Education
Foundation™**

Overview

Manchester-Essex Regional School District (MERSD) is at the point in its strategic planning cycle where it is time to evaluate and determine the areas of strategic focus for the next 10 years. In order to complete this work, a Steering Committee was assembled to clarify the most pressing issues facing MERSD. This committee completed and contracted the following types of research:

- Content analysis of academic reports available to the MERSD
- Quantitative survey of MERSD parents, students, teachers, administrators, staff, and community members
- World Café conversations with MERSD parents, students, teachers, administrators, staff, and community members

This report summarizes the results of the quantitative study.

Methodology

Creative Education Foundation (CEF) fielded a quantitative survey, distributed by MERSD. This report analyzes 704 responses which were collected in April, 2021.

The survey could be accessed by email links sent out by Manchester Essex Regional Schools. Students were sent an email with a link to participate. A link to participate was made available on the district's website.

The survey consisted of a mix of rating, ranking, and open-ended responses focused on the current Vision of the Graduate, current MERSD vision and mission components, and strategic areas generated by the Steering Committee.

Since results do not reflect random sampling, they should not be generalized to the entire population of community members. Rather, results reflect the perceptions and opinions of those individuals who chose to participate.

Participant Details

Community Member Total	44
Student Total	106
Parent Total	412
Teacher/Admin/Staff Total	142
Grand Total	704

Community Members Total	44
Member of a Community Organization	3
Member of Community, No Children in District	41

Students Total	106
EES Student	1
MS Student	44
HS Student	61

Parents Total	412
Pre-School Parent	12
Younger Parent (OLDEST child is in elementary school)	129
Older Parent (OLDEST child is in MS/HS)	262
Parent of an Out-of-District Student	9

Base: Total Sample (704)

Which of the following best describes your relationship with the Manchester-Essex Regional School District?

Key Learnings

Generally speaking, most respondents are positive about the district's performance and MERSD is doing well overall on many of the attributes measured.

- Vision of the Graduate attributes resonate with adult stakeholders; students are more focused on mental health and future readiness.
- Critical Thinker and Empathetic Global Citizen both speak to the need for working with diverse populations and learning and applying critical thinking skills.
- Skills such as working with one another in groups, workplace readiness, diversity of thought, critical thinking, and problem solving skills will all be required in the next decade.

Key Learnings

In the next decade, students will need all types of skills.

- “Skills” are not primarily focused on academic skills. Instead, there is a need for social-emotional, interpersonal, critical thinking, financial, communication, technological and other “soft” skills.

Some of MERSD’s strengths lie in supportive, caring teachers and curriculum and resources that support students.

- MERSD has great teachers and programs.
- Teachers are described as dedicated, empathetic educators who provide a well-rounded experience.

Recent MERSD graduates display social-emotional awareness, critical thinking, and global citizenship.

Key Learnings

Academic achievement is at the basis of what schools are meant to do, so it is not surprising that it is the area of focus ranked highest.

- Key stakeholders rank the most important areas of focus very differently from one another.
- Students are most likely to rank “Preparing students for an unknown future” highest.

There is strong agreement that individualized instruction and critical thinking skills will be important in the next decade.

- Arts, real life readiness, and overall academic excellence should be areas of focus.
- The district will need to continue to focus on the whole child as part of an academically rigorous program.
- MERSD could improve with a focus on individual student needs and more areas of study.

Key Learnings

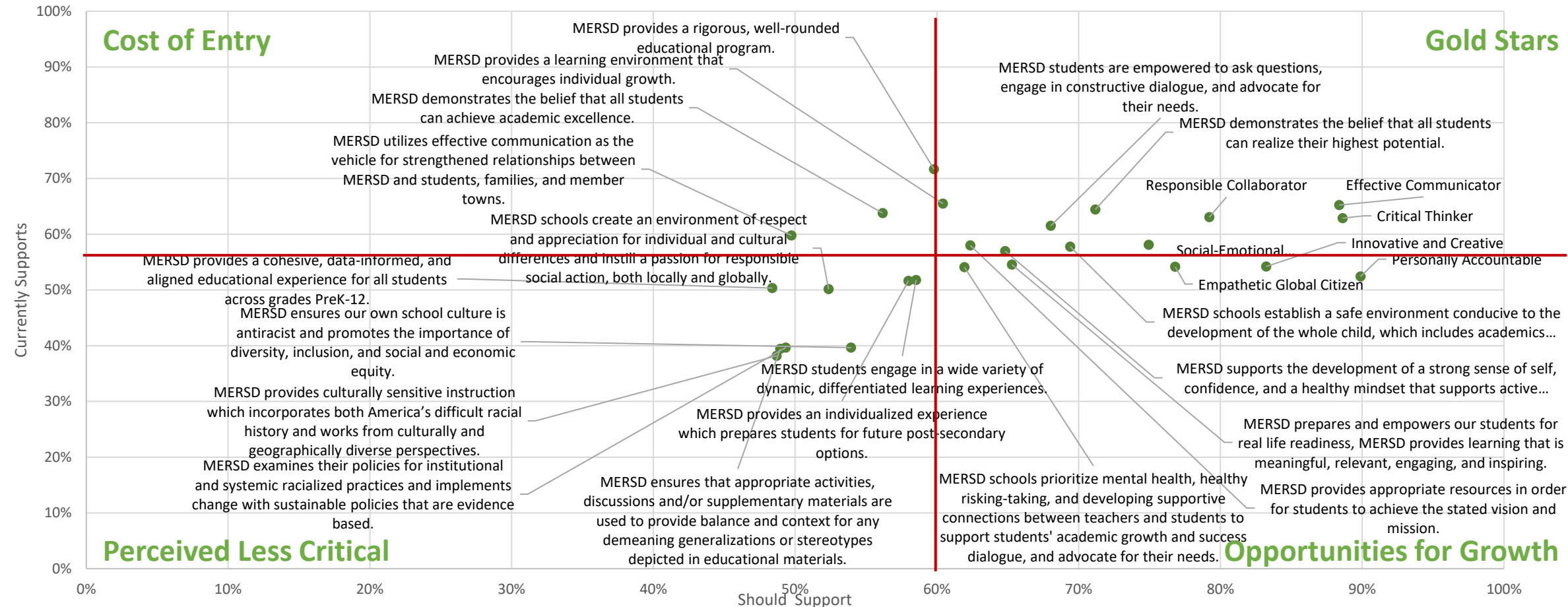
Diversity, community and growth are critical areas of focus for the district.

- A word on antiracist curriculum - it is necessary, if difficult.
 - Positive comments frequently have a sense of urgency.
 - Negative comments range from “why bring this up?” to outright outrage.
- While some stakeholders think there is too much focus on social-emotional learning and diversity and equity issues, most others agree that this is important work for the district to do
 - Not everyone likes the focus on social-emotional awareness. Some think that the pendulum has swung too far away from general education.
 - There is a lot of acknowledgement that MERSD is very racially homogenous and some concern that the district tread carefully in its antiracist work, in particular.
 - Those who think there will be too much focus on race and broader social issues also typically believe that school should focus exclusively on academics.

Detailed Findings

Please read each statement and tell us how much you agree or disagree that MERSD **SHOULD/CURRENTLY** support(s) and promote(s) this skill, belief, behavior, or understanding its students as part of the overall vision.

Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that this statement **SHOULD BE/IS CURRENTLY** part of MERSD's strategic focus.



Opportunities for Growth

<u>Should Be Doing But Aren't (Yet)</u>	% Agree Completely Should Do	% Agree Completely/Somewh at Currently Do
Personally Accountable	90%	52%
Innovative and Creative	83%	54%
Empathetic Global Citizen	77%	54%
Social-Emotional Awareness	75%	58%
MERSD schools establish a safe environment conducive to the development of the whole child, which includes academics via experiential learning, the arts, cultural awareness, and physical and emotional wellbeing.	69%	58%
MERSD prepares and empowers our students for real life readiness, MERSD provides learning that is meaningful, relevant, engaging, and inspiring.	65%	55%
MERSD supports the development of a strong sense of self, confidence, and a healthy mindset that supports active pursuit of continued education, engagement in meaningful work, and contributions to community.	65%	57%
MERSD schools prioritize mental health, healthy risking-taking, and developing supportive connections between teachers and students to support students' academic growth and success dialogue, and advocate for their needs.	62%	54%
MERSD provides appropriate resources in order for students to achieve the stated vision and mission.	62%	58%

Gold Stars

<u>Doing Well and Should Be Doing</u>	% Agree Completely Should Do	% Agree Completely/Somewh at Currently Do
Effective Communicator	88%	65%
Critical Thinker	89%	63%
Responsible Collaborator	79%	63%
MERSD demonstrates the belief that all students can realize their highest potential.	71%	64%
MERSD students are empowered to ask questions, engage in constructive dialogue, and advocate for their needs.	68%	61%

Cost of Entry

<u>Doing Well and Don't Need to Be Doing</u>	% Agree Completely Should Do	% Agree Completely/Somewh at Currently Do
MERSD provides a learning environment that encourages individual growth.	60%	65%
MERSD provides a rigorous, well-rounded educational program.	60%	72%
MERSD utilizes effective communication as the vehicle for strengthened relationships between MERSD and students, families, and member towns.	50%	60%
MERSD demonstrates the belief that all students can achieve academic excellence.	56%	64%

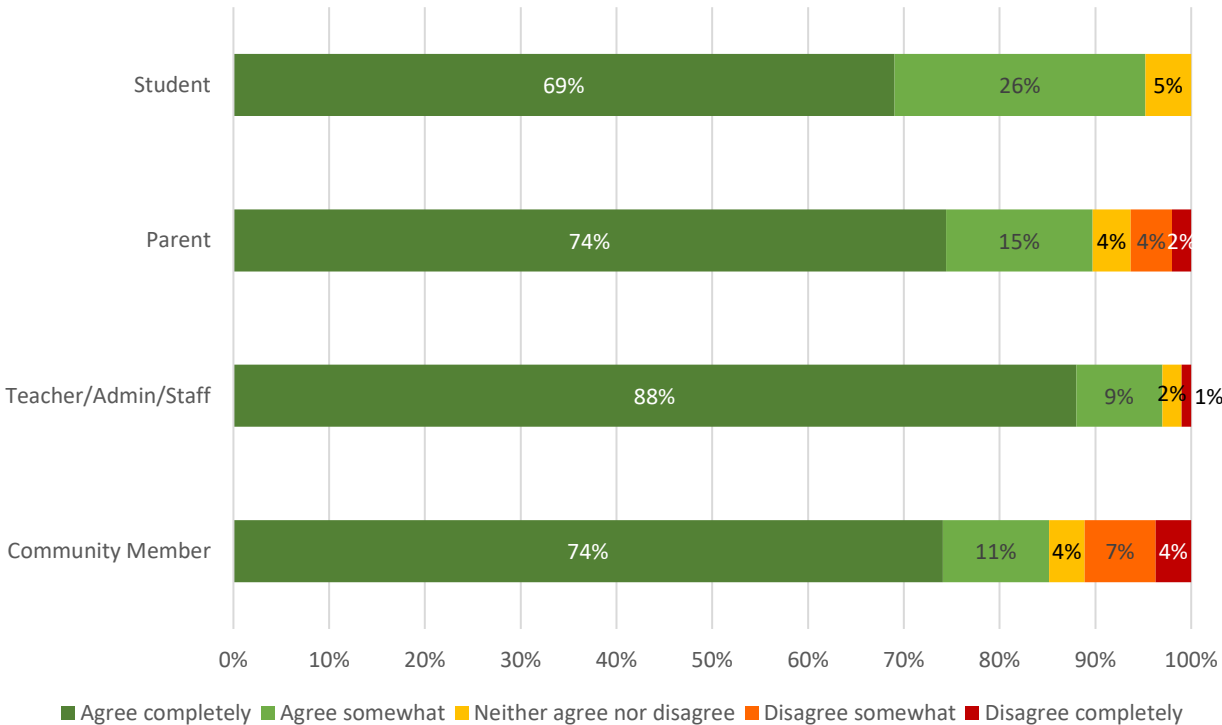
Perceived Less Critical

<u>Not Doing Well and Don't Need to Do</u>	% Agree Completely Should Do	% Agree Completely/Somewh at Currently Do
MERSD students engage in a wide variety of dynamic, differentiated learning experiences.	59%	52%
MERSD provides an individualized experience which prepares students for future post-secondary options.	58%	52%
MERSD provides a cohesive, data-informed, and aligned educational experience for all students across grades PreK-12.	48%	50%
MERSD ensures our own school culture is antiracist and promotes the importance of diversity, inclusion, and social and economic equity.	54%	40%
MERSD schools create an environment of respect and appreciation for individual and cultural differences and instill a passion for responsible social action, both locally and globally.	52%	50%
MERSD examines their policies for institutional and systemic racialized practices and implements change with sustainable policies that are evidence based.	49%	36%
MERSD ensures that appropriate activities, discussions and/or supplementary materials are used to provide balance and context for any demeaning generalizations or stereotypes depicted in educational materials.	49%	39%
MERSD provides culturally sensitive instruction which incorporates both America's difficult racial history and works from culturally and geographically diverse perspectives.	49%	38%

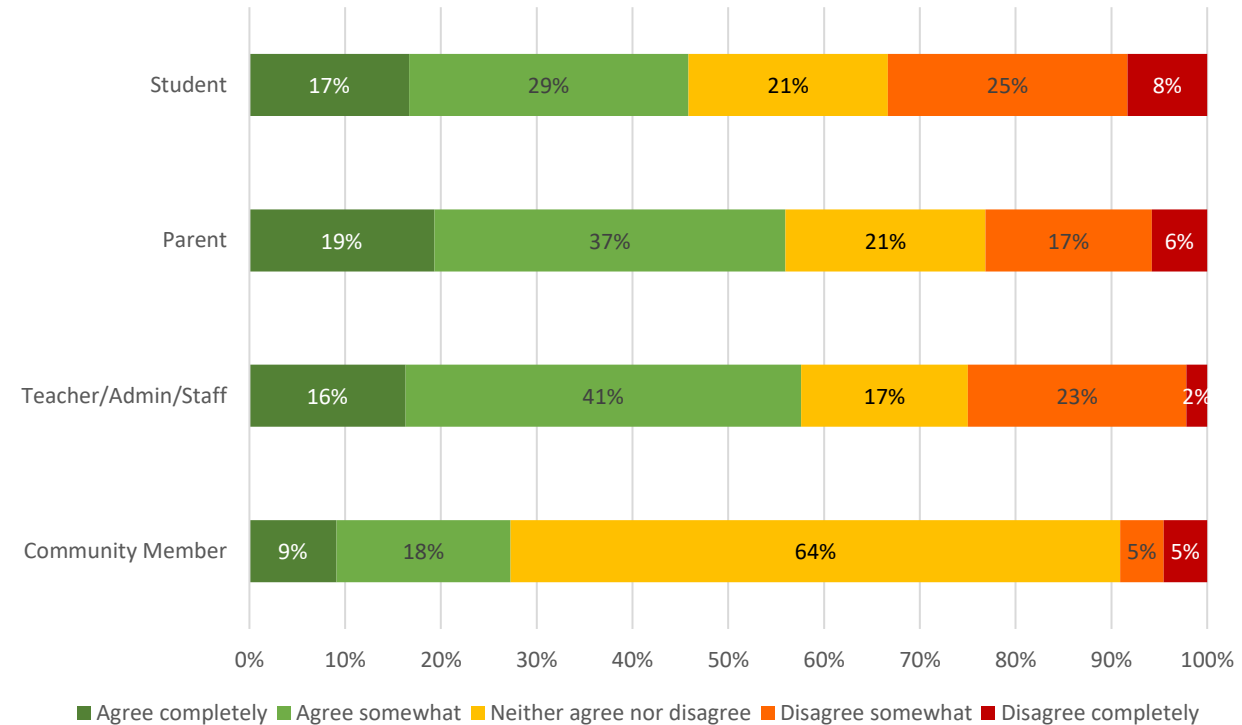
Vision of the Graduate Attribute – Empathetic Global Citizen

Please read each statement below from the “Vision of the Graduate” and tell us how much you agree or disagree that MERSD **SHOULD** support and promote this skill, belief, behavior, or understanding its students as part of the overall vision.

Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that MERSD **CURRENTLY** supports and promotes this skill, belief, behavior, or understanding for its students in MERSD as part of the overall vision.



Base : Students n=42, Parents n=301, Teachers n=100, Community Member n=27

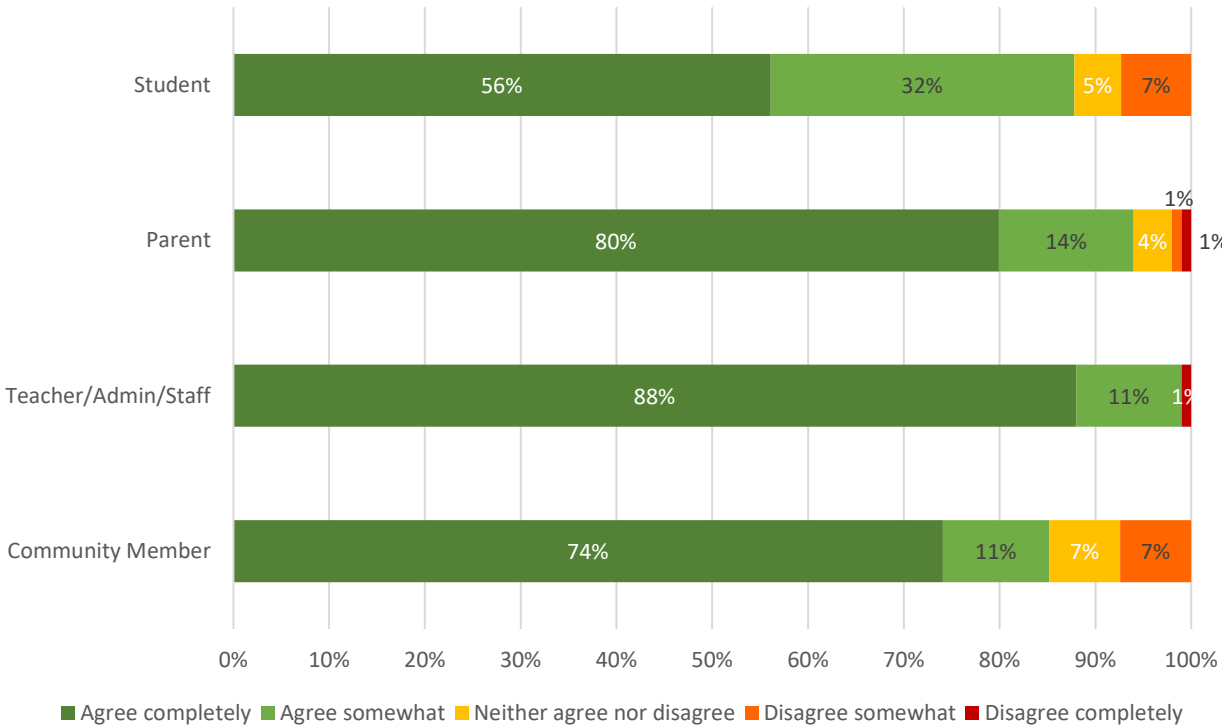


Base : Students n=24, Parents n=259, Teachers n=92, Community Member n=22

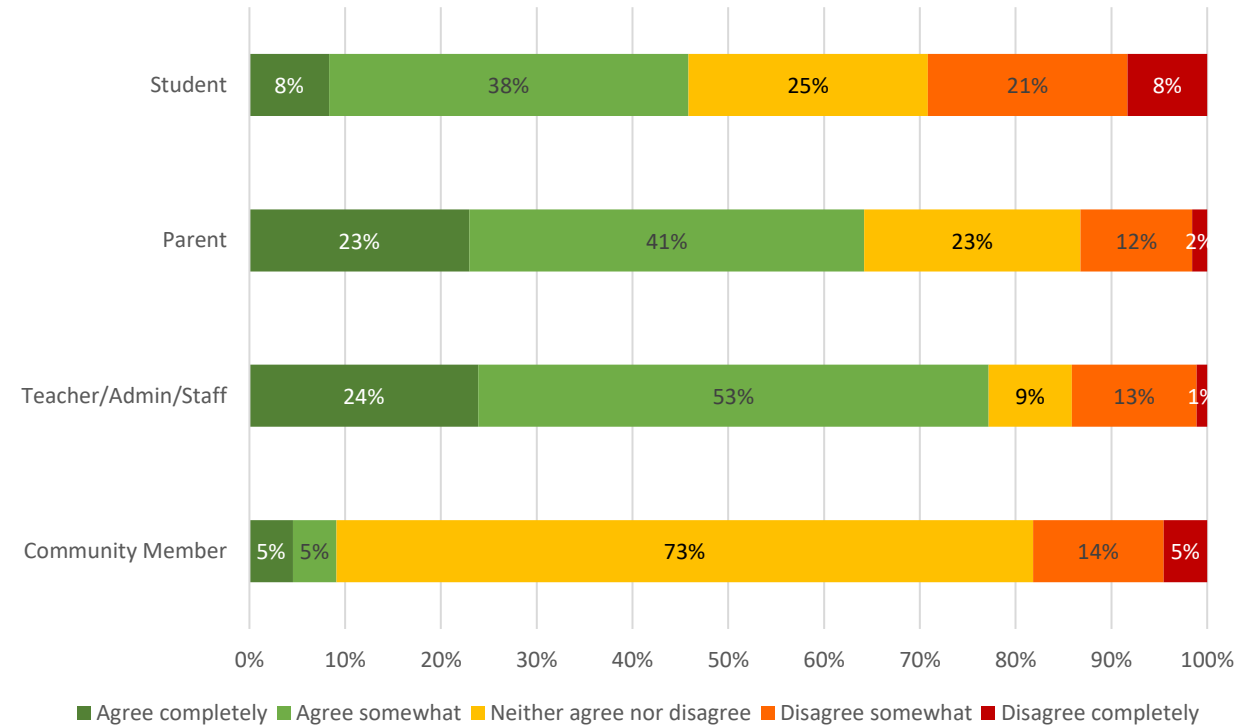
Vision of the Graduate Attribute – Responsible Collaborator

Please read each statement below from the “Vision of the Graduate” and tell us how much you agree or disagree that MERSD **SHOULD** support and promote this skill, belief, behavior, or understanding its students as part of the overall vision.

Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that MERSD **CURRENTLY** supports and promotes this skill, belief, behavior, or understanding for its students in MERSD as part of the overall vision.



Base : Students n=41, Parents n=299, Teachers n=100, Community Member n=27

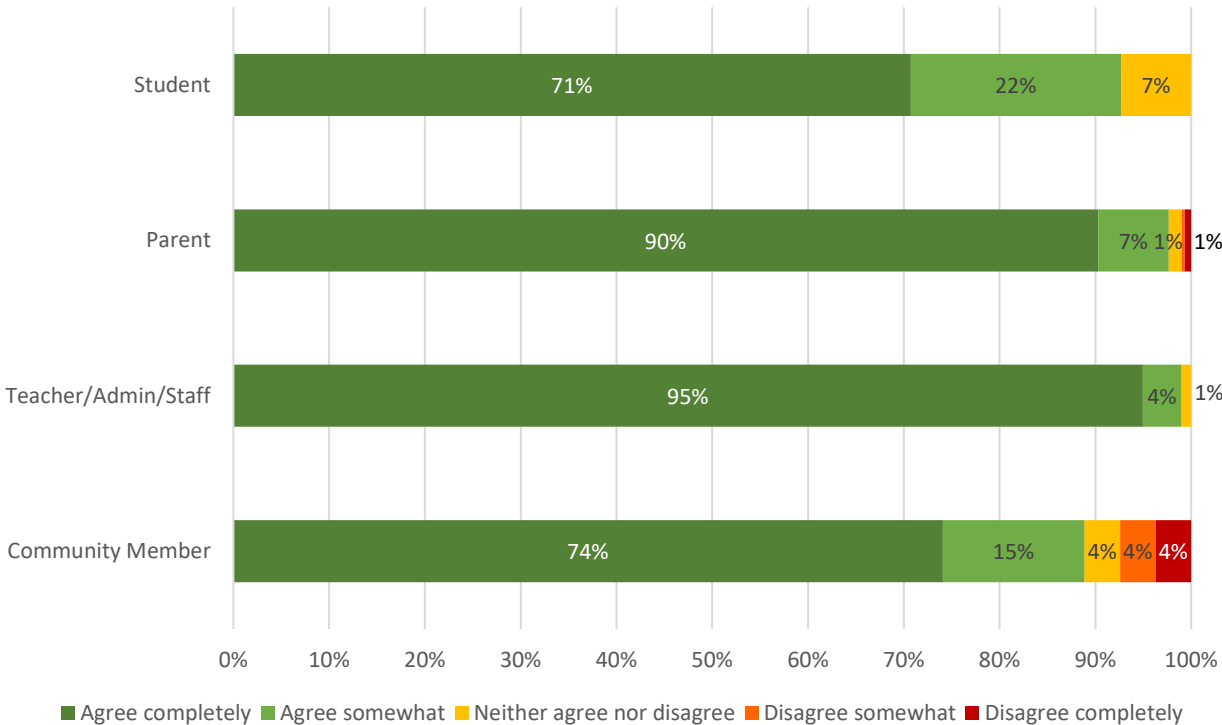


Base : Students n=24, Parents n=257, Teachers n=92, Community Member n=22

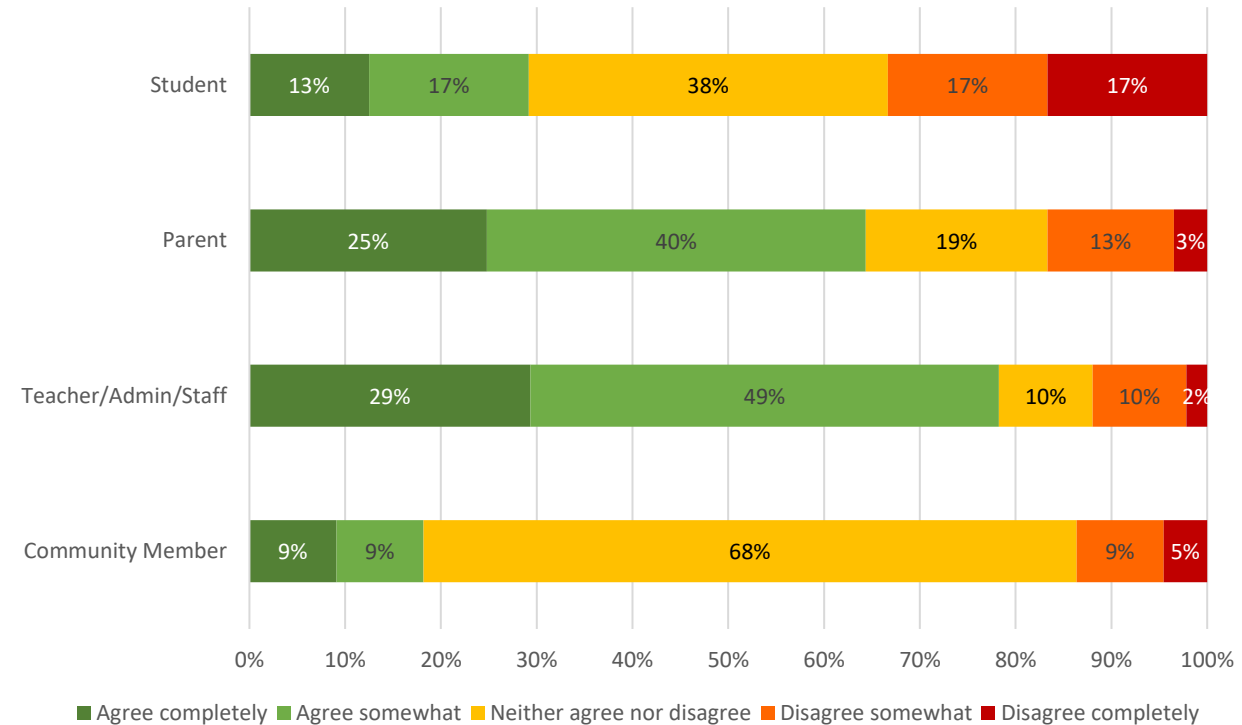
Vision of the Graduate Attribute – Critical Thinker

Please read each statement below from the “Vision of the Graduate” and tell us how much you agree or disagree that MERSD **SHOULD** support and promote this skill, belief, behavior, or understanding its students as part of the overall vision.

Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that MERSD **CURRENTLY** supports and promotes this skill, belief, behavior, or understanding for its students in MERSD as part of the overall vision.



Base : Students n=41, Parents n=299, Teachers n=99, Community Member n=27

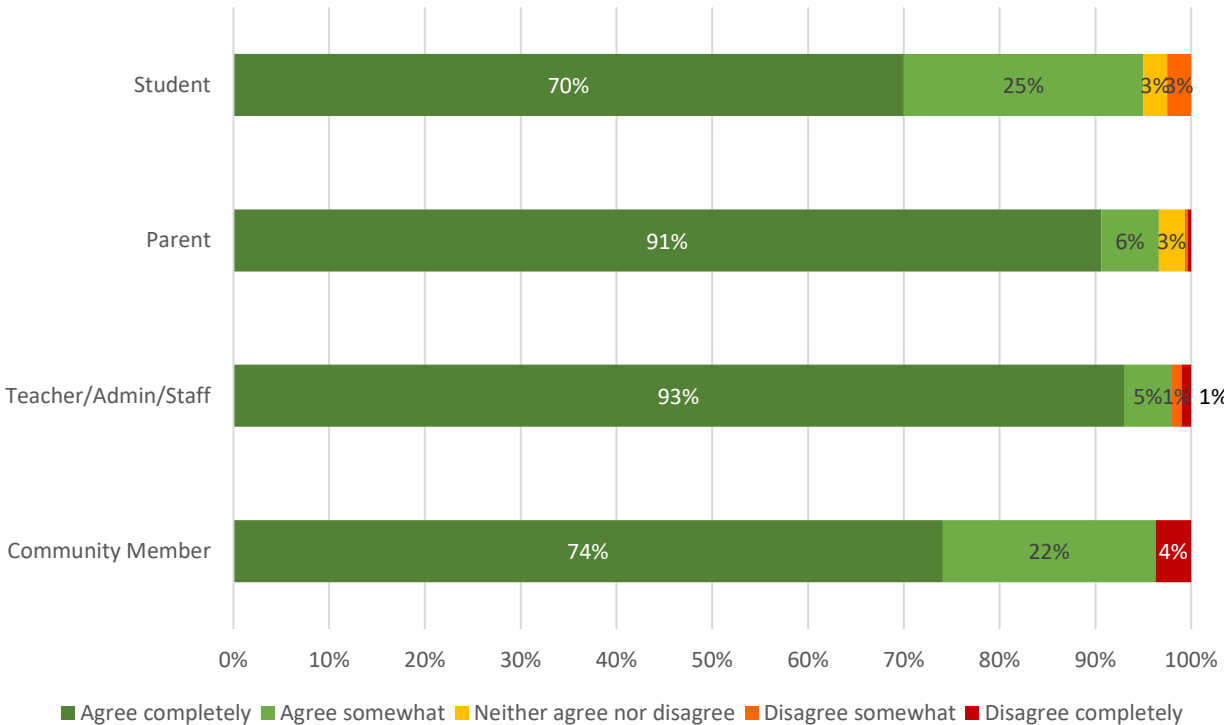


Base : Students n=24, Parents n=258, Teachers n=92, Community Member n=22

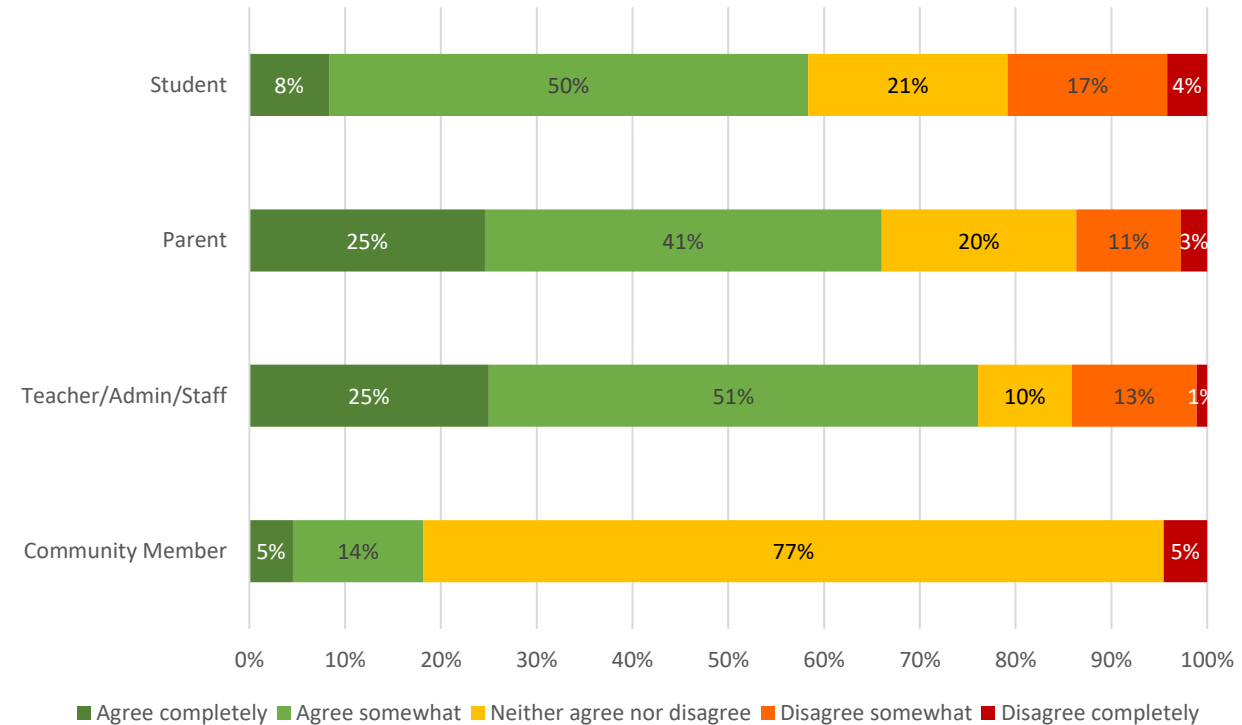
Vision of the Graduate Attribute – Effective Communicator

Please read each statement below from the “Vision of the Graduate” and tell us how much you agree or disagree that MERSD **SHOULD** support and promote this skill, belief, behavior, or understanding its students as part of the overall vision.

Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that MERSD **CURRENTLY** supports and promotes this skill, belief, behavior, or understanding for its students in MERSD as part of the overall vision.



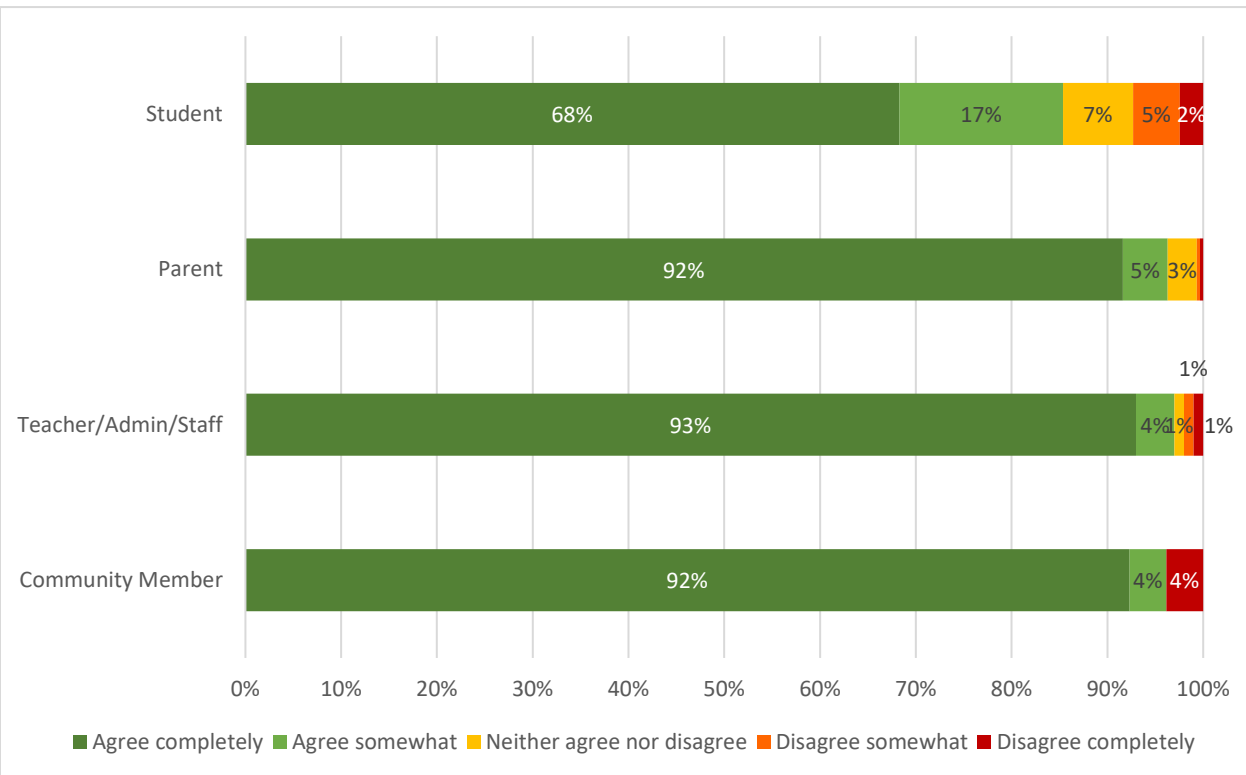
Base : Students n=40, Parents n=298, Teachers n=99, Community Member n=27



Base : Students n=24, Parents n=256, Teachers n=92, Community Member n=22

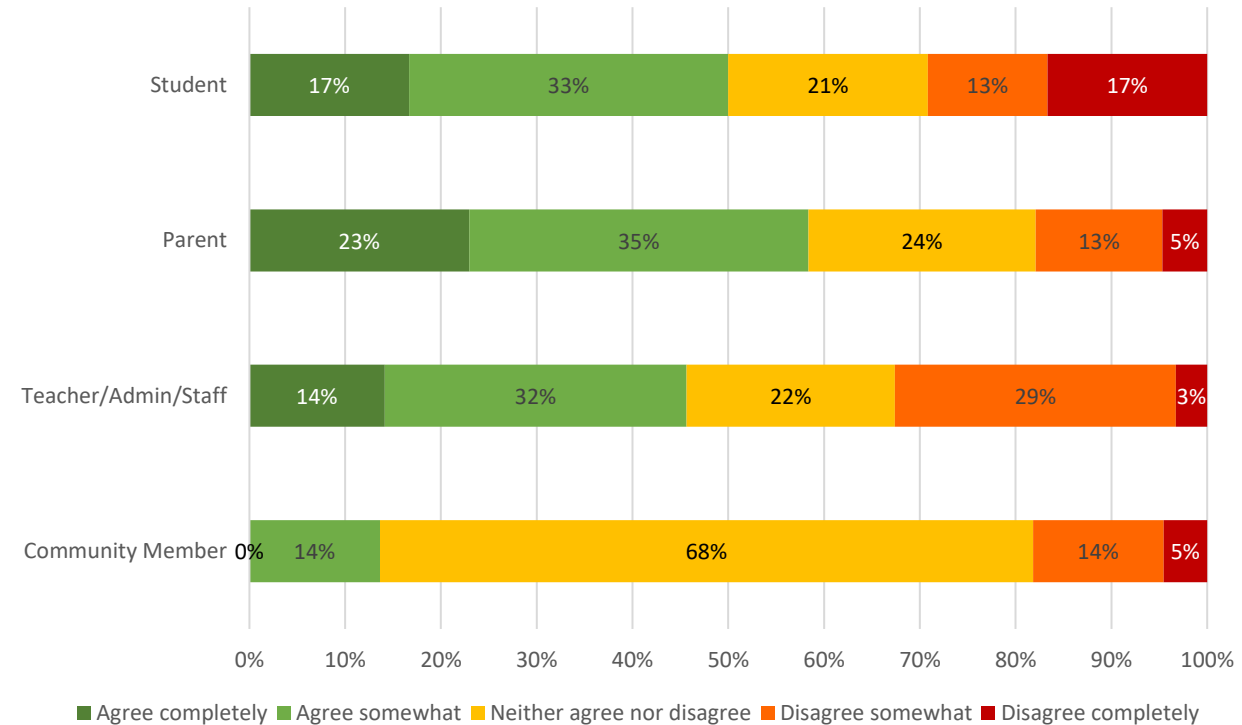
Vision of the Graduate Attribute – Personally Accountable

Please read each statement below from the “Vision of the Graduate” and tell us how much you agree or disagree that MERSD **SHOULD** support and promote this skill, belief, behavior, or understanding its students as part of the overall vision.



Base : Students n=41, Parents n=298, Teachers n=100, Community Member n=26

Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that MERSD **CURRENTLY** supports and promotes this skill, belief, behavior, or understanding for its students in MERSD as part of the overall vision.

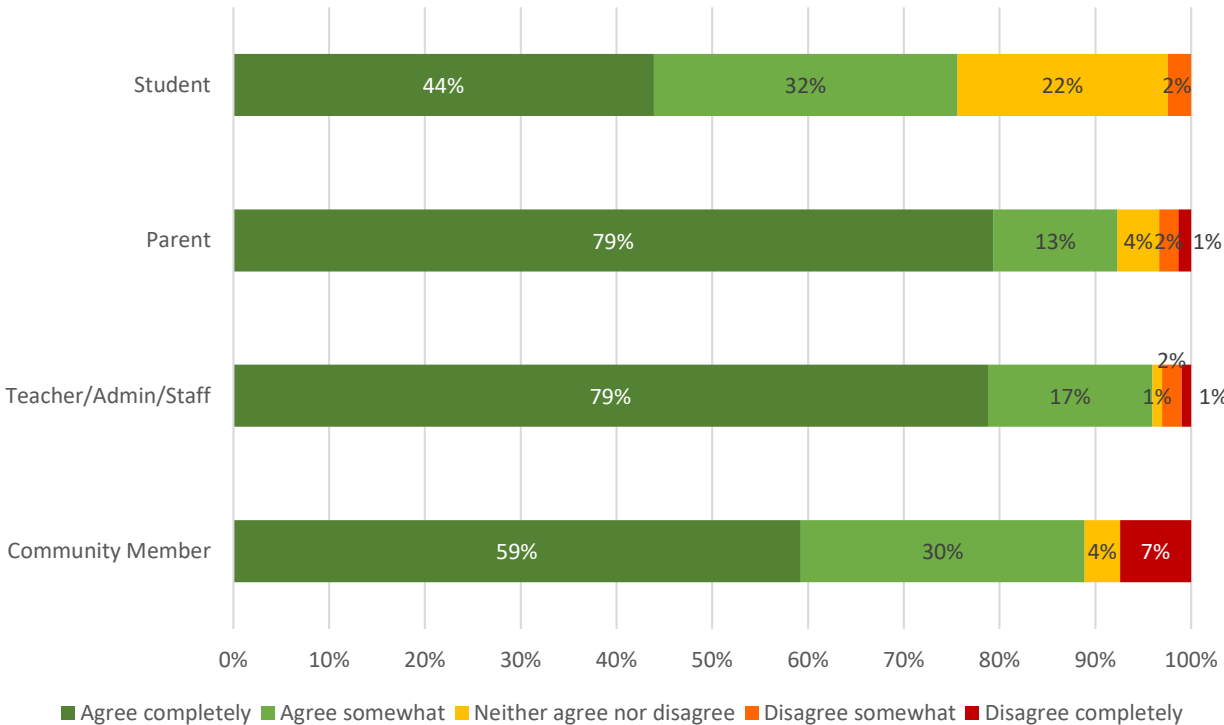


Base : Students n=24, Parents n=257, Teachers n=92, Community Member n=22

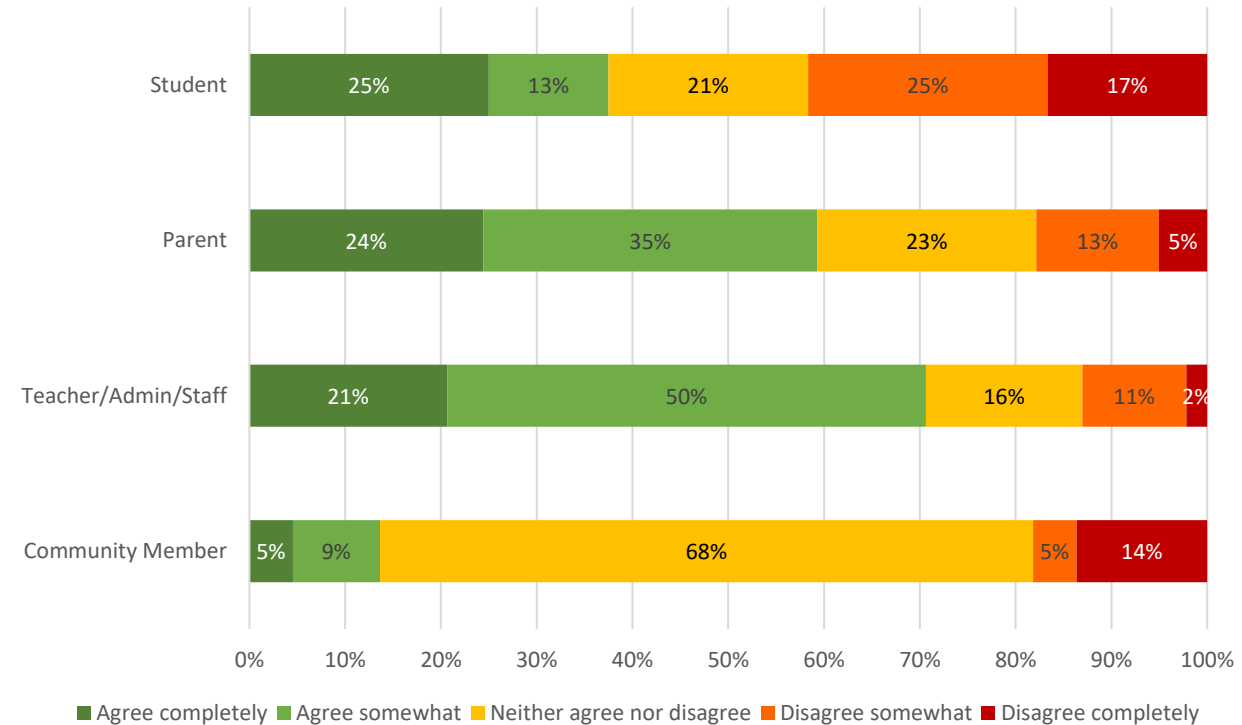
Vision of the Graduate Attribute – Social-Emotional Awareness

Please read each statement below from the “Vision of the Graduate” and tell us how much you agree or disagree that MERSD **SHOULD** support and promote this skill, belief, behavior, or understanding its students as part of the overall vision.

Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that MERSD **CURRENTLY** supports and promotes this skill, belief, behavior, or understanding for its students in MERSD as part of the overall vision.



Base : Students n=41, Parents n=300, Teachers n=99, Community Member n=27

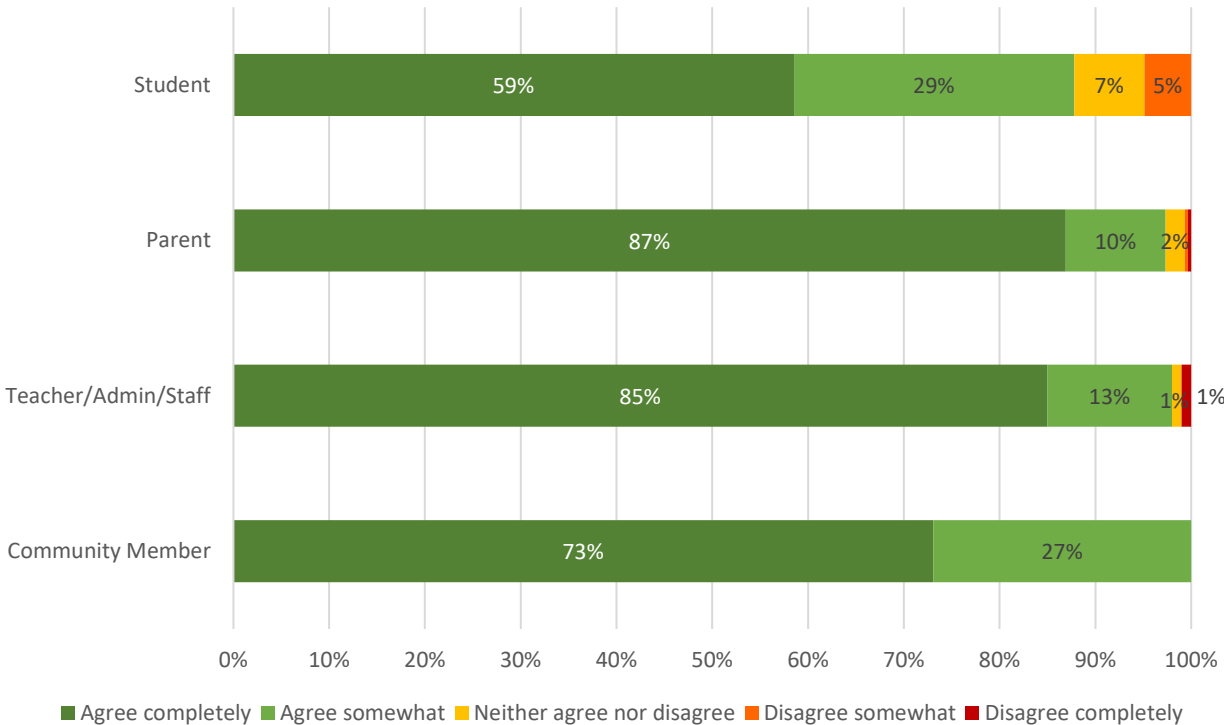


Base : Students n=24, Parents n=258, Teachers n=92, Community Member n=22

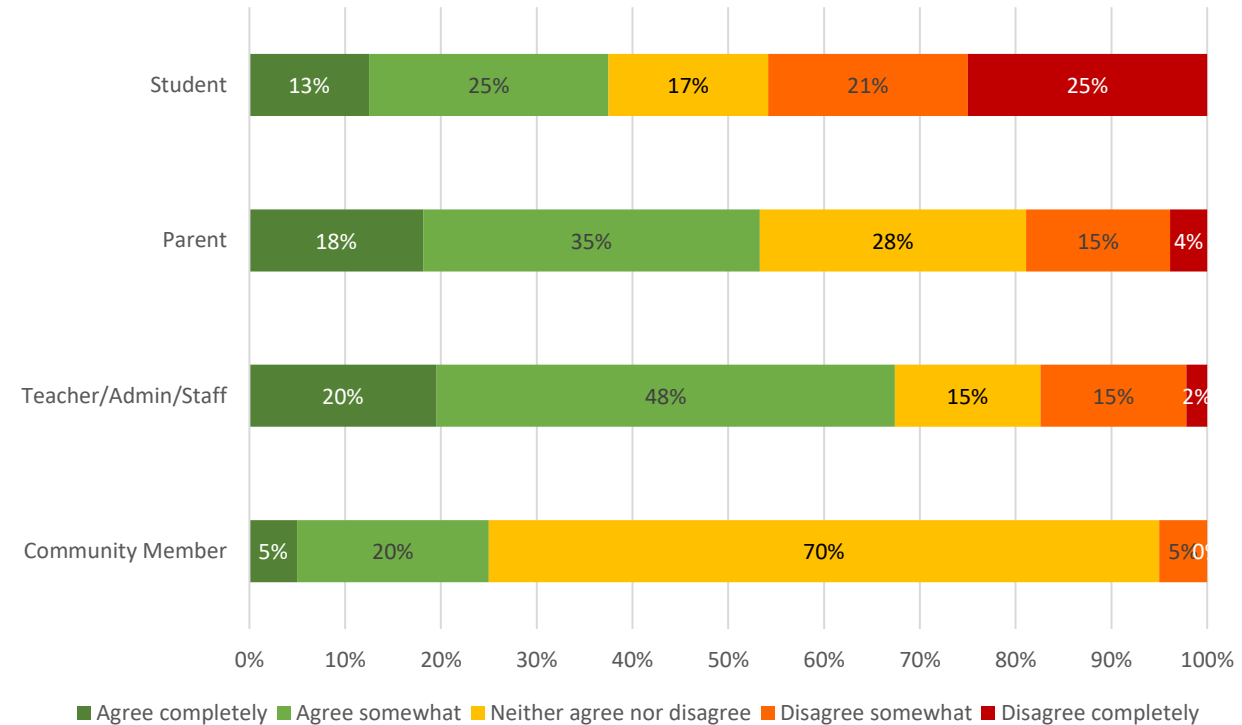
Vision of the Graduate Attribute – Innovative and Creative

Please read each statement below from the “Vision of the Graduate” and tell us how much you agree or disagree that MERSD **SHOULD** support and promote this skill, belief, behavior, or understanding its students as part of the overall vision.

Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that MERSD **CURRENTLY** supports and promotes this skill, belief, behavior, or understanding for its students in MERSD as part of the overall vision.



Base : Students n=41, Parents n=298, Teachers n=100, Community Member n=26



Base : Students n=24, Parents n=259, Teachers n=92, Community Member n=20

Which elements from the Vision of the Graduate do you feel are the highest priority for graduates over the next 10 years and why?



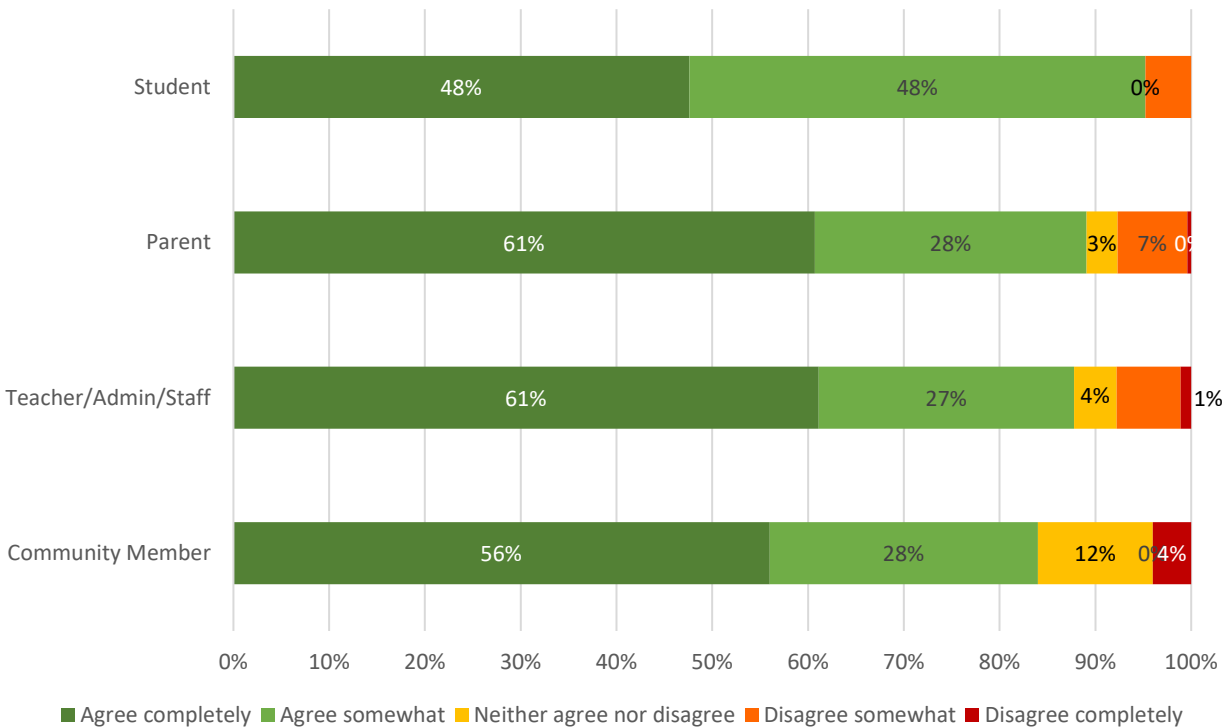
Which 3 elements from the Vision of the Graduate have been most exhibited by MERSD graduates over the past 3-5 years?



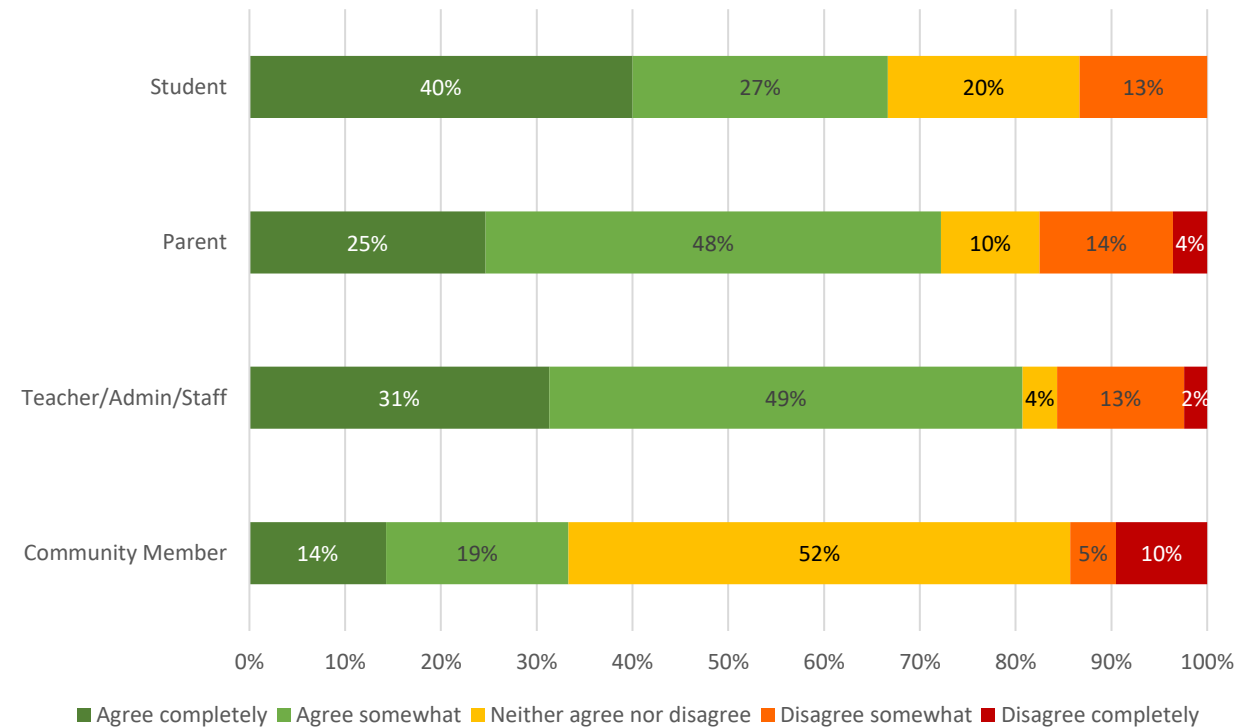
Strategy Attribute – MERSD provides a rigorous, well-rounded educational program.

Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that this statement **SHOULD** be part of MERSD's strategic focus.

Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that MERSD **CURRENTLY** supports or promotes this strategy as part of MERSD's strategic focus.



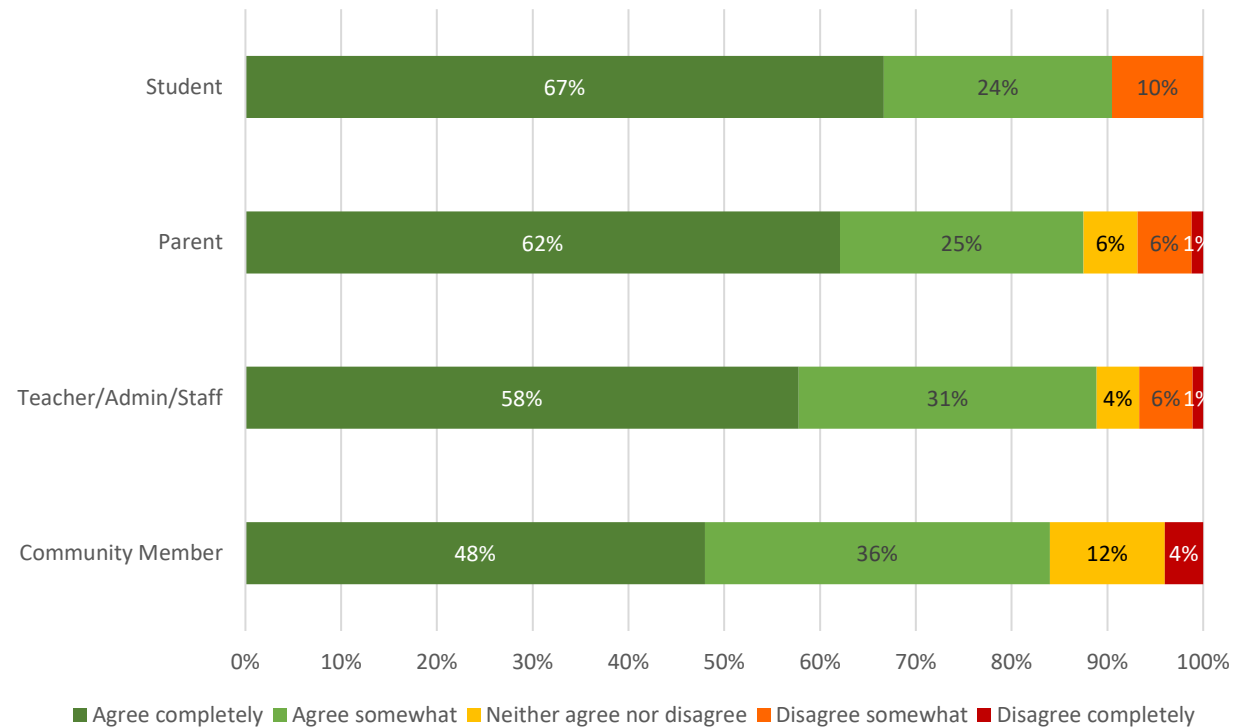
Base : Students n=21, Parents n=247, Teachers n=90, Community Member n=25



Base : Students n=15, Parents n=223, Teachers n=83, Community Member n=21

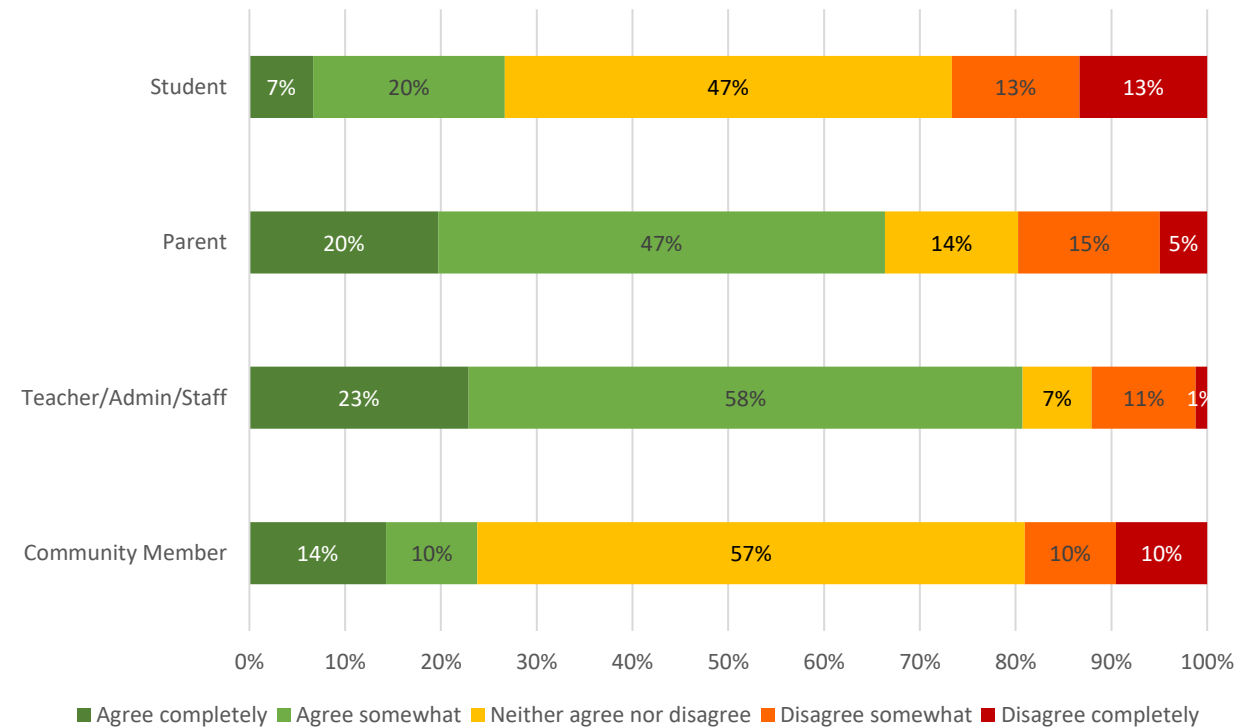
Strategy Attribute – MERSD provides a learning environment that encourages individual growth.

Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that this statement **SHOULD** be part of MERSD's strategic focus.



Base : Students n=21, Parents n=248, Teachers n=90, Community Member n=25

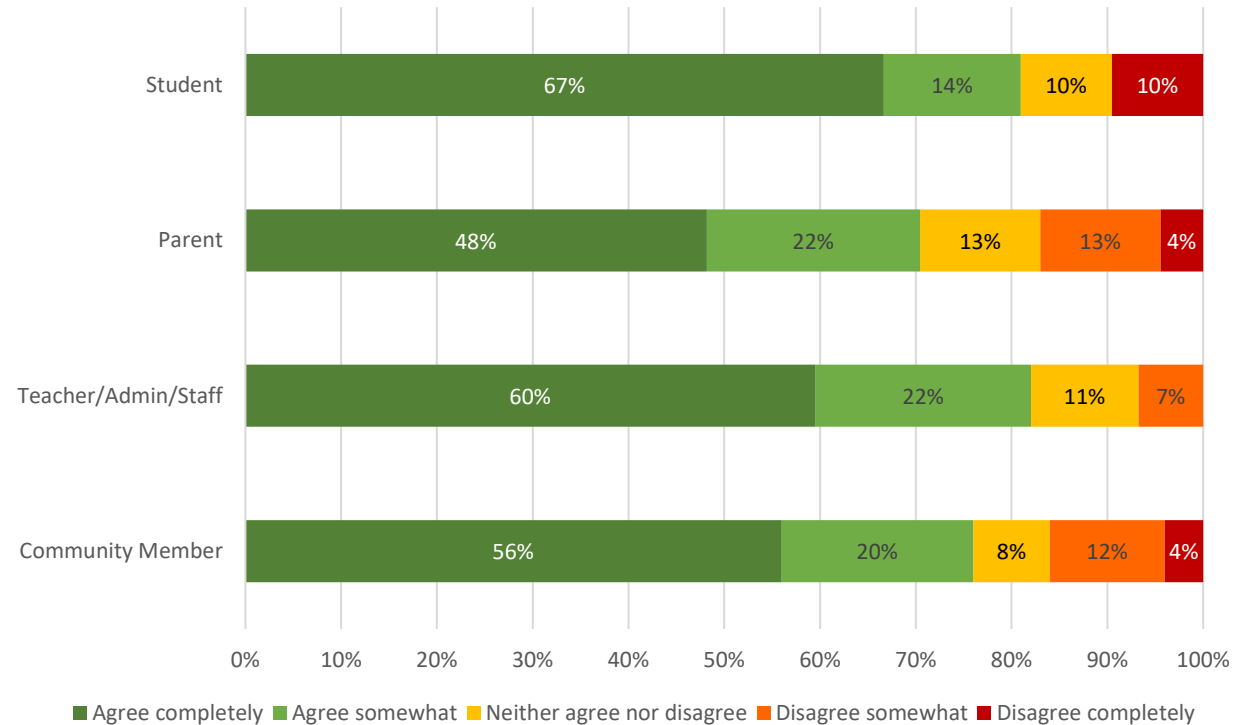
Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that MERSD **CURRENTLY** supports or promotes this strategy as part of MERSD's strategic focus.



Base : Students n=15, Parents n=223, Teachers n=83, Community Member n=21

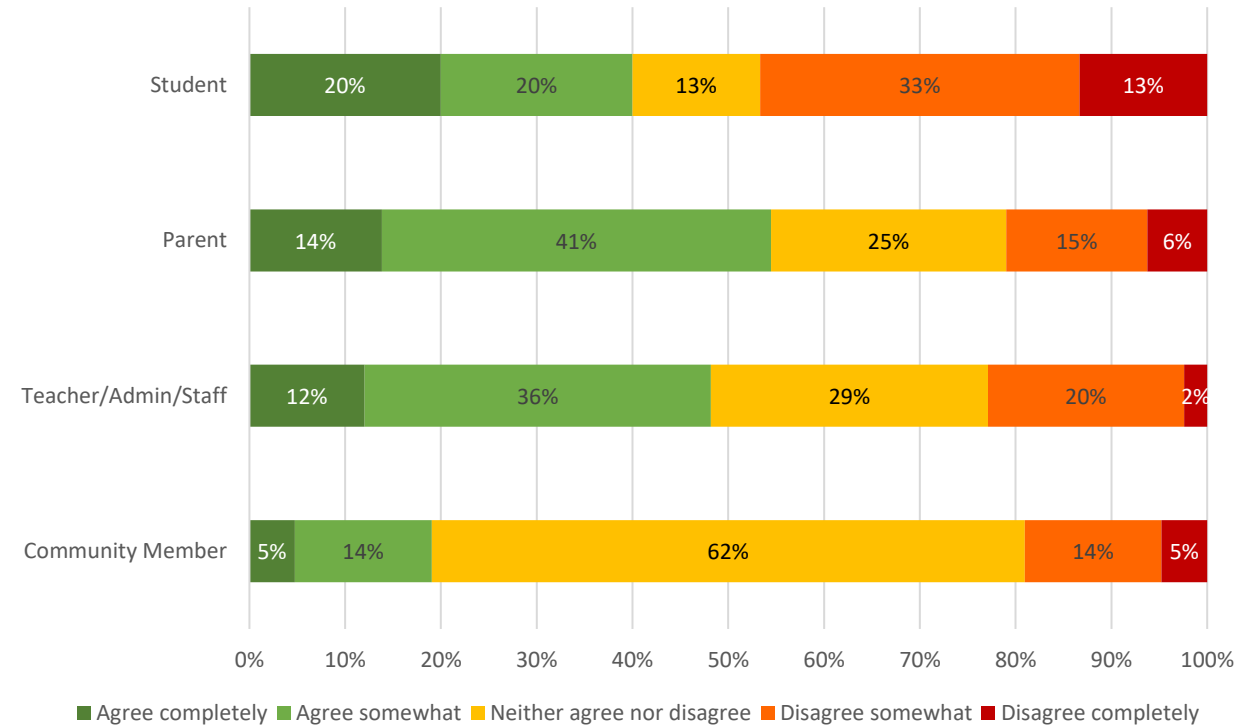
Strategy Attribute – MERSD schools create an environment of respect and appreciation for individual and cultural differences and instill a passion for responsible social action, both locally and globally.

Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that this statement **SHOULD** be part of MERSD's strategic focus.



Base : Students n=21, Parents n=247, Teachers n=89, Community Member n=25

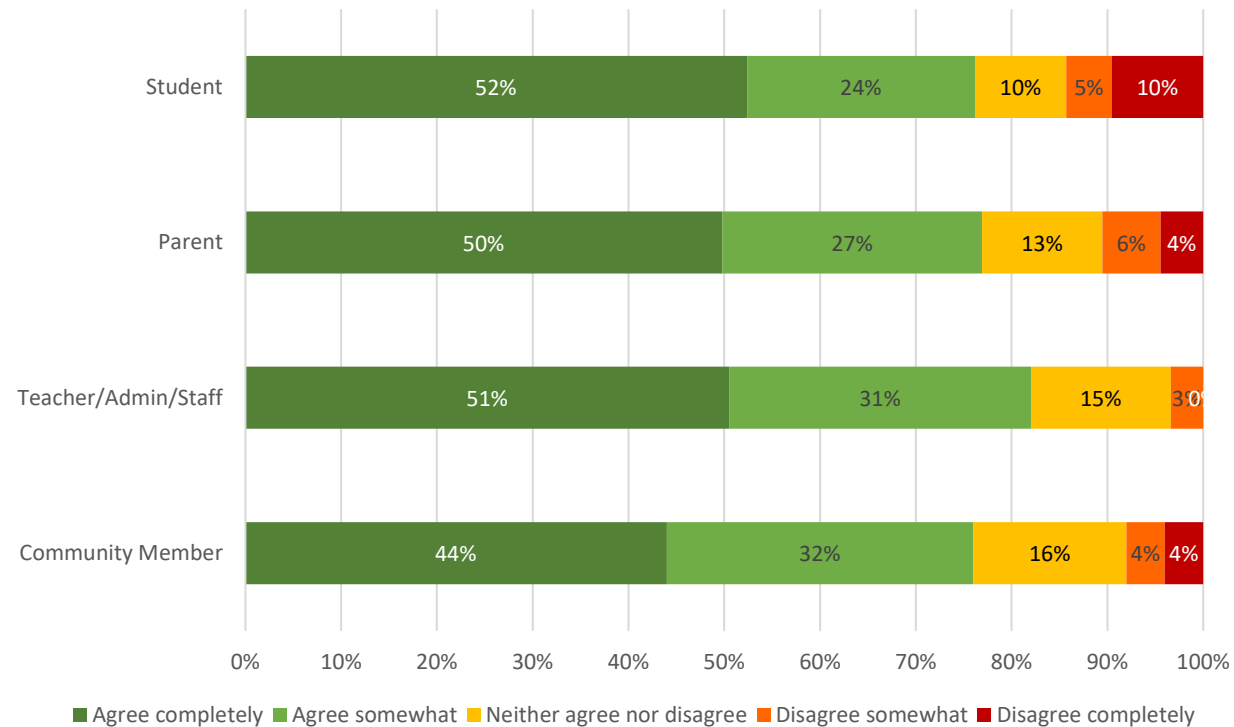
Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that MERSD **CURRENTLY** supports or promotes this strategy as part of MERSD's strategic focus.



Base : Students n=15, Parents n=224, Teachers n=83, Community Member n=21

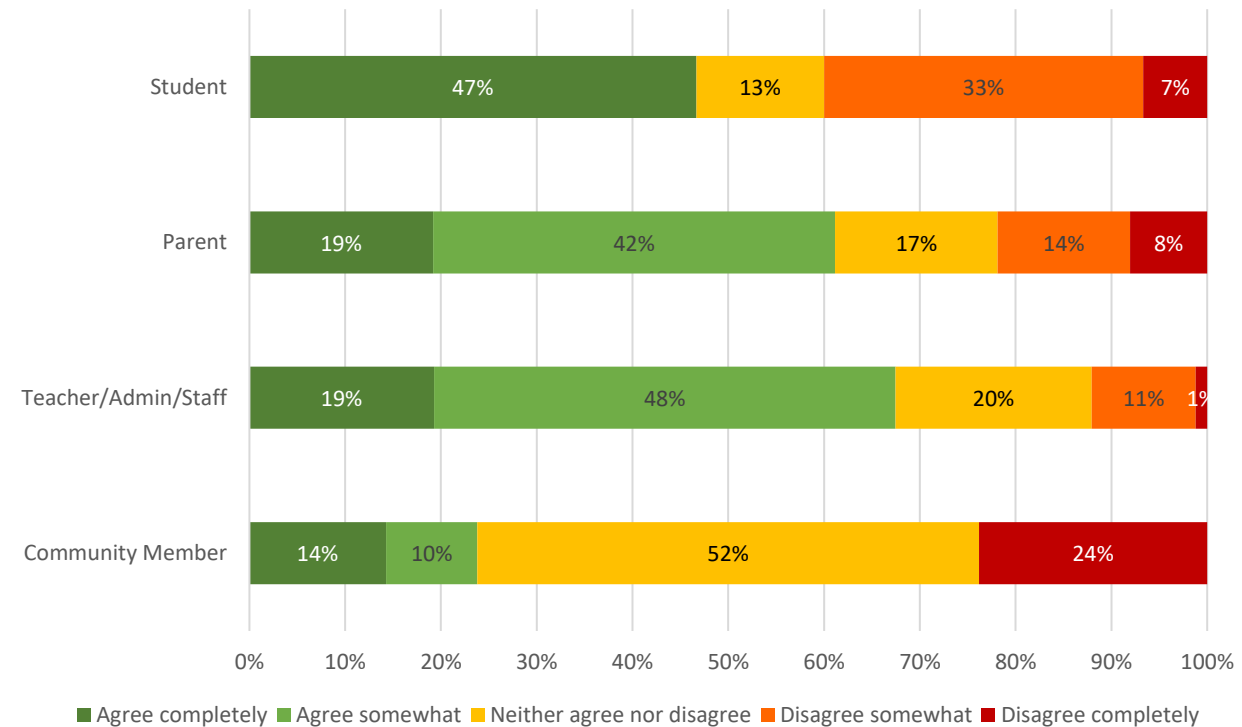
Strategy Attribute – MERSD utilizes effective communication as the vehicle for strengthened relationships between MERSD and students, families, and member towns.

Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that this statement **SHOULD** be part of MERSD's strategic focus.



Base : Students n=21, Parents n=247, Teachers n=90, Community Member n=25

Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that MERSD **CURRENTLY** supports or promotes this strategy as part of MERSD's strategic focus.

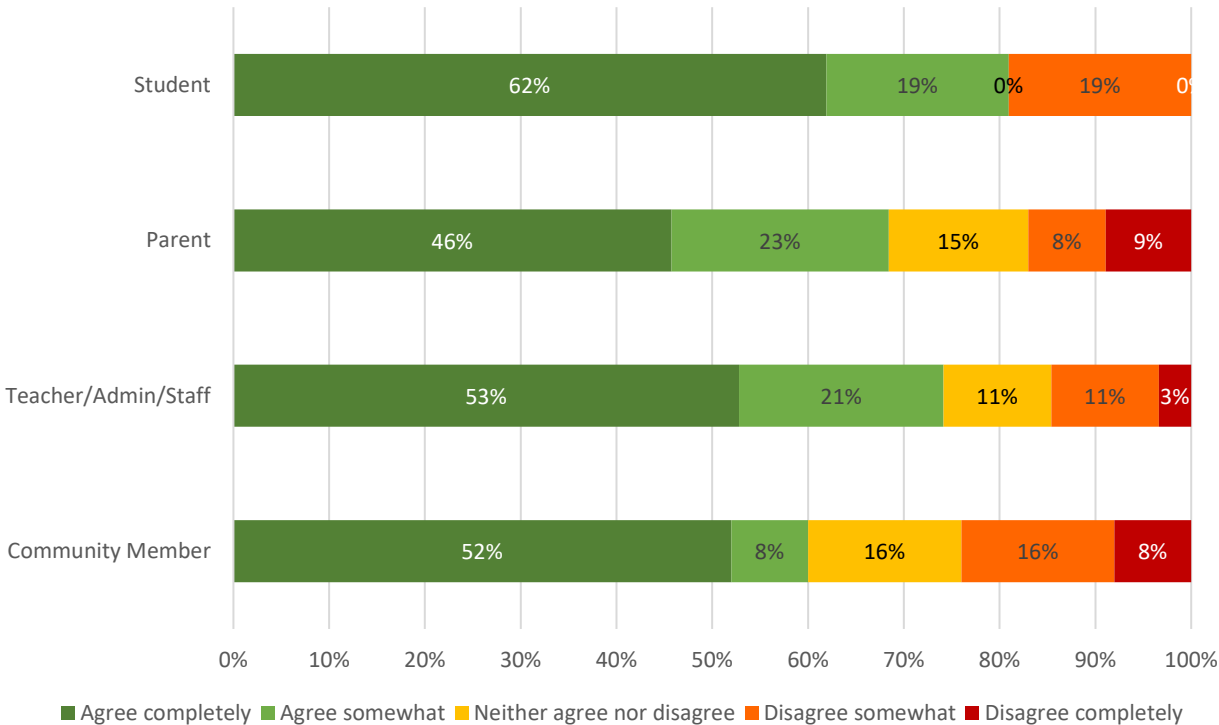


Base : Students n=15, Parents n=224, Teachers n=83, Community Member n=21

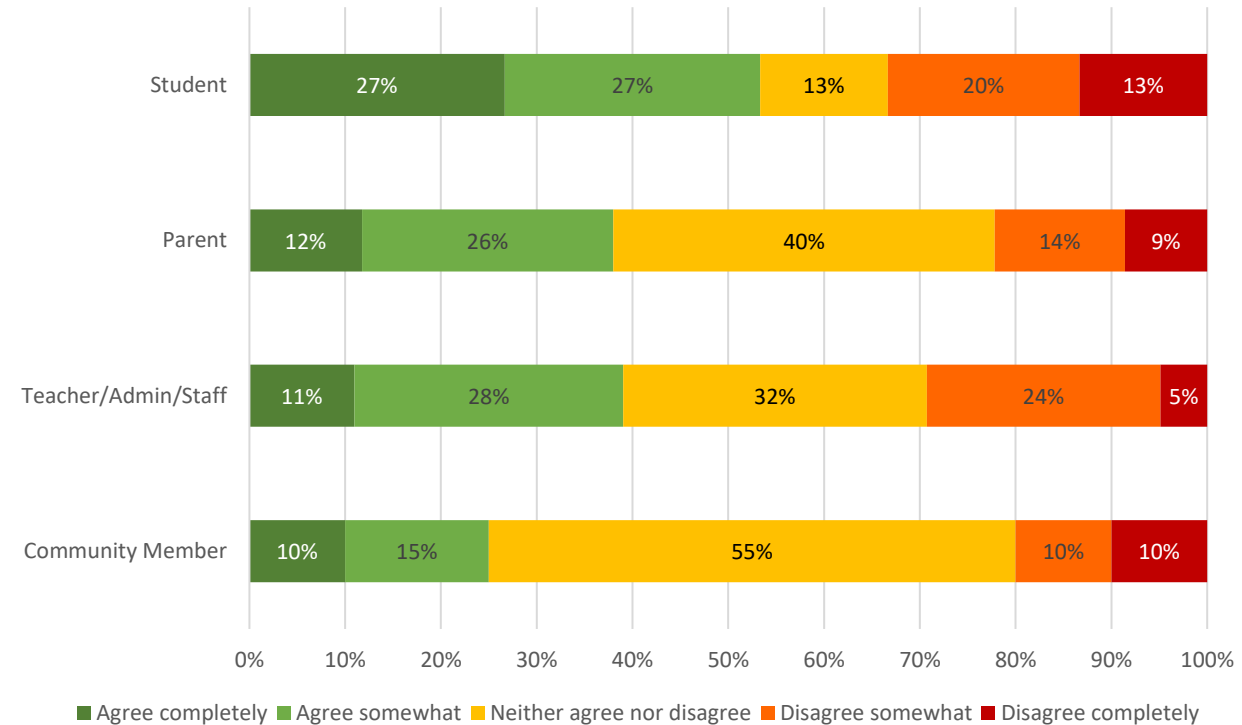
Strategy Attribute – MERSD provides culturally sensitive instruction which incorporates both America’s difficult racial history and works from culturally and geographically diverse perspectives.

Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that this statement **SHOULD** be part of MERSD’s strategic focus.

Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that MERSD **CURRENTLY** supports or promotes this strategy as part of MERSD’s strategic focus.



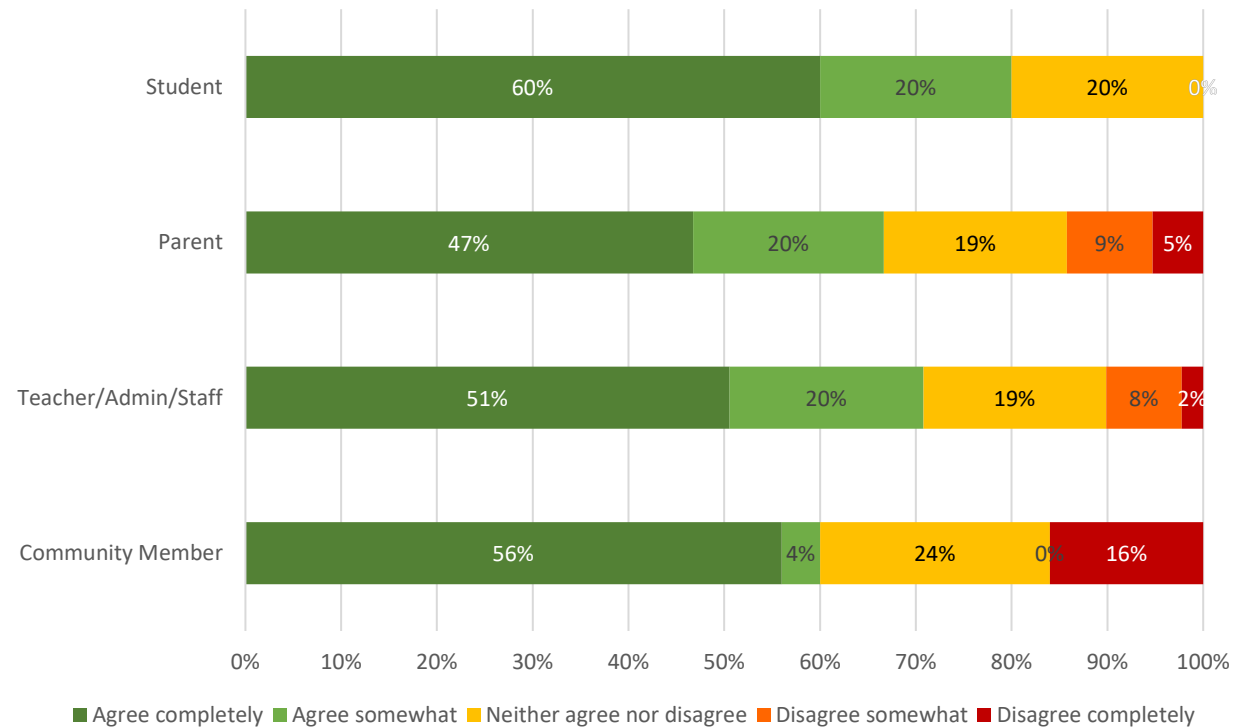
Base : Students n=21, Parents n=247, Teachers n=89, Community Member n=25



Base : Students n=15, Parents n=221, Teachers n=82, Community Member n=20

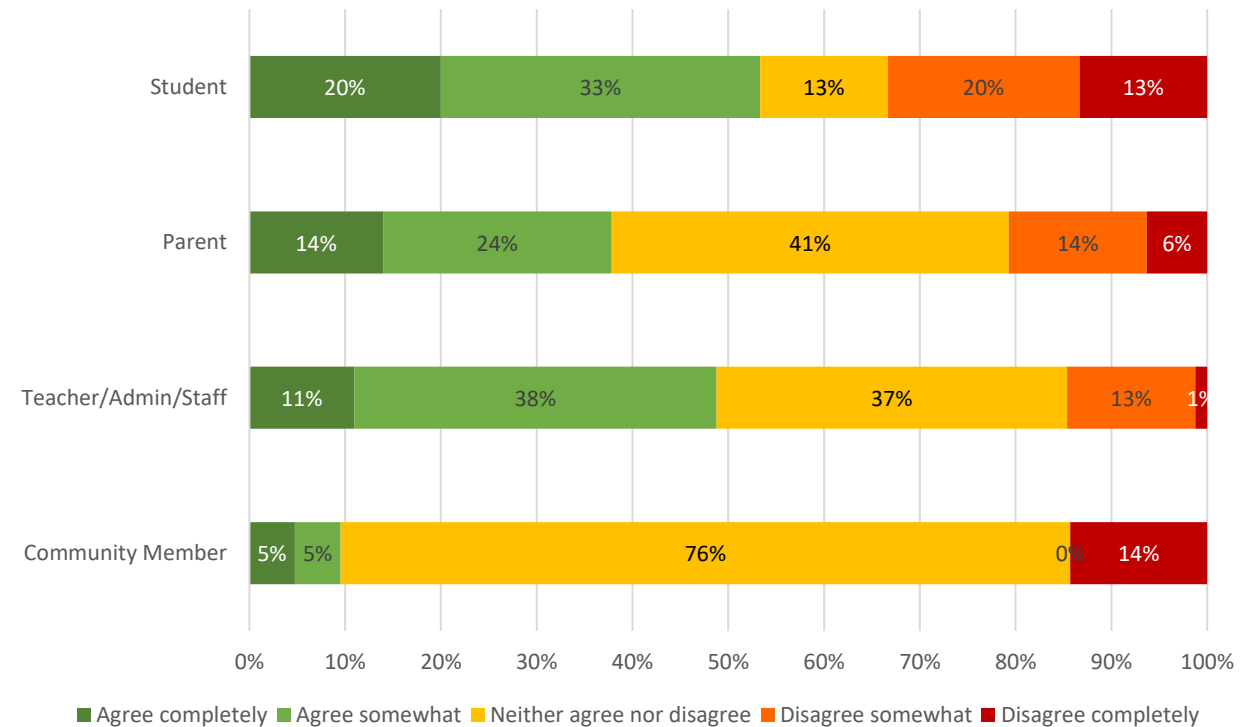
Strategy Attribute – MERSD ensures that appropriate activities, discussions and/or supplementary materials are used to provide balance and context for any demeaning generalizations or stereotypes depicted in educational materials.

Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that this statement **SHOULD** be part of MERSD's strategic focus.



Base : Students n=20, Parents n=246, Teachers n=89, Community Member n=25

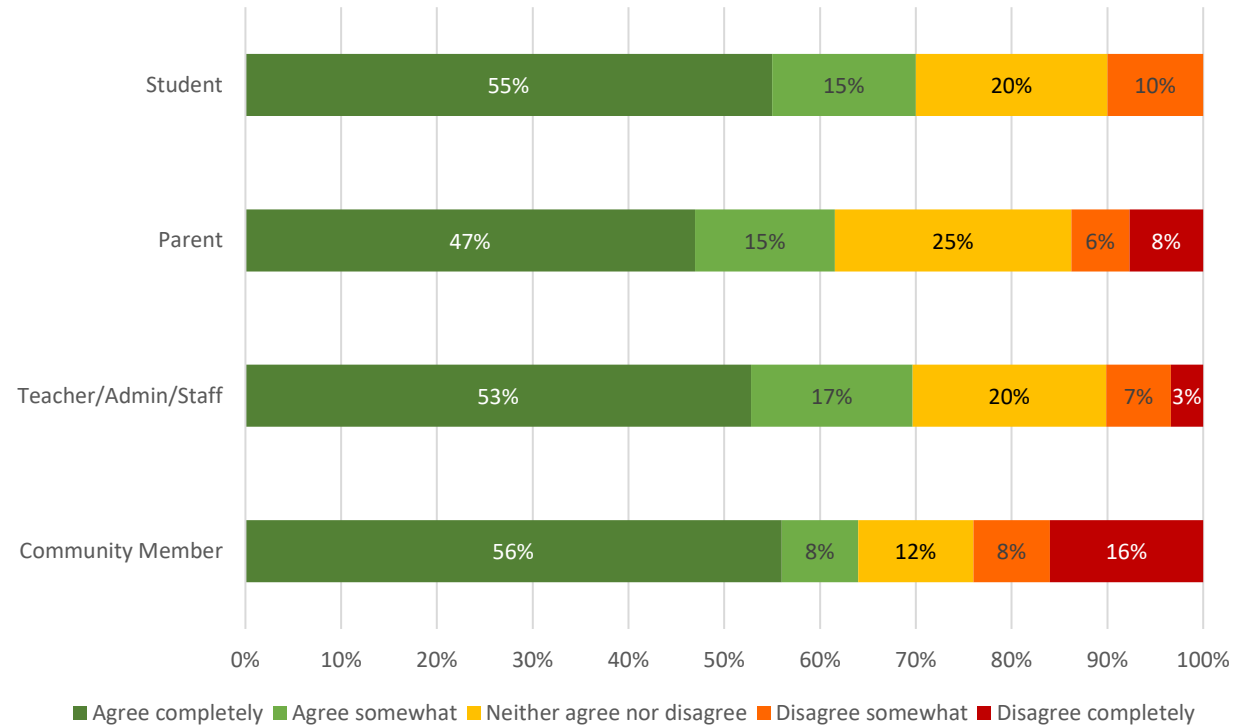
Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that MERSD **CURRENTLY** supports or promotes this strategy as part of MERSD's strategic focus.



Base : Students n=15, Parents n=222, Teachers n=82, Community Member n=20

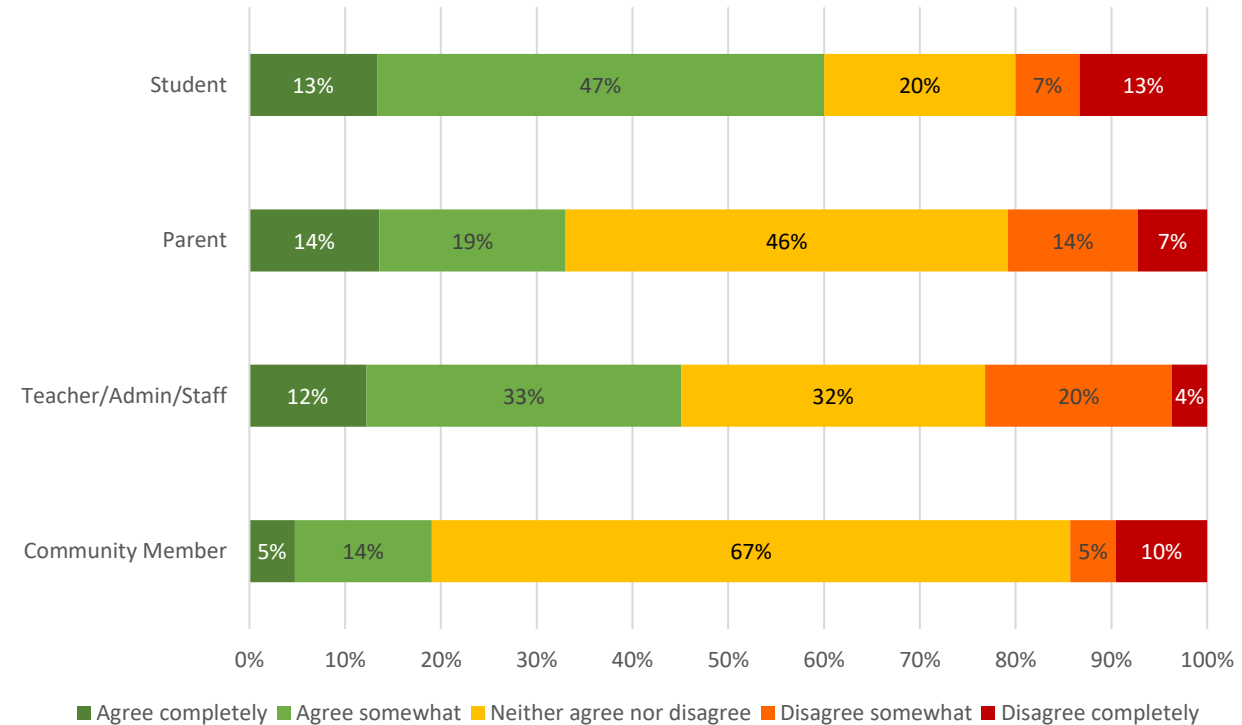
Strategy Attribute – MERSD examines their policies for institutional and systemic racialized practices and implements change with sustainable policies that are evidence based.

Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that this statement **SHOULD** be part of MERSD's strategic focus.



Base : Students n=20, Parents n=247, Teachers n=89, Community Member n=25

Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that MERSD **CURRENTLY** supports or promotes this strategy as part of MERSD's strategic focus.

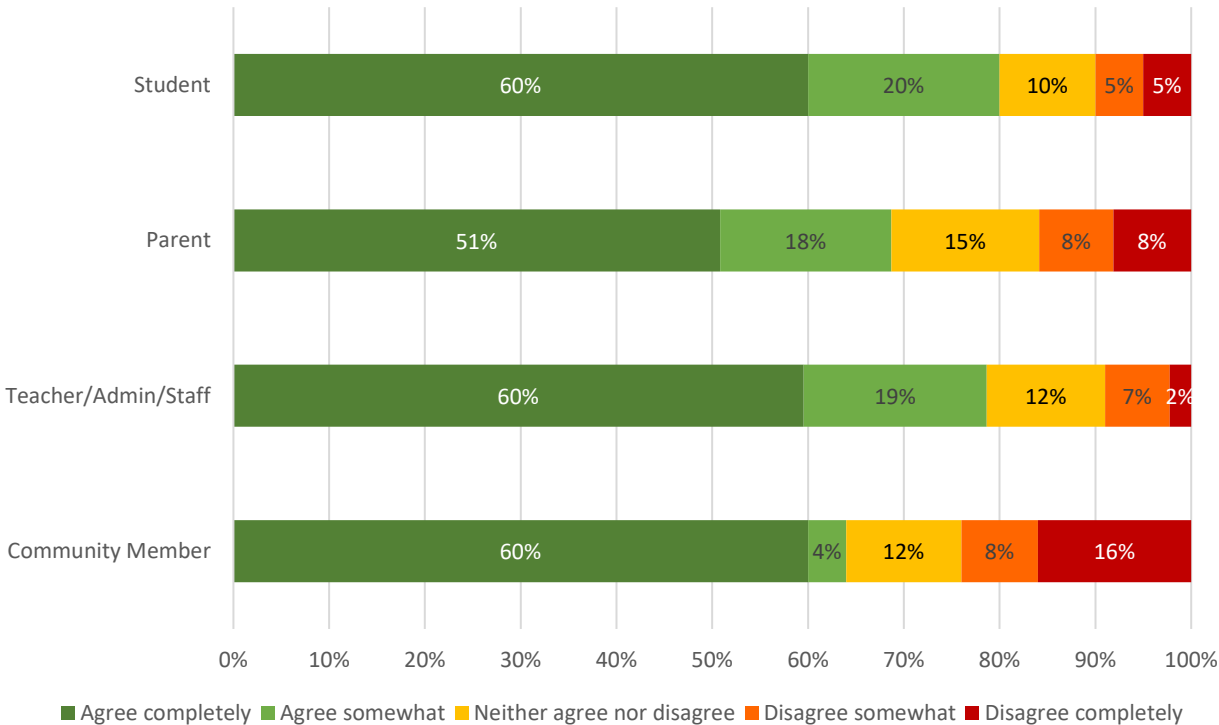


Base : Students n=15, Parents n=221, Teachers n=82, Community Member n=21

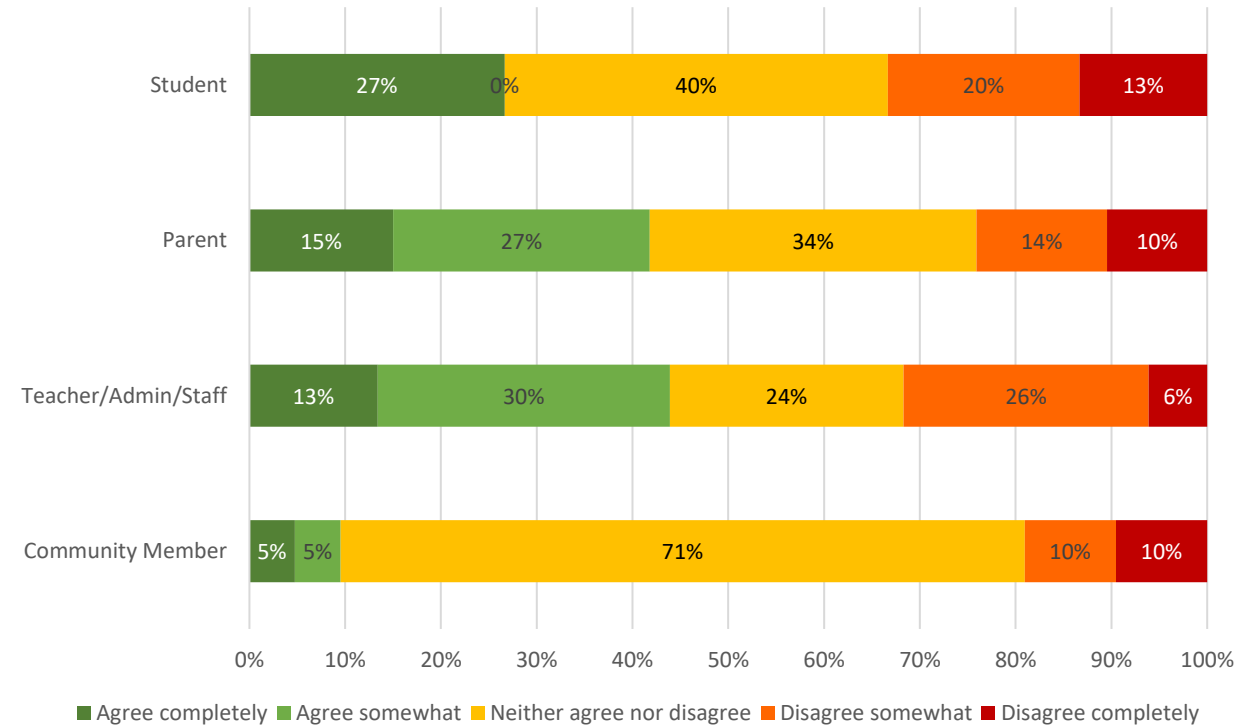
Strategy Attribute – MERSD ensures our own school culture is antiracist and promotes the importance of diversity, inclusion, and social and economic equity.

Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that this statement **SHOULD** be part of MERSD's strategic focus.

Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that MERSD **CURRENTLY** supports or promotes this strategy as part of MERSD's strategic focus.



Base : Students n=20, Parents n=246, Teachers n=89, Community Member n=25



Base : Students n=15, Parents n=220, Teachers n=82, Community Member n=21

Which 3 strategies from the list above do you feel the district should prioritize and why?



Which 3 strategies from the list above do you feel the district currently does well at and why?



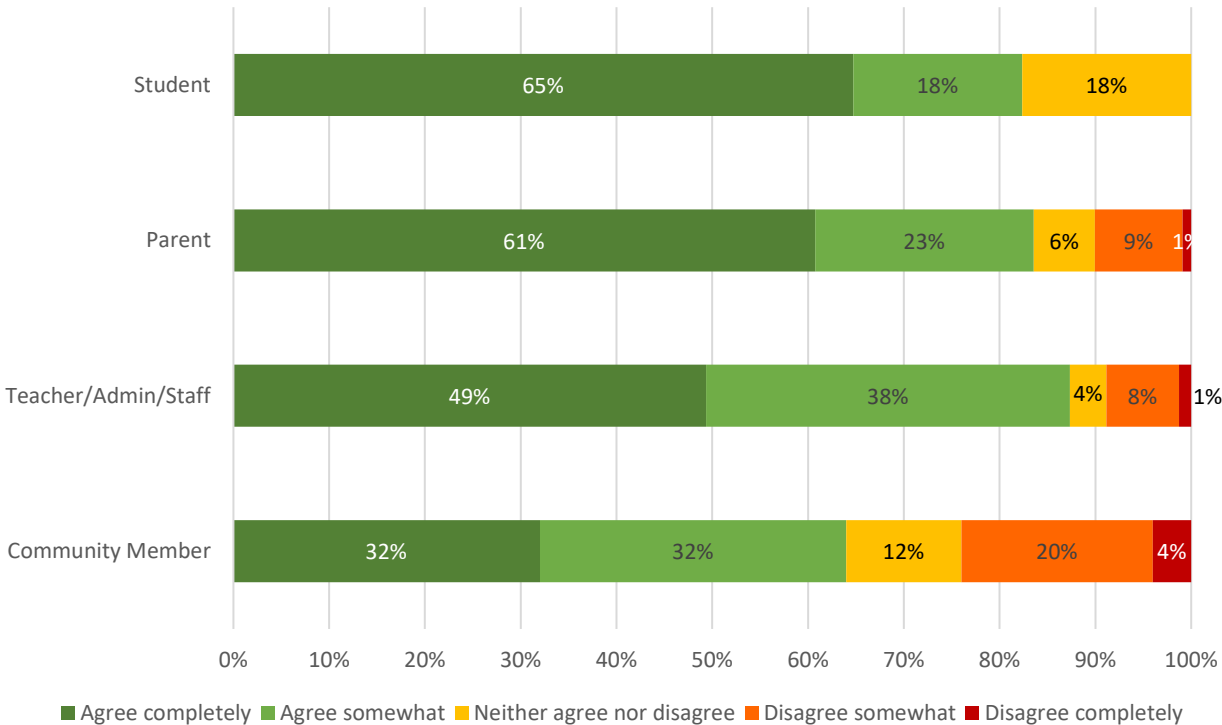
Base: Total Sample Answering Question (194)

Represents 100 most frequent words/phrases

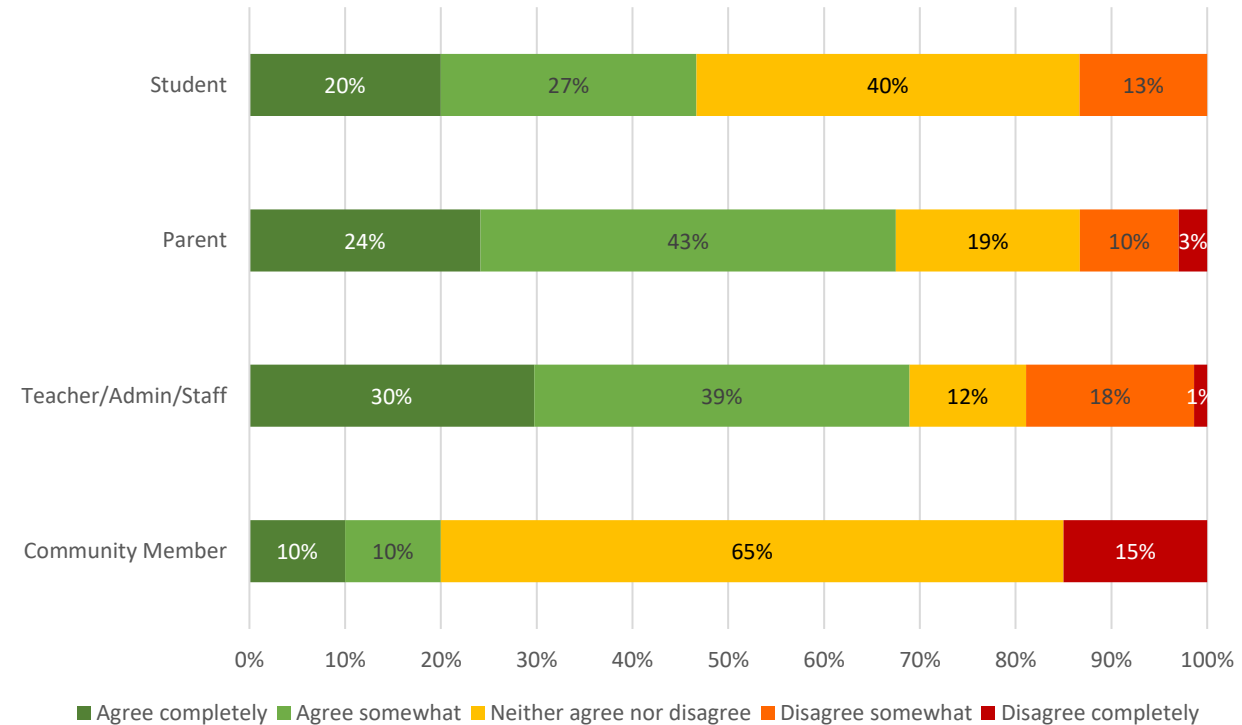
Vision Attribute – MERSD demonstrates the belief that all students can achieve academic excellence.

Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that this statement **SHOULD** be part of MERSD's strategic focus (Vision, Mission, and/or Core Values).

Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that MERSD **CURRENTLY** supports this strategy as part of MERSD's strategic focus (Vision, Mission, and/or Core Values).



Base : Students n=17, Parents n=219, Teachers n=79, Community Member n=25

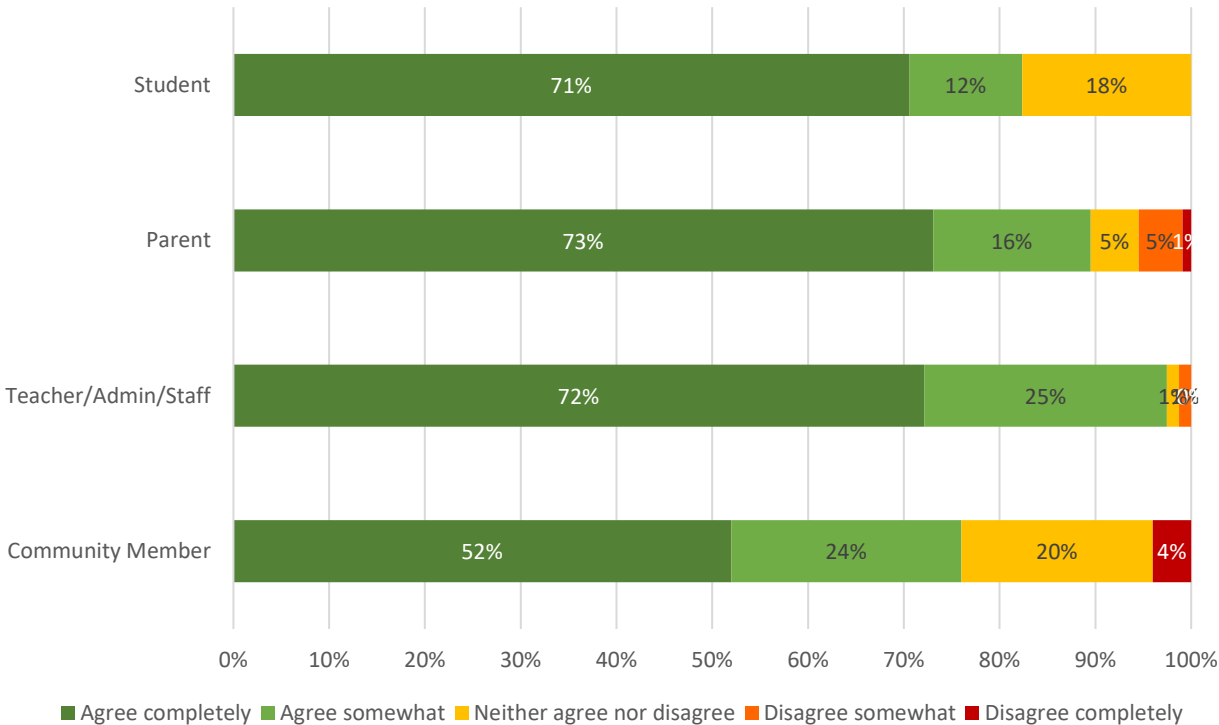


Base : Students n=15, Parents n=203, Teachers n=74, Community Member n=20

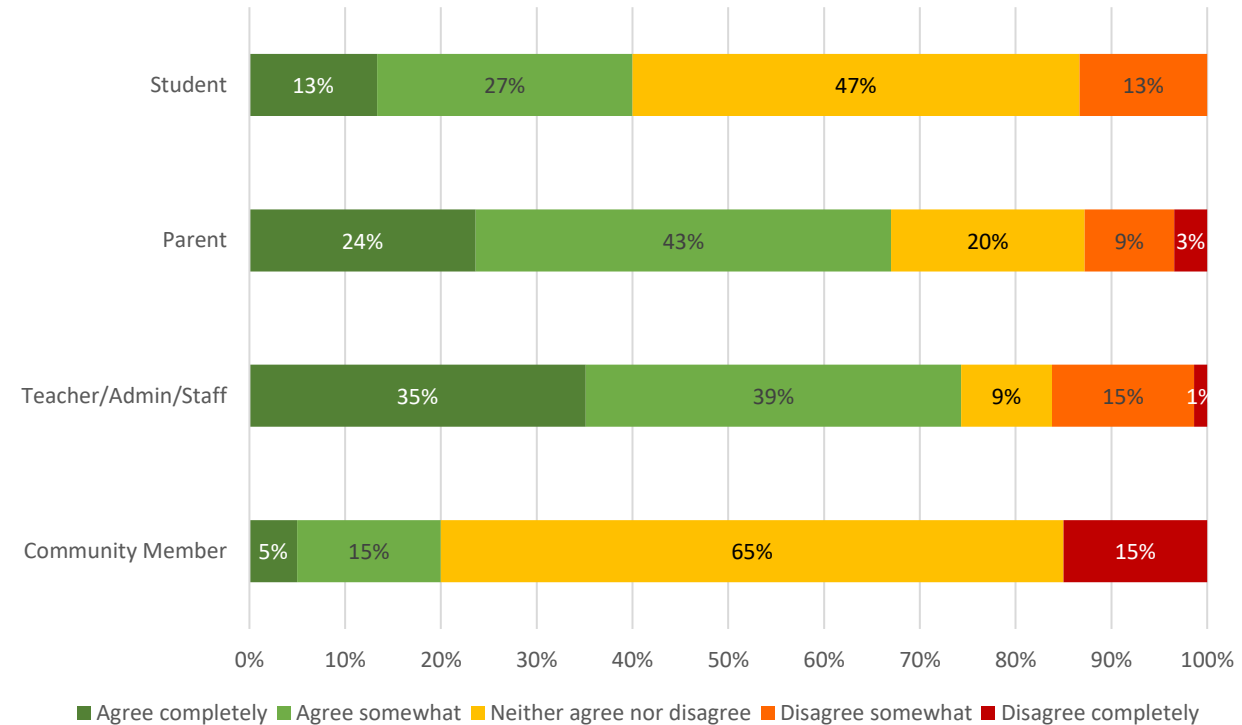
Vision Attribute – MERSD demonstrates the belief that all students can realize their highest potential.

Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that this statement **SHOULD** be part of MERSD's strategic focus (Vision, Mission, and/or Core Values).

Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that MERSD **CURRENTLY** supports this strategy as part of MERSD's strategic focus (Vision, Mission, and/or Core Values).



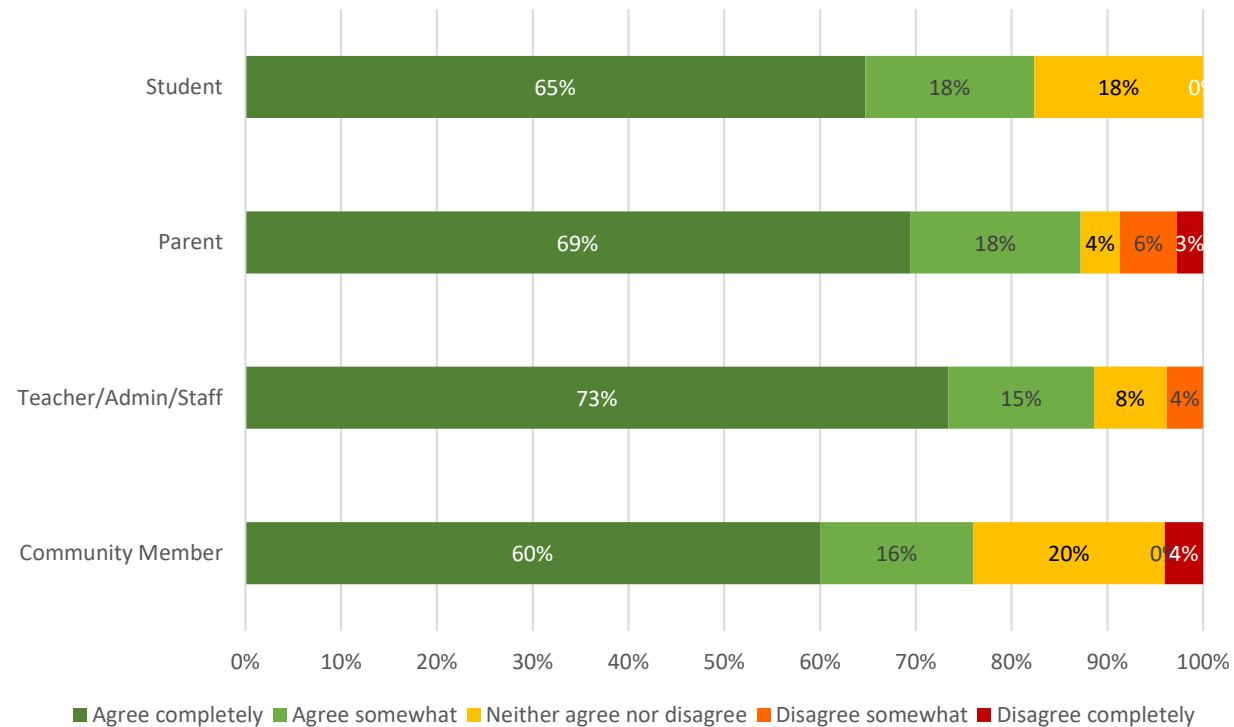
Base : Students n=17, Parents n=219, Teachers n=79, Community Member n=25



Base : Students n=15, Parents n=203, Teachers n=74, Community Member n=20

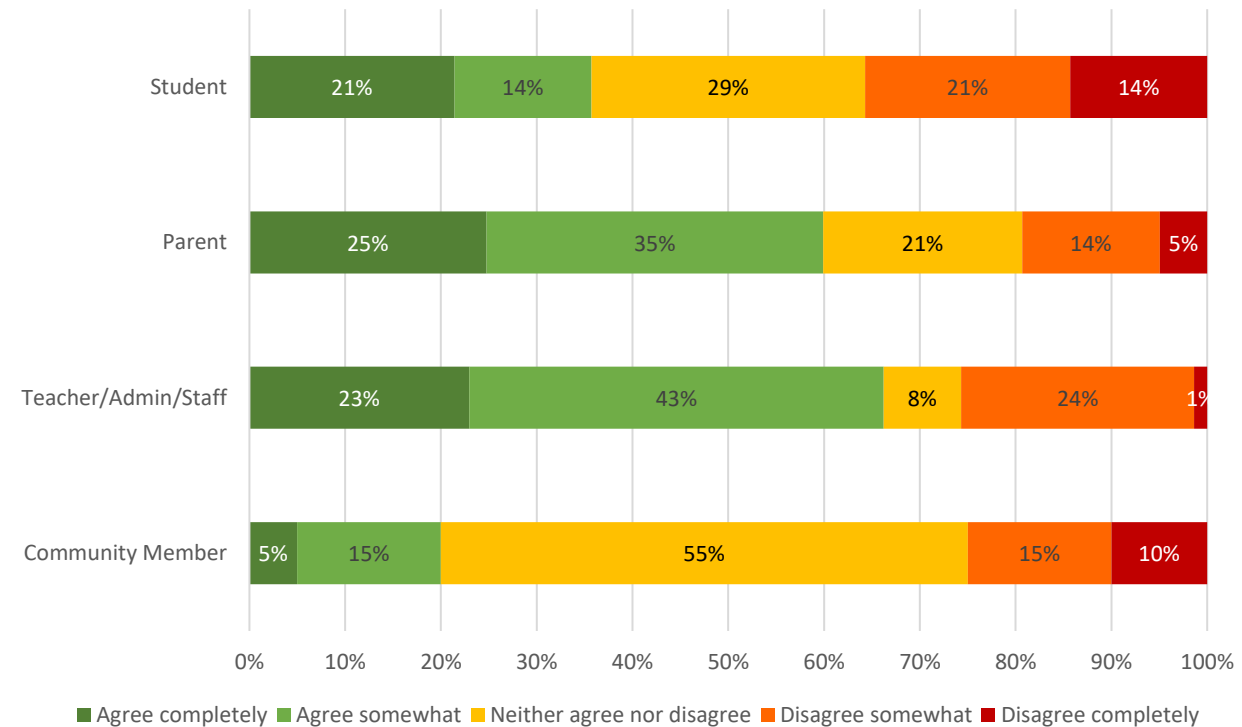
Vision Attribute – MERSD schools establish a safe environment conducive to the development of the whole child, which includes academics via experiential learning, the arts, cultural awareness, and physical and emotional wellbeing.

Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that this statement **SHOULD** be part of MERSD's strategic focus (Vision, Mission, and/or Core Values).



Base : Students n=17, Parents n=219, Teachers n=79, Community Member n=25

Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that MERSD **CURRENTLY** supports this strategy as part of MERSD's strategic focus (Vision, Mission, and/or Core Values).

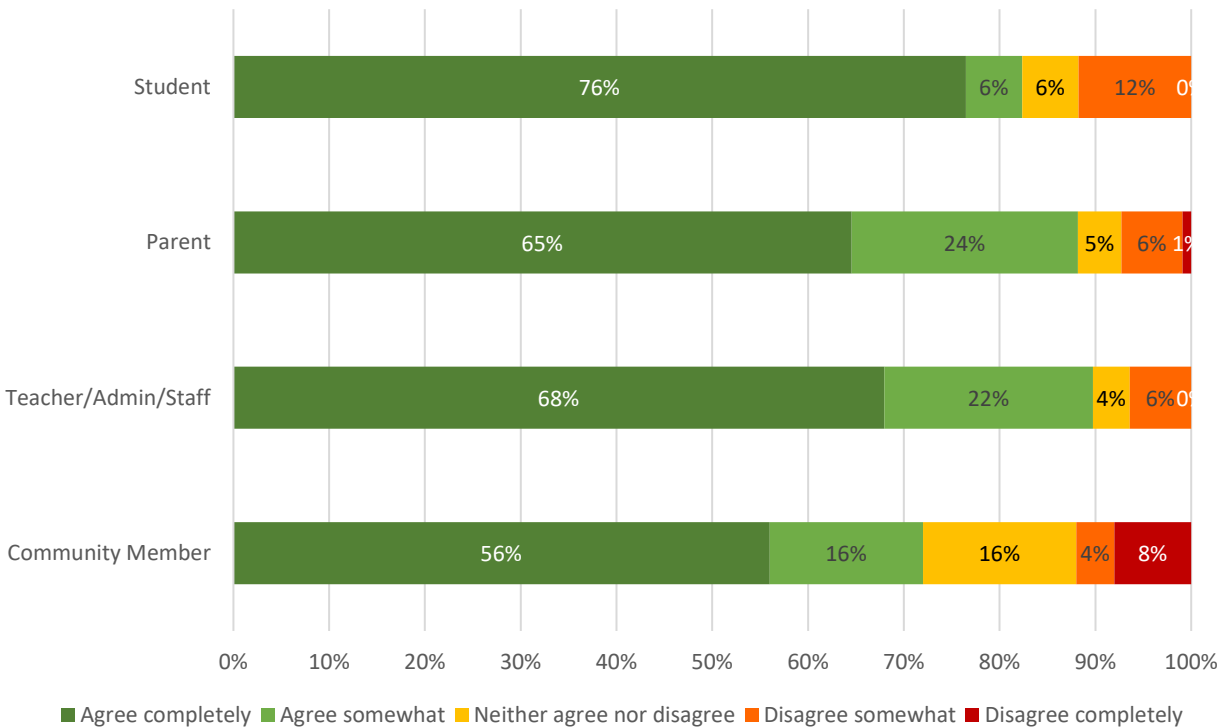


Base : Students n=14, Parents n=202, Teachers n=74, Community Member n=20

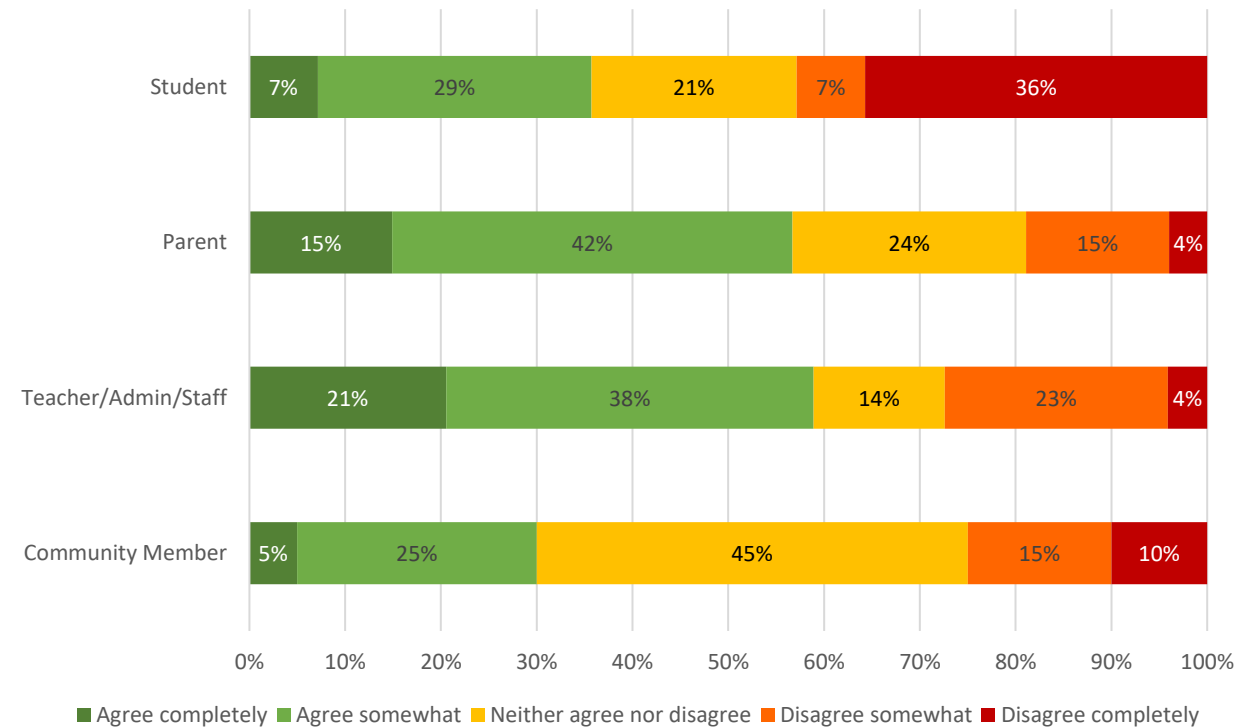
Vision Attribute – MERSD prepares and empowers our students for real life readiness, MERSD provides learning that is meaningful, relevant, engaging, and inspiring.

Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that this statement **SHOULD** be part of MERSD's strategic focus (Vision, Mission, and/or Core Values).

Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that MERSD **CURRENTLY** supports this strategy as part of MERSD's strategic focus (Vision, Mission, and/or Core Values).



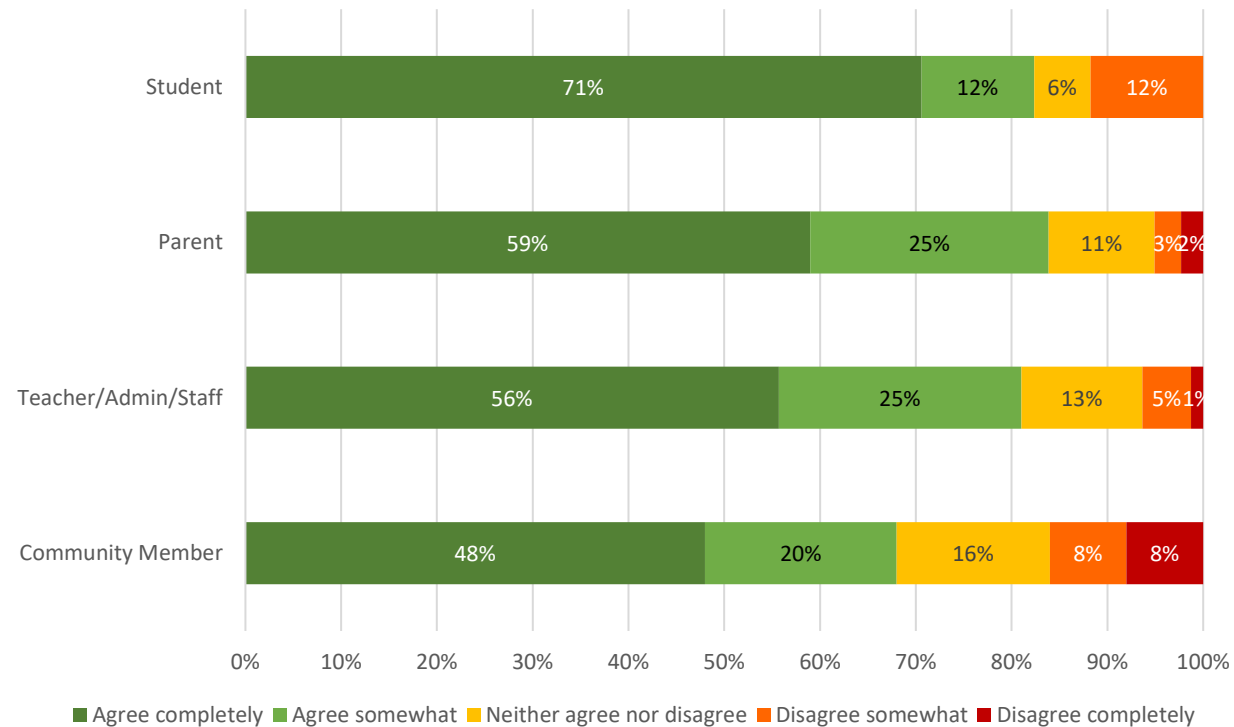
Base : Students n=17, Parents n=220, Teachers n=78, Community Member n=25



Base : Students n=14, Parents n=201, Teachers n=73, Community Member n=20

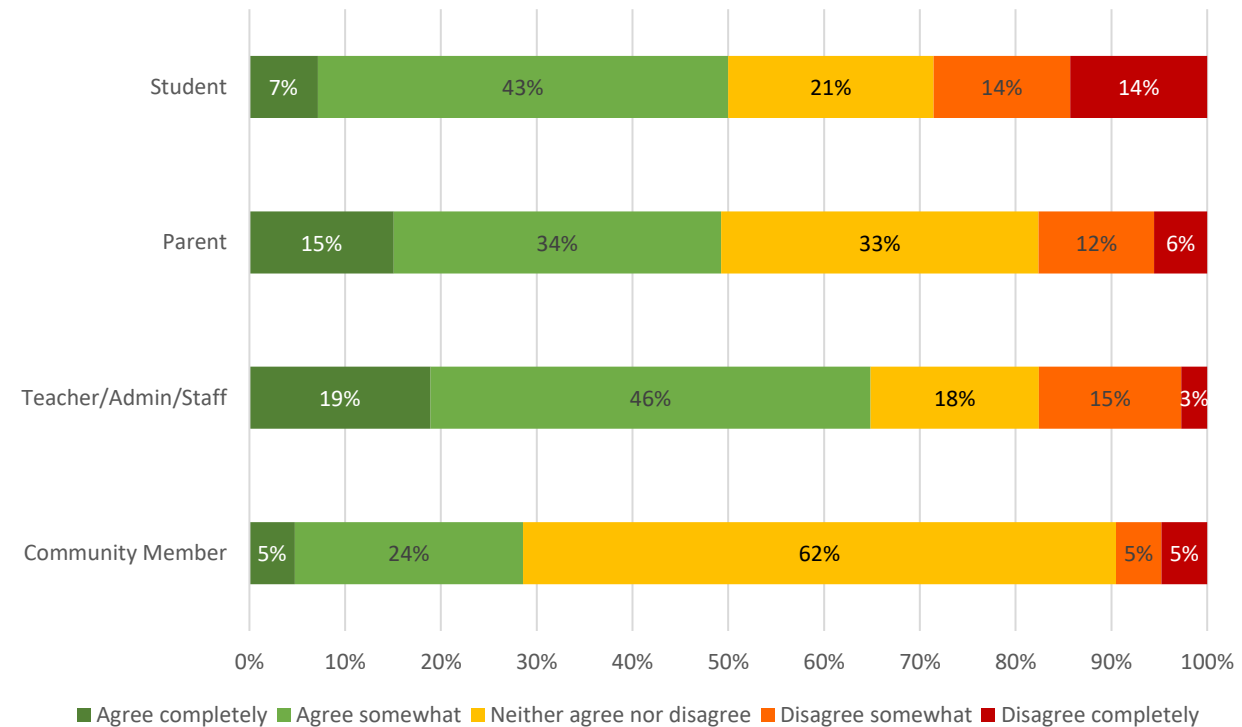
Vision Attribute – MERSD provides an individualized experience which prepares students for future post-secondary options.

Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that this statement **SHOULD** be part of MERSD's strategic focus (Vision, Mission, and/or Core Values).



Base : Students n=17, Parents n=217, Teachers n=79, Community Member n=25

Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that MERSD **CURRENTLY** supports this strategy as part of MERSD's strategic focus (Vision, Mission, and/or Core Values).

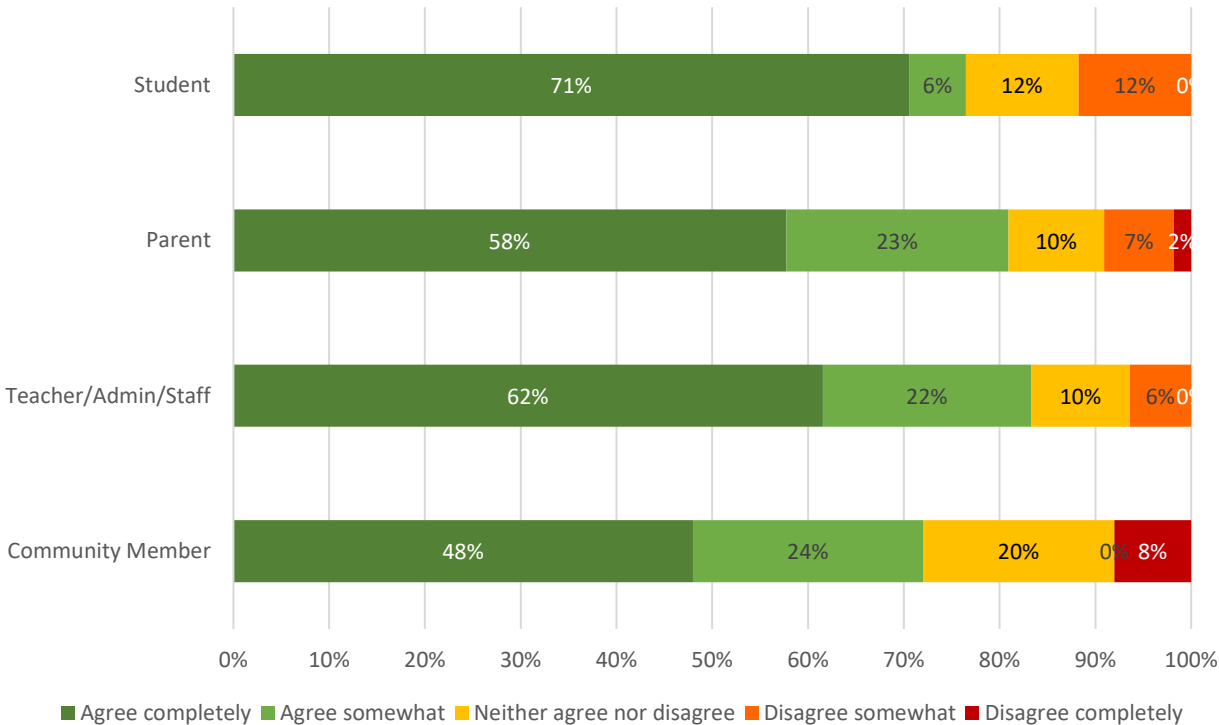


Base : Students n=14, Parents n=199, Teachers n=74, Community Member n=21

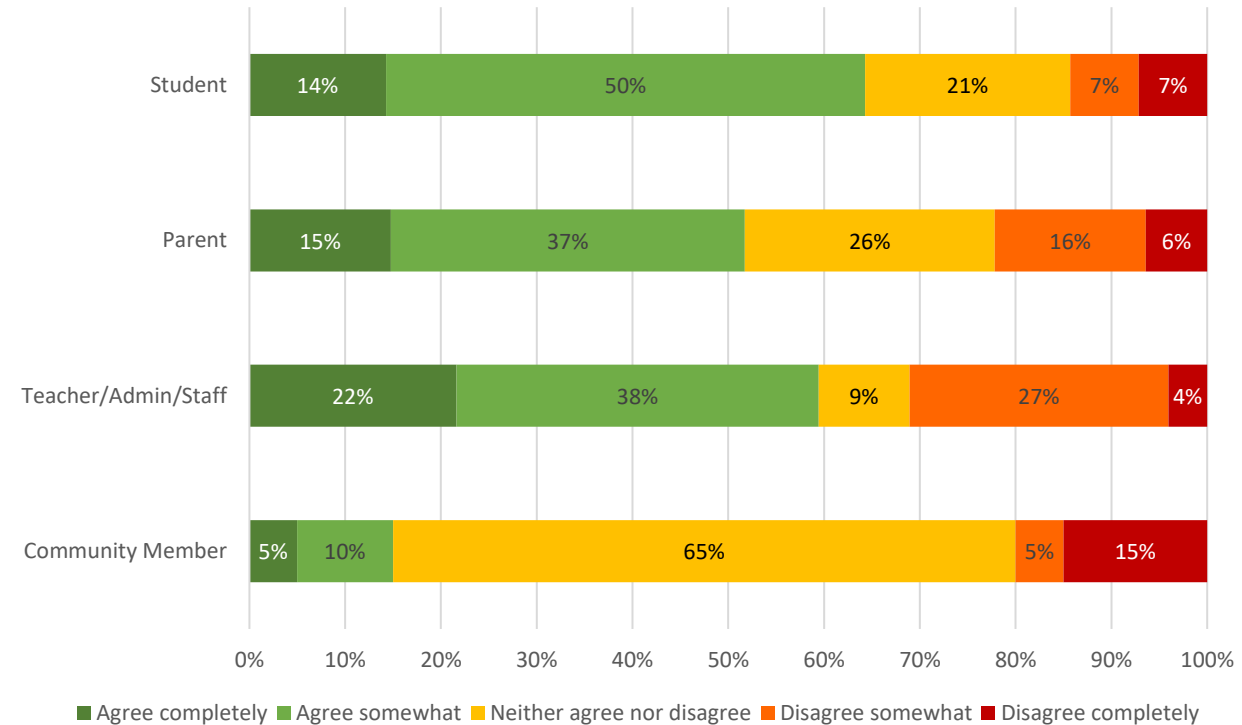
Vision Attribute – MERSD students engage in a wide variety of dynamic, differentiated learning experiences.

Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that this statement **SHOULD** be part of MERSD's strategic focus (Vision, Mission, and/or Core Values).

Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that MERSD **CURRENTLY** supports this strategy as part of MERSD's strategic focus (Vision, Mission, and/or Core Values).



Base : Students n=17, Parents n=220, Teachers n=78, Community Member n=25

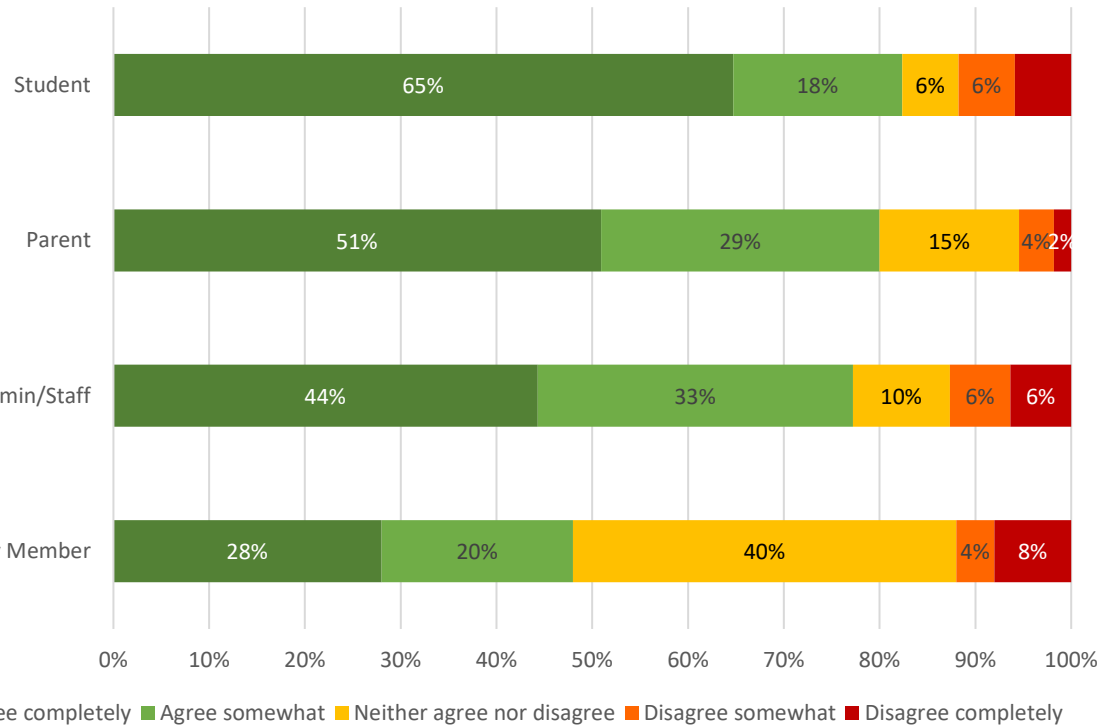


Base : Students n=14, Parents n=203, Teachers n=74, Community Member n=20

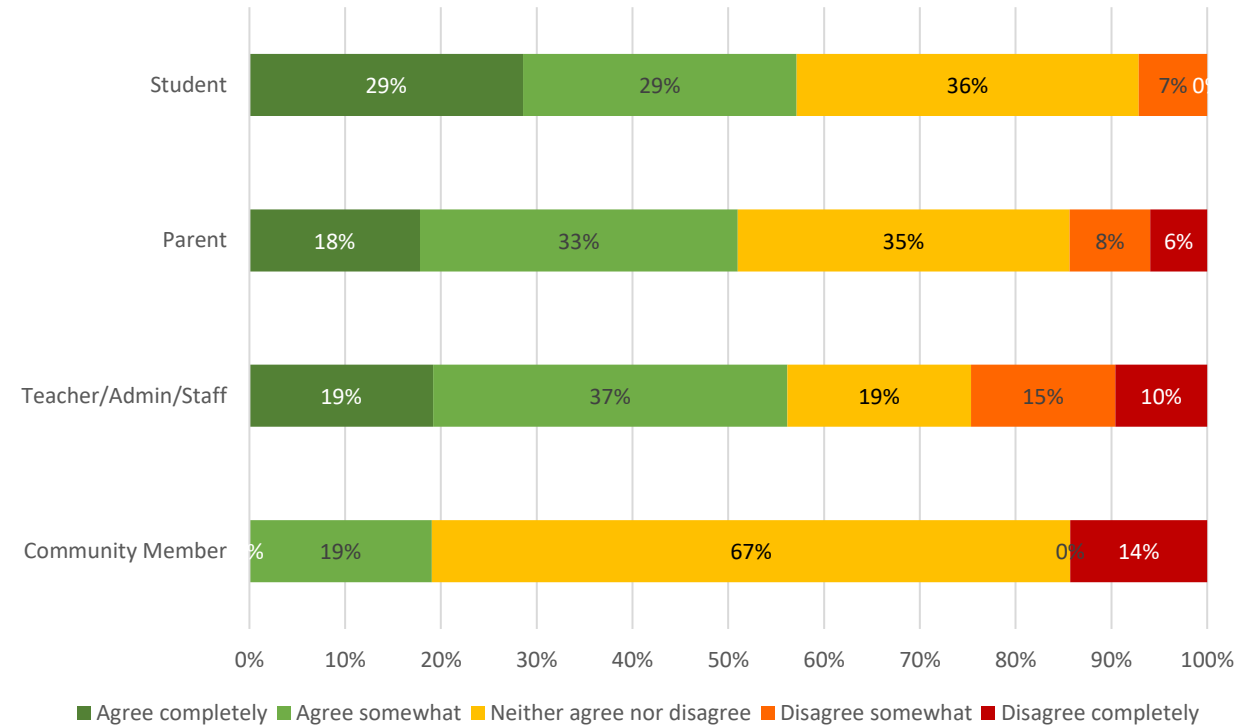
Vision Attribute – MERSD provides a cohesive, data-informed, and aligned educational experience for all students across grades PreK-12.

Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that this statement **SHOULD** be part of MERSD's strategic focus (Vision, Mission, and/or Core Values).

Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that MERSD **CURRENTLY** supports this strategy as part of MERSD's strategic focus (Vision, Mission, and/or Core Values).



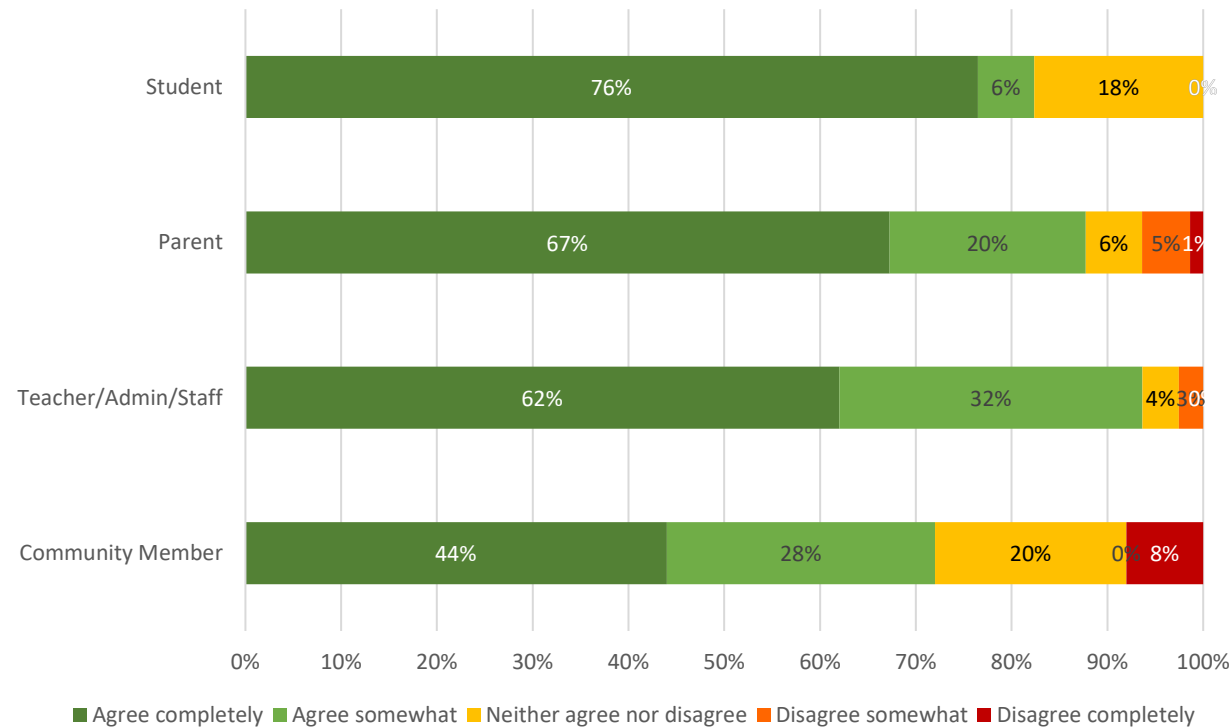
Base : Students n=17, Parents n=220, Teachers n=79, Community Member n=25



Base : Students n=14, Parents n=202, Teachers n=73, Community Member n=21

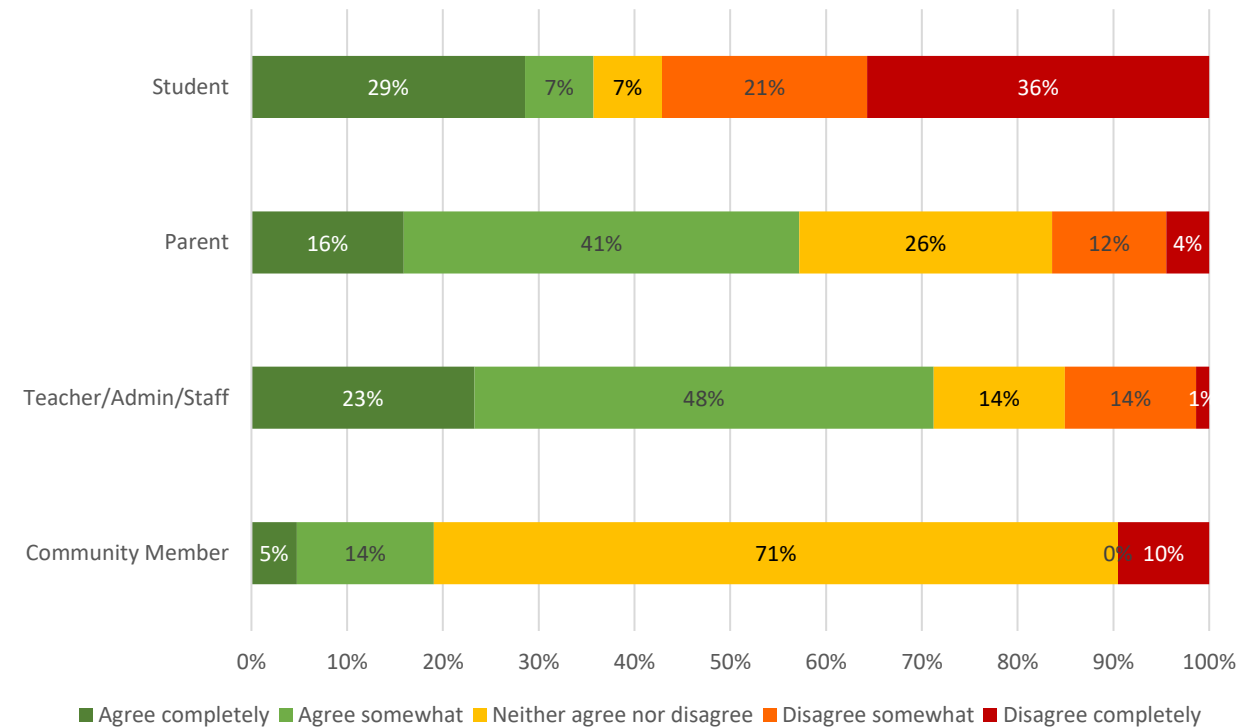
Vision Attribute – MERSD supports the development of a strong sense of self, confidence, and a healthy mindset that supports active pursuit of continued education, engagement in meaningful work, and contributions to community.

Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that this statement **SHOULD** be part of MERSD's strategic focus (Vision, Mission, and/or Core Values).



Base : Students n=17, Parents n=220, Teachers n=79, Community Member n=25

Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that MERSD **CURRENTLY** supports this strategy as part of MERSD's strategic focus (Vision, Mission, and/or Core Values).

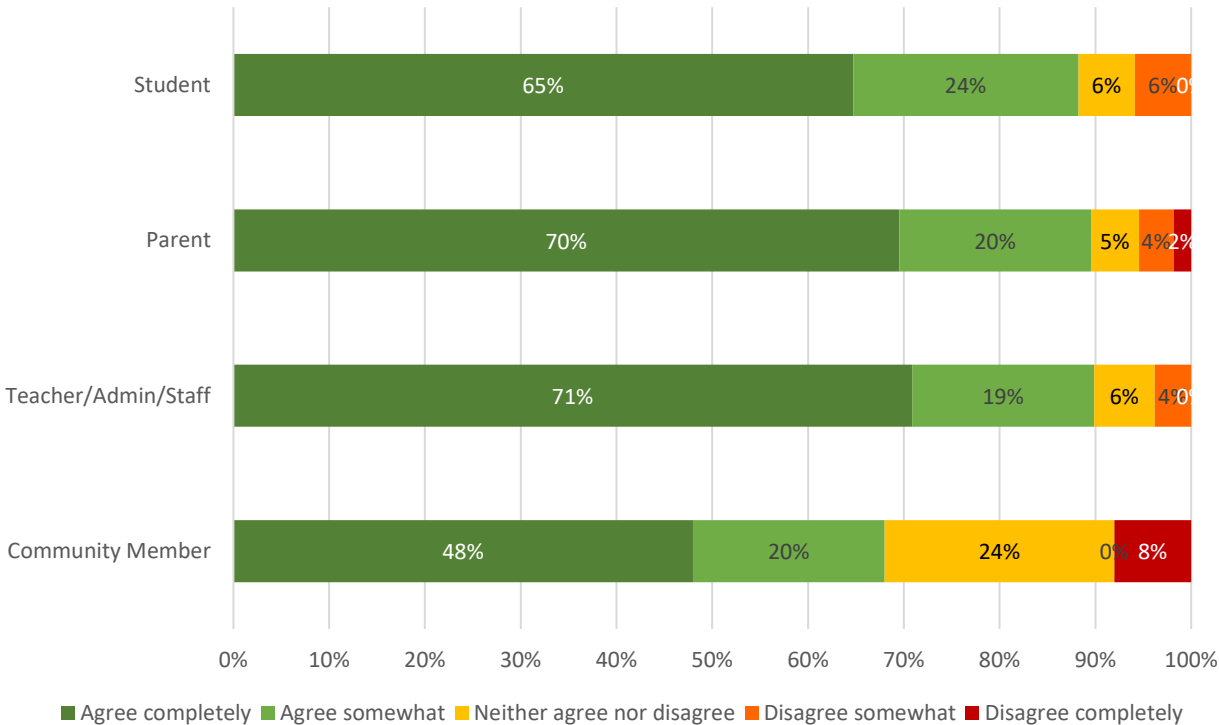


Base : Students n=14, Parents n=201, Teachers n=73, Community Member n=21

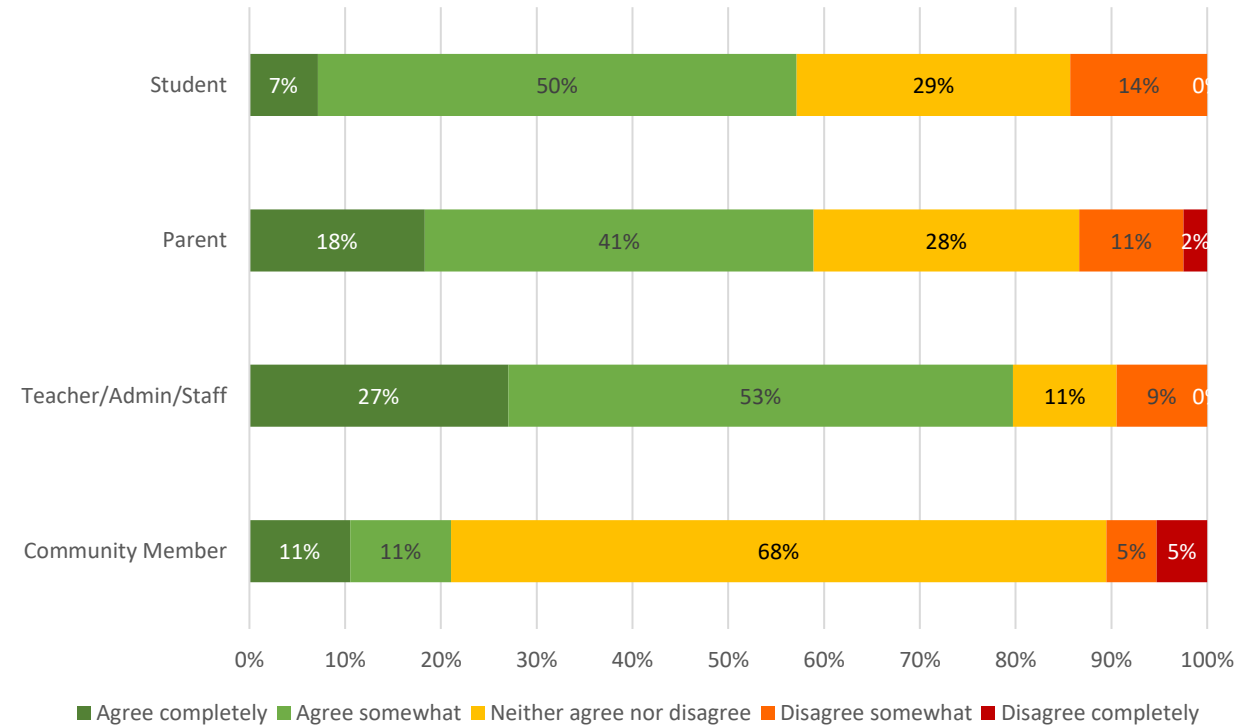
Vision Attribute – MERSD students are empowered to ask questions, engage in constructive dialogue, and advocate for their needs.

Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that this statement **SHOULD** be part of MERSD's strategic focus (Vision, Mission, and/or Core Values).

Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that MERSD **CURRENTLY** supports this strategy as part of MERSD's strategic focus (Vision, Mission, and/or Core Values).



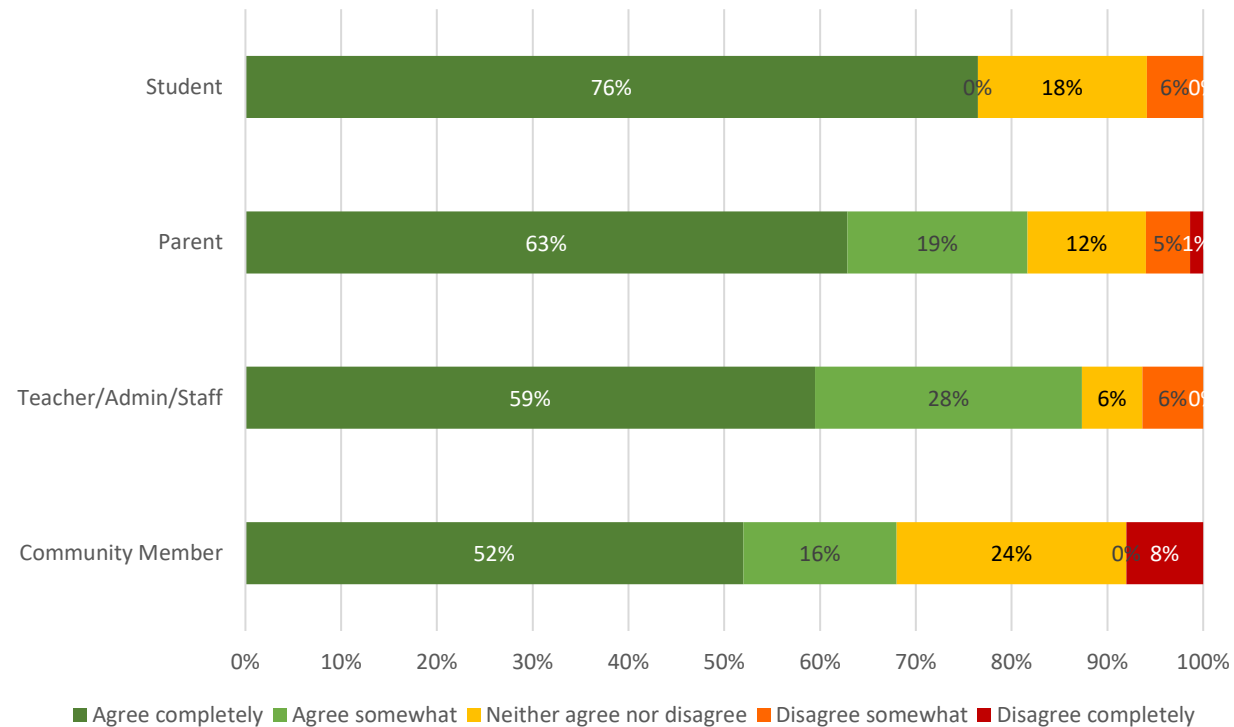
Base : Students n=17, Parents n=220, Teachers n=79, Community Member n=25



Base : Students n=14, Parents n=202, Teachers n=74, Community Member n=19

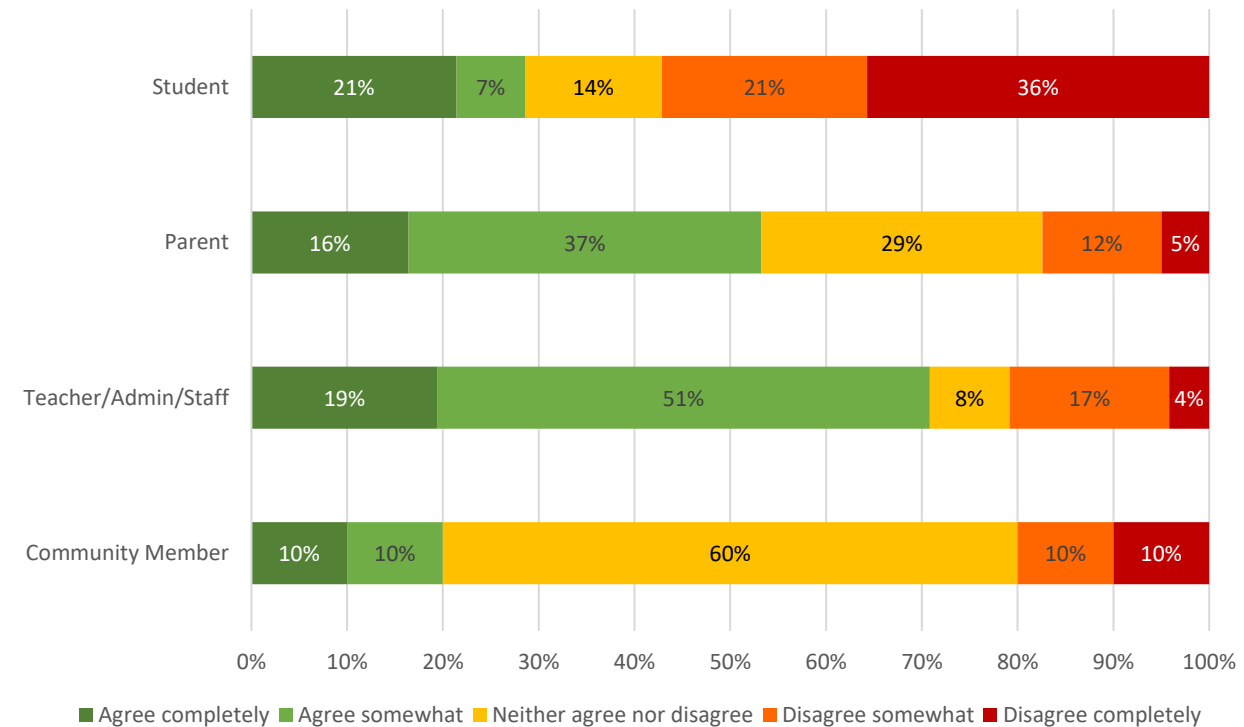
Vision Attribute – MERSD schools prioritize mental health, healthy risk-taking, and developing supportive connections between teachers and students to support students' academic growth and success dialogue, and advocate for their needs.

Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that this statement **SHOULD** be part of MERSD's strategic focus (Vision, Mission, and/or Core Values).



Base : Students n=17, Parents n=218, Teachers n=79, Community Member n=25

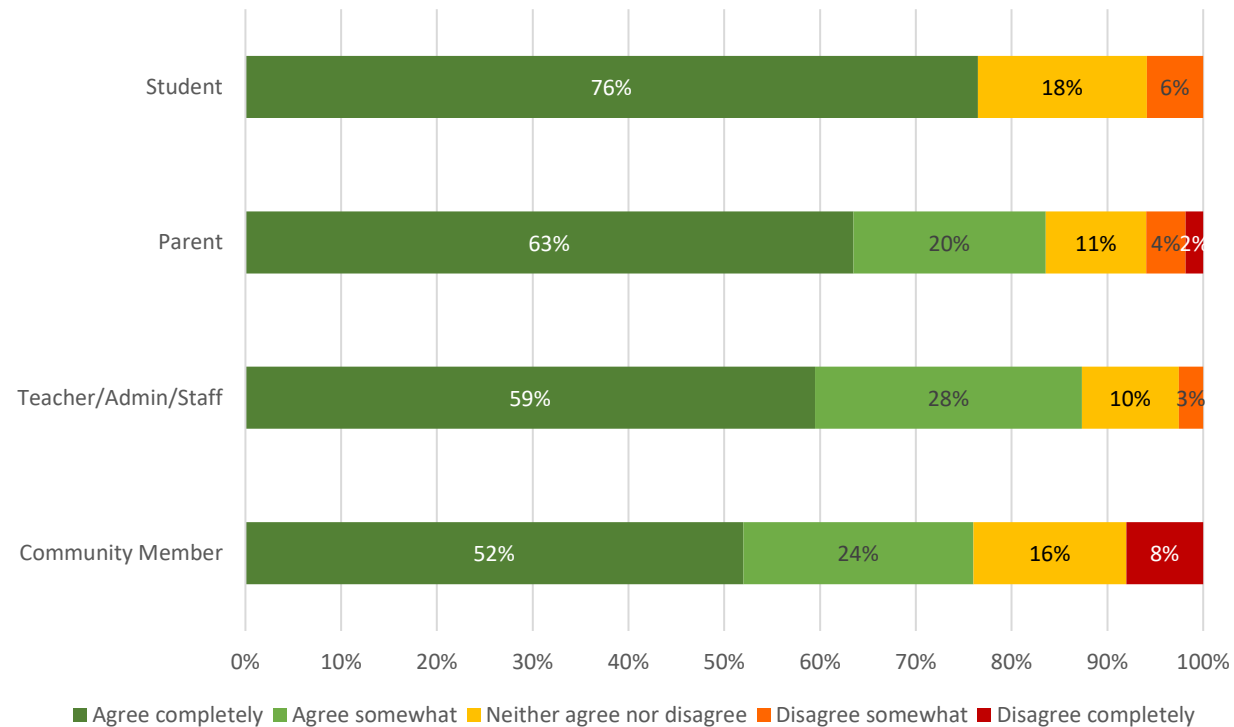
Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that MERSD **CURRENTLY** supports this strategy as part of MERSD's strategic focus (Vision, Mission, and/or Core Values).



Base : Students n=14, Parents n=201, Teachers n=72, Community Member n=20

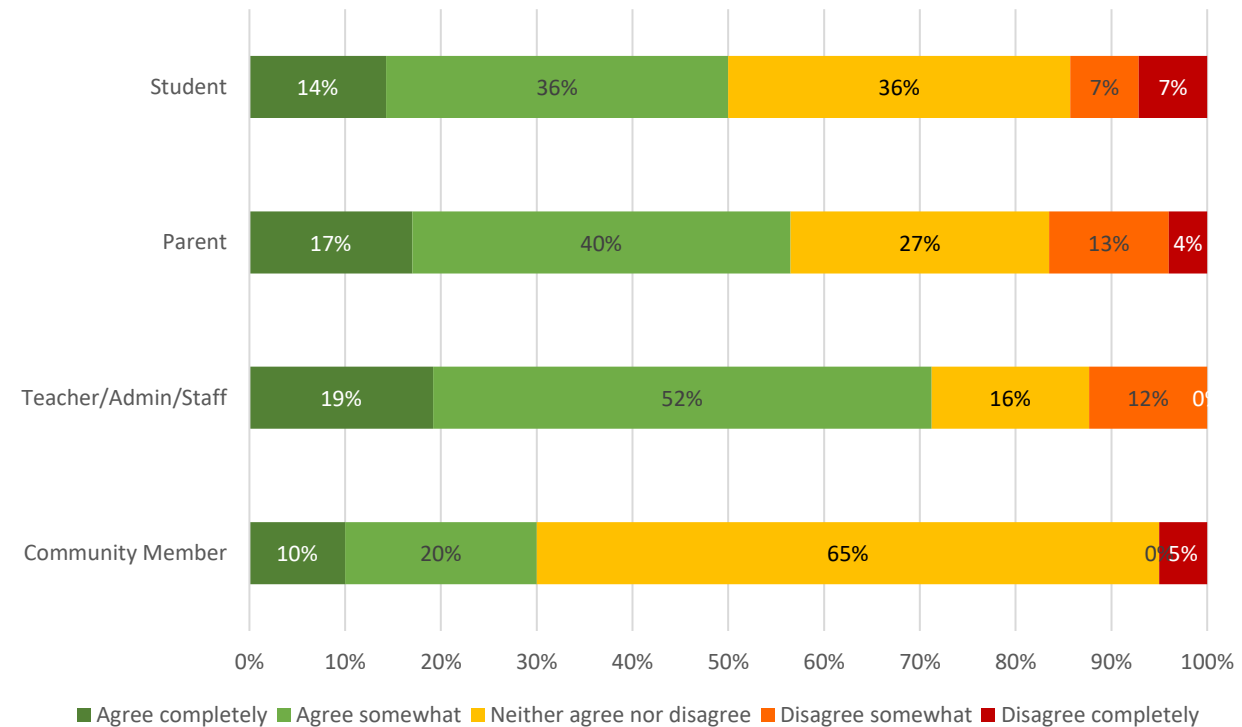
Vision Attribute – MERSD provides appropriate resources in order for students to achieve the stated vision and mission.

Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that this statement **SHOULD** be part of MERSD's strategic focus (Vision, Mission, and/or Core Values).



Base : Students n=17, Parents n=219, Teachers n=79, Community Member n=25

Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that MERSD **CURRENTLY** supports this strategy as part of MERSD's strategic focus (Vision, Mission, and/or Core Values).



Base : Students n=14, Parents n=200, Teachers n=73, Community Member n=20

Which 3 of these strategies will be most important in the next 10 years and why?



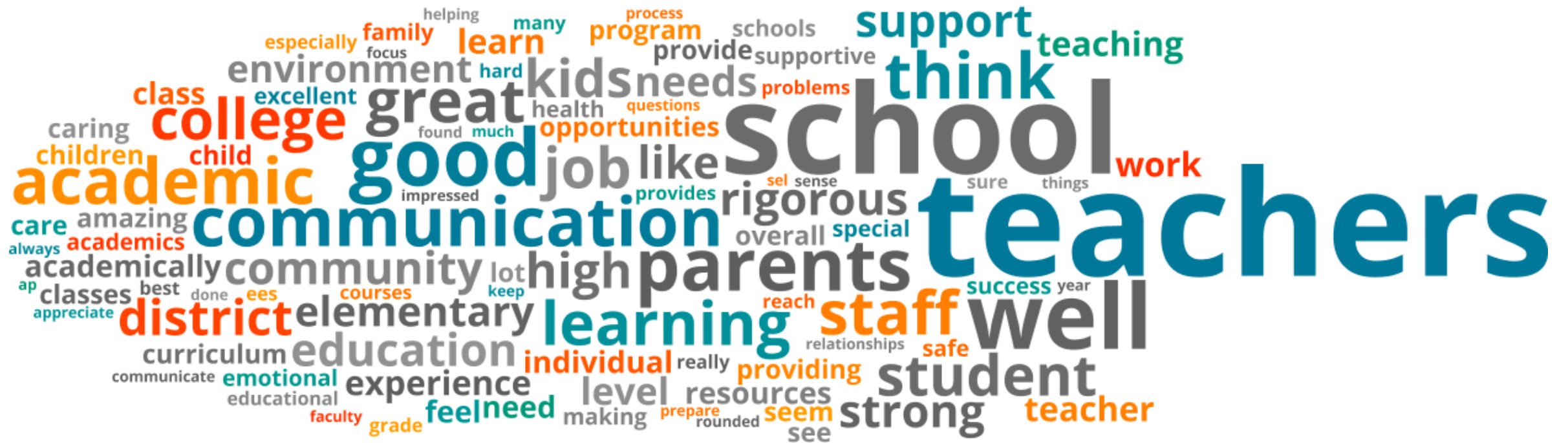
Base: Total Sample Answering Question (188)

Represents 100 most frequent words/phrases

Which 3 strategies from the list above do you feel MERSD currently does well at and why?



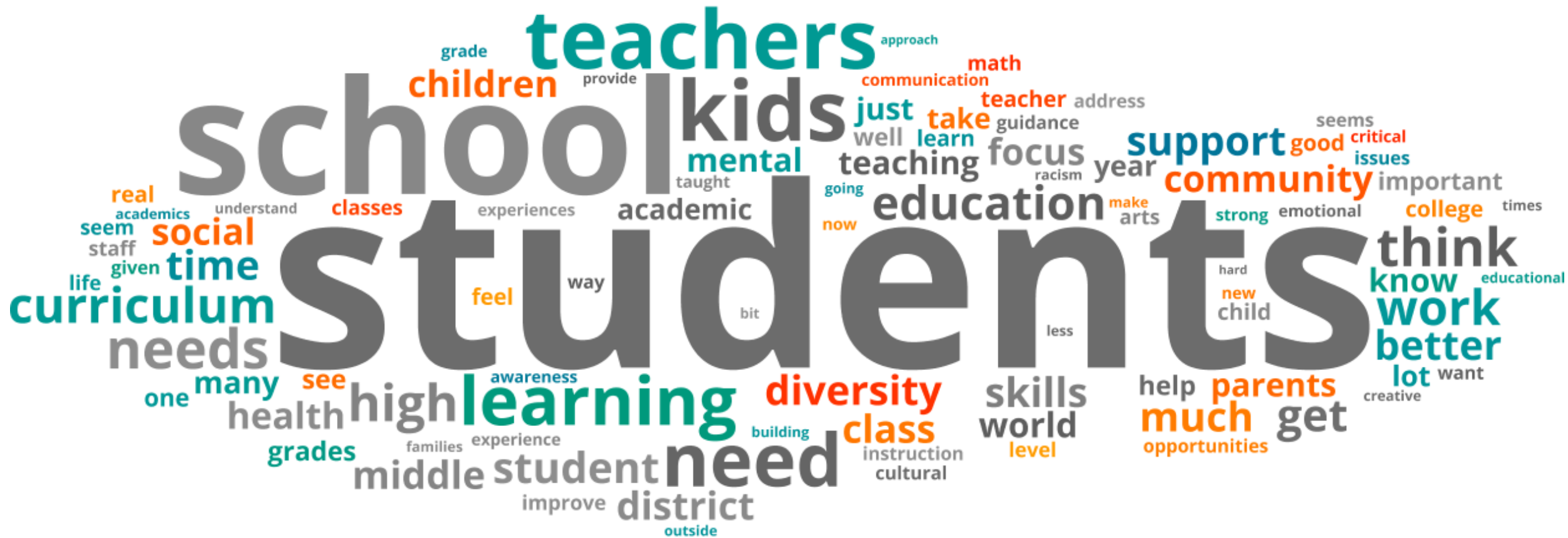
What is something MERSD does extremely well?



Base: Total Sample Answering Question (194)

Represents 100 most frequent words/phrases

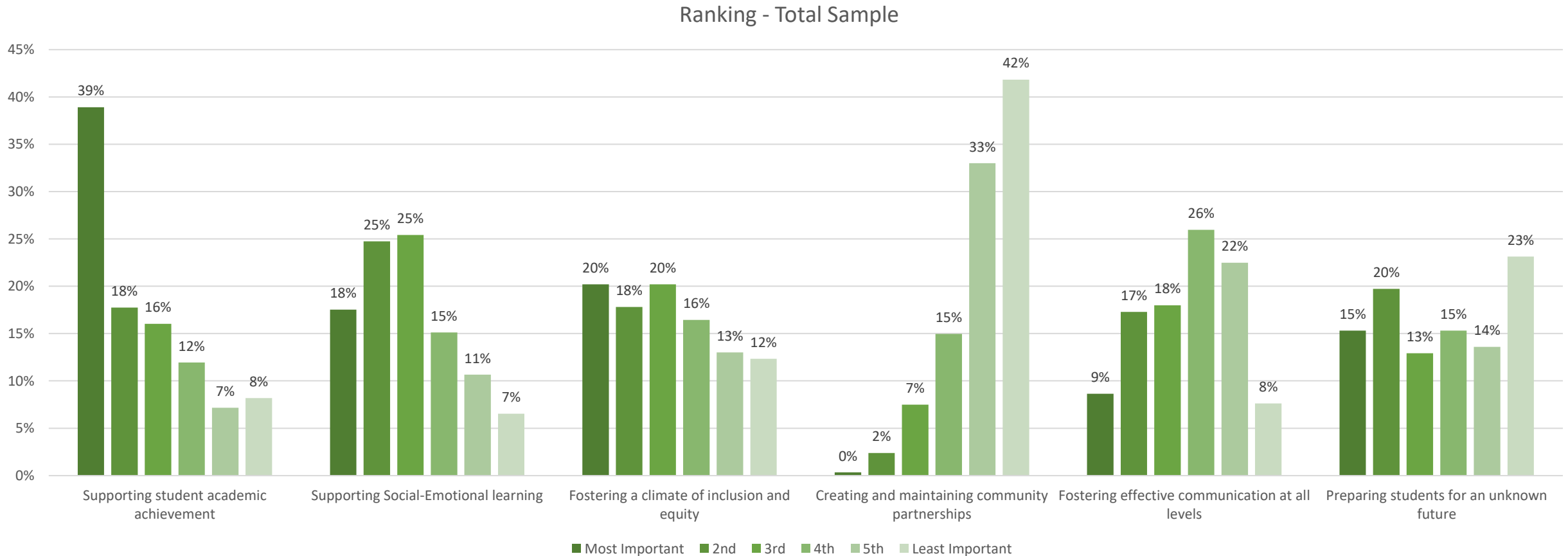
What is an area MERSD could improve? (Please be detailed in your response.)



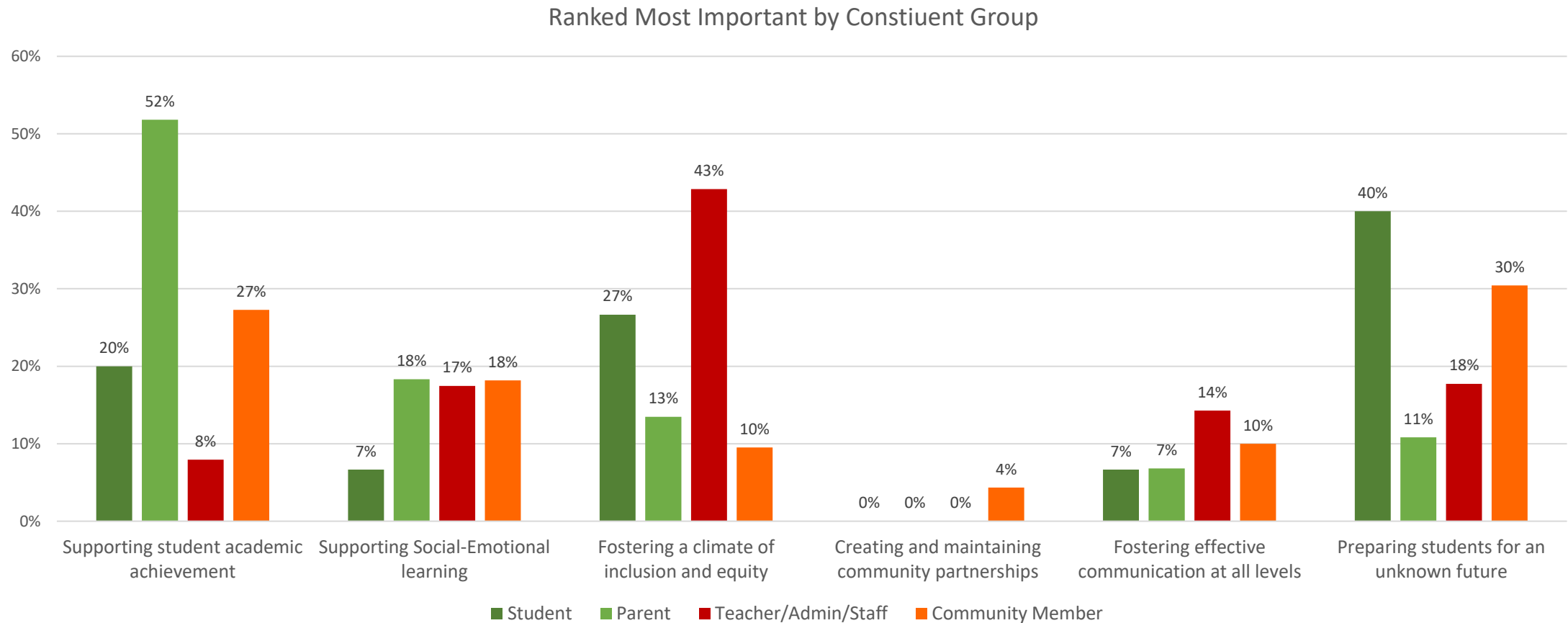
Base: Total Sample Answering Question (210)

Represents 100 most frequent words/phrases

Thinking about MERSD over the course of the next 10 years, please rank the following areas in order from the area MERSD should most focus on to the area that should have the least focus.



Thinking about MERSD over the course of the next 10 years, please rank the following areas in order from the area MERSD should most focus on to the area that should have the least focus.



Why did you choose the area you did as where MERSD should MOST focus in the next 10 years?

Supporting student academic achievement (n=69)		Fostering a climate of inclusion and equity (n=44)		Supporting Social-Emotional learning (n=36)	
Phrase	Occurrences	Phrase	Occurrences	Phrase	Occurrences
school is about	3	feel included	3	mental health	6
school is for	3	all students	2	emotional well being	3
academic excellence	3	the future	2	is the foundation	2
focus should be on academics	2	global citizens	2	the whole child	2
academic achievement is the most important area	2	supports academic achievement	2		
		social emotional learning	2		
Preparing students for an unknown future (n=32)		Fostering effective communication at all levels (n=23)		Creating and maintaining community partnerships (n=1)	
Phrase	Occurrences	Phrase	Occurrences	Phrase	Occurrences
we need to prepare	2	effective communication	4		
the future is unknown	2	very important	2		
be able to adapt	2	effectively communicate	2		
complex problems	2	communication is the key	2		

Base: Answered question, selected this response

Most frequent phrases via <https://www.online-utility.org/text/analyzer.jsp>

Appendix

What do you think students are going to need to be successful 10 years from now? What skills, knowledge, and behaviors will they need to have to be successful in the next decade?

Students (n=27 comments)

How to do taxes (3)

(Older Parents n=149 comments)

critical thinking (23)
communication skills (13)
problem solving (12)
emotional intelligence (10)
life skills (9)
thinking skills (8)
social skills (8)
interpersonal skills (7)
social media (7)
computer skills (6)
technology skills (6)
to think (6)
creative thinking (4)
problem solving skills (4)

Younger Parents (n=65 comments)

critical thinking (8)
technology skills (6)
communication skills (6)
problem solving (6)
social skills (5)
to communicate (5)
social media 4
time management (4)
emotional intelligence (3)
life skills (3)

Teacher/Admin/Staff (n=139 comments)

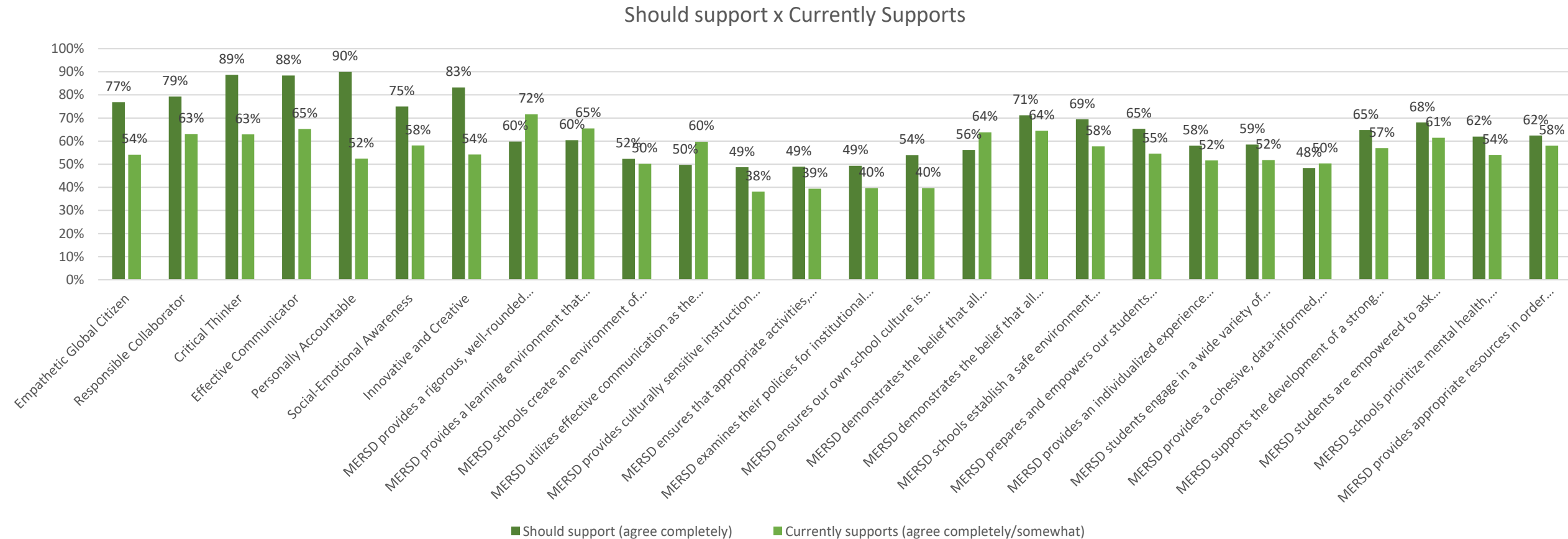
problem solving (23)
critical thinking (22)
social skills (12)
communication skills (12)
technology skills (12)
social media (9)
life skills (9)
time management (7)
social emotional (7)

Community Members (n=18 comments)

different cultures and beliefs (2)
ability to think (2)
problem solving (2)
computer skills (2)
communication skills (2)

Please read each statement and tell us how much you agree or disagree that MERSD **SHOULD/CURRENTLY** support(s) and promote(s) this skill, belief, behavior, or understanding its students as part of the overall vision.

Please read each statement below and tell us how much you agree or disagree that this statement **SHOULD BE/IS CURRENTLY** part of MERSD's strategic focus.



Which elements from the Vision of the Graduate do you feel are the highest priority for graduates over the next 10 years and why?

Students (n=25 comments)

critical thinker (10)
empathetic global citizen (7)
effective communicator (5)
creative problem solver (5)
innovative and creative (3)

(Older Parents n=157 comments)

critical thinker (54)
personal accountability (22)
critical thinking (22)
effective communicator (21)
innovative and creative (21)
empathetic global citizen (19)
social emotional awareness (18)
empathetic global citizen (16)
creative problem solver (13)
responsible collaborator (10)
innovative and creative problem solver (9)

Younger Parents (n=77 comments)

critical thinker (26)
empathetic global citizen (20)
social emotional awareness (15)
innovative and creative (9)
effective communicator (7)
critical thinking (6)
personally accountable (5)
responsible collaborator (5)
all of them (4)

Teacher/Admin/Staff (n=78 comments)

empathetic global citizen (21)
social emotional awareness (17)
personal accountability (15)
effective communicator (14)
responsible collaborator (14)
innovative and creative problem solver (12)
personally accountable (9)

Community Members (n=19 comments)

critical thinker (4)
effective communicator (3)
personal accountability (3)
social emotional awareness (2)
global citizen (2)
innovative and creative problem solver (2)

Which 3 elements from the Vision of the Graduate have been most exhibited by MERSD graduates over the past 3-5 years?

Students (n=15 comments)

critical thinker (5)
effective communicator (4)
social emotional awareness (3)
personal accountability (3)
responsible collaborator (3)

(Older Parents n=111 comments)

social emotional awareness (22)
empathetic global citizen (17)
emotional awareness (17)
critical thinker (14)
effective communicator (13)
responsible collaborator (12)
innovative and creative problem solver (11)
personally accountable (8)
personal accountability (8)

Younger Parents (n=46 comments)

social emotional (6)
don't know (5)
critical thinker (4)
personally accountable (3)
effective communicator (3)

Teacher/Admin/Staff (n=57 comments)

social emotional awareness (14)
critical thinker (14)
effective communicator (13)
responsible collaborator (11)
innovative and creative (11)
creative problem solver (4)

Community Members (n=14 comments)

don't know (4)
innovative and creative (3)
critical thinker (3)
global citizen (2)

Which 3 strategies from the list above do you feel the district should prioritize and why?

Students (n=10 comments)

well rounded (3)
individual growth (3)
Well rounded educational program (2)
other cultures (2)
environment that (2)
systemic racism (2)
learning environment (2)
school culture (2)
creating an environment of respect (2)

(Older Parents n=97 comments)

well rounded educational program (10)
environment that encourages individual growth (9)
learning environment that encourages individual growth (8)
an environment of respect and appreciation for individual and cultural differences (7)
respect and appreciation for individual and cultural differences (7)
of respect and appreciation for individual and cultural (7)
schools create an environment of respect and appreciation (6)
passion for responsible social action both locally and globally (6)
a learning environment that encourages individual growth (6)
rigorous well rounded educational program (6)
provides a learning environment that encourages individual growth (5)
a rigorous well rounded educational program (5)
culturally sensitive instruction (4)

Younger Parents (n=55 comments)

individual growth (10)
culturally sensitive instruction (10)
rigorous well rounded (7)
well rounded education (5)
culture is antiracist (5)
promotes the importance of diversity inclusion and social and economic equity (5)

Teacher/Admin/Staff (n=55 comments)

environment of respect and appreciation (2)
mersd ensures our own school culture is antiracist and promotes the importance of diversity and social and economic equity (2)

Community Members (n=16 comments)

individual growth (4)
effective communication (3)
culturally sensitive instruction (3)
balance and context (2)
culture is antiracist (2)

Which 3 strategies from the list above do you feel the district currently does well at and why?

Students (n=27 comments)

importance of diversity (2)
well rounded educational (2)
culturally sensitive (2)

(Older Parents n=67 comments)

rigorous (7)
well rounded educational program (3)
inclusion and social and economic equity (2)
learning environment that encourages (2)
environment that encourages (2)
diversity and inclusion (2)

Younger Parents (n=36 comments)

instruction which incorporates both america's difficult racial history and works from culturally and geographically diverse perspectives (2)
provides a learning environment that encourages individual growth (2)
mersd provides a rigorous well rounded educational program (2)

Teacher/Admin/Staff (n=39 comments)

well rounded (11)
individual growth (11)
culturally sensitive instruction (5)
culturally sensitive instruction which incorporates both america's difficult racial history and works from culturally and geographically diverse perspectives (3)
mersd provides a rigorous well rounded educational program (2)

Community Members (n=13 comments)

Well rounded (2)

Which 3 of these strategies will be most important in the next 10 years and why?

Students (n=9 comments)

real life readiness (3)
mental health (3)
high school (3)

(Older Parents n=81 comments)

mental health (14)
a strong sense of self (14)
academic excellence (13)
development of the whole child (13)
life readiness (11)
real life readiness (10)
development of the whole (7)
a safe environment (7)
a strong sense of self confidence (7)

Younger Parents (n=39 comments)

mental health (15)
the development of a strong sense of self confidence and a healthy mindset (10)
real life readiness (9)
strong sense of self confidence (9)
prepares and empowers our students for real life readiness (8)
academic excellence (8)
safe environment (8)
healthy mindset (8)

Teacher/Admin/Staff (n=42 comments)

mental health (23)
strong sense of self confidence (11)
real life readiness (9)
whole child (9)
mindset that supports active pursuit of continued education engagement in meaningful work and contributions to community (6)
pursuit of continued education (6)
advocate for their needs (6)
prioritize mental health (6)

Community Members (n=16 comments)

their highest potential (4)
post secondary options (2)
real life readiness (2)
appropriate resources (2)
mental health (2)
differentiated learning (2)

Which 3 strategies from the list above do you feel MERSD currently does well at and why?

Students (n=9 comments)

student's mental health (2)
post secondary (2)

(Older Parents n=53 comments)

all students can achieve academic excellence (7)
prioritize mental health (7)
ask questions (5)
cohesive data informed and aligned educational experience for all students across grades prek-12 (4)
data informed and aligned (4)

Younger Parents (n=31 comments)

all students can achieve their highest potential (4)
safe environment conducive to the development of the whole child (3)
cohesive data informed and aligned educational experience for all students across grades prek-12 (2)

Teacher/Admin/Staff (n=26 comments)

a safe environment (5)
mental health (5)
real life learning experiences (4)
academic excellence (4)
whole child (4)
highest potential (4)
differentiated learning experiences (3)

Community Members (n=11 comments)

don't know (5)

What is something MERSD does extremely well?

Students (n=9 comments)

teachers (4)
sel (3)
health class (2)

(Older Parents n=79 comments)

teachers (17)
academic (8)
communication (7)
students for college (5)
elementary school (5)
well being (3)
ap classes (3)

Younger Parents (n=43 comments)

teachers and staff (9)
communication (8)
experience (5)
sense of community (5)
special education (2)
personal responsibility (2)

Teacher/Admin/Staff (n=47 comments)

academic (10)
teachers (8)
rigorous (6)
college (6)
community (6)
resources (5)
parents (5)
support (5)

Community Members (n=15 comments)

prepared for college (3)

What is an area MERSD could improve? (Please be detailed in your response.)

Students (n=12 comments)

help us in the real world (2)
mental health (8)

(Older Parents n=89 comments)

social emotional (4)
critical race theory (3)
mental health (3)
programs for students that need extra (2)
emotional well being (2)
science and engineering (2)
education and sports (2)

Younger Parents (n=44 comments)

mental health (3)
social media (2)
jewish holidays (2)
class sizes (2)
more diverse (2)
more challenging (2)
experiential learning (2)
more creative curriculum (2)

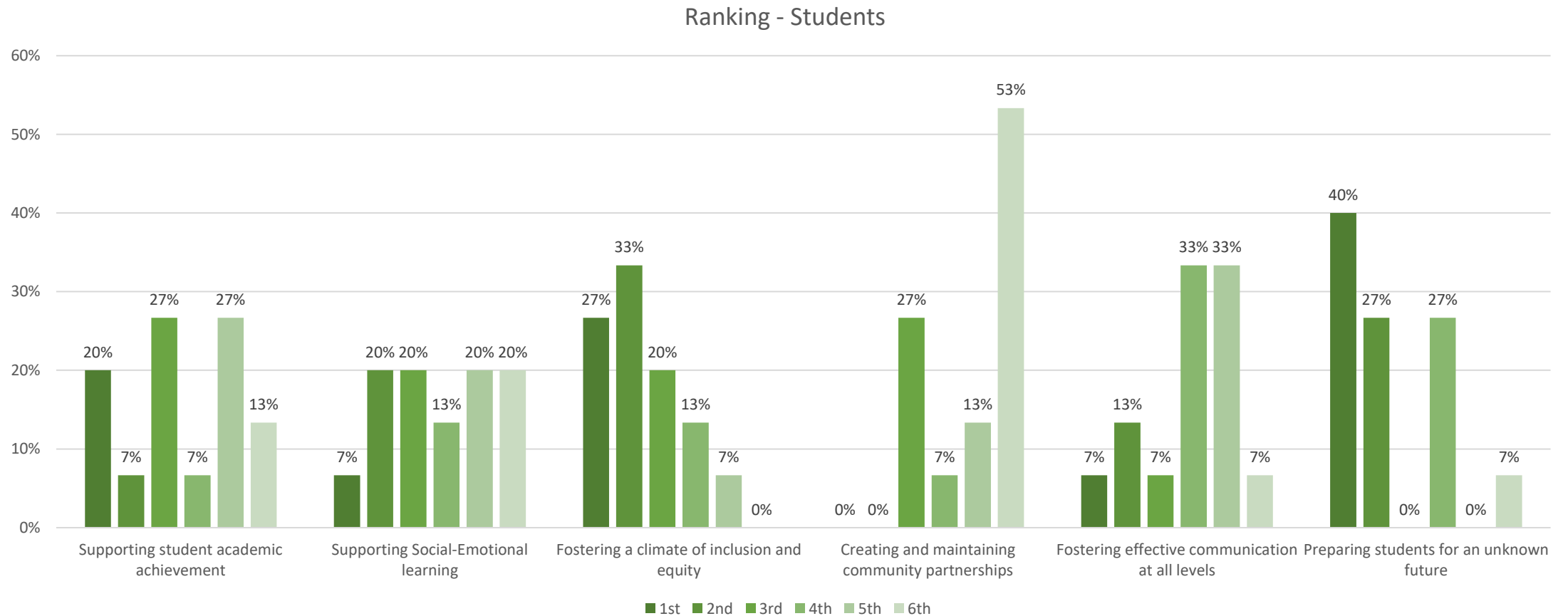
Teacher/Admin/Staff (n=46 comments)

social emotional (5)
world is changing (2)
emotional health (2)
diversity equity and inclusion (2)
academic rigor (2)

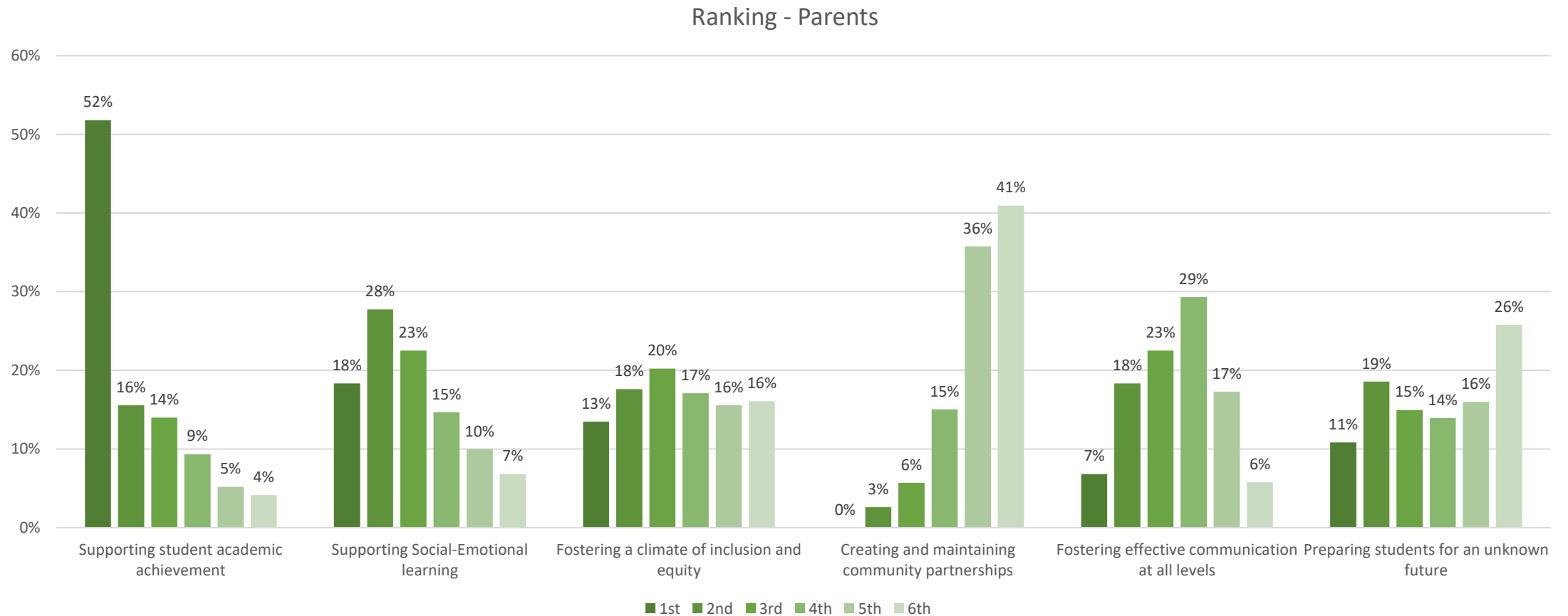
Community Members (n=17 comments)

skills appropriate for college (2)
the honor society (2)

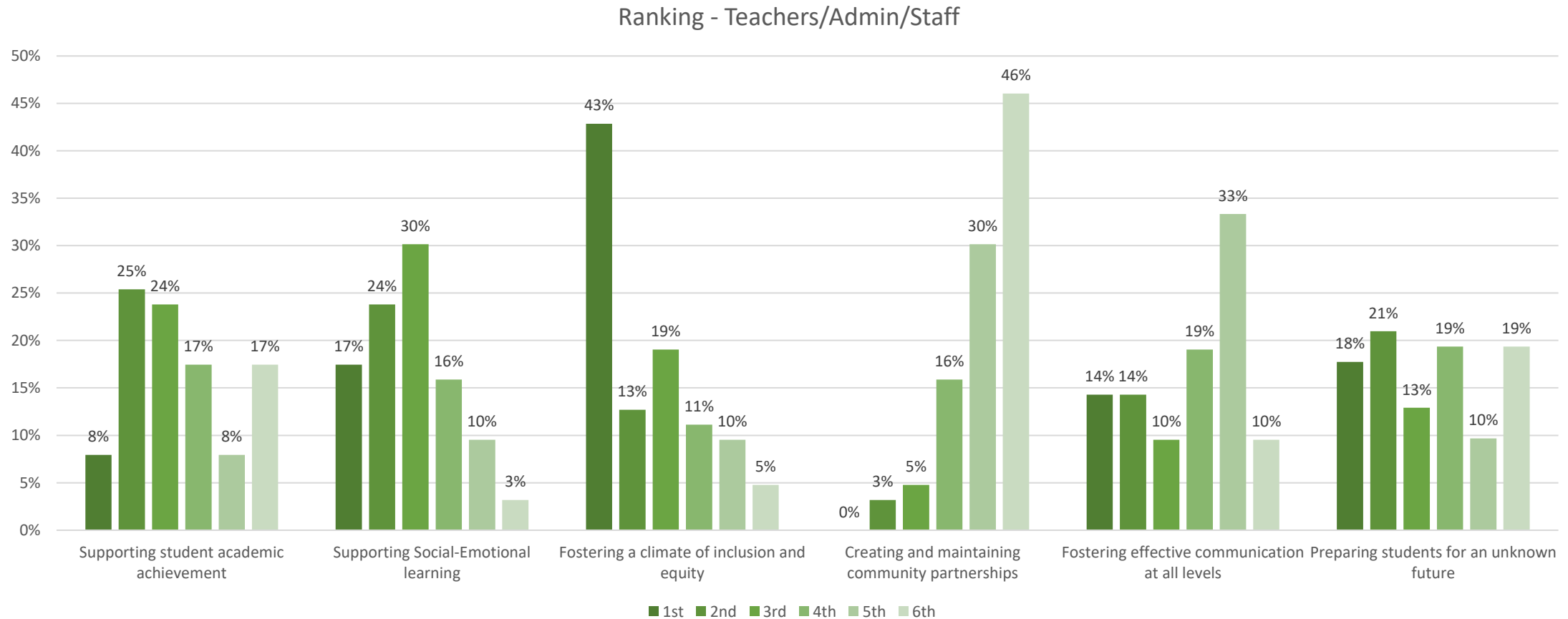
Thinking about MERSD over the course of the next 10 years, please rank the following areas in order from the area MERSD should most focus on to the area that should have the least focus.



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Thinking about MERSD over the course of the next 10 years, please rank the following areas in order from the area MERSD should most focus on to the area that should have the least focus.

