

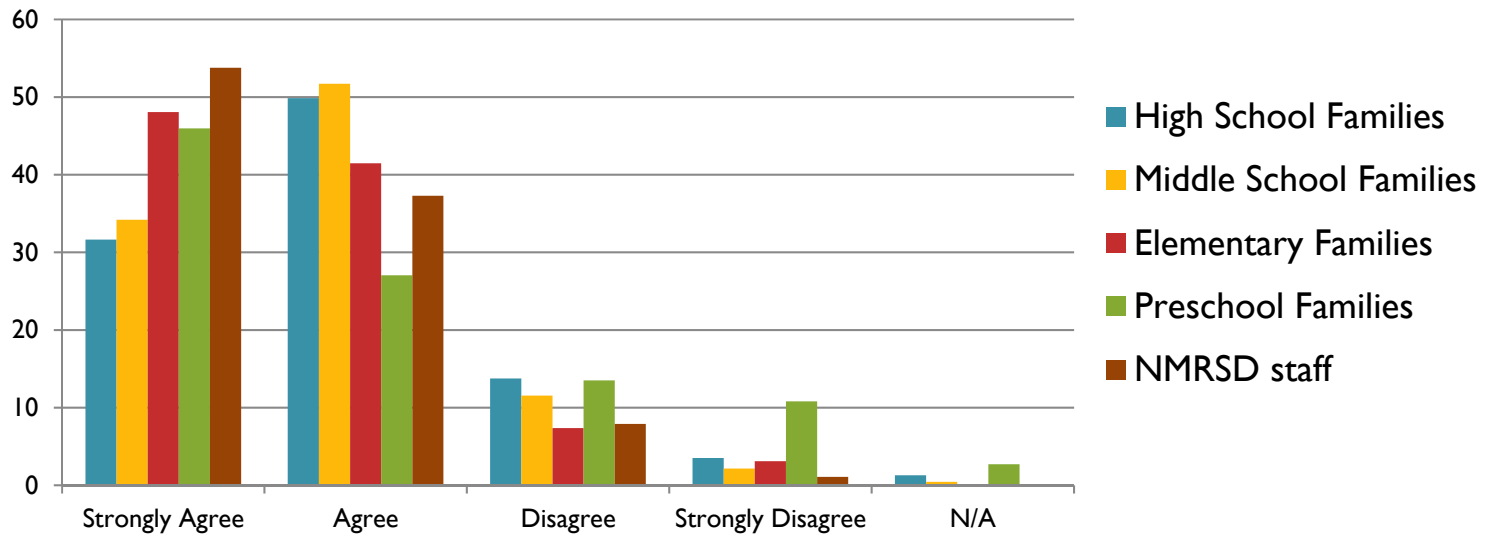
Snow Day Extended Learning Survey Results Summary

Spring 2018

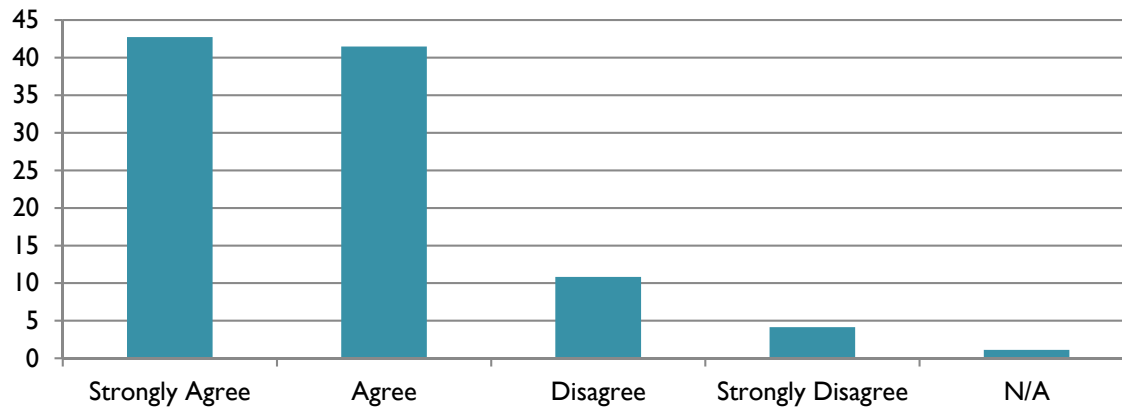
Completed Surveys by Groups

Group	Number Completed
High School Families	315
Middle School Families	234
Elementary School Families	258
Preschool Families	37
NMRSD Staff	280

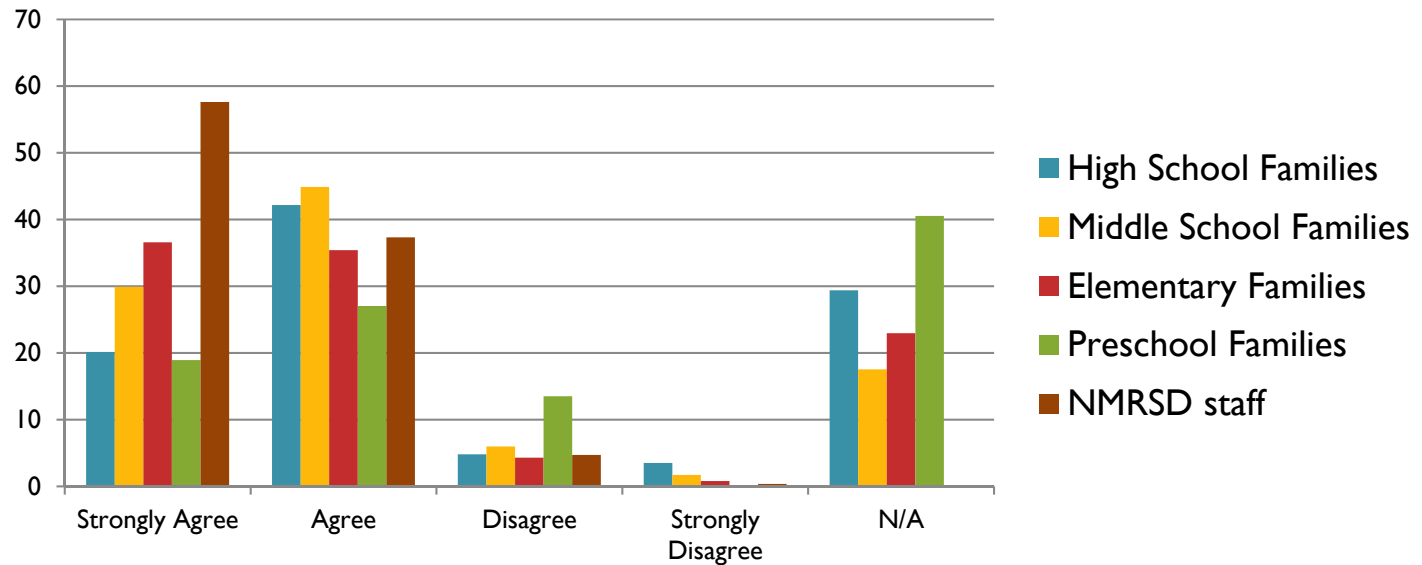
The expectations of the Snow Day Extended Learning Program were clear and easy to understand.



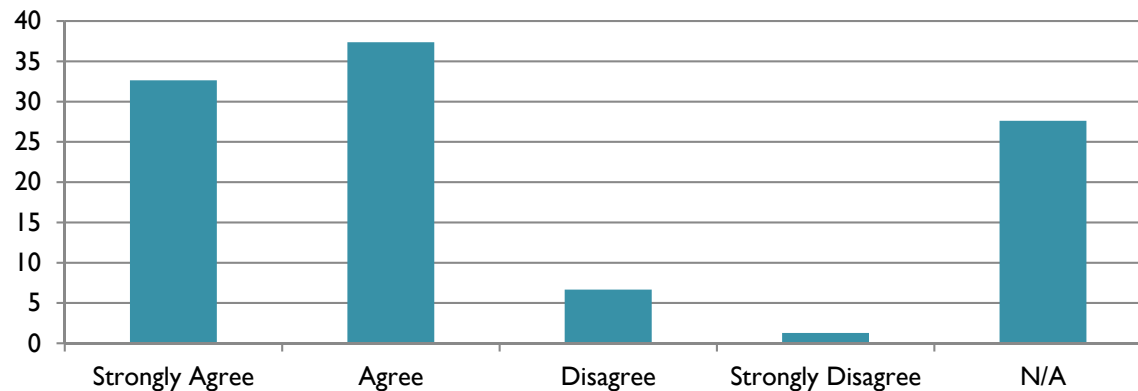
Average for Question



My questions regarding the Snow Day Extended Learning Program were answered by accessing the FAQs, the emailed updated FAQs or by reaching out to school staff or Snow Day Extended Learning Program committee members.



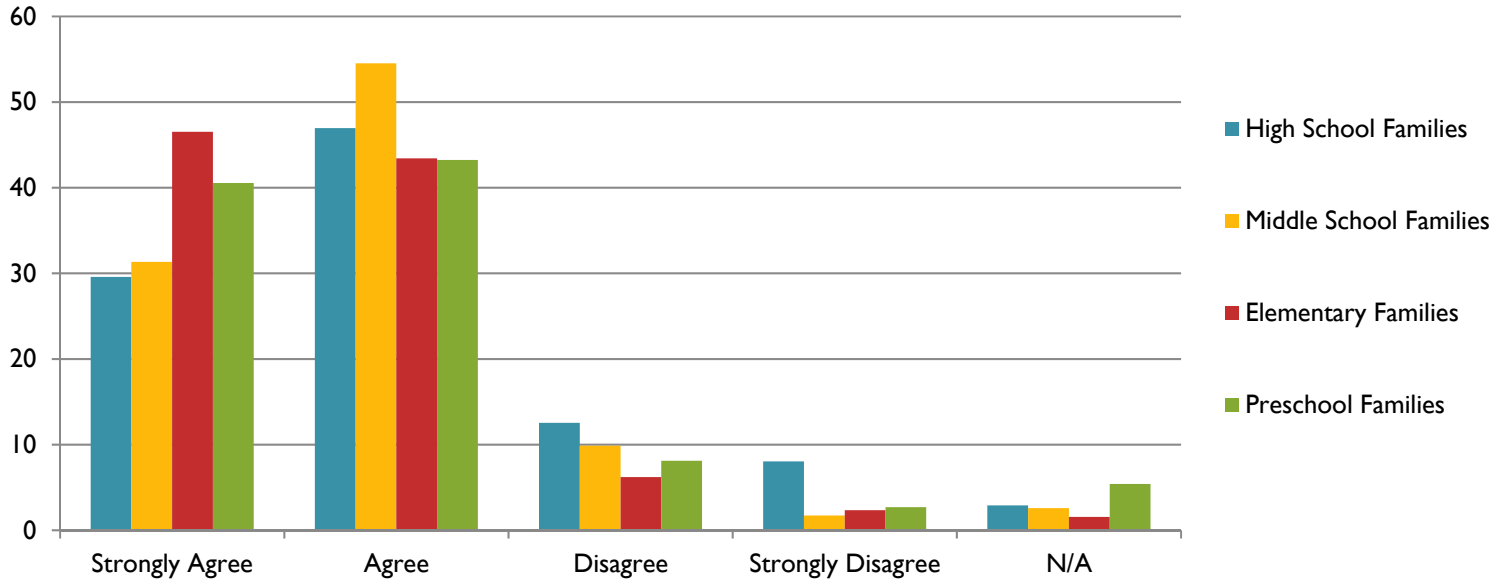
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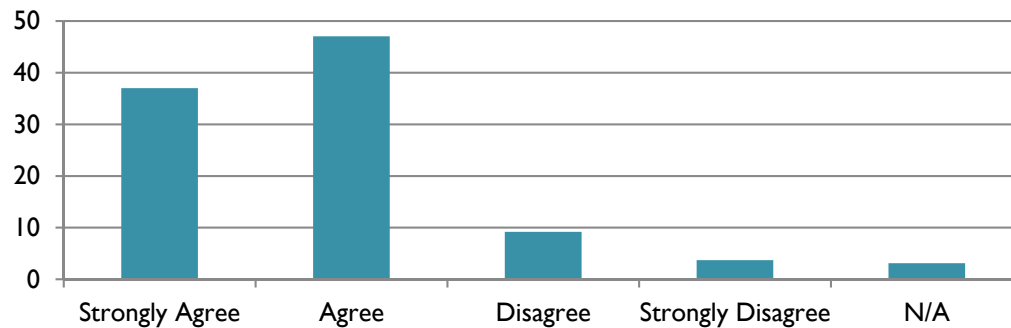
Questions Specific to Families



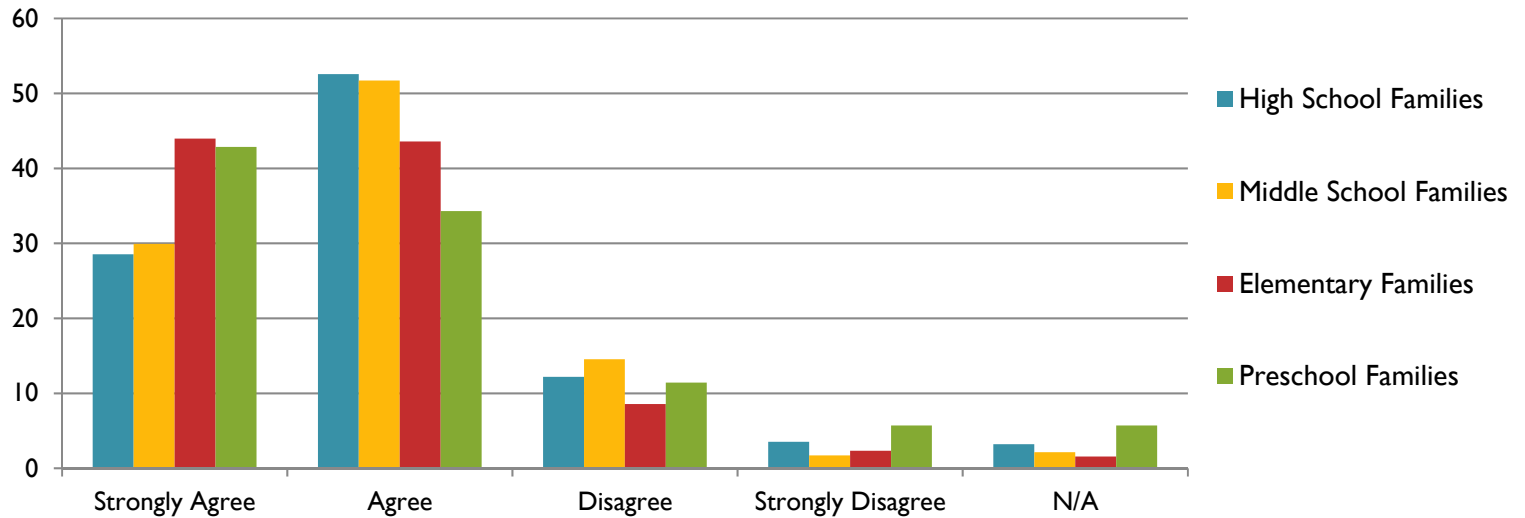
My child received Snow Day Extended Learning Program assignments that were meaningful and relevant to the curriculum.



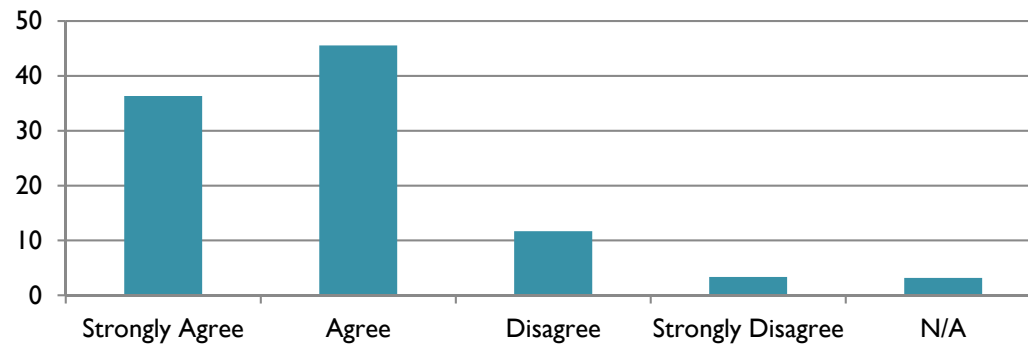
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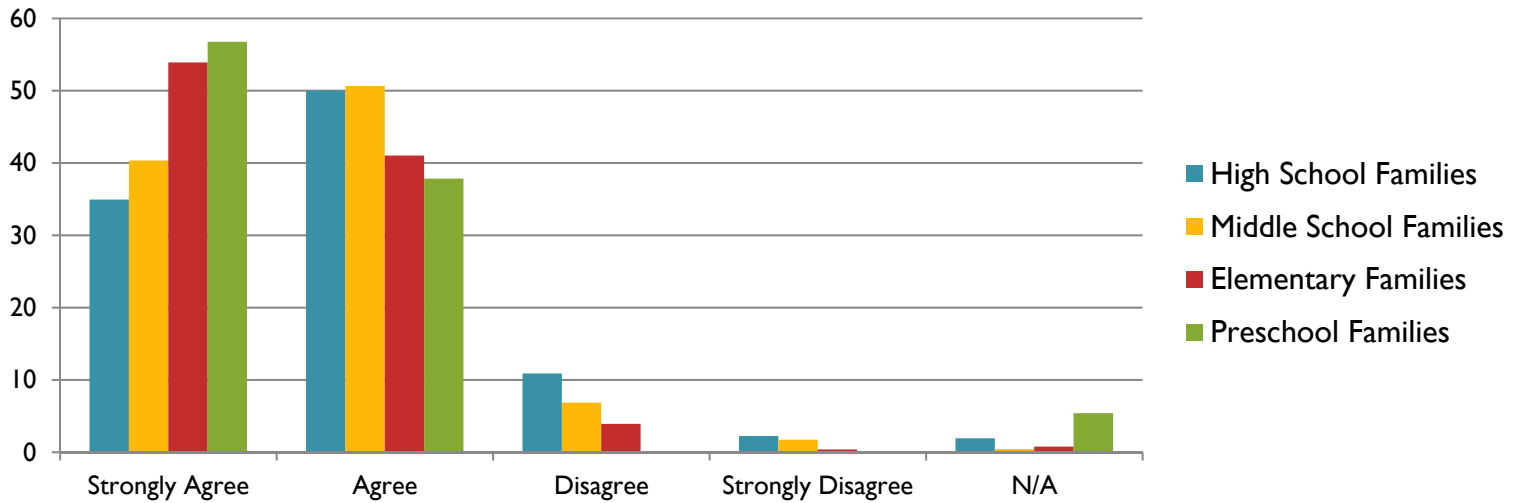
My child received adequate directions and/or support from his/her teacher(s) to complete Snow Day Extended Learning Program assignments.



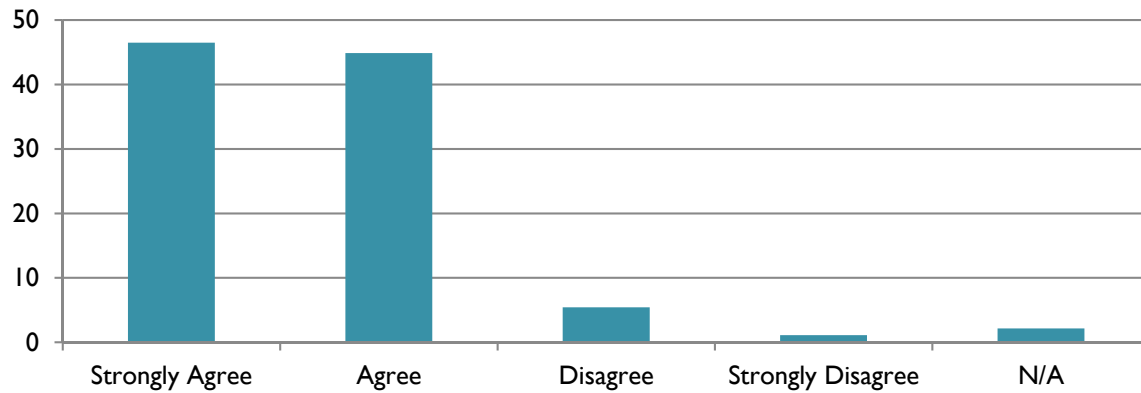
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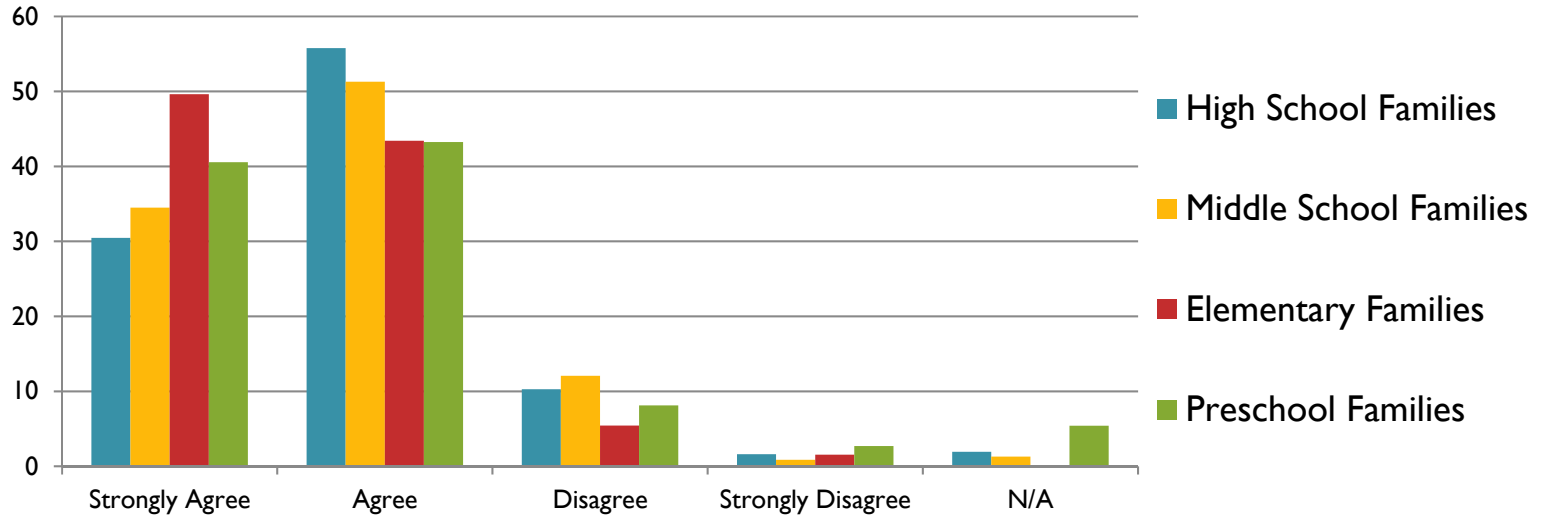
There was an appropriate amount of time allowed for Snow Day Extended Learning Program assignments to be completed.



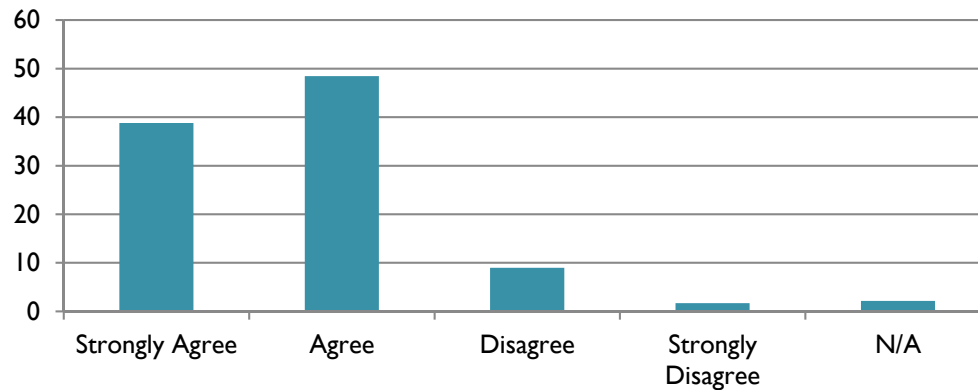
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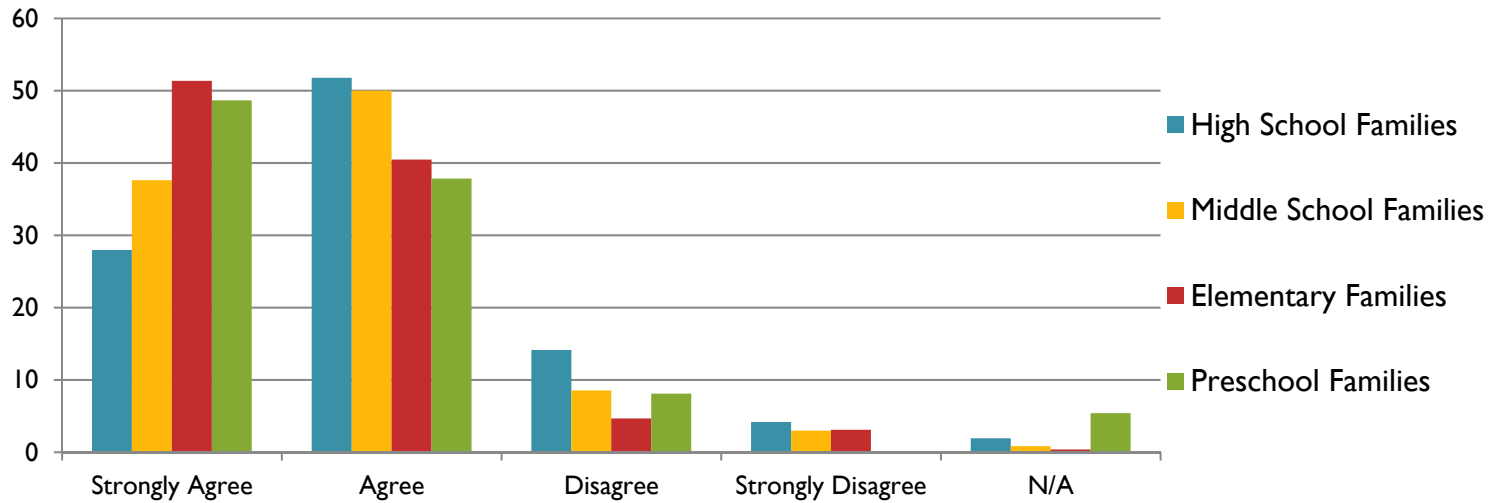
Snow Day Extended Learning Program assignments were provided in a format that was easy for my student(s) to access.



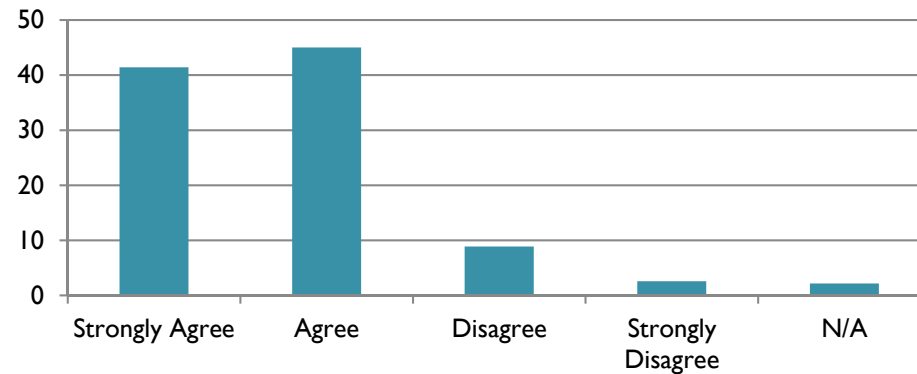
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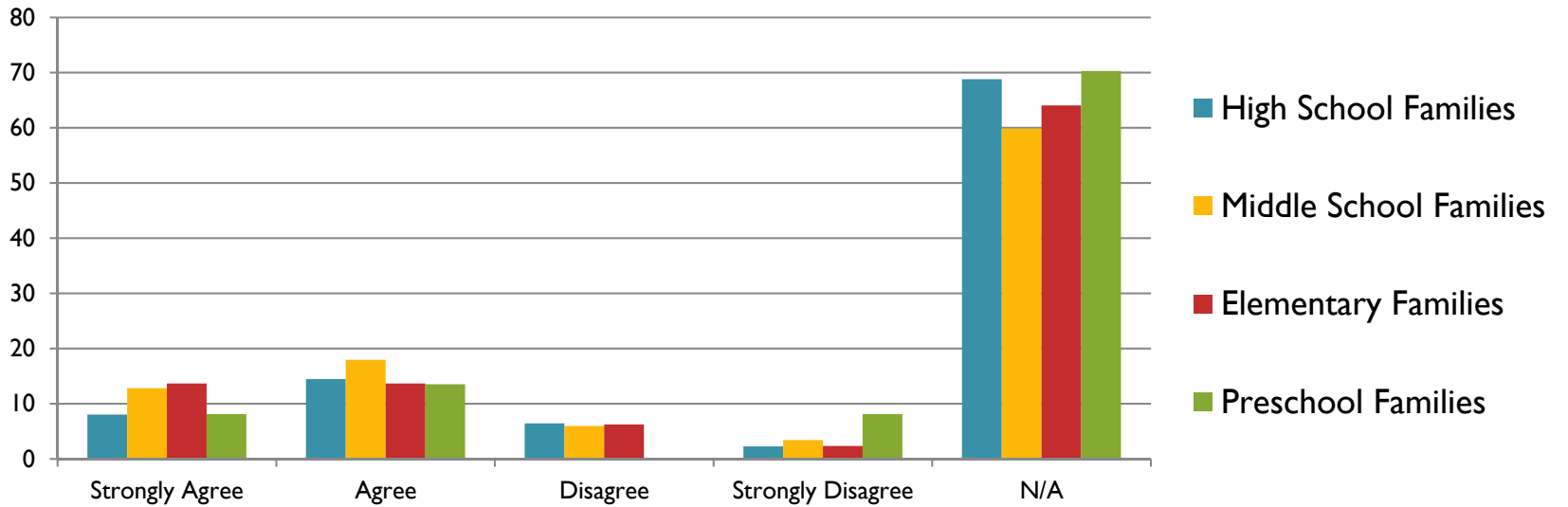
The amount of work my child received from his/her teachers was manageable in the time allotted.



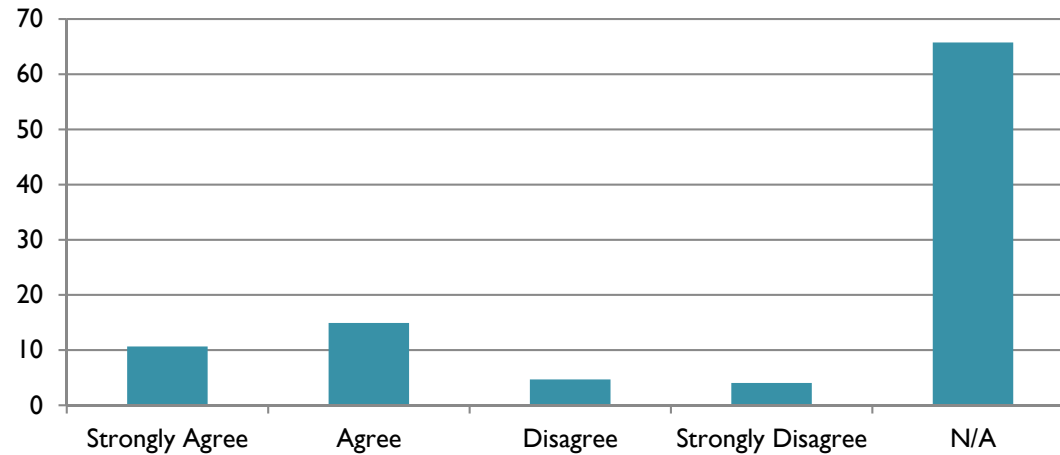
Average for Question



As the parent of a student on an IEP, I feel my child's Snow Day Extended Learning Program assignment was appropriately modified and supported.



Average for Question





Family Survey Strengths Trends

- Overwhelming support the program quality over days added in June.
 - “The extended learning program was a very successful pilot. It provided meaningful work over a manageable amount of time. It is a great solution to addressing the issue of ending school too late in June. The committee is to be commended for their thoughtful planning.”
 - “It was presented to the students in such a way that my daughter was excited to get started to do the project.”
 - “This is brilliant. I bet other towns going to school through the end of June wish they used this!”
 - “The extended learning proposal is an excellent concept which benefits all while maintaining the current curriculum.”
- Questions about seniors and assignments was split (some felt they shouldn't have assignments, others appreciated that they were not missing as many days)
 - “I would make it so seniors could opt out of this program...it is one of the things seniors look forward to, not having to make up snow days.”
 - “Students check out the last 2 weeks of school...therefore, it is more beneficial for students to do the snow day extended learning program which benefits all students including seniors”



Family Survey Suggestions for Improvement

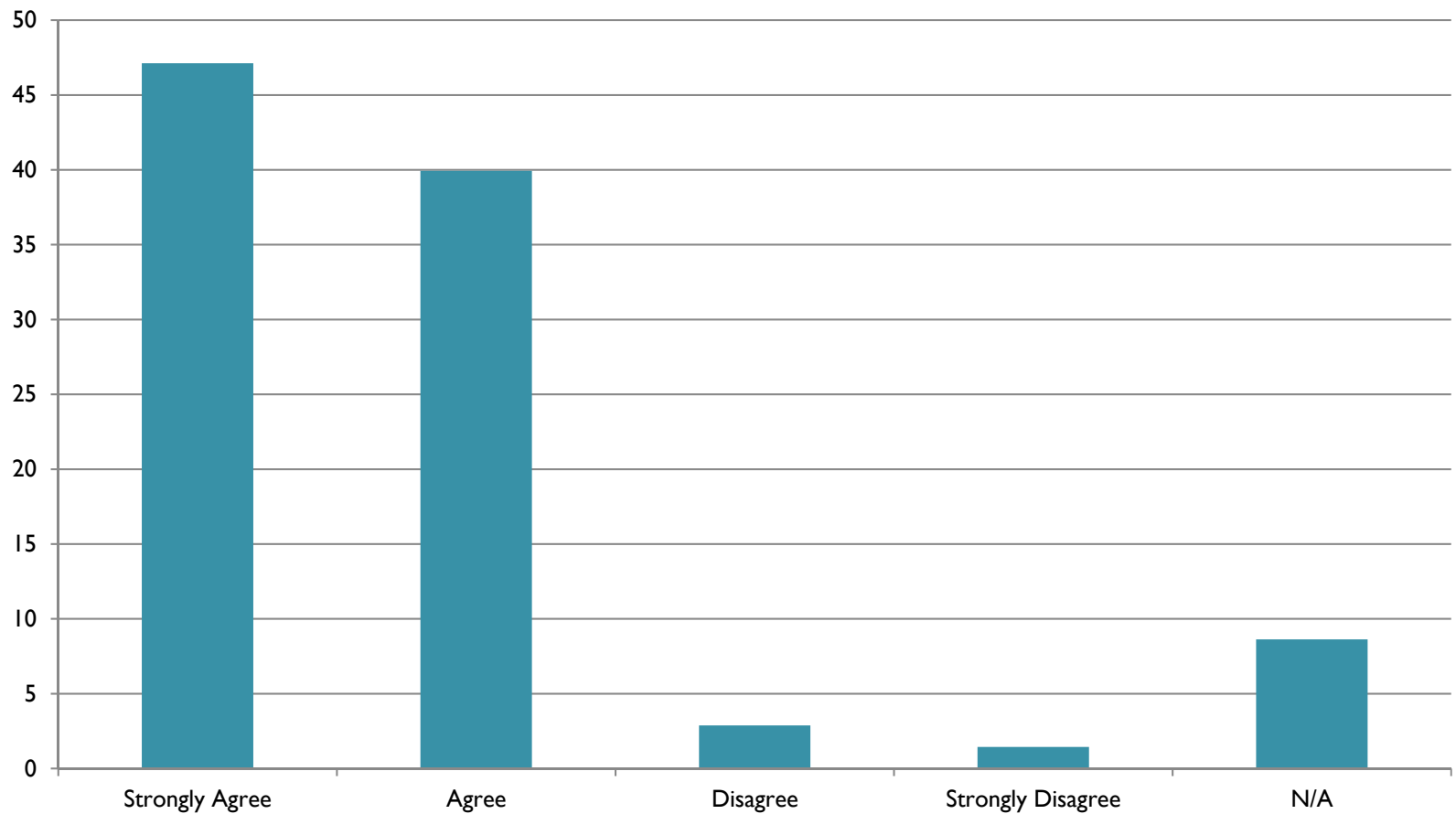
- Would like to see more consistency across the schools in following the guidelines set up regarding; length of assignments, when assignments are posted (or passed out), when they are due, only for classes that are missed. with clearer communication about directions and due date clarification and check-ins for longer assignments.
 - “I did find differences with schools. I got the feeling not all teachers were on board. The expectation that some assignments be due the next day seemed unrealistic. The best assignments were those scheduled out at least a week.”
- A few families felt the assignments required too much parent supervision; would prefer assignments were designed to be more independent.
 - “Thank you for listening and letting parents express their thoughts about the extended learning pilot this winter. As a family with two full time working parents we do the very best to teach our children the importance of school. However, even though we finished the children’s projects we don’t agree or support this program. We had a hard time fitting in these extended learning activities and the stress started to boil over with frustration and we lost important family time...”

Questions Specific to Staff



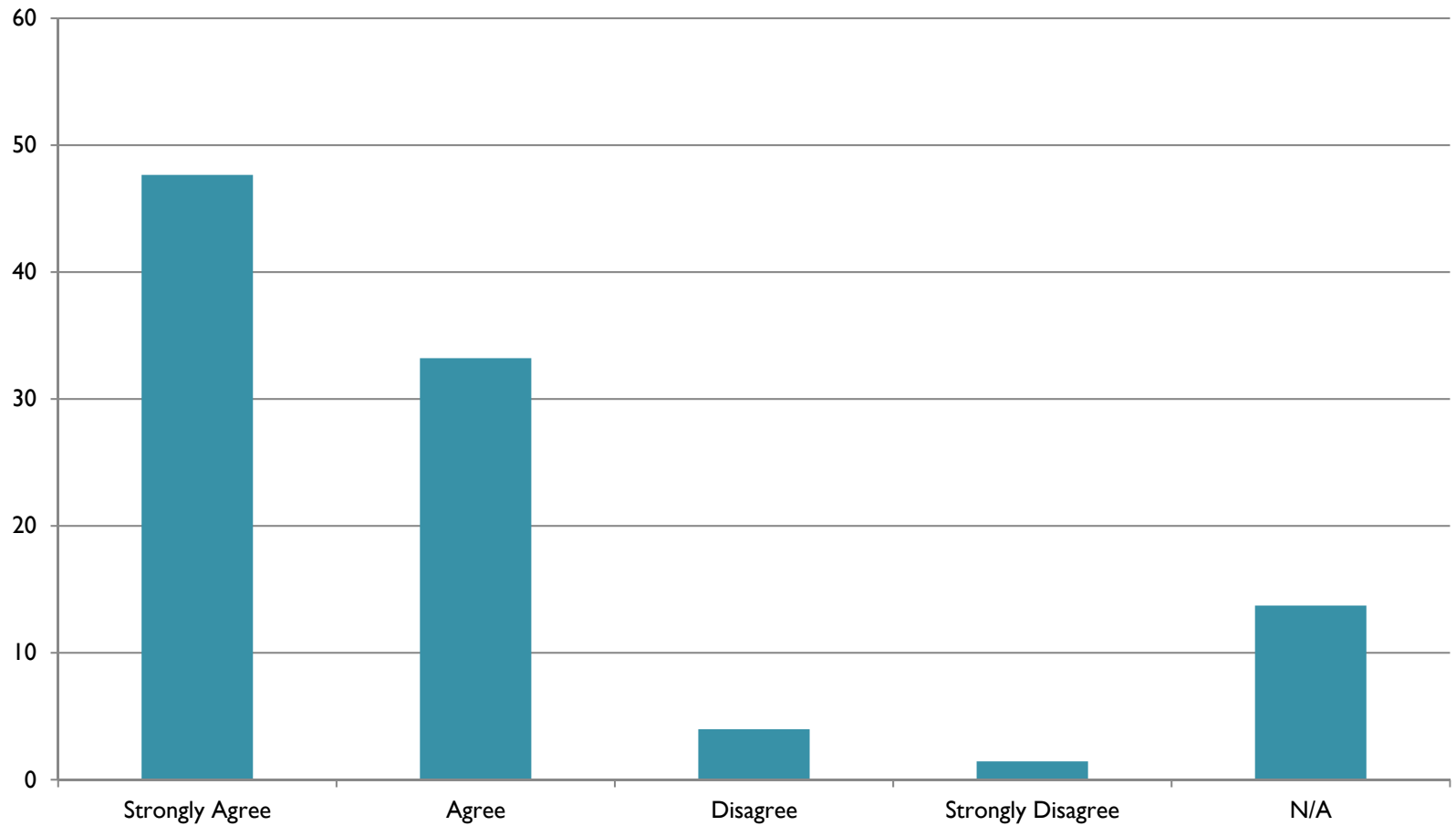
Snow Day Extended Learning Program assignments took an appropriate amount of time to create, implement, and assess relative to preparing a typical classroom assignment.

NMRSD Staff



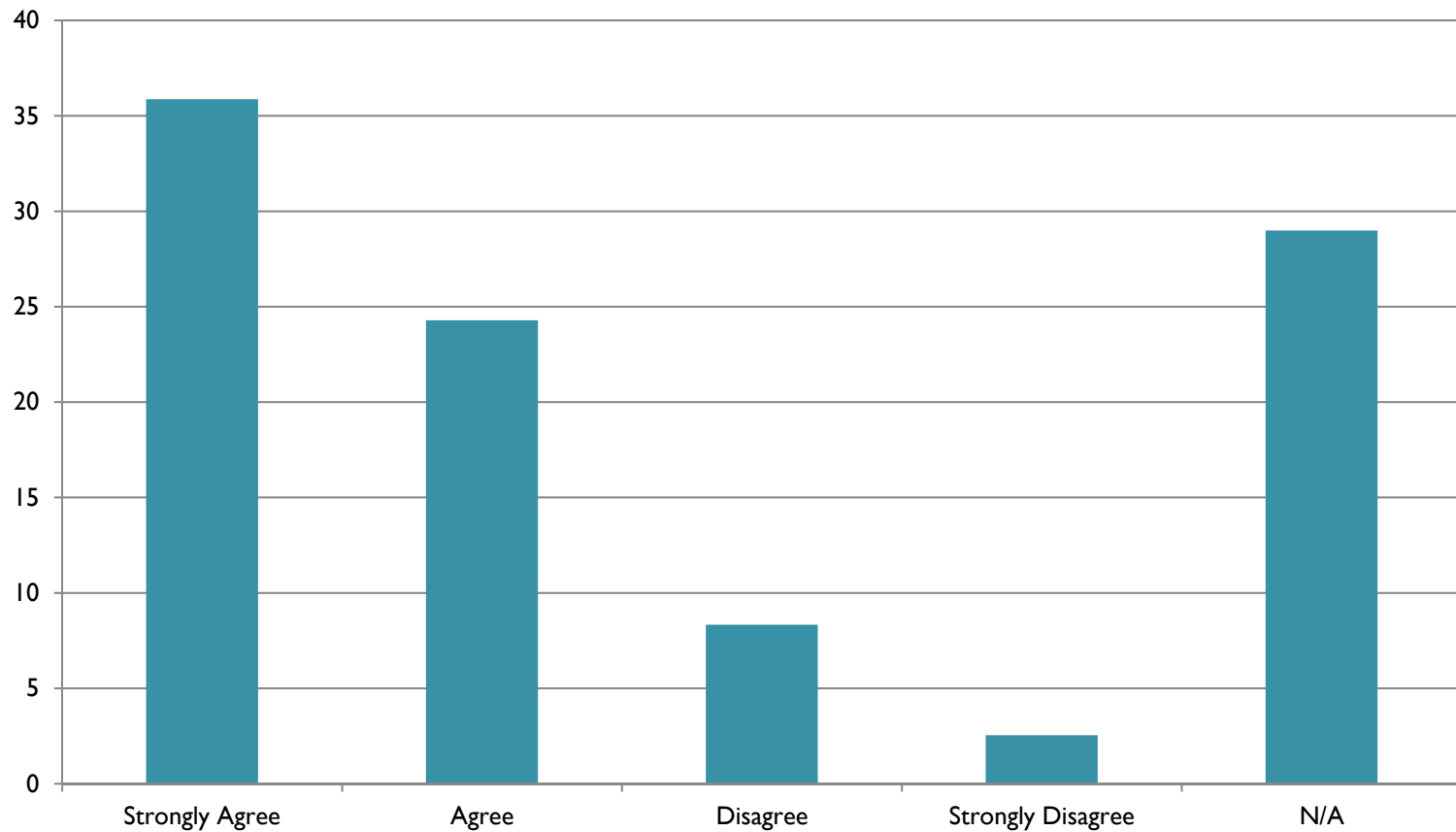
It was manageable to create Snow Day Extended Learning Program assignments that were meaningful and relevant to the curriculum I teach.

NMRSD Staff



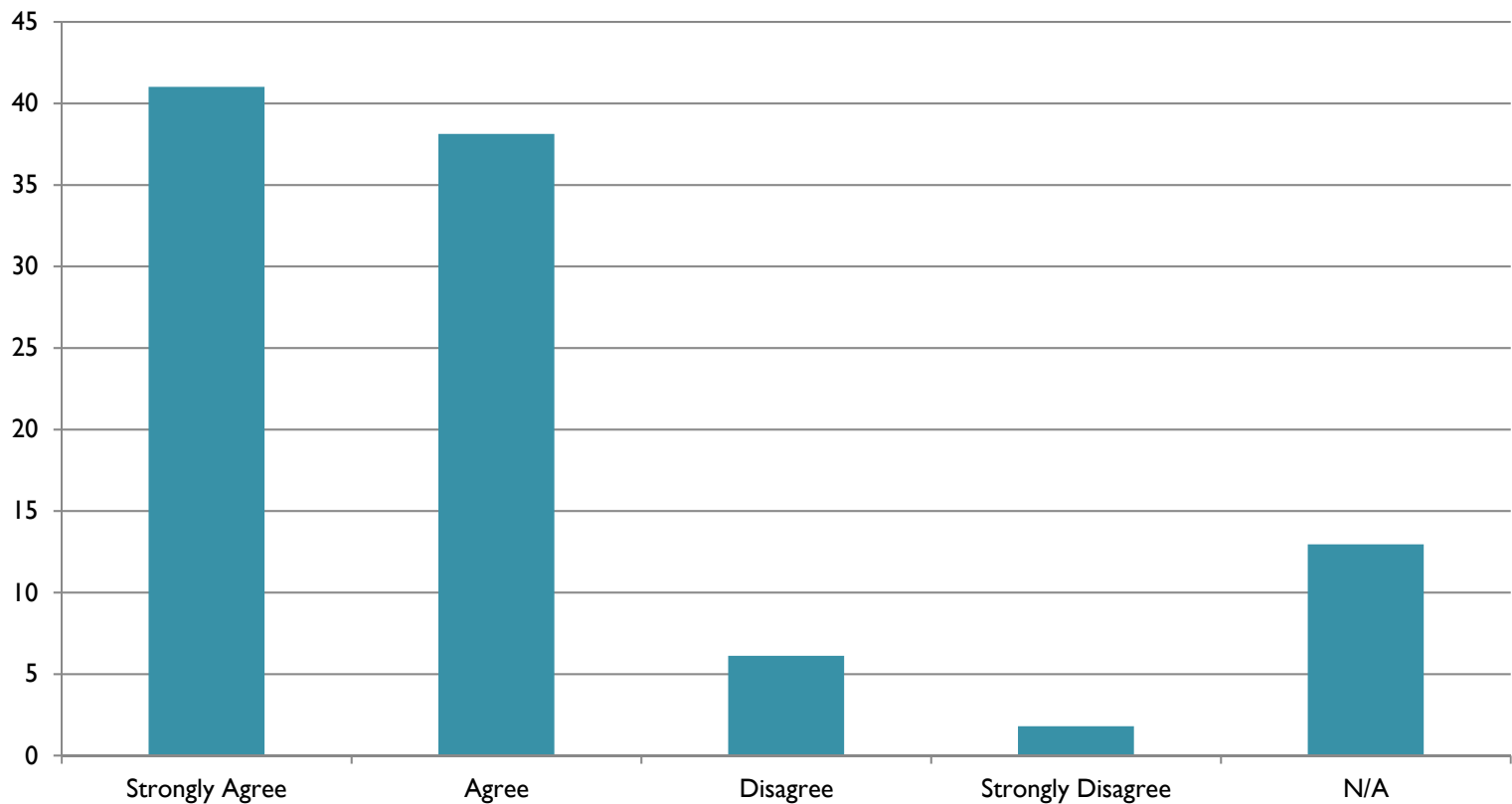
I worked with other team/staff members to create assignments that integrated multiple areas of the curriculum.

NMRSD Staff



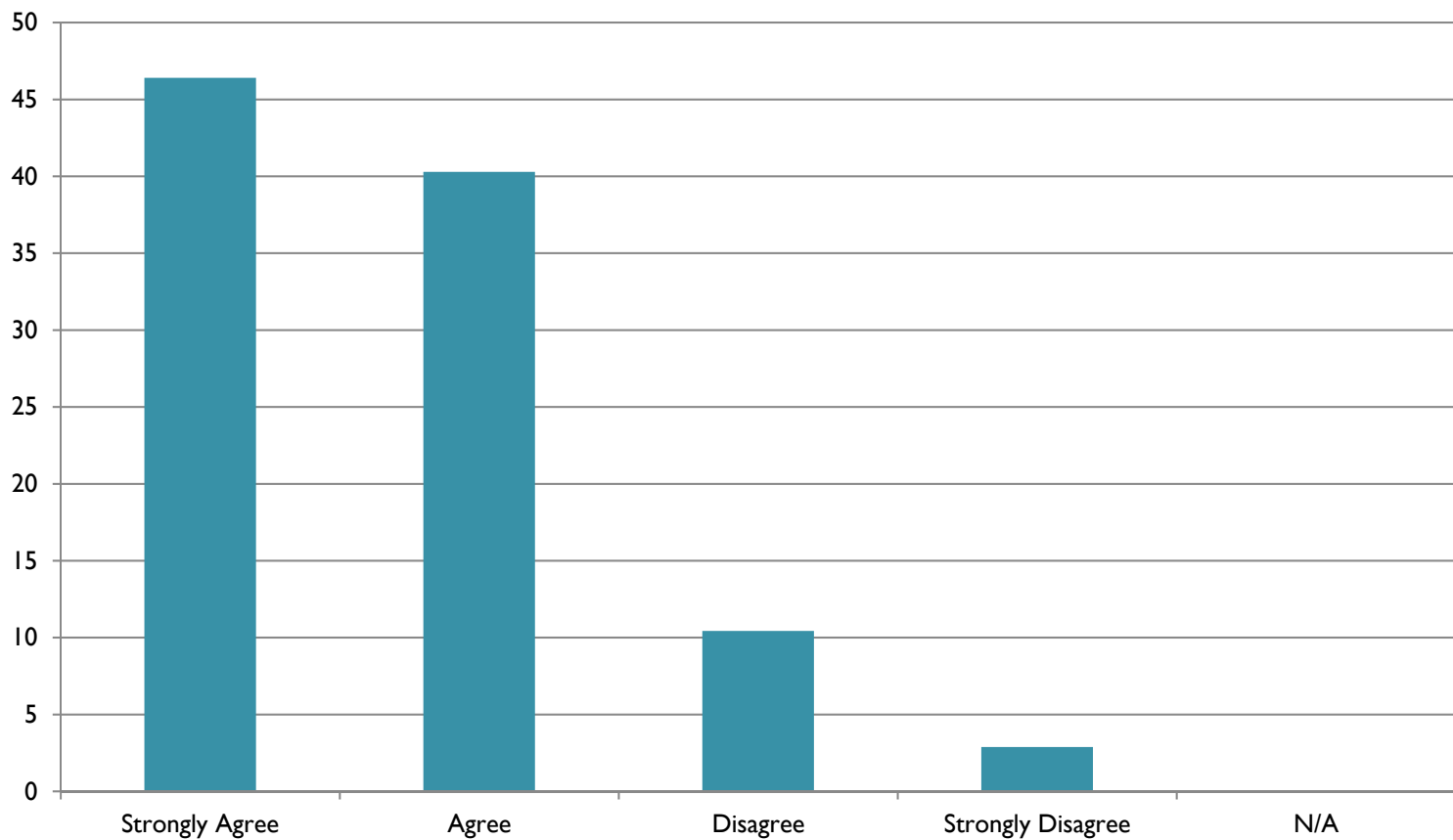
The majority of my students completed their Snow Day Extended Learning Program assignments either on their own or with support from a subject teacher, special education teacher or paraprofessional.

NMRSD Staff



The options on the Roles and Responsibilities Chart for fulfilling my role in the Snow Day Extended Learning Program were communicated effectively and appropriate to my role.

NMRSD



NMRSD Staff: I used the Extended Learning time to complete the following

Activity	Responses
Prepare, support and correct assignments	203
Professional Development through reading of articles and webinars	132
Communication with parents	112
Writing Reports or IEPs	76
Prepare and present staff in-service in area of expertise	7
Assignment preparation for a classroom or special education teacher	138
Data Analysis	78
Time outside of the school day to support students	62
Time outside of the school day to collaborate with colleagues	94
Professional Development seminars/conferences attended on weekends/non-contract work days	22
Other	24



NMRSD Staff Survey Strengths Trends

- Overall positive results and comments.
 - “I thought the program went well considering how quickly it was put together. I am looking forward to having more time next year to implement, as well as a chance to “tweak” the plans we used and make them even stronger.”
 - “It was helpful to use the time for test prep. Adding days at the end of the year does not help prepare students for standardized tests that have already happened.”
 - “This model is excellent. It keeps the students on track with learning even though they are not in the classroom and keeps the teachers working through supporting students and creating meaningful assignments. All of this is accomplished without adding additional days at the end of the year, which tend not to be effective teaching days.”
 - “This program is a strong introduction to all extended learning that students may encounter in the future. This gave students the opportunity to see the importance of time management, and also encouraged students to actively explore new ways of learning, including online classrooms and online discussion boards.”



NMRSD Survey Areas for Improvement Trends

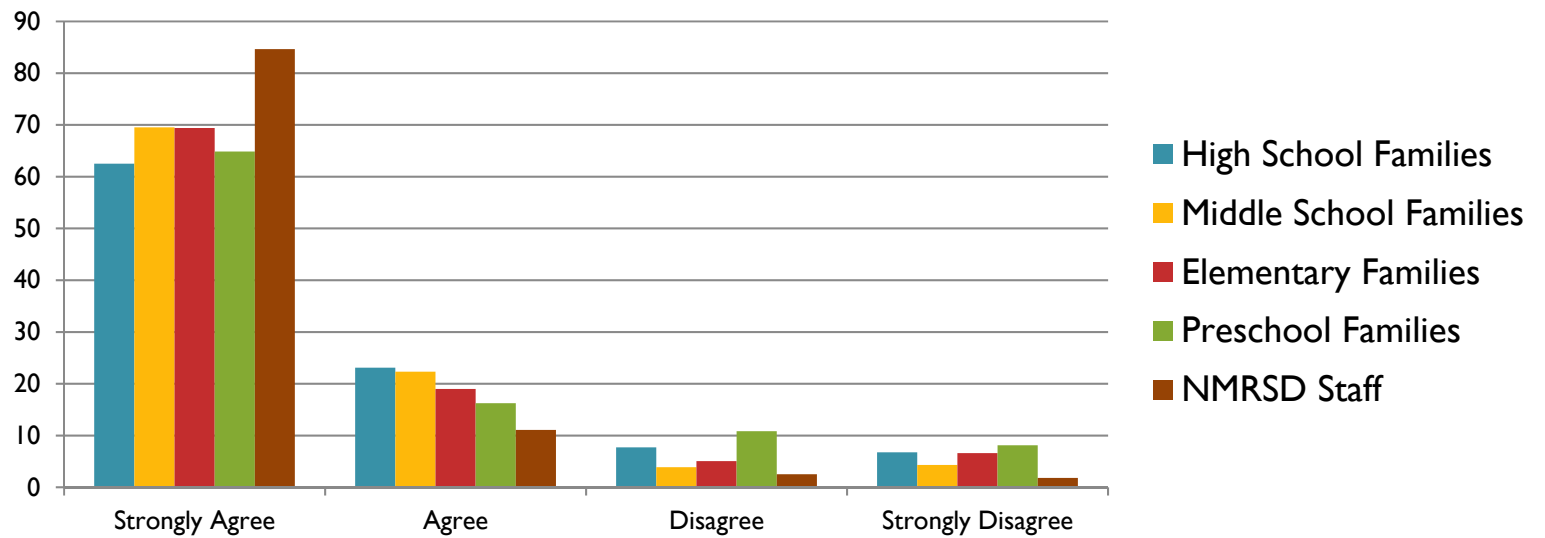
- Would like some professional development time to work on clarity, consistency and assignment quality across the district.
 - “Perhaps use PD time or faculty meetings to explain it (expectations of plan) more in-depth. Since it was a pilot plan I think it worked well, but (*students, staff, families*) had many questions.
 - “It would be beneficial for schools across the district to be consistent...”
 - “I think the Extended Learning days are a great addition to our school, however, I would appreciate a mandatory faculty meeting so our assignments are more uniform.”
- Would like clarification on due dates, assignment lengths, grading and attendance.
 - “I believe this year there was some confusion on expectations. I believe different teachers had different levels of difficulty in their assignments. However, I think doing a trial run gave us some insight on how to improve next year individually. It can also serve to help us more clearly define and implement our expectations of the assignments as a district...”

Next Steps/ Recommendations

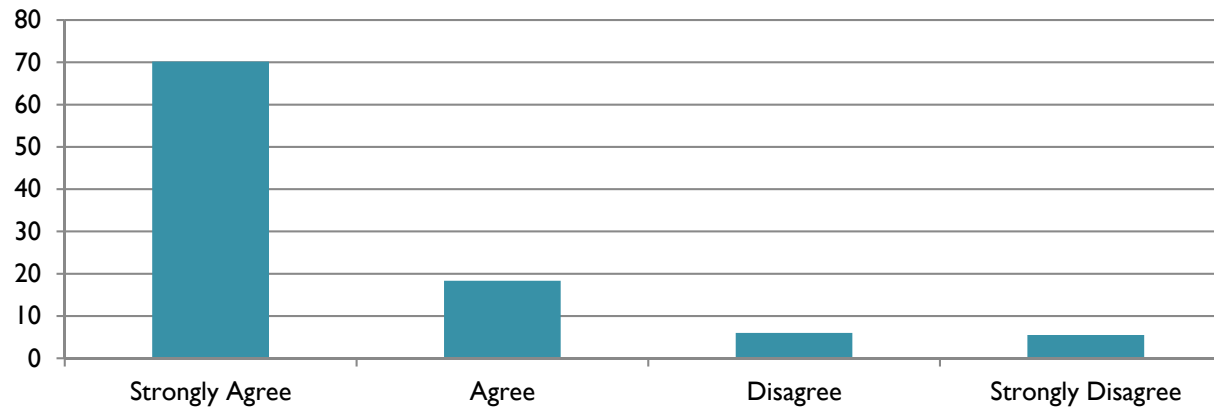


The Snowy Day by Ezra Jack Keats

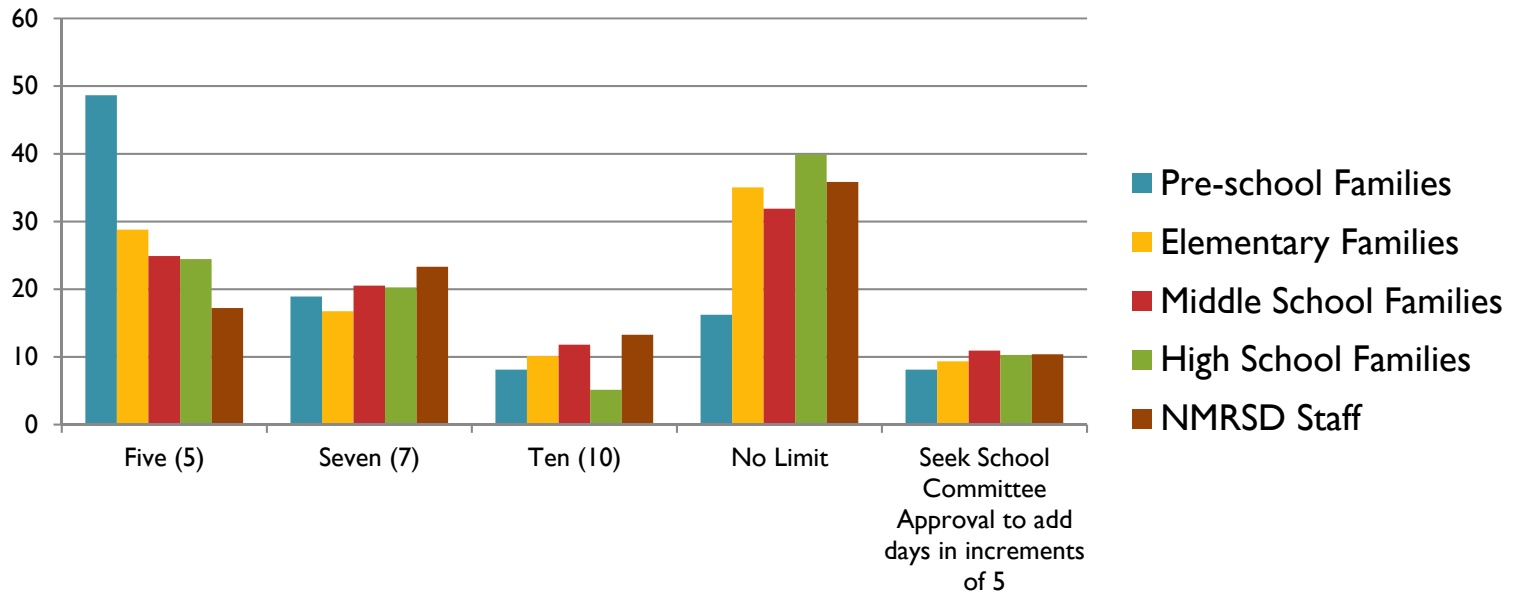
I support the adoption of the Snow Day Extended Learning Program as a district practice, beginning with the start of the 2018-2019 school year.



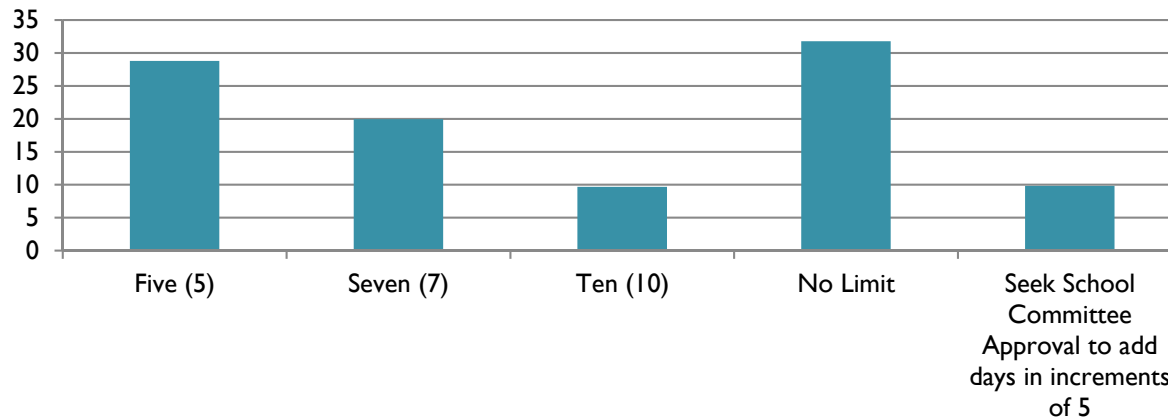
Average for Question



If adopted by the district I recommend the Snow Day Extended Learning Program be implemented for the following number of snow days/school cancellations per year.



Average for Question





Summary quotes

“I am impressed with the extended learning program because it shows the district trusts its teachers to design meaningful projects aligned with the curriculum. I think the program pilot was excellent because it was flexible and provided enough time for students to complete meaningful work. Bravo to the committee who created (*and adopted*) the pilot!

–Middle School Parent

“*not continuing with Extended Learning would be a missed opportunity to understand what 21st Century Learning is about*”

-NMRSD administrator



Recommendations

- The Extended Learning committee thanks the school committee for the opportunity given to pilot this program and to gain important feedback from families of preschool, elementary, middle, and high school students, as well as the NMRSD staff.
- If the plan is adopted for the upcoming year The Extended Learning committee would recommend to the District Leadership Team that some professional development time be provided for all staff to be devoted to enhancing and clarifying the program specifically in the areas noted in both the family and staff surveys.
- The Snow Day Extended Learning Committee would like to respectfully request that the school committee consider adopting this plan as a district curriculum practice based on it's success during the pilot year and the results of the family and staff survey results.