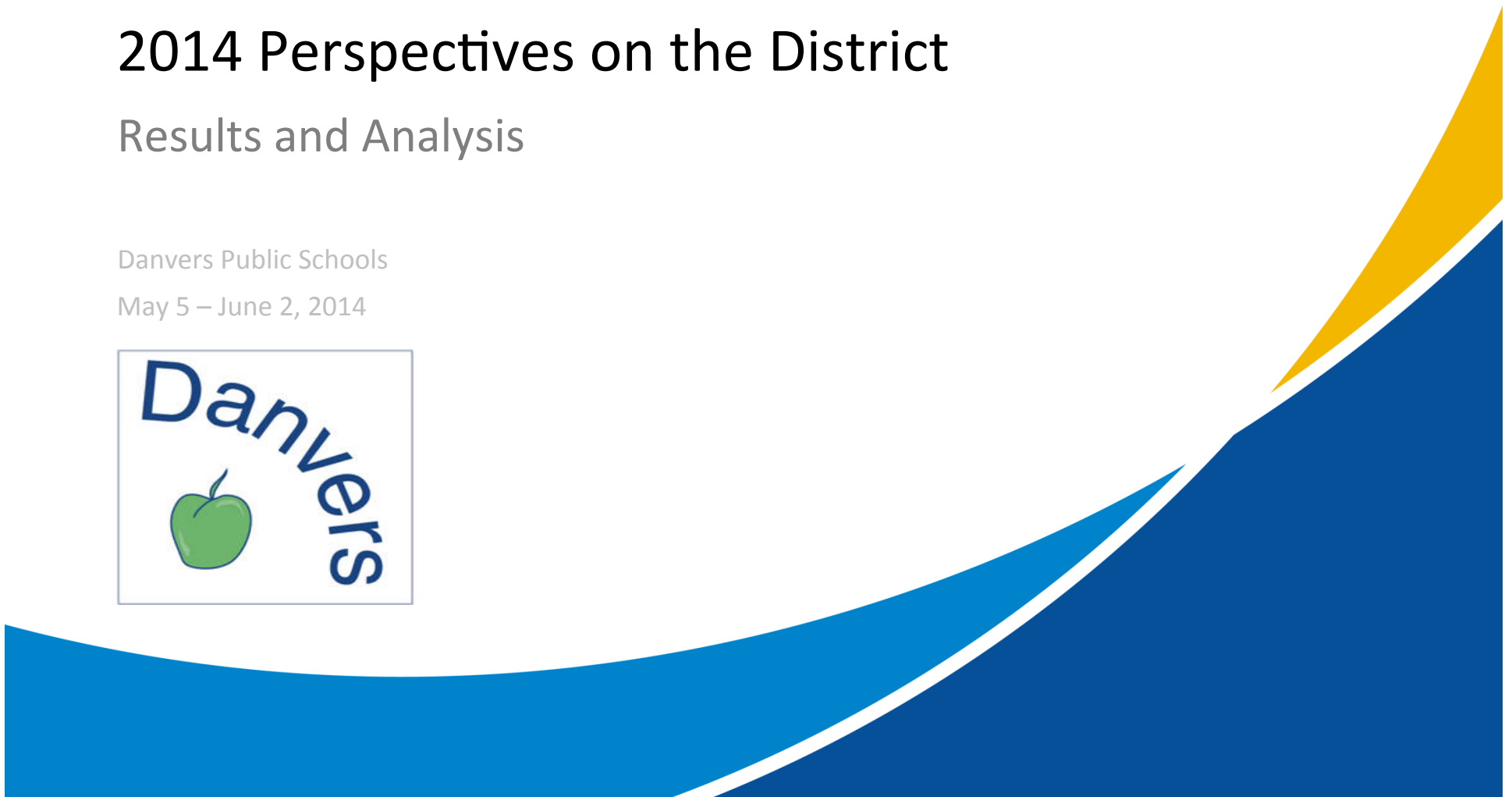


2014 Perspectives on the District

Results and Analysis

Danvers Public Schools
May 5 – June 2, 2014



Overview

Project Goal

The Perspectives on the District Survey is a cornerstone for Danvers Public Schools' community engagement strategy. The survey informs parents and community members of important decisions and challenges faced by the school district during the current year. It allows the district to communicate successes and measure community perceptions.

Topics and Dimensions

Overall Quality

Mission

Core Values

Vision

Strategic Plan

Target Population

Community Members (including staff and parents/guardians)

Technical Notes

Survey Development

- In order to increase content validity, survey questions were jointly developed in collaboration with district staff.
- Most questions were voluntary.

Survey Deployment

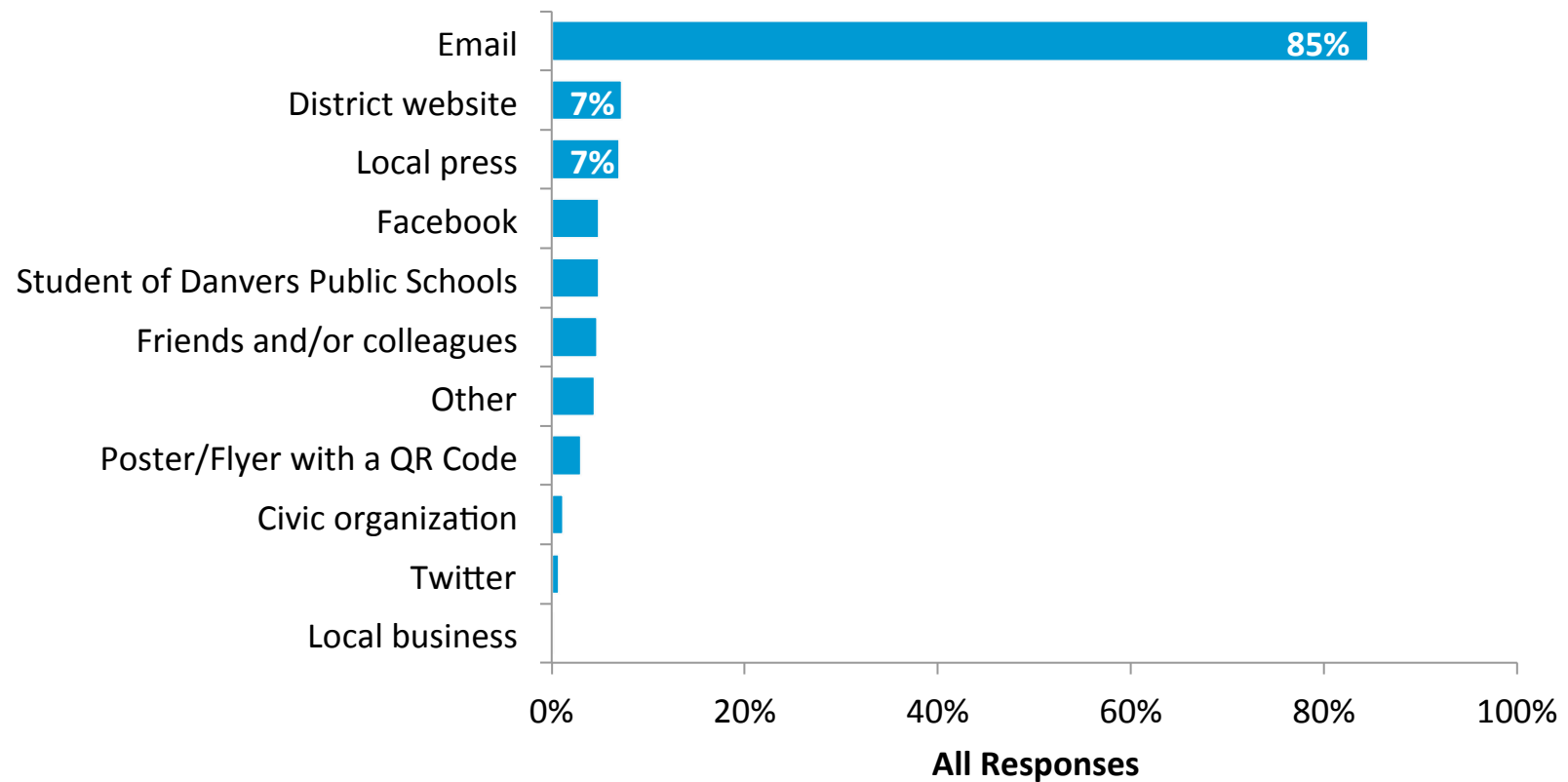
- Pre-survey communications included press releases, a letter to participants, all-call parent notifications, staff email announcements, posters and flyers.
- The survey was administered via a public URL.
- The survey was offered in English and Spanish. Only one Spanish survey was received.
- Paper surveys were available at town hall, the public library and the senior center. Seven were received and entered within the school district.

Data Analysis and Reporting

- Results do not reflect random sampling; therefore, they should not be generalized to the entire community. Rather, results reflect the perceptions and opinions of just those community members who responded to the survey.
- The findings for each item in the report exclude participants who did not answer the item.
- Data labels of 5% or less are not shown.
- Written responses to open-ended questions were provided to the Superintendent.
- Analysis of comments was conducted where 100 randomly selected open-ended responses were analyzed for common themes.

Survey Mode

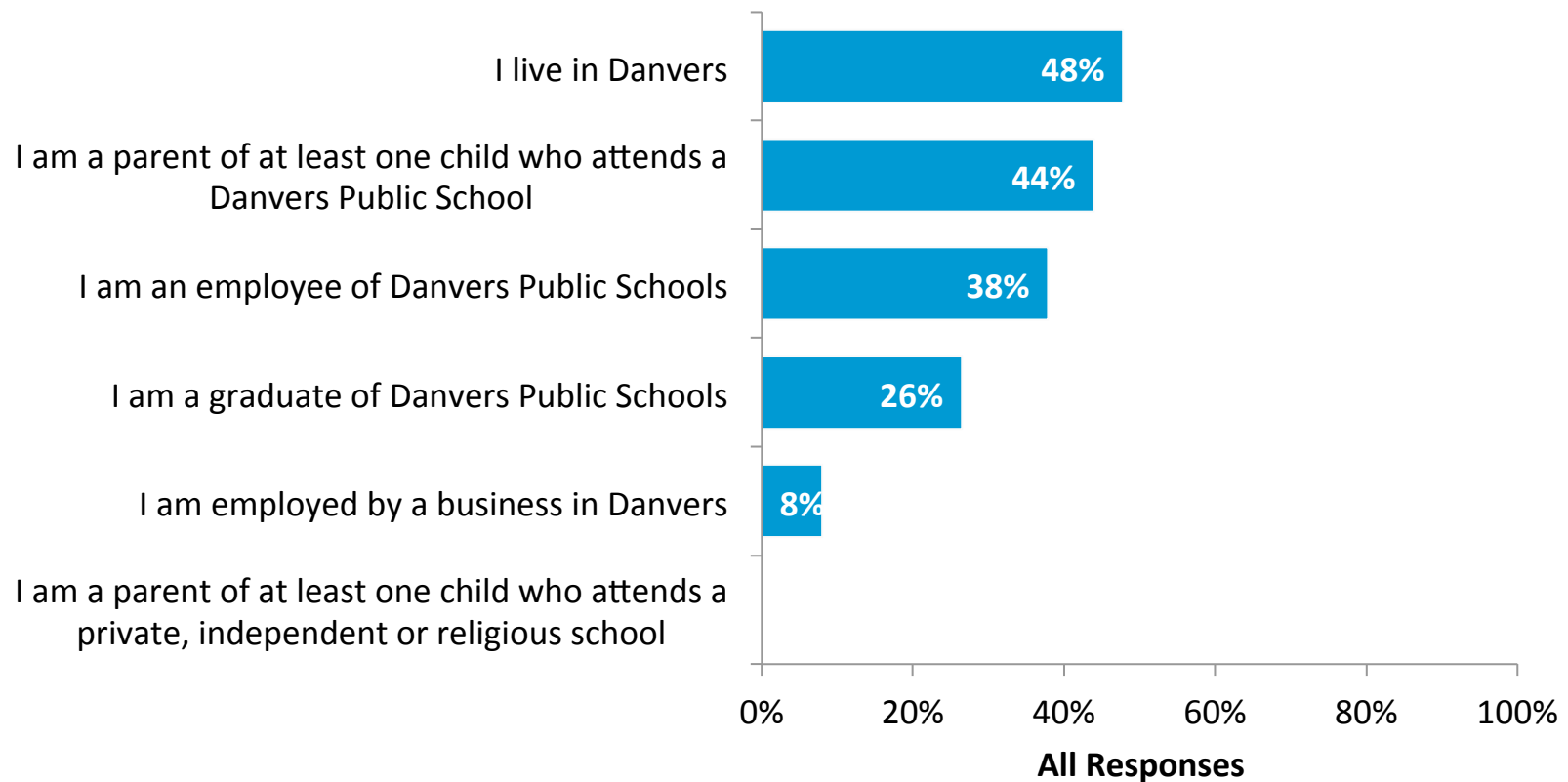
How did you hear about this survey? (N=428)



Note: The sum of percentages may exceed 100% because participants could select more than one response option.

Participant Details

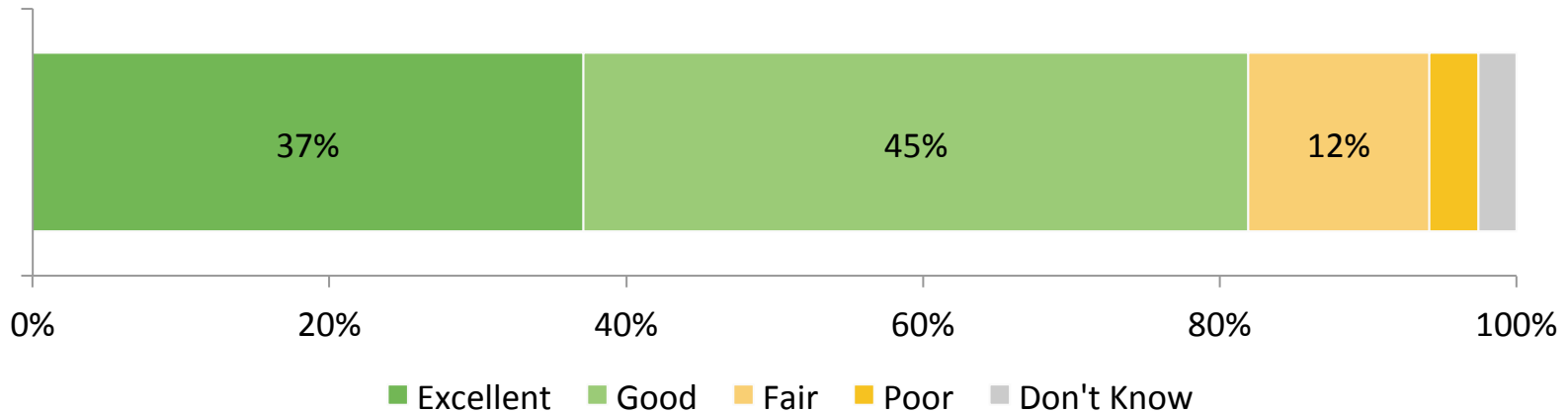
Which of the following describes you? (N=412)



Note: The sum of percentages may exceed 100% because participants could select more than one response option.

Overall Quality of Danvers Public Schools

How would you rate the quality of the school district as a whole for how well we are educating our children? (N=426)



Mission Statement

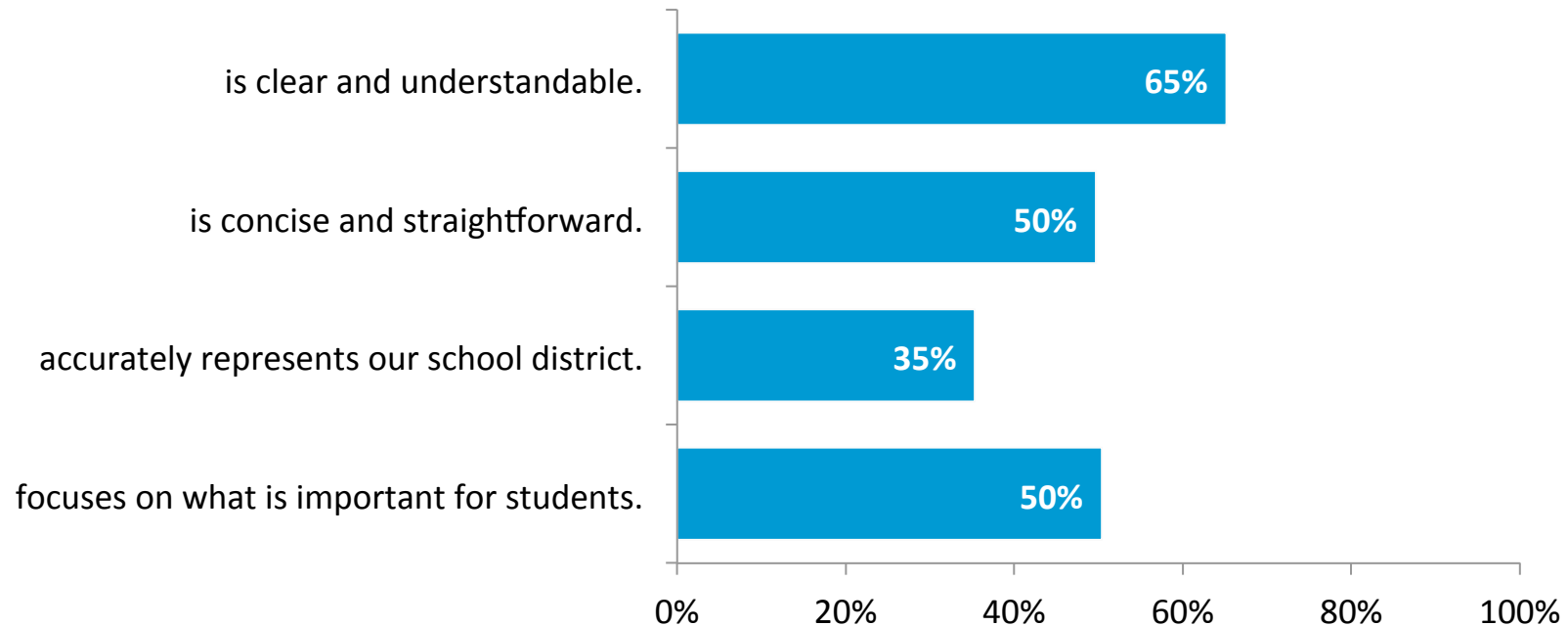
The mission statement for Danvers Public Schools is:

Danvers Public Schools is a dynamic community of independent learners dedicated to respect, responsibility, creativity and the pursuit of academic and personal excellence.

Mission Statement

Which of the following statements represents your feelings about this mission statement?

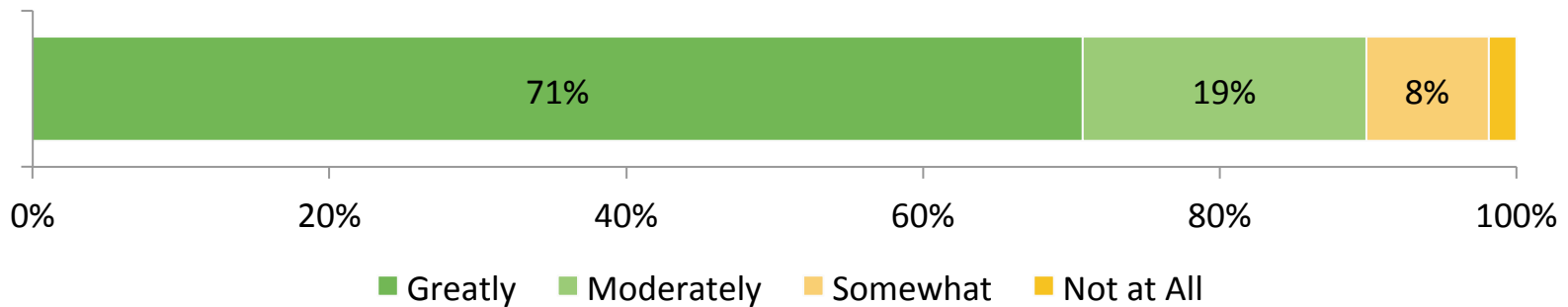
This mission statement . . . (N=419)



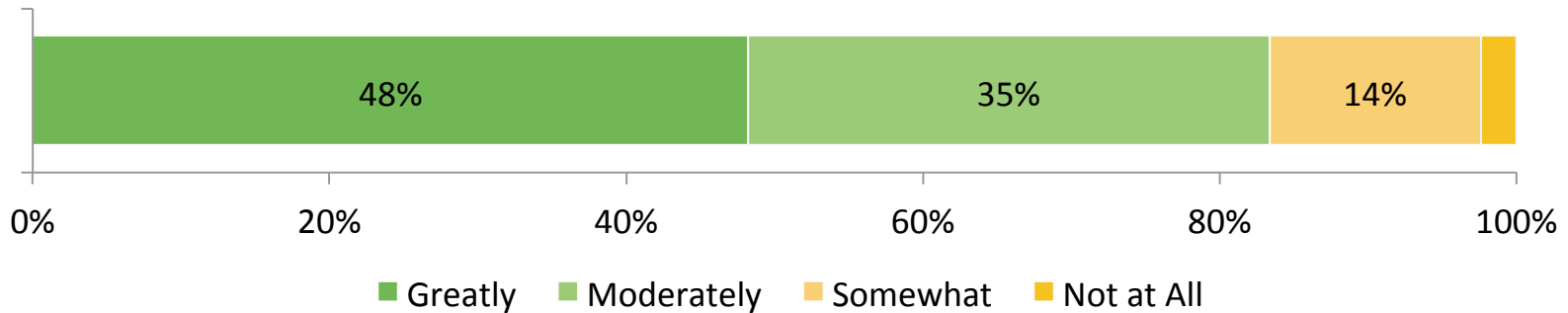
Note: The sum of percentages may exceed 100% because participants could select more than one response option.

Mission Statement

How strongly do you support this mission statement? (N=424)



Do the Danvers Public Schools reflect this mission statement? (N=415)



Core Values

The core values of the Danvers Public Schools serve as the organizing principles for the Danvers Public Schools. There is the expectation that all members of the system will know, understand and live these values in their day-to-day work and learning.

***Caring* . . . The District believes that a child-centered environment that demonstrates value and respect for individual differences best serves the unique needs of each child.**

***Quality* . . . The District believes that adherence to the highest standards for individual performance and achievement by all members of the school community is fundamental to life-long learning and continuous improvement.**

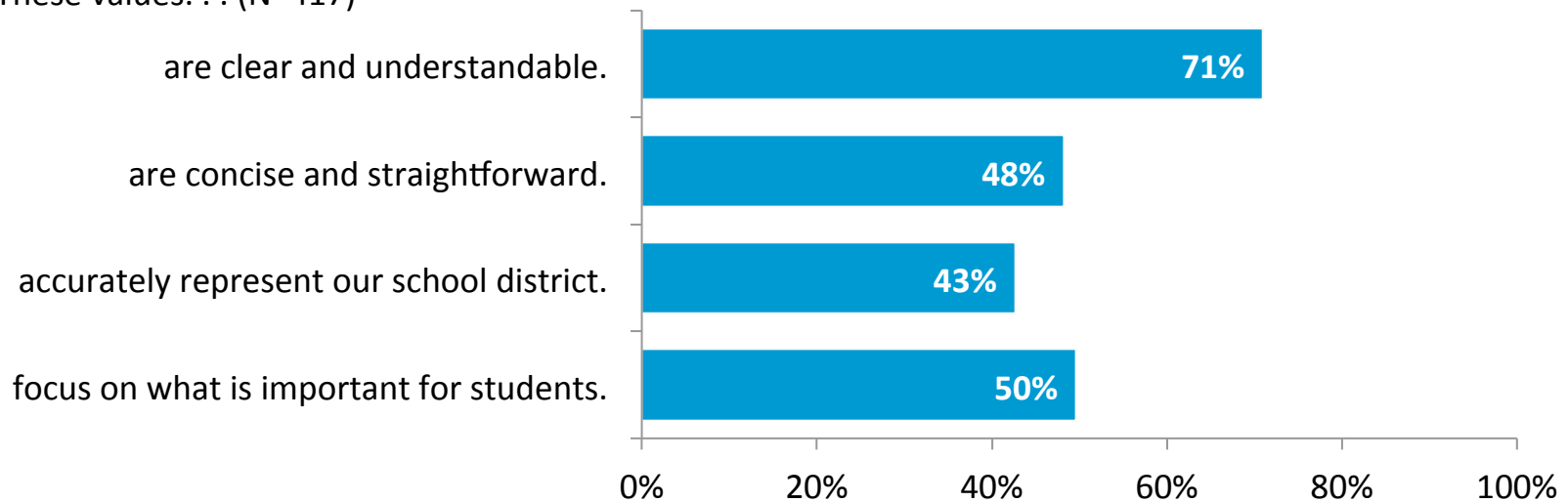
***Commitment* . . . Danvers Public Schools is committed to providing successful learning experiences and promoting high achievement for all students. We value teaching as a profession and are committed to developing teachers as leaders and supporting them in their shared responsibility for the learning success of all students.**

***Collaboration* . . . Danvers Public Schools is the center of a dynamic learning network, connecting individual learners with the best educational, technical and recreational resources.**

Core Values

Which of the following statements represent your feelings about these core values?

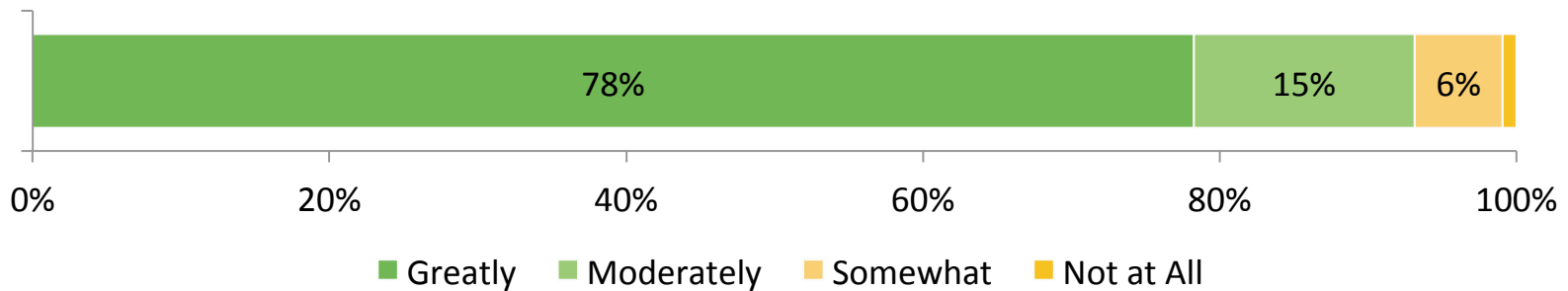
These values. . . (N=417)



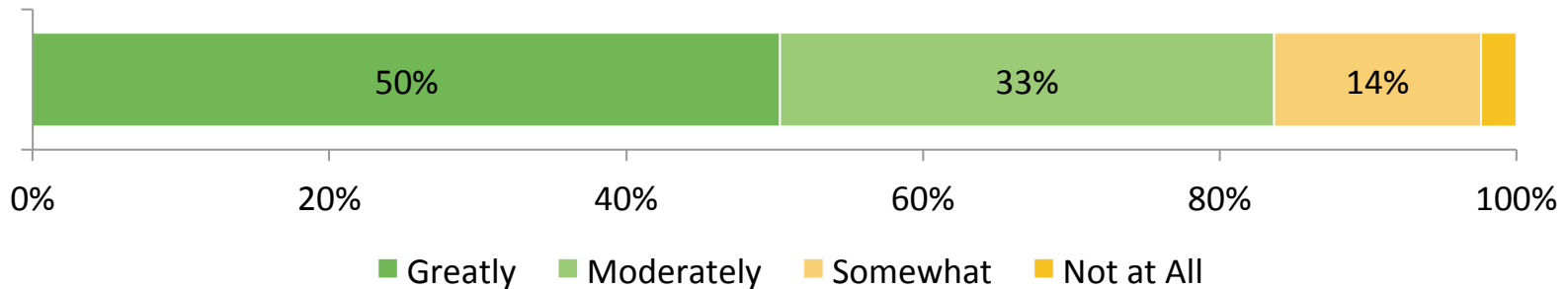
Note: The sum of percentages may exceed 100% because participants could select more than one response option.

Core Values

How strongly do you support these core values? (N=423)



Do the Danvers Public Schools reflect these core values? (N=417)



Vision Statement

The Vision Statement for Danvers Public Schools describes the desired state of our school district and includes the following target priorities:

The district is an inclusive community of learners that is respectful of individual differences, where all students are valued for their unique strengths and talents, and challenges are thoughtfully and effectively addressed.

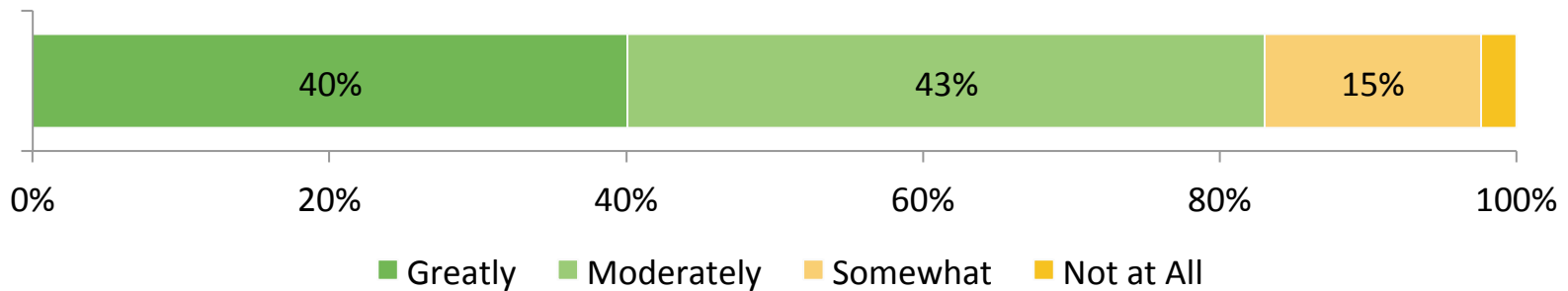
The schools are dynamic learning environments where research-based instruction is facilitated by talented, committed educators who set high expectations and are experts in content and pedagogy.

Leadership is cohesive and consistent throughout the school district, promoting the core values of caring, quality, commitment and collaboration in all aspects of the school community.

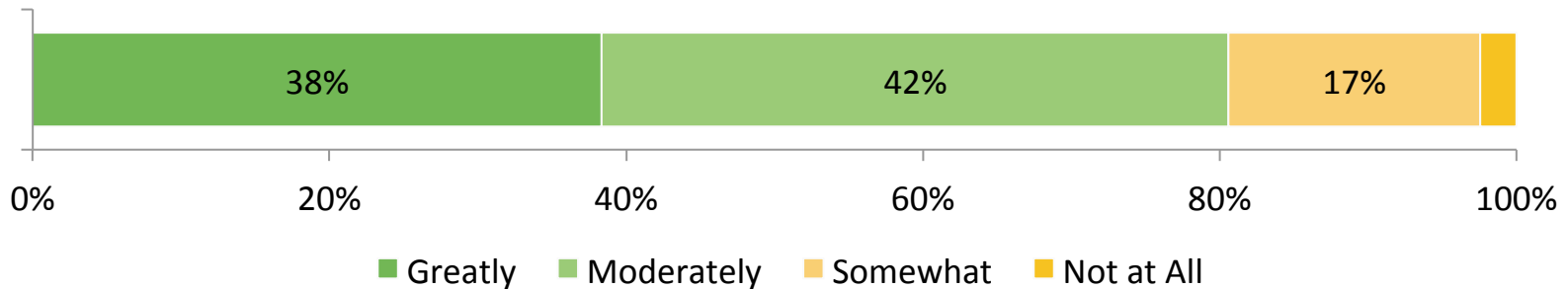
All students are fully engaged and invested in their learning.

Vision Statement

In your opinion, is Danvers Public Schools making progress towards meeting these target priorities?
(N=419)

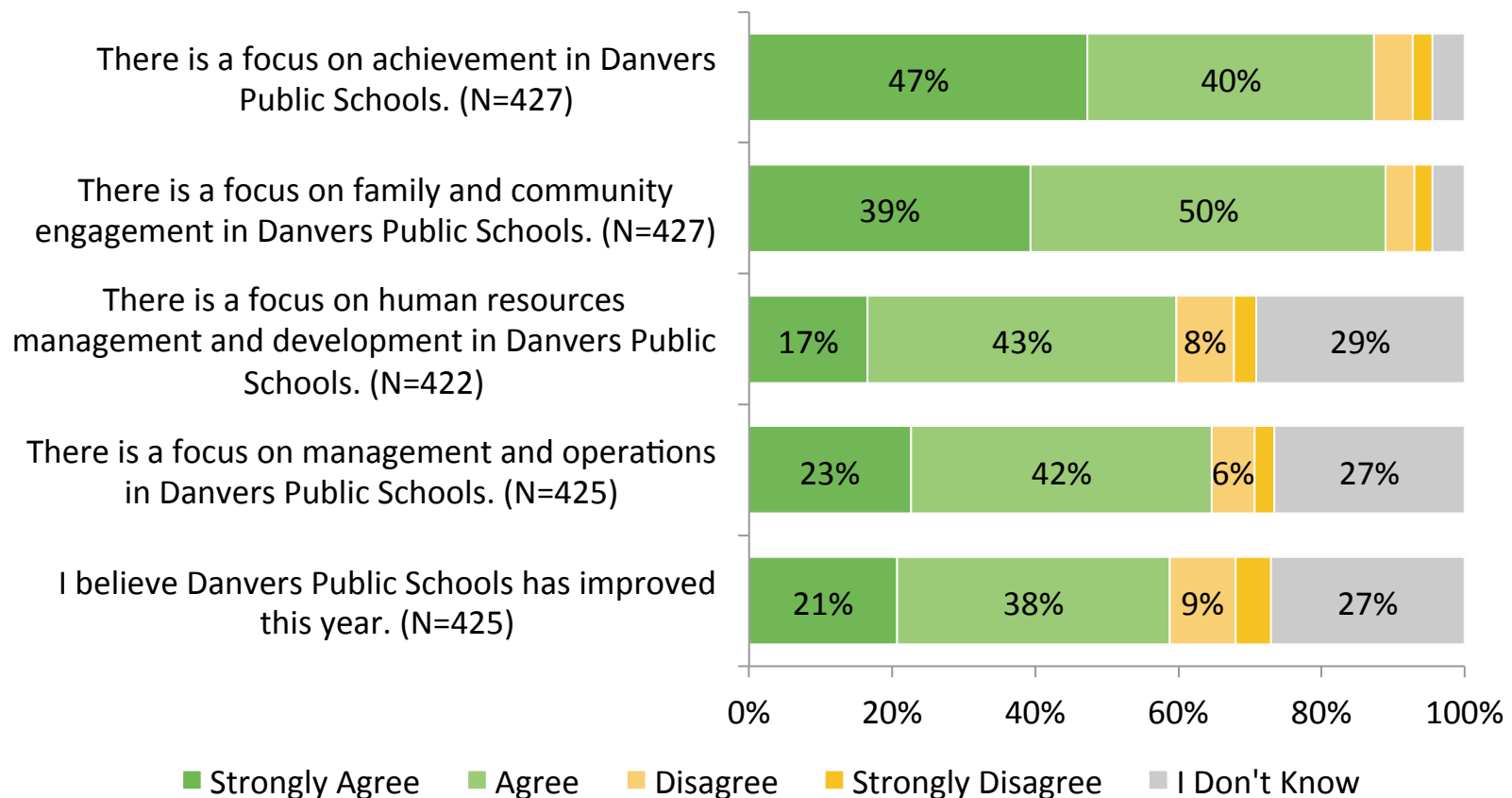


Do the Danvers Public Schools reflect this vision statement? (N=412)



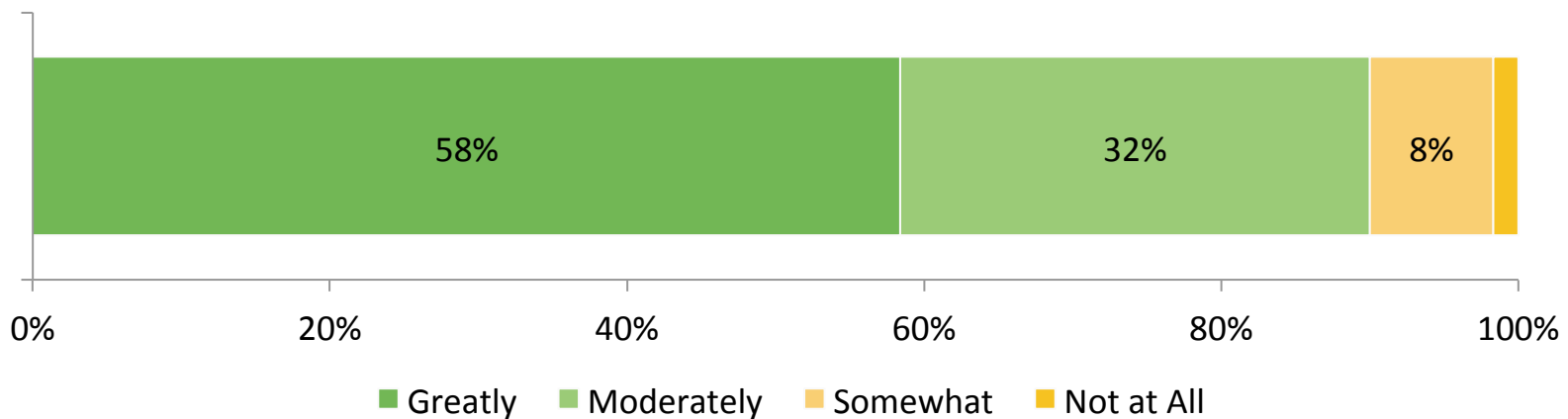
Strategic Plan

The following questions relate to the current strategic plan. How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements?



Strategic Plan

How strongly do you support the strategic plan? (N=411)



Improving Danvers Public Schools

How can we improve the Danvers Public Schools?

N = 203

- The most prevalent theme focused on improving communication with parents and community members. Participants had mixed views about how to improve this but did seek increased transparency and highlighting of successes as well as concerns. (N=12)
- Participants wrote about the need for improvement within special education and other student support services. Participants questioned how the services provided by the school district were comparable to neighboring districts. Additionally, participants felt special education staff needed additional training. (N=11)
- Access to technology was a concern, especially at the elementary level. Participants did not feel students or teachers could access technology devices or the Internet sufficiently to impact instructional activities. (N=9)
- Participants sought improvement with regard to 21st Century Skills, especially creative and critical thinking. Social and emotional skills development was more important than academic achievement to some participants, and they believed the district should focus more on them. (N=7)
- In addition, participants believed professional development opportunities for teachers should be increased, the school day should be lengthened (or extended in the morning for earlier drop-off) and specific focus should be paid to mathematics, science and English Language Arts instruction. (N=4, respectively)

K12 *Insight* is a technology-based research and communications firm that helps school district leadership better engage in conversations with parents, teachers, staff, students and the general public on critical district issues.

K12 *Insight*'s approach results in greater transparency and collaborative decision-making.

Watch our [Candid Conversations video](http://bit.ly/12m6z4x), at <http://bit.ly/12m6z4x>, to learn more about how we work.