

Middle School Mid-year Schedule Survey

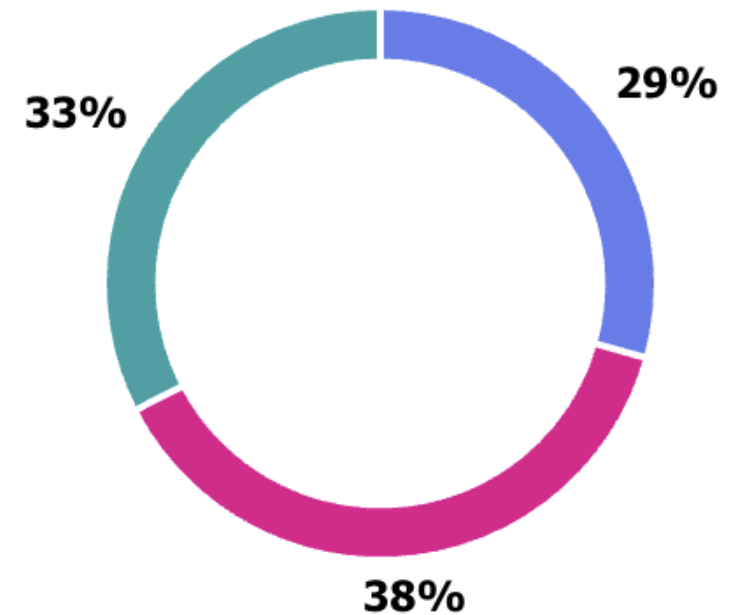
Feedback from students, teachers, and parents

January/February 2026

Parent Data Takeaways

82 responses/547 families

Grade 6	27
Grade 7	35
Grade 8	30



3. How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

● Strongly Agree ● Agree ● Disagree ● Strongly Disagree ● Don't Know

My child reports having enough time during the period to ask questions, practice, and get help.

The schedule supports my child's well-being (stress level, energy, balance).

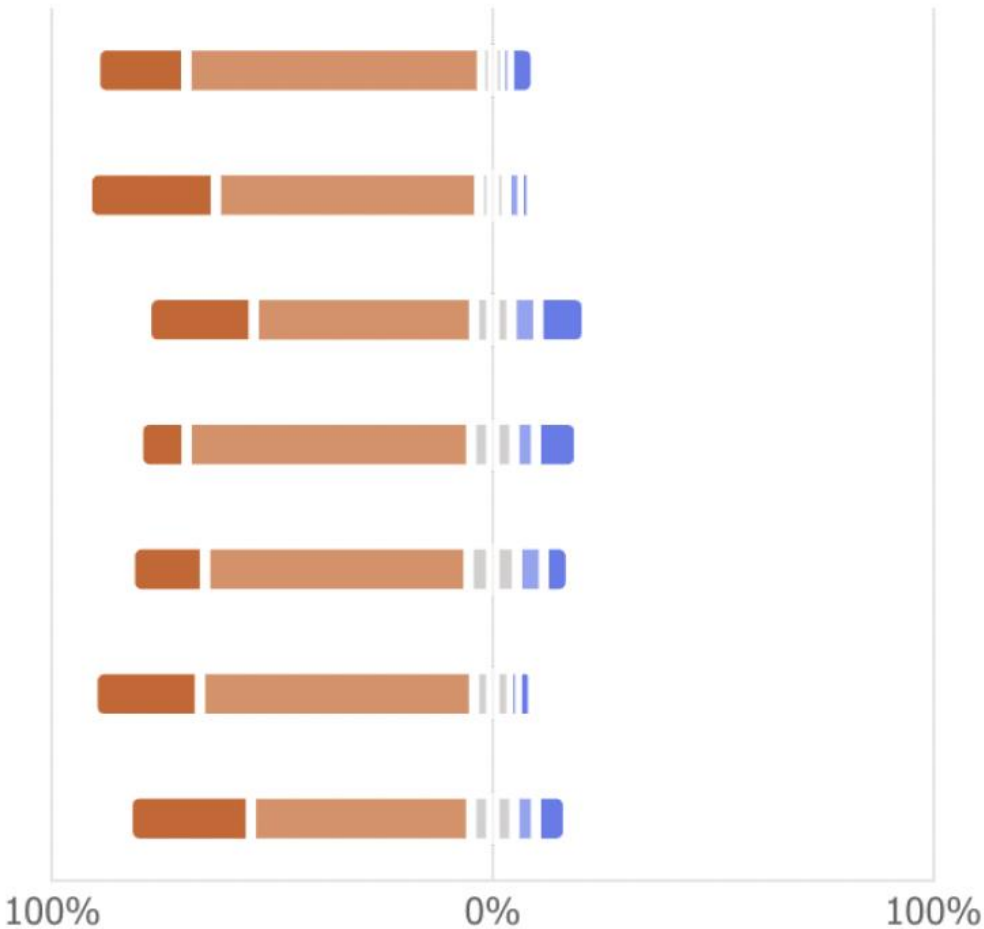
The schedule supports deeper learning for my child rather than surface coverage.

My child reports being focused and engaged during class time.

My child talks about what they are learning at school.

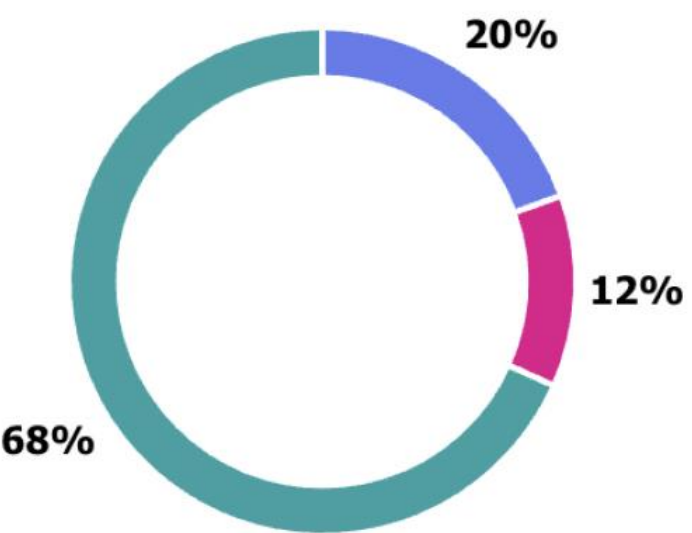
My child has enough time to complete assignments without rushing.

The new schedule has improved my child's ability to balance academics, activities, and personal or family time after school.



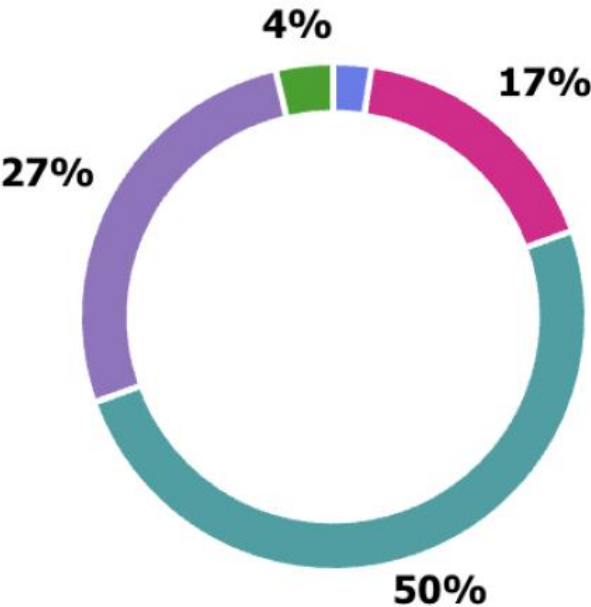
4. My child describes class time as:

● Active and engaging	16
● Mostly sitting and listening	10
● A combination of both	56



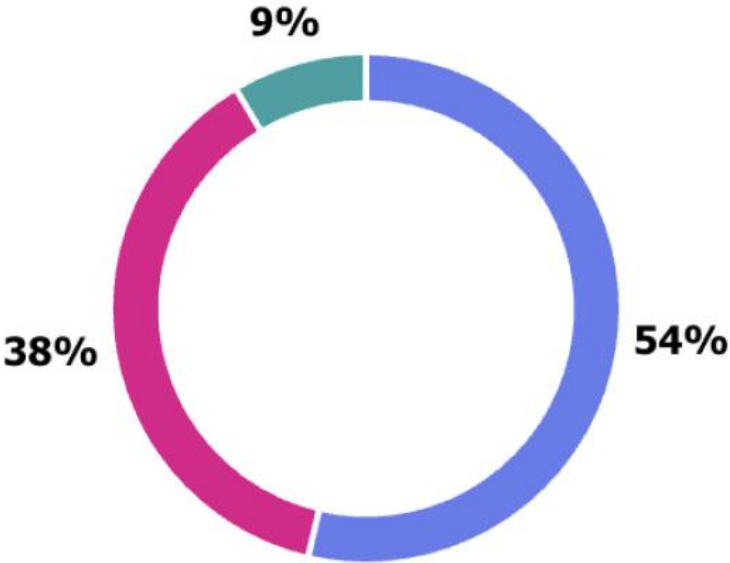
5. Compared to previous years, my child's stress level is:

● Much higher	2
● Higher	14
● The same	41
● Lower	22
● Much lower	3



6. Evenings at home feel:

● more balanced	44
● the same	31
● more stressful	7



Major Positive Themes

Reduced Stress & More Manageable Homework

Many parents noted that:

- Homework is **more manageable**, spread out over two days.
- Students can finish work during class or X-period.
- Evenings feel calmer; students rarely stay up late.
- Children seem more **balanced**, with better sleep and routines.

Earlier Dismissal = More Time for Activities, Family, and Rest

Parents consistently praised:

- More time for sports, music, and hobbies.
- Easier scheduling for tutoring and family commitments.
- Students feeling less rushed after school.
- Improved bedtime schedules.

A few mentioned their children use the extra time positively to **hang out with friends** or pursue personal interests.

Positive Themes Continued

Deeper, Less Rushed Learning

- Students are **more focused** on four classes per day.
- Longer class periods allow for **deeper understanding**, more questions, and better teacher support.
- Kids feel they learn more during class, not through excess homework.

Some families see this as good preparation for **upper school block schedules**.

Growth in Independence & Self-Management

Parents described improvements in:

- Time management
- Planning ahead for assignments
- Confidence in handling workload
- Organizational skills

Many said their children have become **more responsible** with the new schedule.

Challenges & Concerns

Early Lunch Is a Significant Pain Point

- Lunch at **10:45 AM** is too early.
- Kids are hungry throughout the afternoon.
- Leads to unhealthy snacking.

Difficulty Focusing Through 75-Minute Classes

- Students struggle to sustain concentration.
- Some come home exhausted or bored.
- Not all subjects seem suited to long blocks (especially math, Chinese, languages).

Reduced Frequency of Classes (Every Other Day / Every 4 Days)

- Students forget material between lessons.
- Fewer topics are covered overall.
- Makeup work after absences is harder.
- Skill-based subjects lose momentum.

X-Period Is Not Being Used Effectively

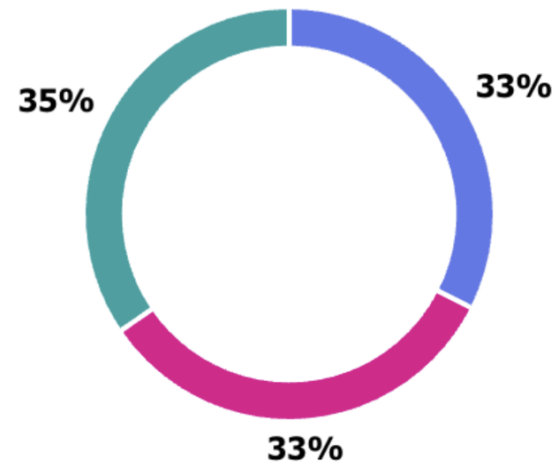
- Teachers often take teaching time into X-period.
- Students seldom get the promised flexible time.
- Some kids “wait around” with little purpose.

Student Surveys Takeaways

584 responses/604 students

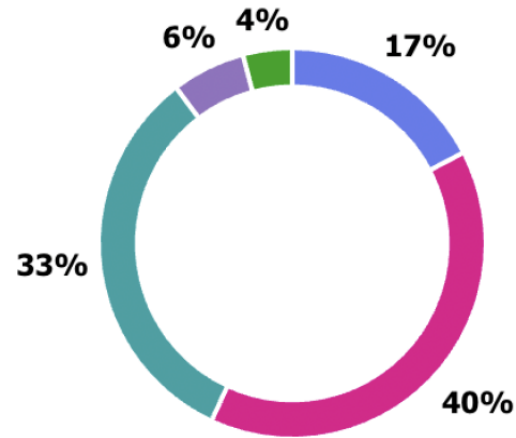
What grade are you in?

● 6	190
● 7	192
● 8	202



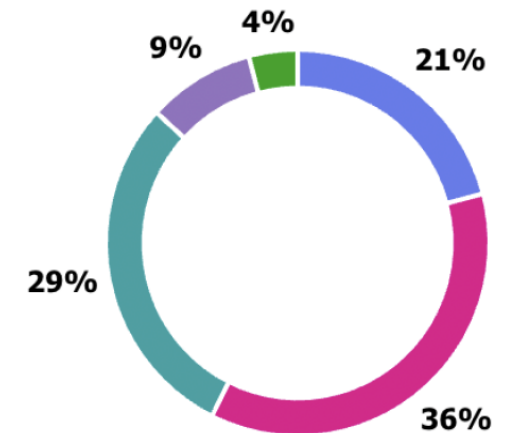
2. The schedule supports my well-being (stress level, energy, balance). (0 point)

Strongly Agree	101
Agree	231
Neutral	192
Disagree	36
Strongly disagree	24



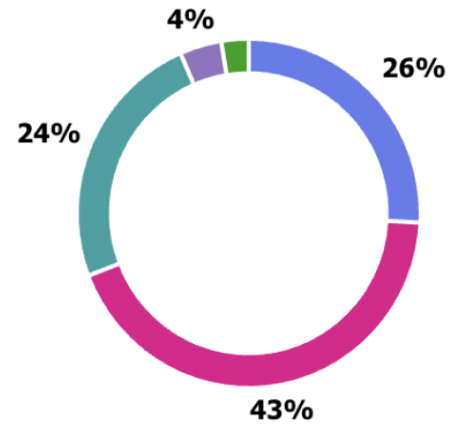
3. The length of class periods allows for meaningful learning, not just finishing work. (0 point)

Strongly Agree	122
Agree	213
Neutral	172
Disagree	53
Strongly disagree	24



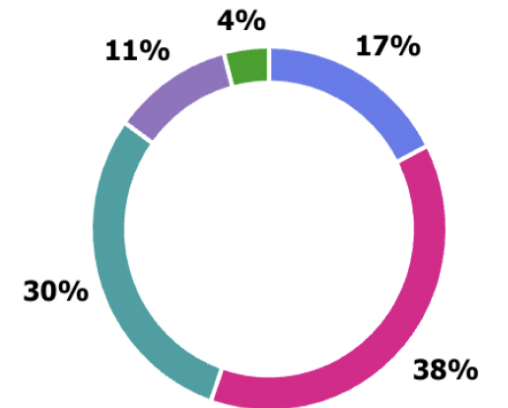
4. I have enough time during the period to ask questions, practice, and get help. (0 point)

● Strongly Agree	151
● Agree	253
● Neutral	142
● Disagree	23
● Strongly disagree	15



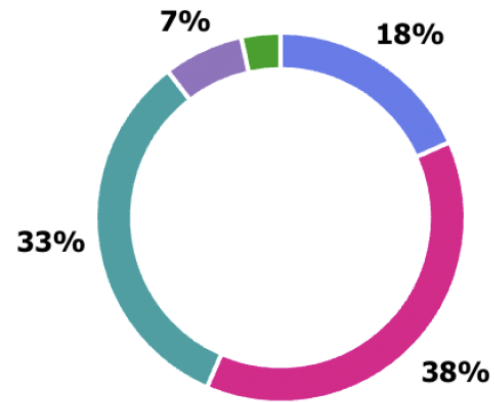
5. The schedule helps me complete schoolwork without excessive stress. (0 point)

● Strongly Agree	102
● Agree	221
● Neutral	173
● Disagree	64
● Strongly disagree	24



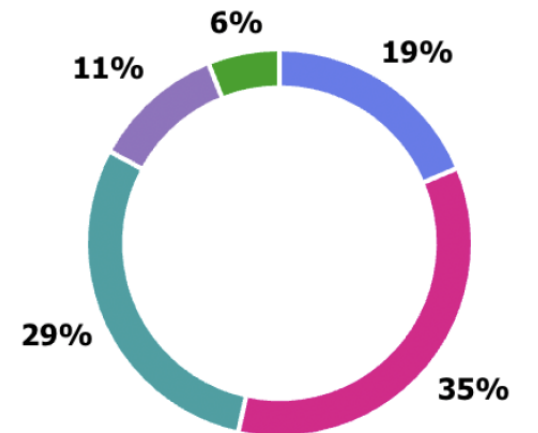
6. The schedule supports deeper learning rather than surface coverage. (0 point)

Strongly Agree	107
Agree	223
Neutral	193
Disagree	41
Strongly disagree	20



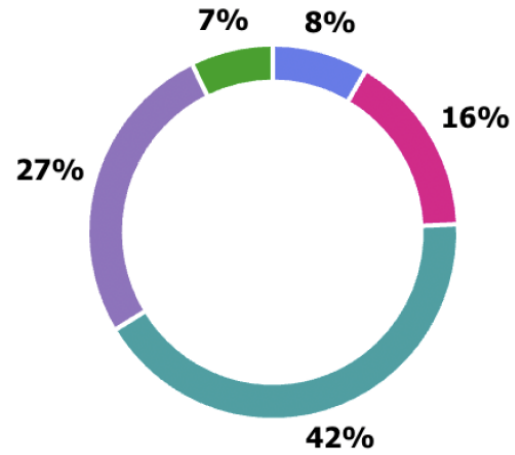
7. I am able to be focused and engaged during class time. (0 point)

Strongly Agree	109
Agree	203
Neutral	172
Disagree	65
Strongly disagree	35



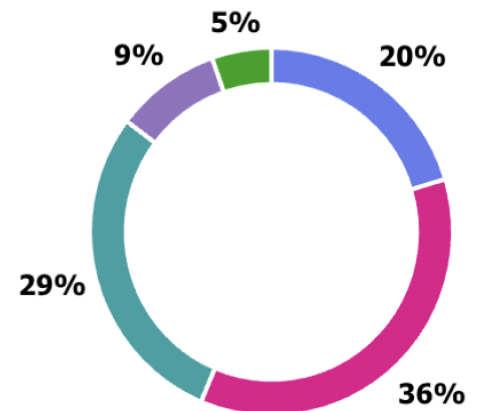
8. I feel rushed or overwhelmed during the school day. (0 point)

Strongly Agree	49
Agree	93
Neutral	245
Disagree	155
Strongly disagree	42



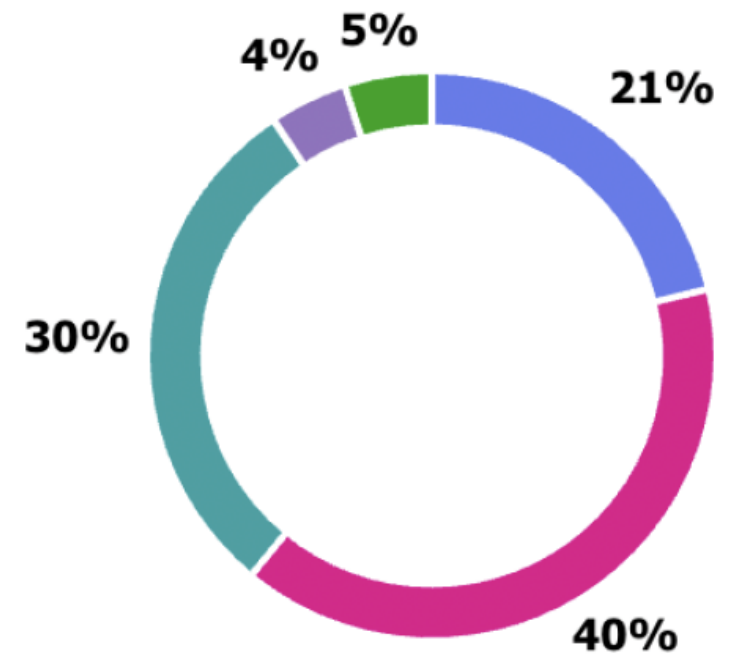
9. The schedule allows me to balance academics, activities, and personal or family time after school. (0 point)

Strongly agree	119
Agree	210
Neutral	169
Disagree	55
Strongly disagree	31



10. Overall, the schedule is working well for me. (0 point)

● Strongly Agree	124
● Agree	232
● Neutral	173
● Disagree	26
● Strongly disagree	29



Student Homeroom Feedback

	Favorable (Extremely well + Well)	Neutral	Needs attention (Not so well + Not at all)
Homeroom supports inclusion and belonging	85%	8%	9%
Homeroom helps students feel safe and supported	75.3%	18.0%	6.7%
I feel comfortable being myself in homeroom	78.9%	16%	6.1%

Summary of hundreds of student comments

What's Working Well

- More time for homework
- Earlier dismissal
- Longer, more focused learning periods
- Better workload distribution
- Breaks and X-period (when used effectively) help students reset

Challenges

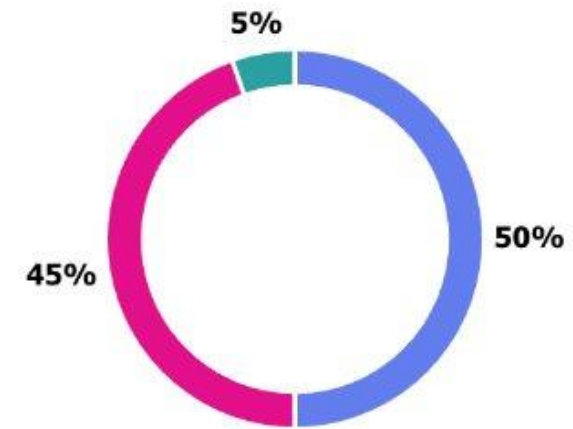
- Class periods feel too long, leading to focus and stamina issues
- X-period needs to be more consistent, longer, and protected
- Lunch and breaks are too short or too early
- Students need more brain breaks and movement
- Homework/test load needs stronger coordination

Teacher Survey Takeaways

74 responses/85 teachers

4. The schedule allows me to use a wider range of instructional strategies. (0 point)

Strongly Agree	37
Agree	33
Disagree	4
Strongly disagree	0



Please state how much you agree or disagree with the following statements:

The length of class periods allows for meaningful learning, not just finishing work.

Students have enough time during the period to ask questions, practice, and get help.

The schedule helps students complete schoolwork without excessive stress.

The schedule supports student well-being (stress level, energy, balance).

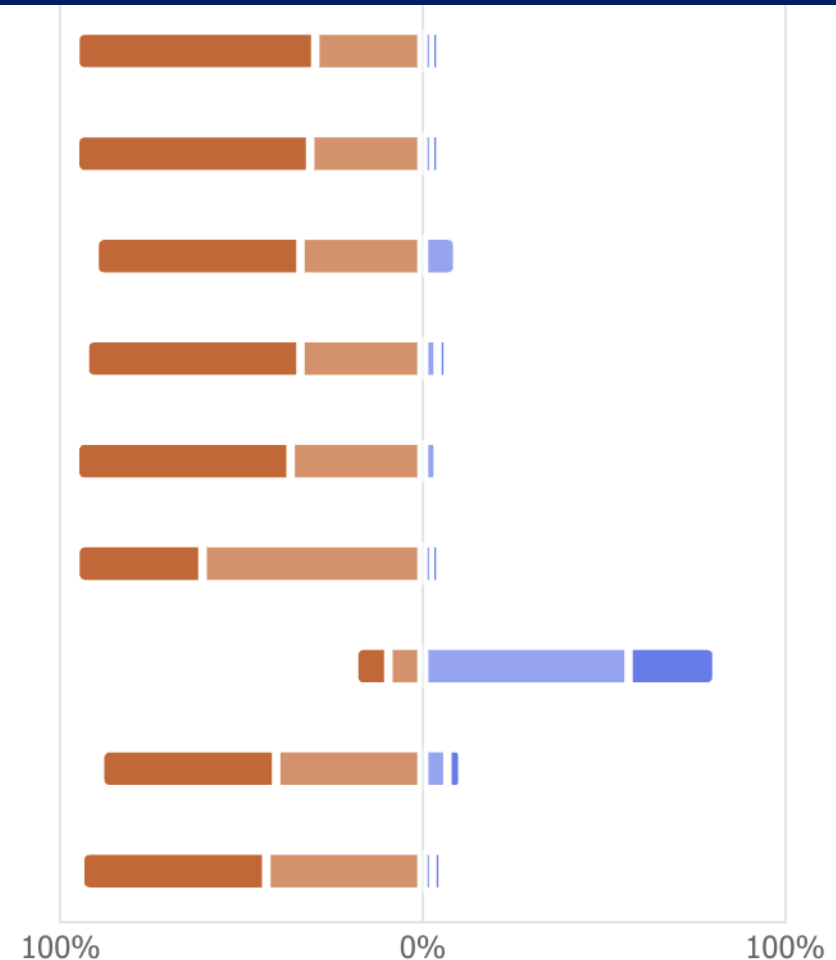
The schedule supports deeper learning rather than surface coverage.

Students seem focused and engaged during class time.

Students feel rushed or overwhelmed during the school day.

The new schedule has improved students' ability to balance academics, activities, and personal or family time after school.

Overall, the schedule is working well for most students.



Teacher Homeroom Feedback

	Favorable (Extremely well + Well)	Neutral	Needs attention (Not so well + Not at all)
Homeroom supports inclusion and belonging	90.3%	9.7%	0.0%
Homeroom helps students feel safe and supported	88.7%	9.7%	1.6%

Summary of Comments from Teachers

Areas of strength

- Opportunities for deep, meaningful learning
- Hands-on labs and projects
- Student conferencing and feedback
- Collaboration and student-centered approaches
- Richer reading, writing, and performance tasks
- More thoughtful pacing and planning

Areas for growth

- Structuring classes to support student attention in 75-minute classes
- The reduced frequency of meetings for electives (every 4 days)
- Time allocation for meetings and planning time
- X-period utilization and frequency
- Absences having much larger instructional impact