

2020-2021

Local Innovation Committee Survey Report

Response Counts

Complete

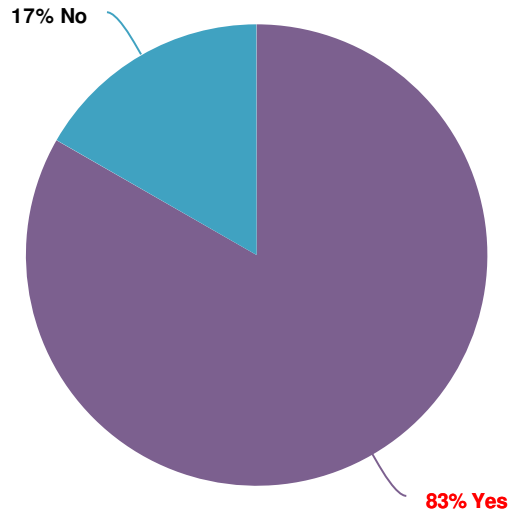


18

Totals: 18

Current Exemptions from the TEC in the District's Current Local Innovation Plan

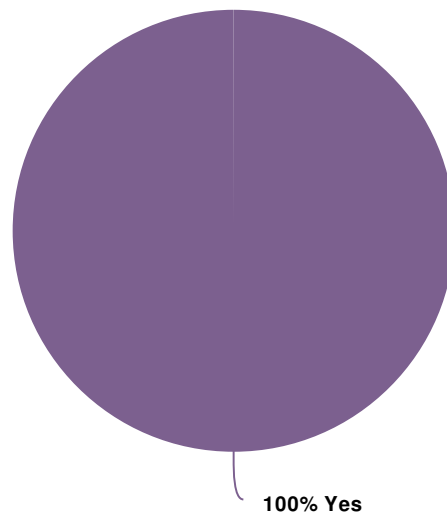
1. Are you in favor of including all of the current 6 exemptions (listed above) previously adopted by the Board of Trustees in this Committee's proposed Local Innovation Plan?



Value		Percent	Responses
Yes		83.3%	15
No		16.7%	3

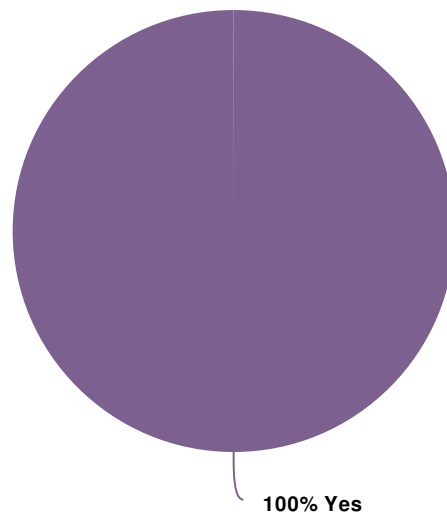
Totals: 18

2. Texas Education Code Section 25.092 “Minimum Attendance for Class Credit or Final Grade” currently requires students to attend class 90% of the time a class is offered in order to earn credit or a final grade, placing value “seat time” rather than content mastery. An exemption from this requirement would mean that the District would not be required to penalize students who miss class due to extra/co-curricular activities, academic activities, or other extenuating circumstances. This exemption will allow the District to promote student engagement, as well as social and emotional development, by encouraging more students to participate in such activities and allow credit to be award based on content mastery instead. Relief from Section 25.092 does not in any way impact or alter existing compulsory attendance requirements or University Interscholastic League (“UIL”) rules. Moreover, opting out of Section 25.092 in no way limits or modifies a teacher’s right to determine the finality of a grade in accordance with Texas Education Code Section 28.0214, nor does it restrict or alter a teacher’s right to assign grades in accordance with Texas Education Code Section 28.0216. Are you in favor of this exemption?



Value	Percent	Responses
Yes	100.0%	3
		Totals: 3

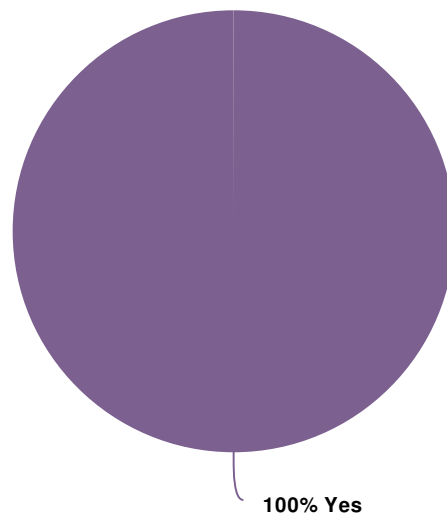
3. Texas Education Code Section 25.0811 prohibits the District from beginning instruction before the fourth Monday in August. Flexibility to begin instruction earlier in the calendar year enables the District to improve active learning by balancing the amount of instructional time in the semesters, which allows teachers to better pace and deliver instruction before and after the winter break. In addition, by having the flexibility to start and end the school year earlier, students can enroll in college courses that start in early June, thereby increasing college and career readiness. Finally, starting the school year earlier for students transitioning from elementary school to middle school and from middle school to high school promotes social and emotional learning by giving those students additional time and support to enable them to adjust socially and emotionally to their new campus environments. Are you in favor of this exemption?



Value	Percent	Responses
Yes	100.0%	3

Totals: 3

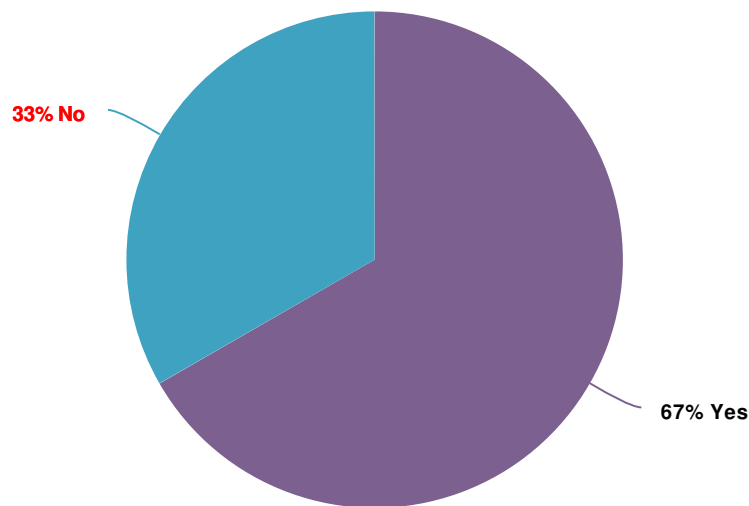
4. Texas Education Code Section 22.004 (i) prohibits a school district from making alternative group health coverage available to its employees after the date a district enters the TRS ActiveCare Plan. The current process allows no flexibility in the design of group health insurance benefits to fit the needs of all District employees. This provision also prohibits the District from procuring group health insurance benefits that may provide better coverages for its employees and at a lower cost. Exemption from this Section will give the District increased local control of the group health benefits plan to allow the District to be responsive to employee and community needs. Are you in favor of this exemption?



Value	Percent	Responses
Yes	100.0%	3

Totals: 3

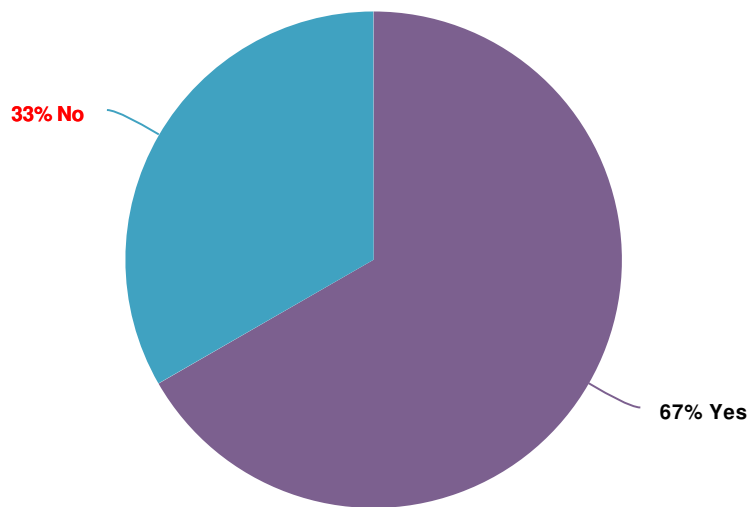
5. **Limited exemption from Texas Education Code Sections 21.003, 21.053, 21.044 that limit the District’s ability to hire noncertified teachers to teach hard-to fill, high demand dual credit and career and technical/STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Mathematics) courses when high quality certified teachers are not available.** By obtaining exemption from existing teacher certification requirements for dual credit and career and technical/STEAM teachers, the District will have the flexibility to hire credentialed community college instructors or university professors in specific content areas in order to afford more students the opportunity to take dual credit courses if certified teachers are not available to teach those courses. In addition, this exemption will afford the District the flexibility to hire professionals in certain trades and vocations to teach the crafts of those trades and vocations (such as welding, fine arts, etc.) in career and technical/STEAM courses if certified teachers are not available to teach those courses. Are you in favor of this exemption?



Value	Percent	Responses
Yes	66.7%	2
No	33.3%	1

Totals: 3

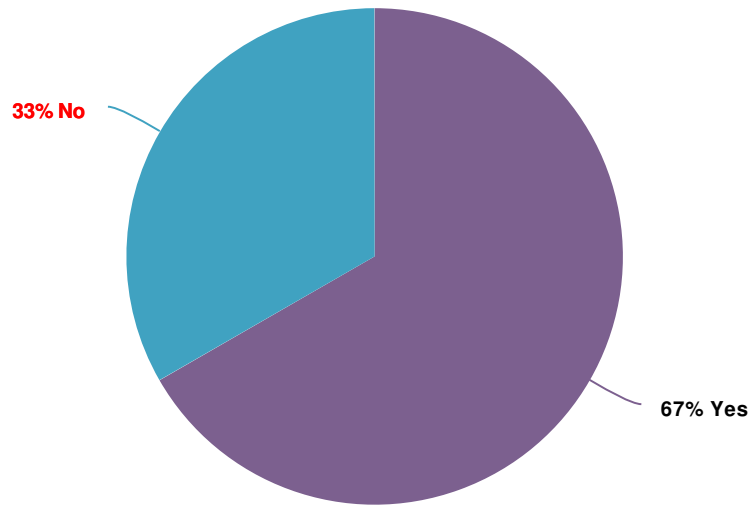
6. **Texas Education Code Section 37.0012 requires one person at each campus to be designated to serve as the campus behavior coordinator.** This requirement inhibits social and emotional learning because it restricts the District’s ability promote a more collaborative discipline program in which community schools provide social and emotional supports to students. Exemption from with Section will allow the District to focus on establishing classroom protocols and utilizing school culture to foster the development of individual responsibility, positive behavioral interventions and supports while encouraging the social and emotional development of each student and his or her responsibility toward the community.Are you in favor of this exemption?



Value	Percent	Responses
Yes	66.7%	2
No	33.3%	1

Totals: 3

7. Limited exemption from Texas Education Code Sections 21.351, 21.352, 21.354, 21.3541 that govern teacher and administrator appraisals to the extent these laws require that state standardized test scores be used as one of the evaluation measures for teachers and administrators. Are you in favor of this exemption?

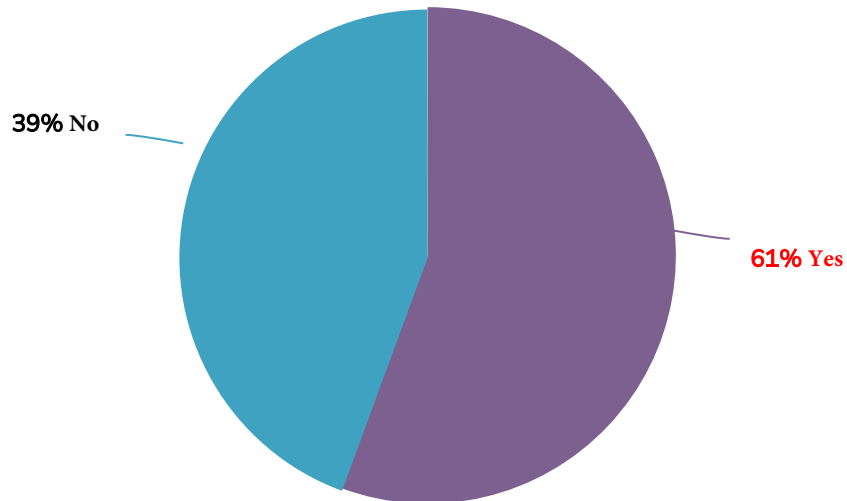




Value		Percent	Responses
Yes		66.7%	2
No		33.3%	1

Totals: 3

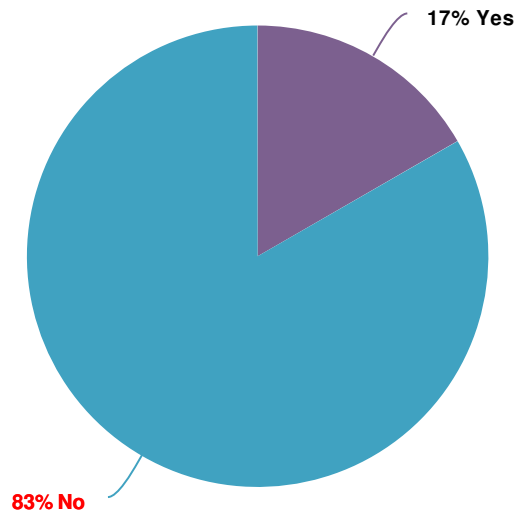
Possible Exemptions Discussed from Other Districts

8. Texas Education Code Section 25.087 (b-2) permits a district (without losing funding) to excuse a student from attending school for up to two days in both the student's junior and senior years to visit an accredited institution of higher education for the purpose of determining interest in attending the institution. Are you in favor of opting out of the Section to allow for increased excused days even if state funding would not be available?



Value		Percent	Responses
Yes		61.1%	11
No		38.9%	7
			Totals: 18

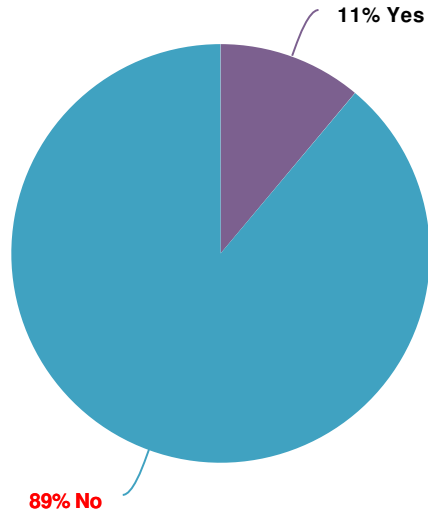
9. Texas Education Code Section 21.458 requires that teacher mentors have three or more years of experience in the field. Are you in favor of opting out of this requirement to allow for less years of experience?



Value	Percent	Responses
Yes	16.7%	3
No	83.3%	15

Totals: 18

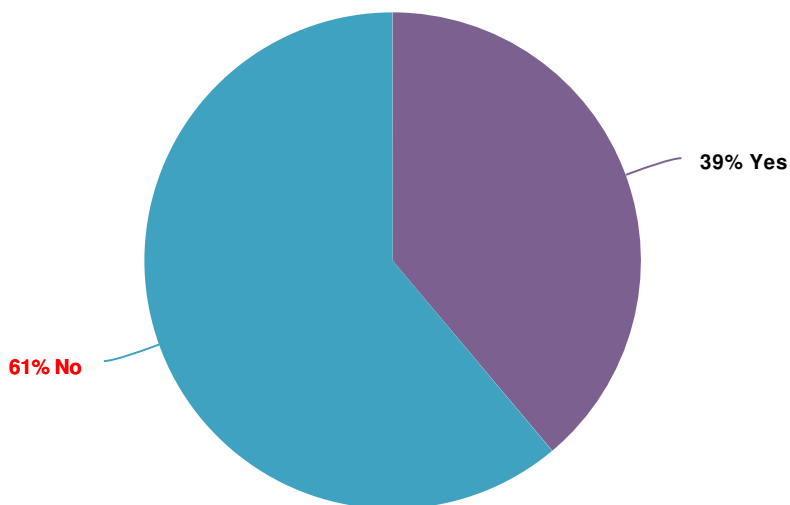
10. Texas Education Code Section 28.023 requires a school district to give a student in grade level six or above credit for a subject by examination if the student scores in the 80th percentile or above on the examination. Are you in favor of increasing the required score to 90?



Value		Percent	Responses
Yes		11.1%	2
No		88.9%	16

Totals: 18

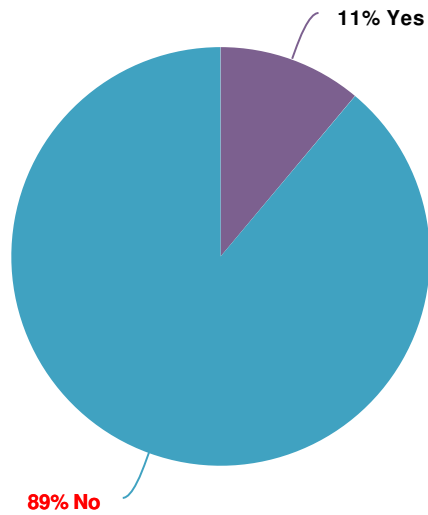
11. Texas Education Code Section 29.151 requires that to be eligible for kindergarten and receive state funding, a child must be 5 years old by September 1st of the school year. Are you in favor of opting out of this requirement to allow children not 5 years old by September 1st of the school year to be eligible for kindergarten even if state funding would not be available?



Value	Percent	Responses
Yes	38.9%	7
No	61.1%	11

Totals: 18

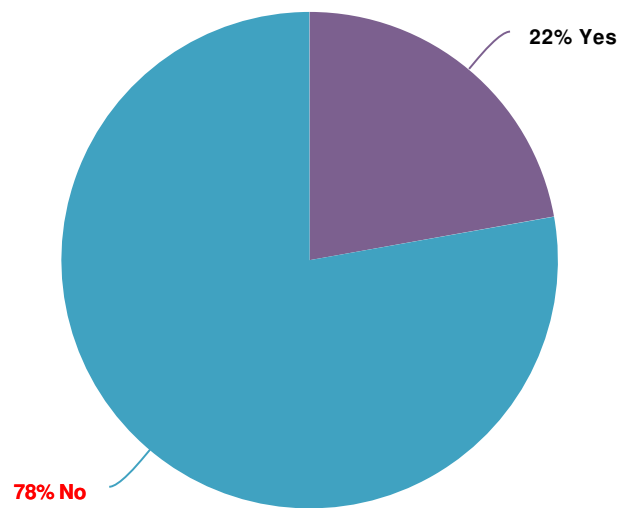
12. Texas Education Code Sections 11.252 and 11.253 require districts to follow proscribed procedures for district-level planning and decision-making and campus-level planning and decision-making. Are you in favor of opting out of these laws even if the District does not have alternative processes contemplated or in place?



Value	Percent	Responses
Yes	11.1%	2
No	88.9%	16

Totals: 18

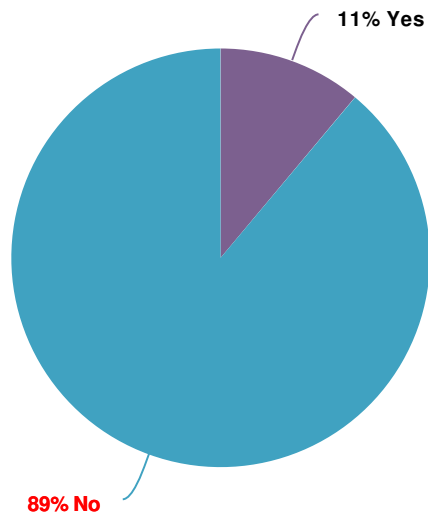
13. Texas Education Code Sections 37.006 (1) and 37.007(e)(2) prohibit students younger than the age of 6 from being placed in Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (“DAEP”) unless the student brings a firearm to school. In light of the Board’s (of Trustees) current policy prohibiting students prior to grade 3 from being suspended, placed into a disciplinary alternative setting, or expelled, except as required by law, are you in favor of opting out of these Sections to allow the District to place students under the age of 6 in DAEP in circumstances that do not involve a firearm?



Value		Percent	Responses
Yes		22.2%	4
No		77.8%	14

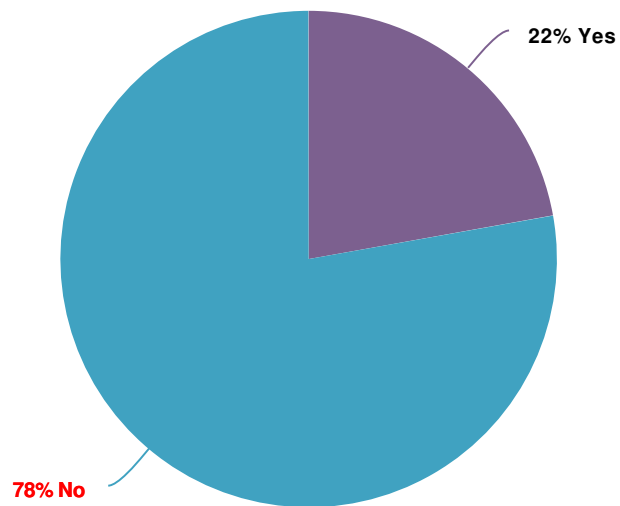
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14. Texas Education Code Section 33.002(b) requires a school district with 500 or more students enrolled in elementary school grades employ a SBEC certified counselor for each elementary school in the district and employ at least one school counselor for every 500 elementary school students in the district. Are you in favor of opting out of this Section to allow the District to employ a licensed social worker rather than a SBEC certified counselor?



Value	Percent	Responses
Yes	11.1%	2
No	88.9%	16
		Totals: 18

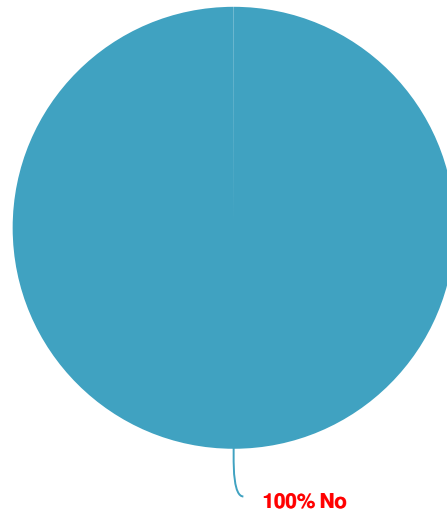
15. Are you in favor of opting out of teacher certification requirements under Texas Education Code Section 21.003 for teachers of foreign language (other than English) classes?



Value		Percent	Responses
Yes		22.2%	4
No		77.8%	14

Totals: 18

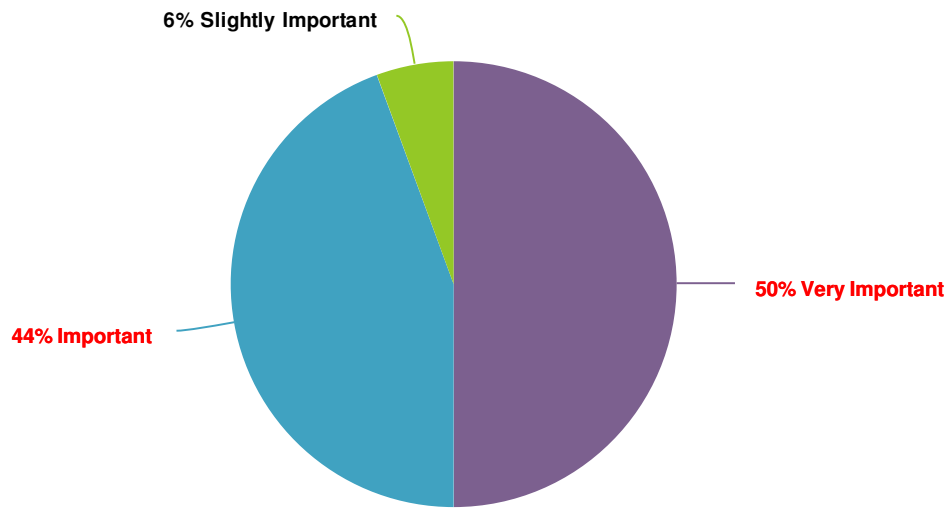
16. Beyond the exemptions from other districts across the state of Texas reviewed and discussed, are there other exemptions you would like to discuss?






Value		Percent	Responses
No	<div style="width: 100%; height: 15px; background-color: #00838f;"></div>	100.0%	18

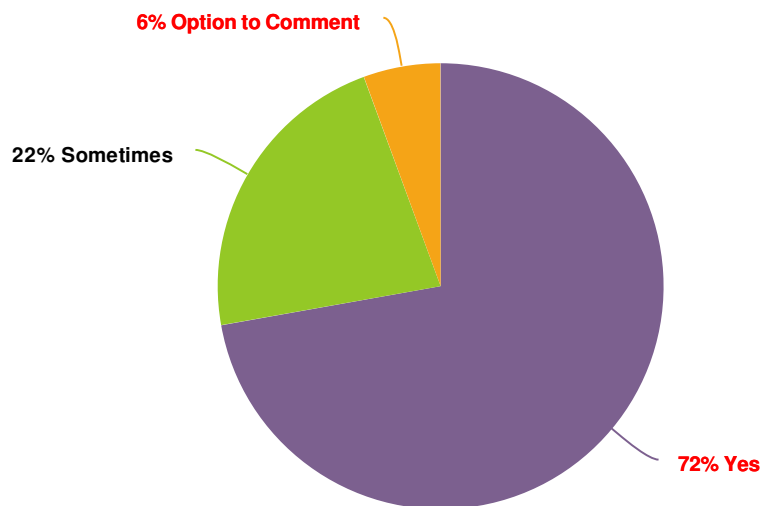
Totals: 18

18. How important do you believe it is to survey the school community regarding the exemptions we seek?



Value		Percent	Responses
Very Important		50.0%	9
Important		44.4%	8
Slightly Important		5.6%	1
			Totals: 18

19. As a valued member of our Local Innovation Committee, do you believe your input is heard?



Value	Percent	Responses
Yes	72.2%	13
Sometimes	22.2%	4
Option to Comment	5.6%	1

Totals: 18

Option to Comment	Count
<i>A committee implies that all voices are heard, respected, and considered.</i>	1
<i>This committee has a few that dominate the conversation.</i>	1
Totals	1