



Pilot Weapons Abatement Program Update

School Board Meeting
May 23, 2024





Essential Questions

What are the survey results as it relates to the pilot weapons abatement program?

What are some of the strengths and opportunities for the program?

What is the staff recommendation as it relates to the future of the weapons abatement program?



Survey Overview

- Opened on April 5, 2024 and closed on April 28, 2024
- Was open to students, staff, family members and community members

Timeframe



- Student: 870
- Family Member: 726
- Staff: 183
- Community Member: 88
- **Total Respondents: 1867**

Survey Respondents



- Respondents provided feedback based on actual experience with pilot program and/or their thoughts on it being implemented at the elementary and K-8 level
- Not all respondents would have been routed to all questions

Survey Logic



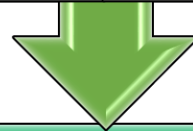


Survey Logic

The logic built into the survey was based on

Responder Demographic Category

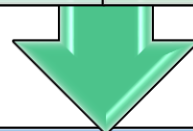
Experience with Current Weapons Abatement Pilot Program



All respondents were asked to provide

Racial/Ethnic Classification

Demographic Category (Student/Staff/Family Member/Community Member)



Full survey logic pathway attached to the Board Memo for this presentation

Student Pathway

Staff Pathway

Family Member Pathway

Community Member Pathway



Response Demographics

Subgroup with highest response rate:

- Students

Subgroup with the lowest response rate:

- Community Members

Overall racial/ethnic group response rates:

- White: 885
- Black: 322
- Hispanic/Latino: 261
- Multi-Racial: 236
- Asian: 115
- American Indian or Alaskan Native: 30
- Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander: 18



Results: Snapshot

I believe the weapons abatement pilot program supports a safer school environment:

- Strongly Agree: 234
- Agree: 337
- Neutral: 263
- Disagree: 179
- Strongly Disagree: 122

I feel more safe at school because of the implementation of the weapons abatement pilot program:

- Strongly Agree: 178
- Agree: 222
- Neutral: 254
- Disagree: 234
- Strongly Disagree: 171

I believe the weapons screening process takes too long:

- Strongly Agree: 33
- Agree: 71
- Neutral: 64
- Disagree: 840
- Strongly Disagree: 51

I believe the weapons abatement should continue at ACPs secondary locations:

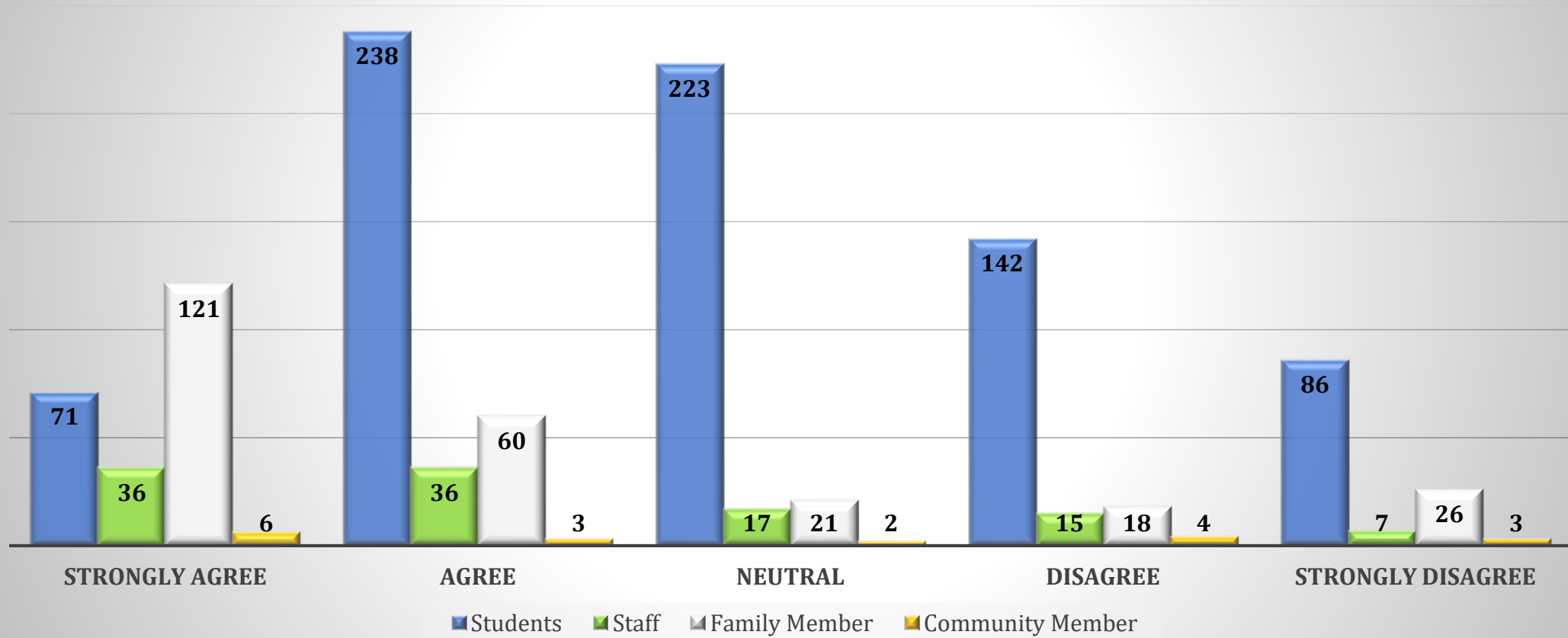
- Strongly Agree: 261
- Agree: 247
- Neutral: 209
- Disagree: 182
- Strongly Disagree: 176

I believe the weapons abatement program should be implemented at the elementary and K-8 school locations:

- Strongly Agree: 437
- Agree: 352
- Neutral: 285
- Disagree: 231
- Strongly Disagree: 364



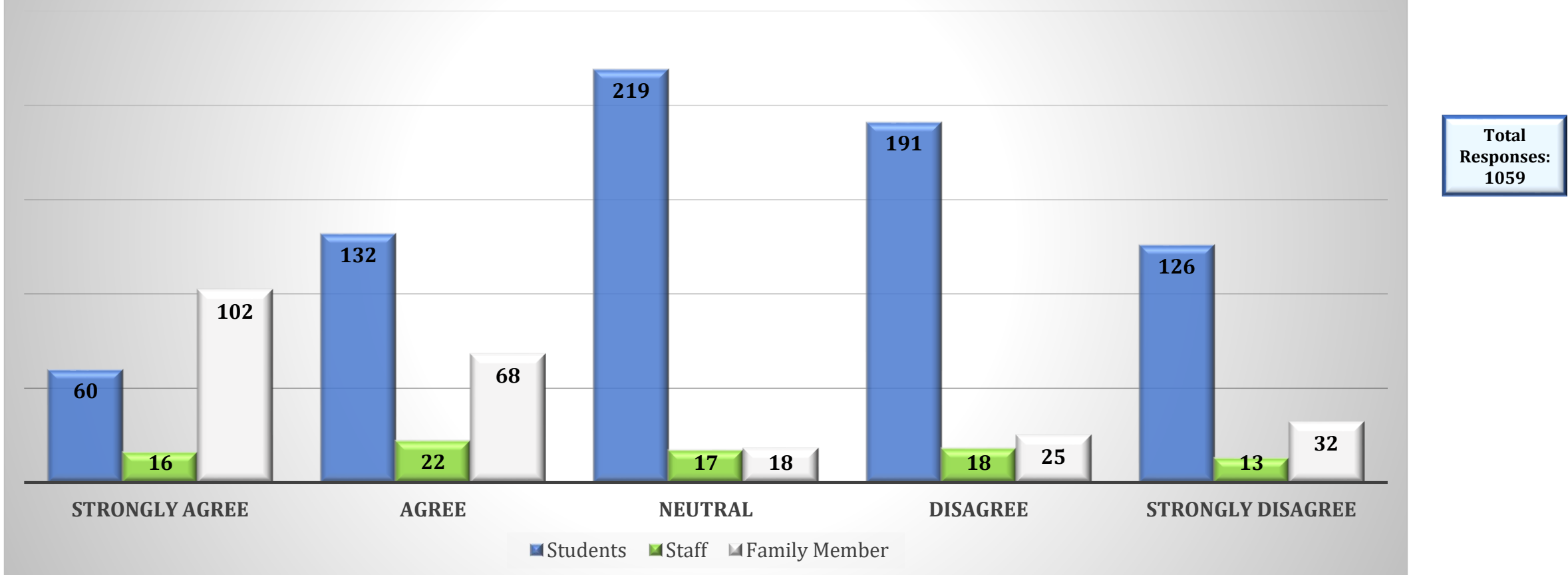
I believe the weapons abatement pilot program supports a safer school environment



Total Responses: 1135

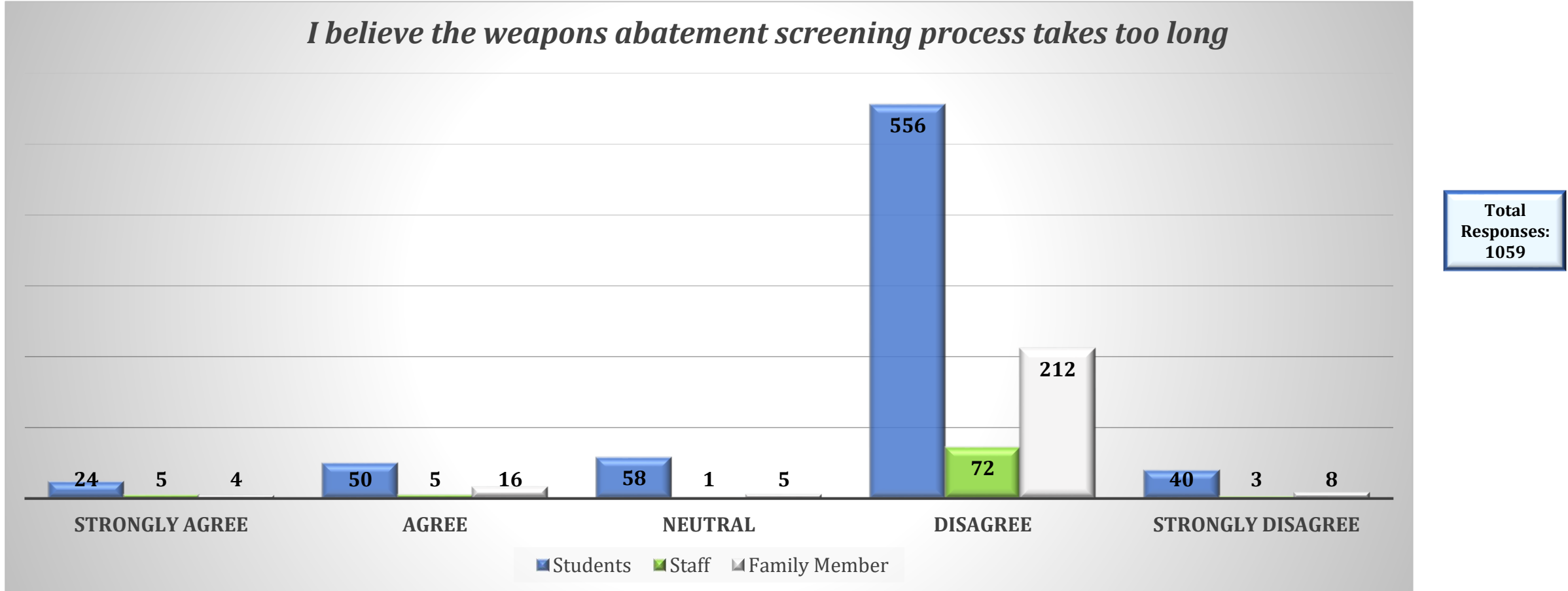


I feel more safe at school because of the implementation of the weapons abatement pilot program





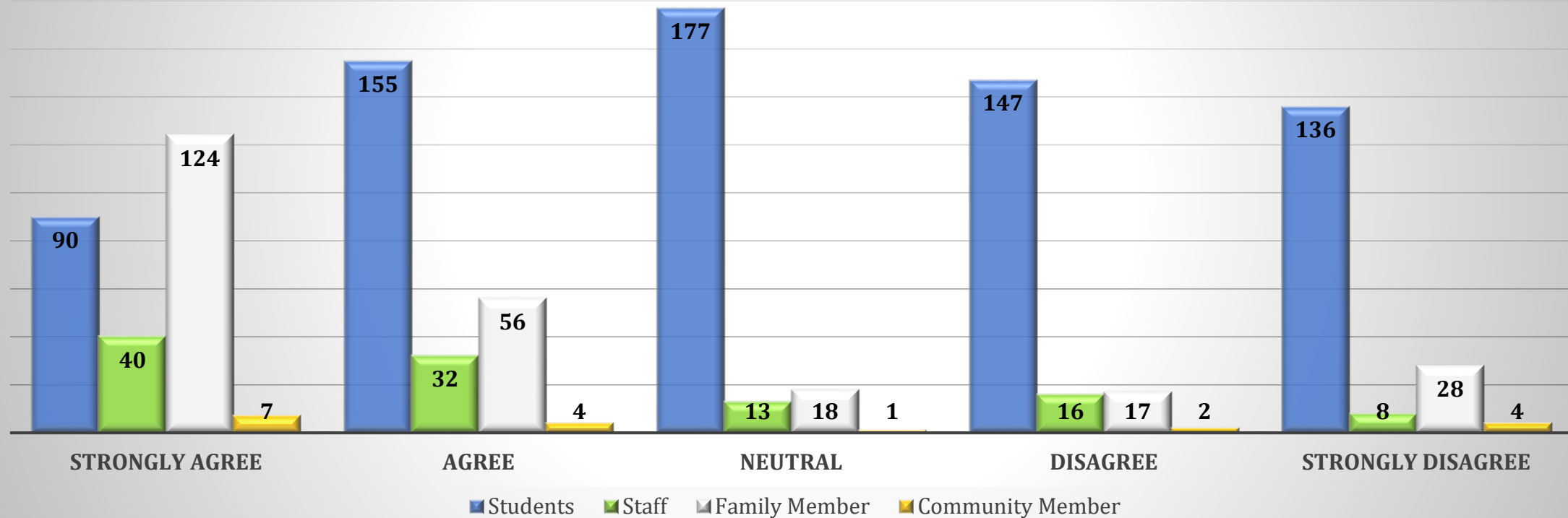
I believe the weapons abatement screening process takes too long



**All participants were not directed to this question per survey logic*



I believe the weapons abatement pilot program should continue at ACPS secondary locations

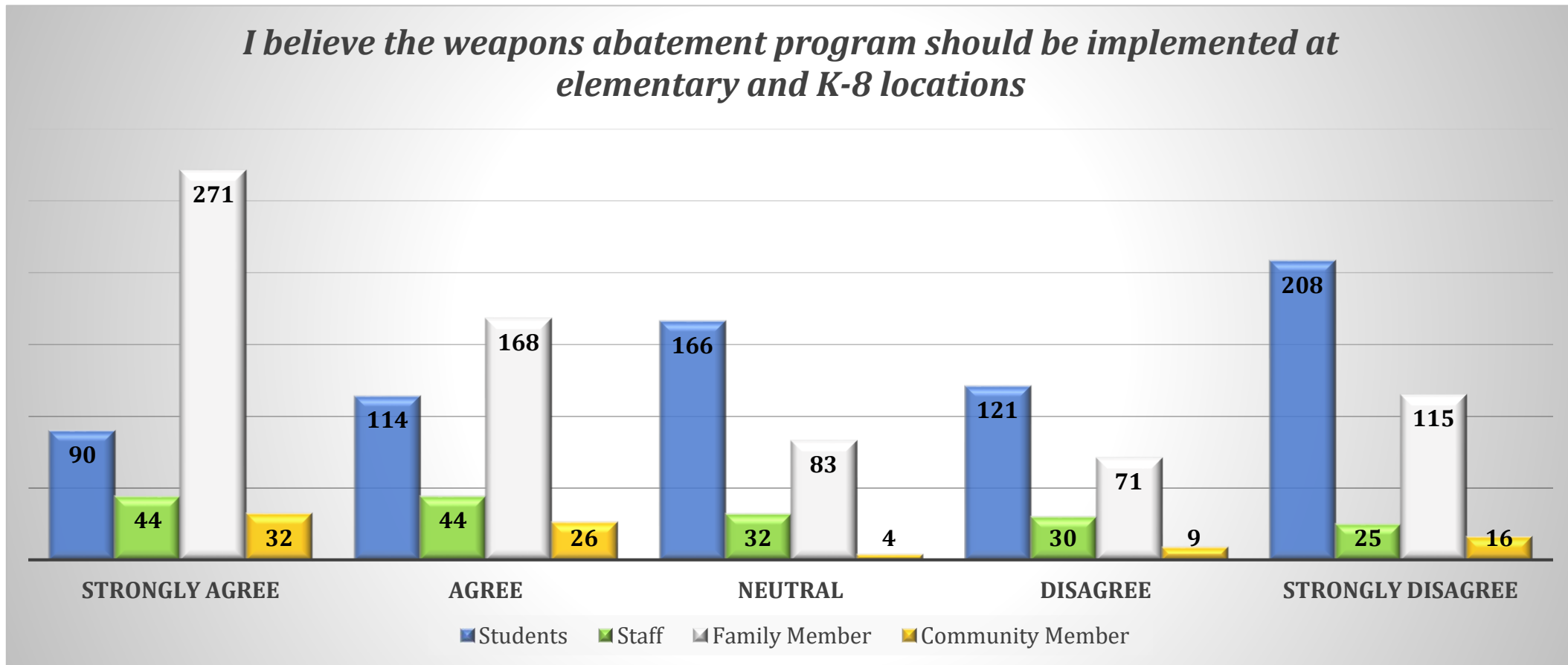


Total Responses: 1075

**All participant subgroups were directed to this question*



I believe the weapons abatement program should be implemented at elementary and K-8 locations




Total Responses: 1169




Strengths and Opportunities

Strengths



71% reduction in weapons-related incidents at the secondary schools since implementation




Removes level of subjectivity in regards to student searches




ACPS pilot program has gained interest from neighboring divisions


Opportunities



Continued process improvements to reduce time of screening



Reminding students of BLUE acronym for better preparedness prior to approaching weapons abatement stations

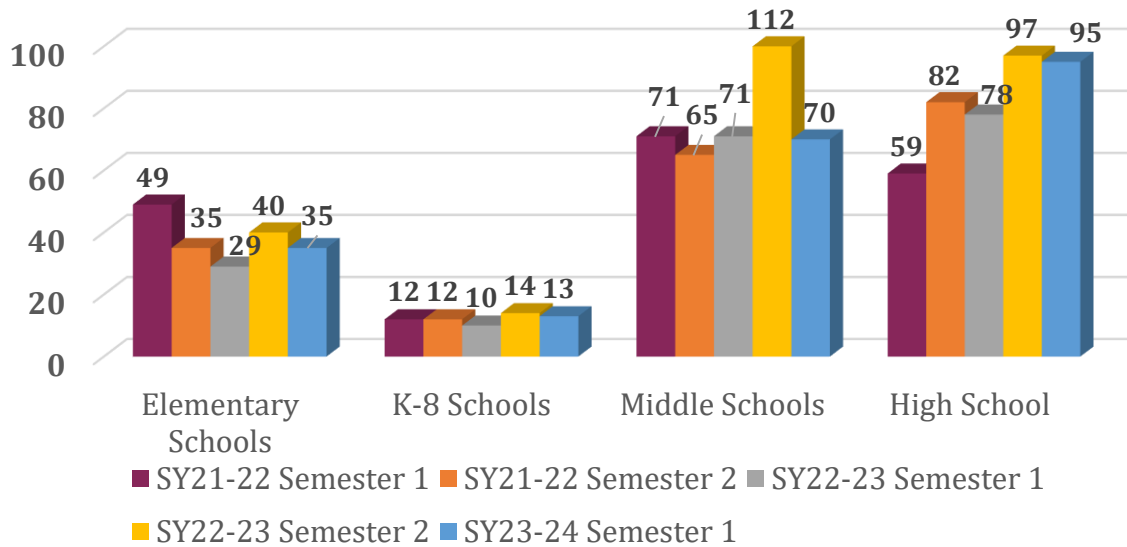


Better visibility on webpage for weapons abatement information

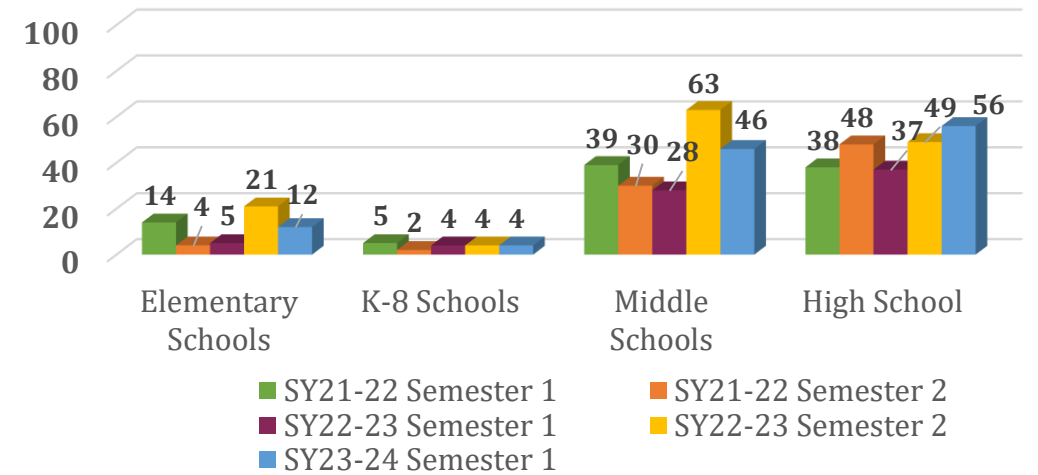


Incident, Calls for Service and Arrest/Referrals Data

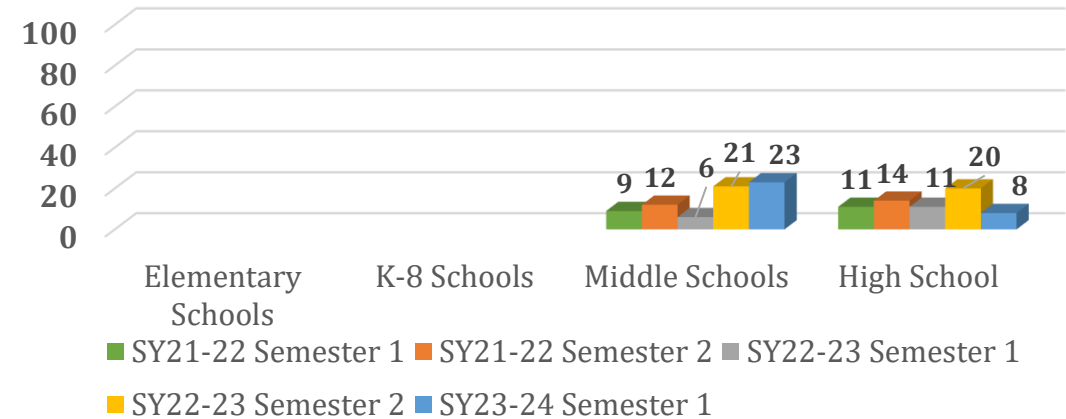
Incident Report Comparison



APD Calls for Service Comparison



Arrests/Referrals Comparison



This data is from February 2024 Safety Data Presentation. It is the most recent comparison data for these categories.



Staff Recommendations

Recommendation #1: Keep program at all current secondary locations

- Make weapons abatement a formal part of security posture at these locations
- Continue to work with stakeholders on improving process

Recommendation #2: Do not implement at elementary or K-8 schools at this time

- Data-driven decision making was used when proposing the pilot program; same consideration should be made for elementary or K-8 implementation
- Data does not reflect the same frequency of incidents, calls for service or arrests/referrals at elementary schools or K-8 schools as the secondary schools
- Staff would need time to better understand cost considerations (i.e. equipment costs and additional security officer costs)
- Recommend considering other measures to improve security posture at the elementary schools at this time



Questions?

Dr. Alicia Hart, Chief Operating Officer

John Contreras, Director of Safety and Security Services

Carlton Gerald, Assistant Director of Safety and Security Services



Superintendent
Dr. Melanie Kay-Wyatt

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