

Common Beliefs: Survey Data

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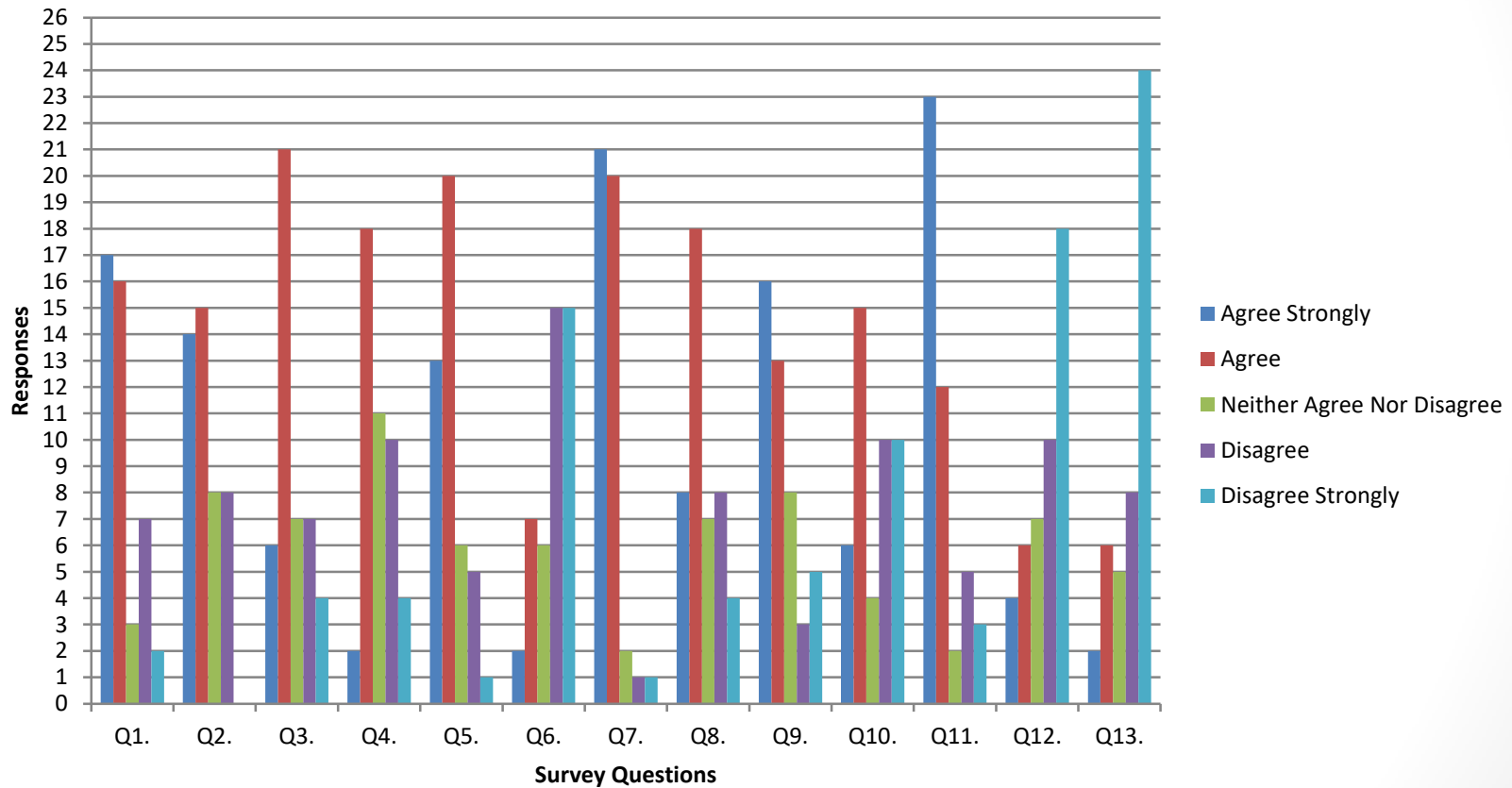
Common Beliefs Survey

- The Common Beliefs Survey was sent out to 80 high school teachers in the Streetsboro City School District.
- 45 out of 80 surveys were completed giving us a 54% return rate.

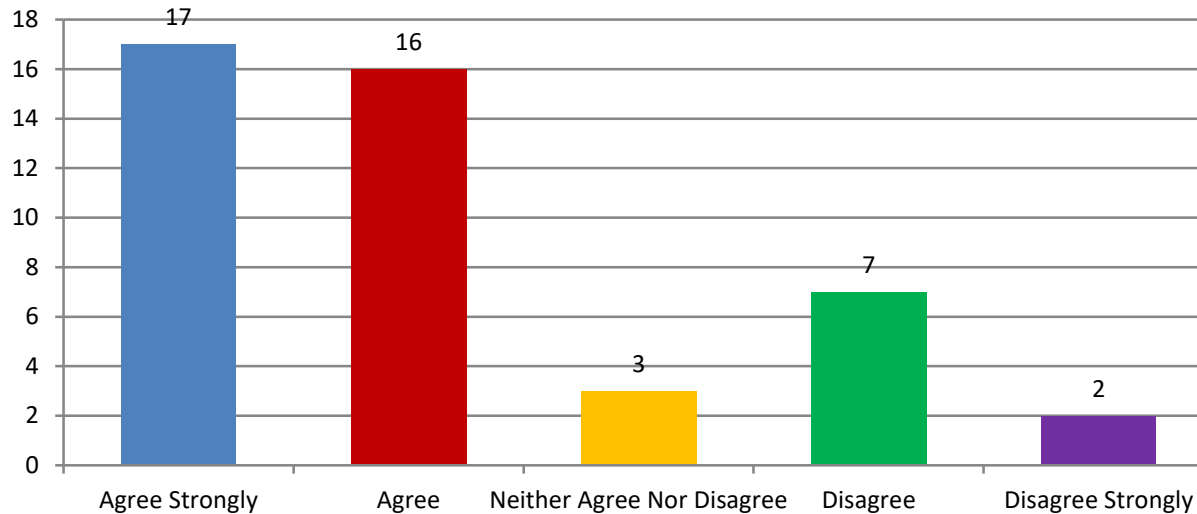
Overall Common Beliefs

Survey Responses

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1xfkLCOUqPKpa9EmQhBB-vSihWTsDPk4snZb_POqjByc/edit#gid=776740036



Q1. I don't think of my students in terms of race or ethnicity. I am color blind when it comes to my teaching.



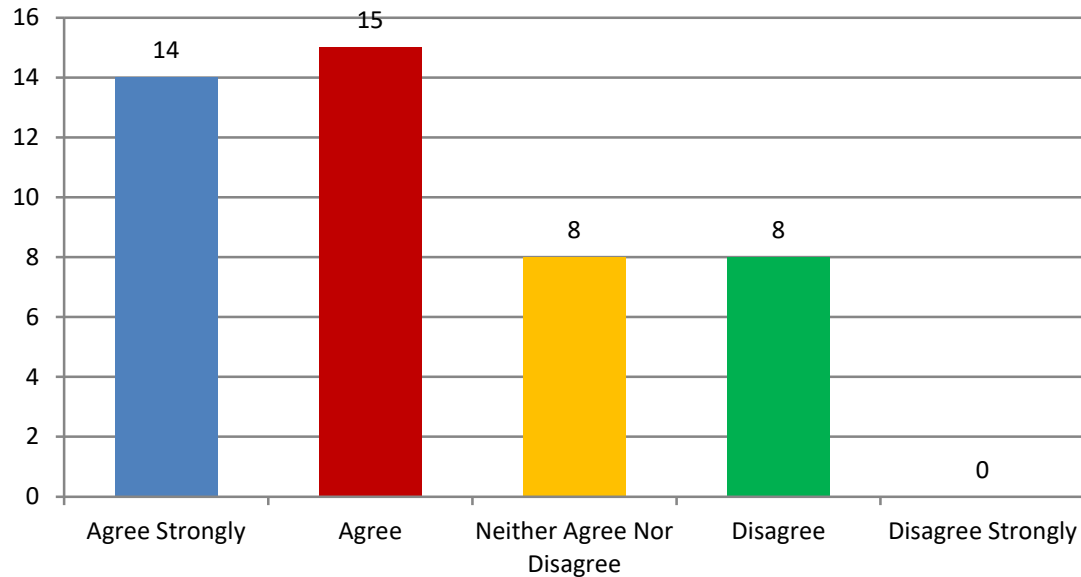
Mean Rating: 3.87

37% Agreed Strongly

Comments:

- Education is about children
- All students are unique individuals
- Children need love and respect

Q2. The gap in the achievement among students of different races is about poverty, not race.



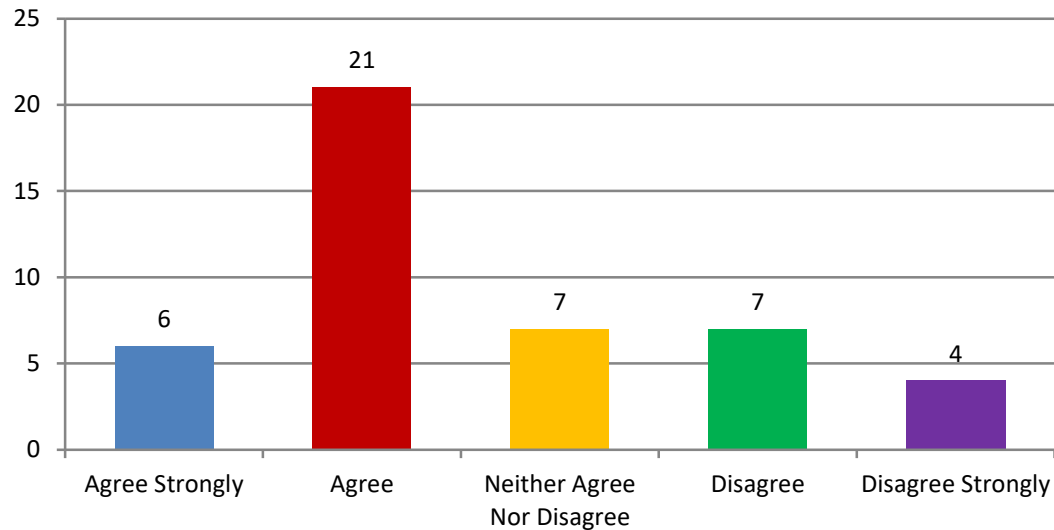
Mean Rating: 3.78

33% Somewhat Agreed

Comments:

- Education is valued more in middle/upper class
- Poverty directly impacts learning
- Poverty is a predictor of the achievement gap

Q3. Teachers should adapt their teaching to the distinctive cultures of African American, Latino, Asian, and Native American students.



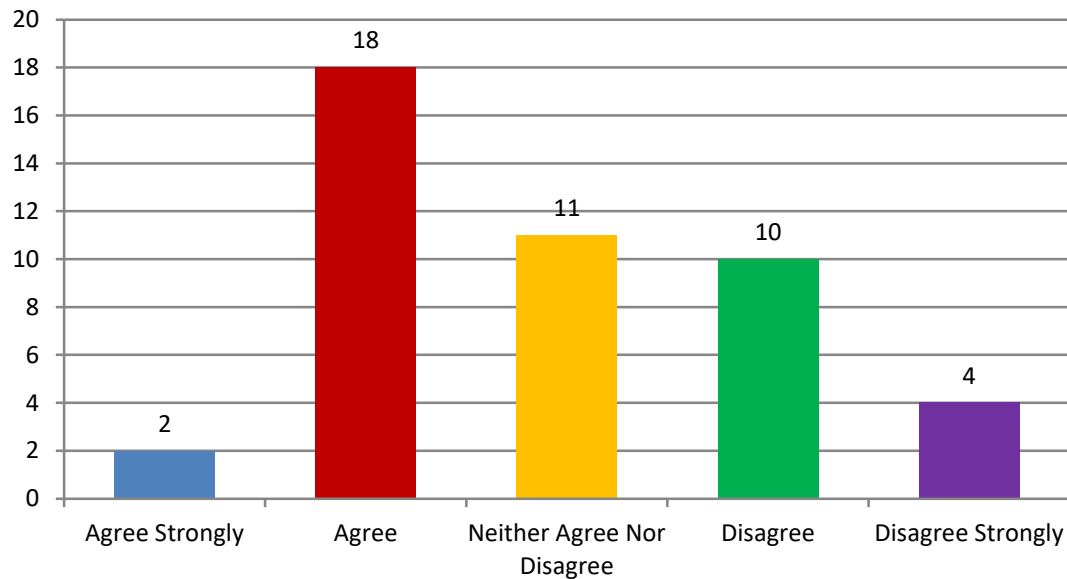
Mean Rating: 3.4

47% Somewhat Agreed

Comments:

- Teaching should be student centered
- Many perspectives benefit all children
- We need to accept and honor all cultures

Q4. In some cultures, students are embarrassed to speak in front of others so I take this into account and don't call on these students in class.



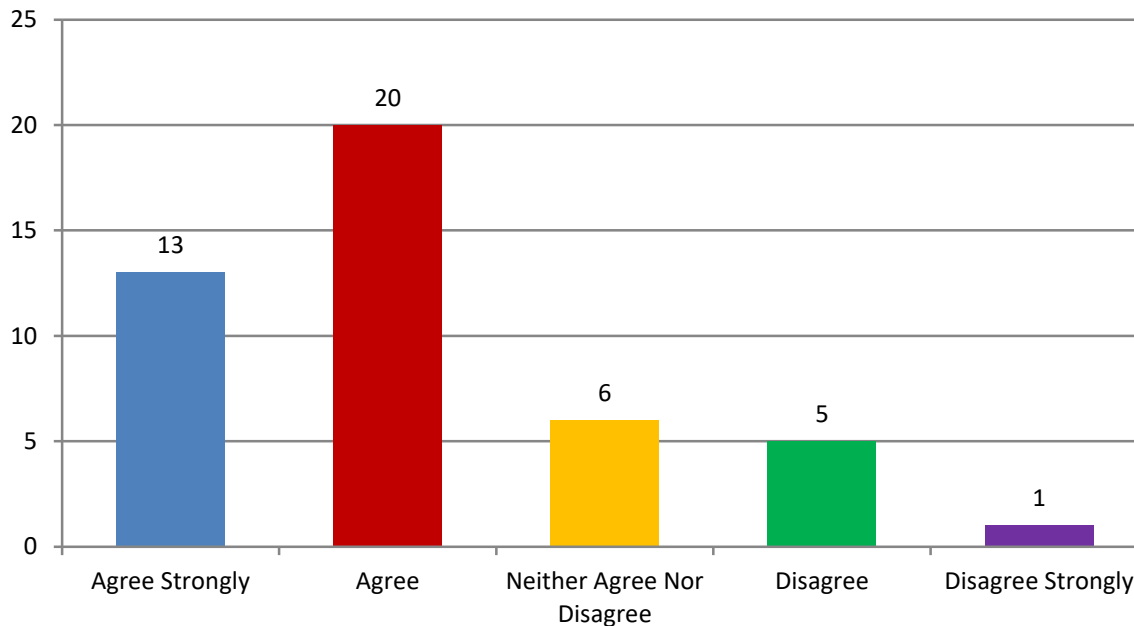
Mean Rating: 3.1

40% Somewhat Agreed

Comments:

- We need to respect students and their culture
- Develop relationships, get them to trust & they will respond
- We need to create a trusting environment

Q5. When students come from homes where educational achievement is not a high priority, they often don't do their homework and their parents don't come to school events. This lack of parental support undermines my efforts to teach these students.



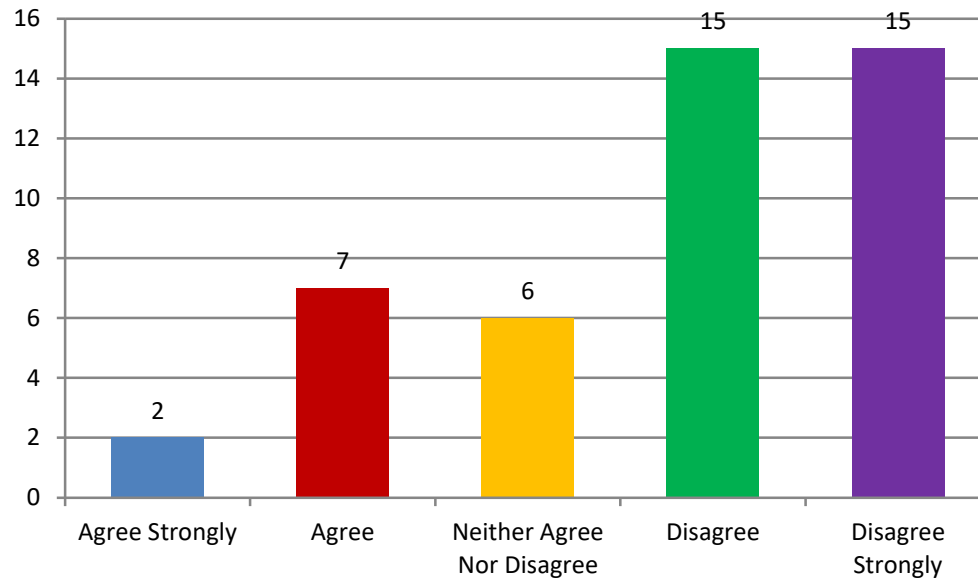
Mean Rating: 3.87

44% Somewhat Agreed

Comments:

- Achievement requires a joint partnership with school and home
- Parental involvement is critical to academic achievement
- Parent attitude and support influences student achievement - both negatively and positively

Q6. It is not fair to ask students who are struggling with English to take on challenging academic assignments.



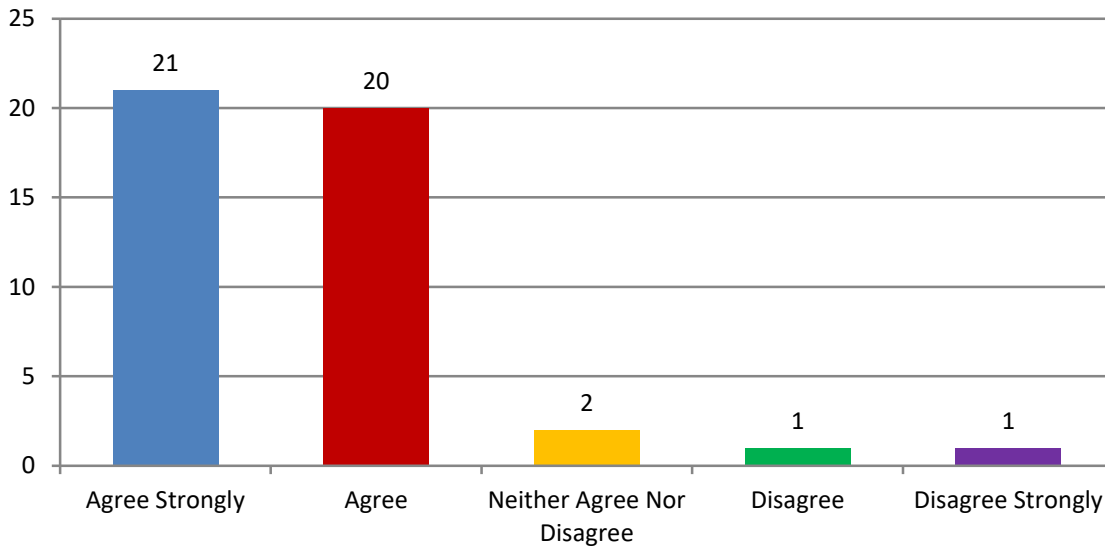
Mean Rating: 2.24

33% Somewhat Disagreed & 33% Disagreed Strongly

Comments:

- Accommodations & supports must be provided to support the child
- Working together as a team we can accomplish anything
- Never underestimate a child's ability

Q7. I believe that I should reward students who try hard, even if they are not doing well in school; building their self-esteem is important.



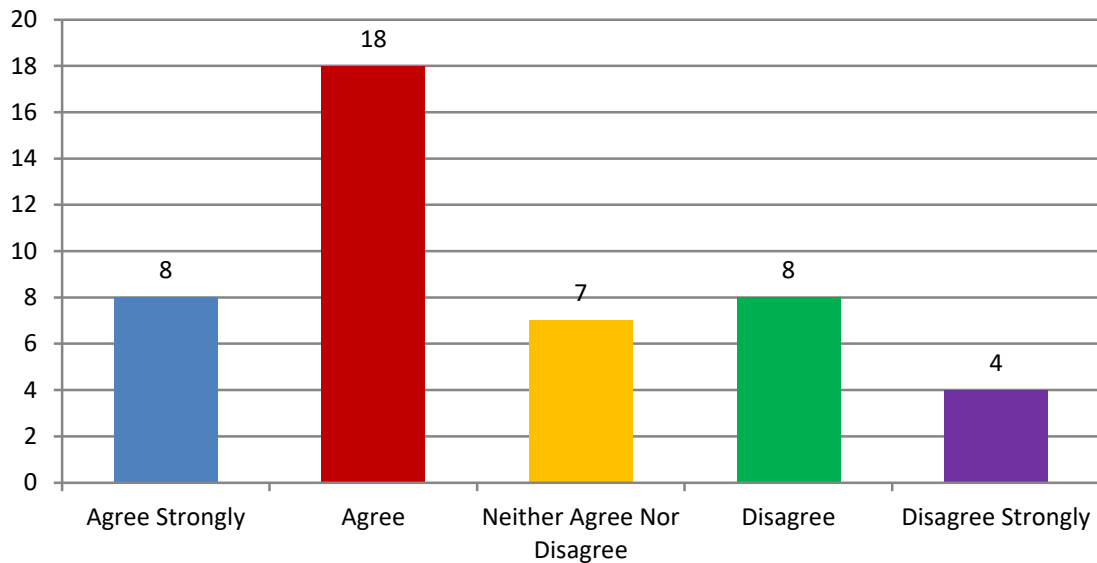
Mean Rating: 4.3

47% Agreed Strongly

Comments:

- When a child feels confident, they can accomplish almost anything
- Support students who work hard and positively reinforce their effort
- Self-esteem is key

Q8. I try to keep in mind the limits of my students' ability and give them assignments that I know they can do so that they do not become discouraged.



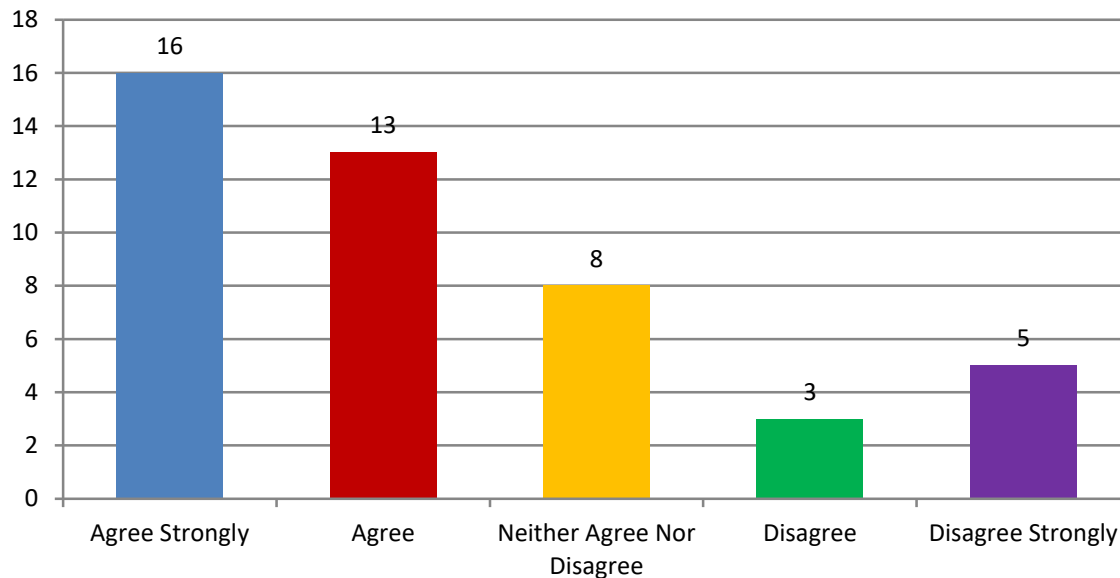
Mean Rating: 3.4

40% Somewhat Agreed

Comments:

- Differentiation is essential
- It is important to make children feel successful
- Small achievable goals provides for long term success

Q9. Students of different races and ethnicities often have different learning styles and good teachers will match their instruction to these learning styles.



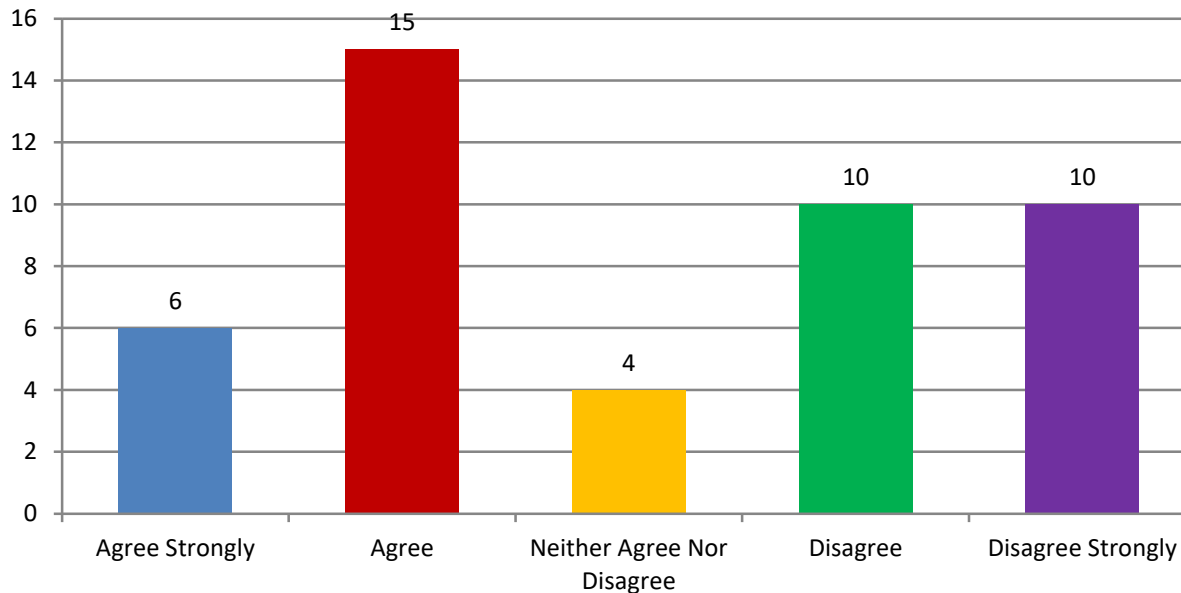
Mean Rating: 3.71

36% Agreed Strongly

Comments:

- Every child learns differently
- Differentiation is key
- Learning styles are unique to each individual

Q10. Grouping students of different levels of achievement for instruction may benefit some students, but it can undermine the progress that could otherwise be made by higher achieving students.



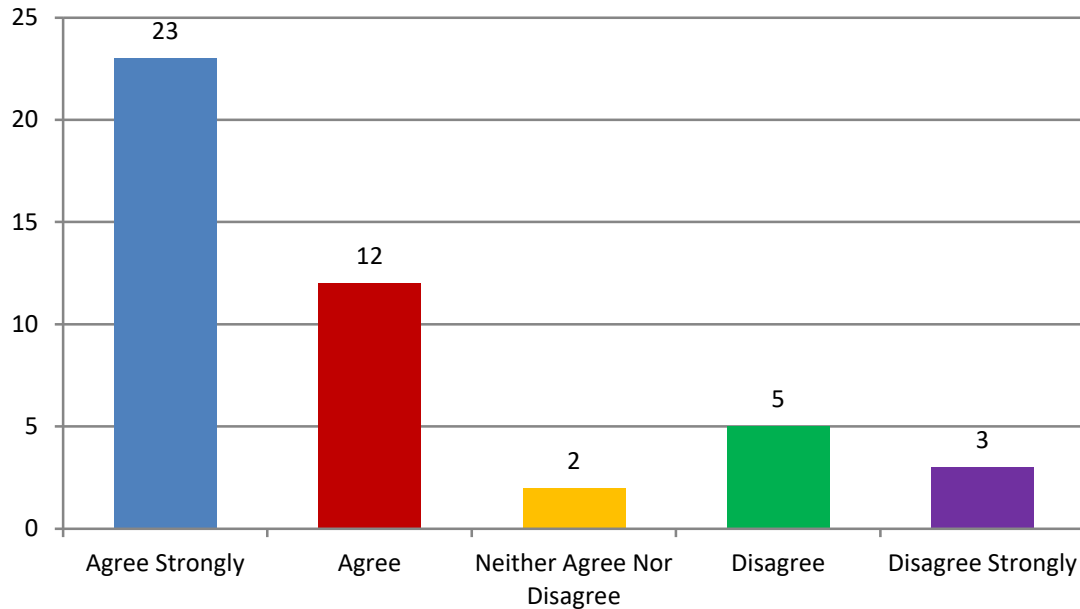
Mean Rating: 2.93

33% Somewhat Agreed

Comments:

- Good teachers differentiate instruction
- Flexible grouping + differentiation = greater student achievement
- Differentiation is key

Q11. Before students are asked to engage in complex learning tasks, they need to have a solid grasp of basic skills.



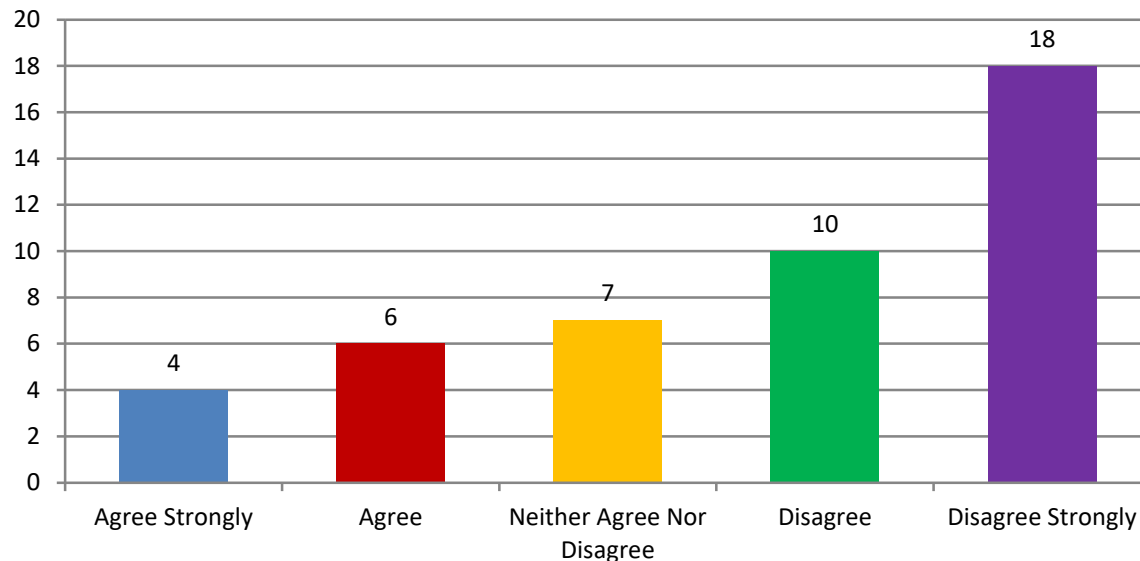
Mean Rating: 4.0

51% Agreed Strongly

Comments:

- Foundational skills are essential
- A solid grasp of basic skills is important
- Basic skills are the foundation to learning

Q12. With all the pressures to raise student achievement, finding and using examples for the cultural, historic and everyday lived experiences of my students takes away (or could take away) valuable time from teaching and learning what matters most.



Mean Rating: 2.29

40% Disagreed Strongly

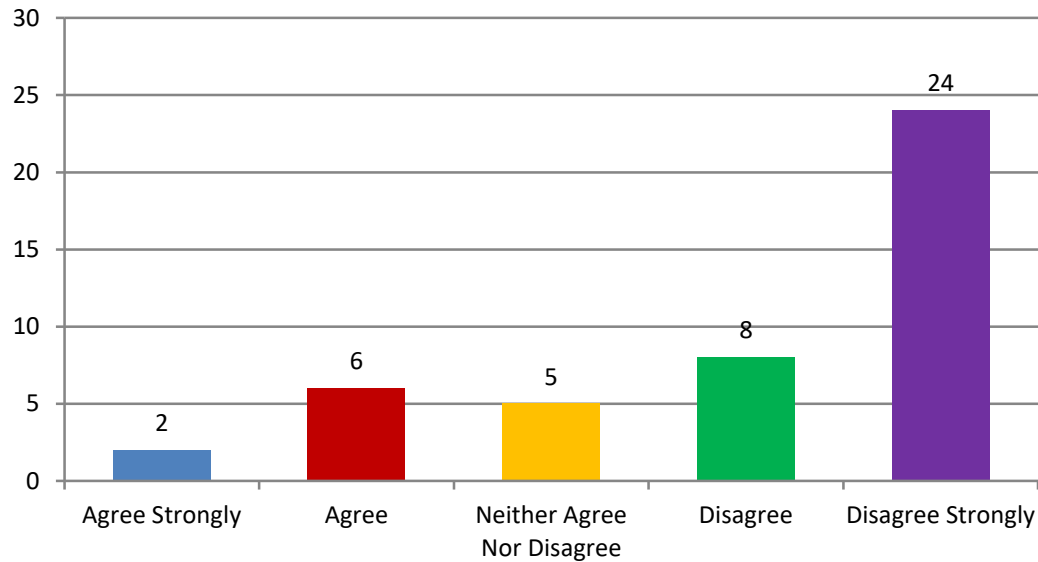
Comments:

Learning must be meaningful

Teachers need to make connections with students in order to be an effective teacher

Students must be able to relate and connect in order to engage, respect, understand, & comprehend

Q13. Talking about race with my colleagues could open up a can of worms; little good is likely to come from it.



Mean Rating: 1.97

53% Disagreed Strongly

Comments:

- Open dialogue helps all to learn
- It is part of our teaching and requires collaboration from everyone
- Great educators keep all lines of communication open

Areas of Strongest Agreement

- Q7. Teachers are in agreement that hard work should be rewarded (91%).
- Q11. Overall, teachers agree that a solid grasp of basic skills is essential (78%).
- Q1. Teachers are in agreement with regard to embracing all students regardless of race or ethnicity (73%).
- Q9. Overall teachers agree that differentiated instruction is necessary in order to accommodate various learning styles (64%).

Areas that need further discussion as indicated by survey responses

Q4. There are varying beliefs about calling on students who are embarrassed to speak in front of others.

- 44% agree or agree strongly
- 31% disagree or strongly disagree

Q10. There is a range of beliefs regarding ability grouping.

- 47% agree or agree strongly
- 44% disagree or strongly disagree

Overall Survey Themes

- Teachers are passionate about providing a quality educational experience for students.
- Developing connections and relationships with students and staff is a common theme across comments.
- Increasing cultural awareness is important for fostering academic growth.
- Open communication and establishing trust are essential for quality teaching.