

The Rules and Policies at *KLA*

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Research question

How do restrictive policies at KLA affect students mental health or behavior?

Why this is important

This is important because students don't have input and this makes them feel as if their not understood. When students think that they are not heard they tend to act out and this leads to suspensions and detentions.

This is also important because schools need to receive feedback from students so the community for future and current students can be better.

Methods

Survey – 97 7th and 8th graders responses

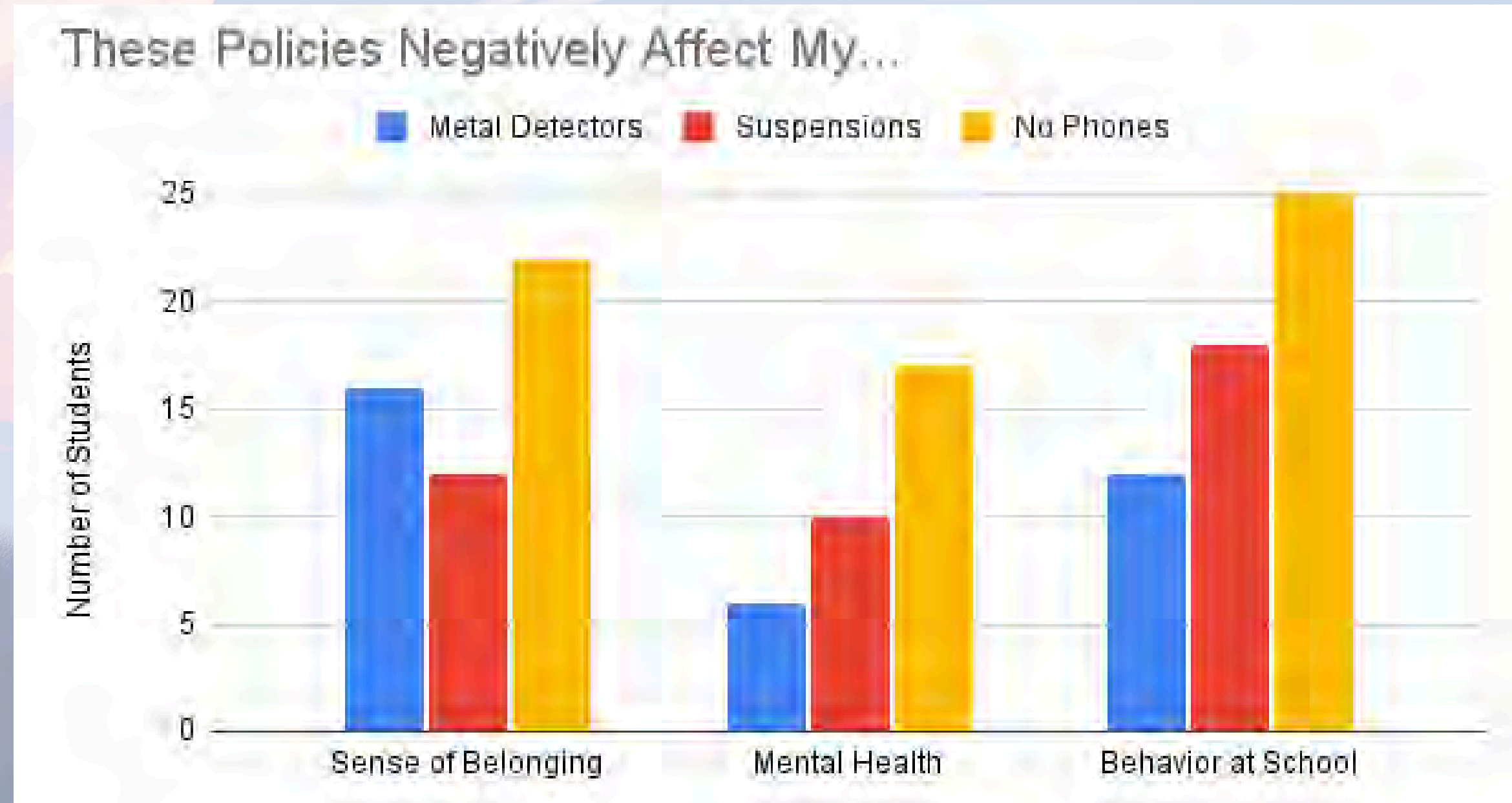
Interview – 6 teachers and administrators

Top 5 issues in KLA (students survey)

- 1:no phones
- 2:metal detectors
- 3:too many suspensions
- 4:uniforms policy
- 5:bathroom policy

Your paragraph text

The Impacts of these policies

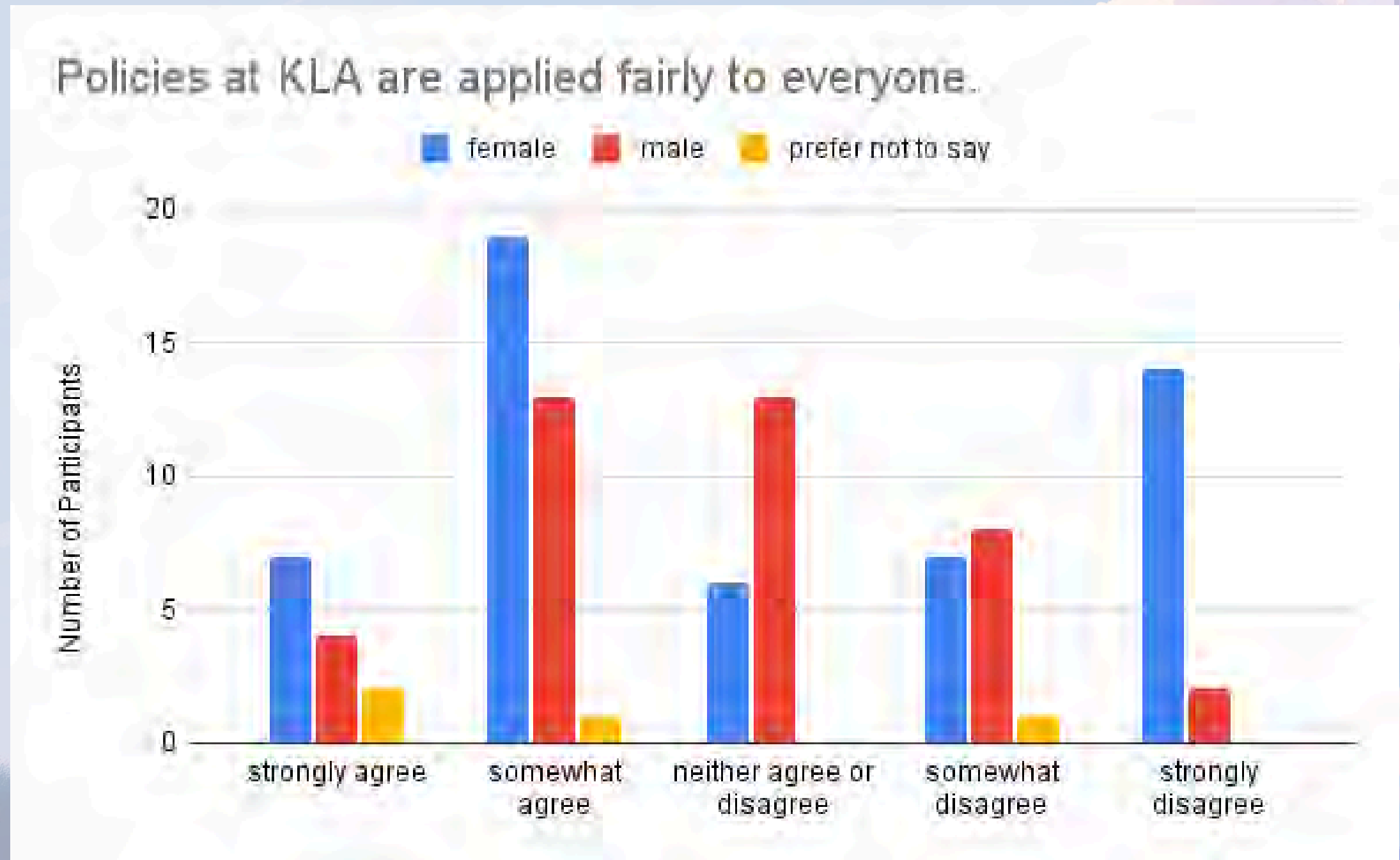


These policies affect the sense of belonging, behavior and mental health. This graph is showing me how this affects students. Metal Detectors affect students' sense of belonging. Suspensions mostly affect students' behavior at school. The phone policy mostly affects students' behavior at school.

Your paragraph text

Fairness

- In this graph it shows how the females and males feel about the policies and KLA.
- More Females feel like policies are applied fairly to everyone than Males.



Fairness

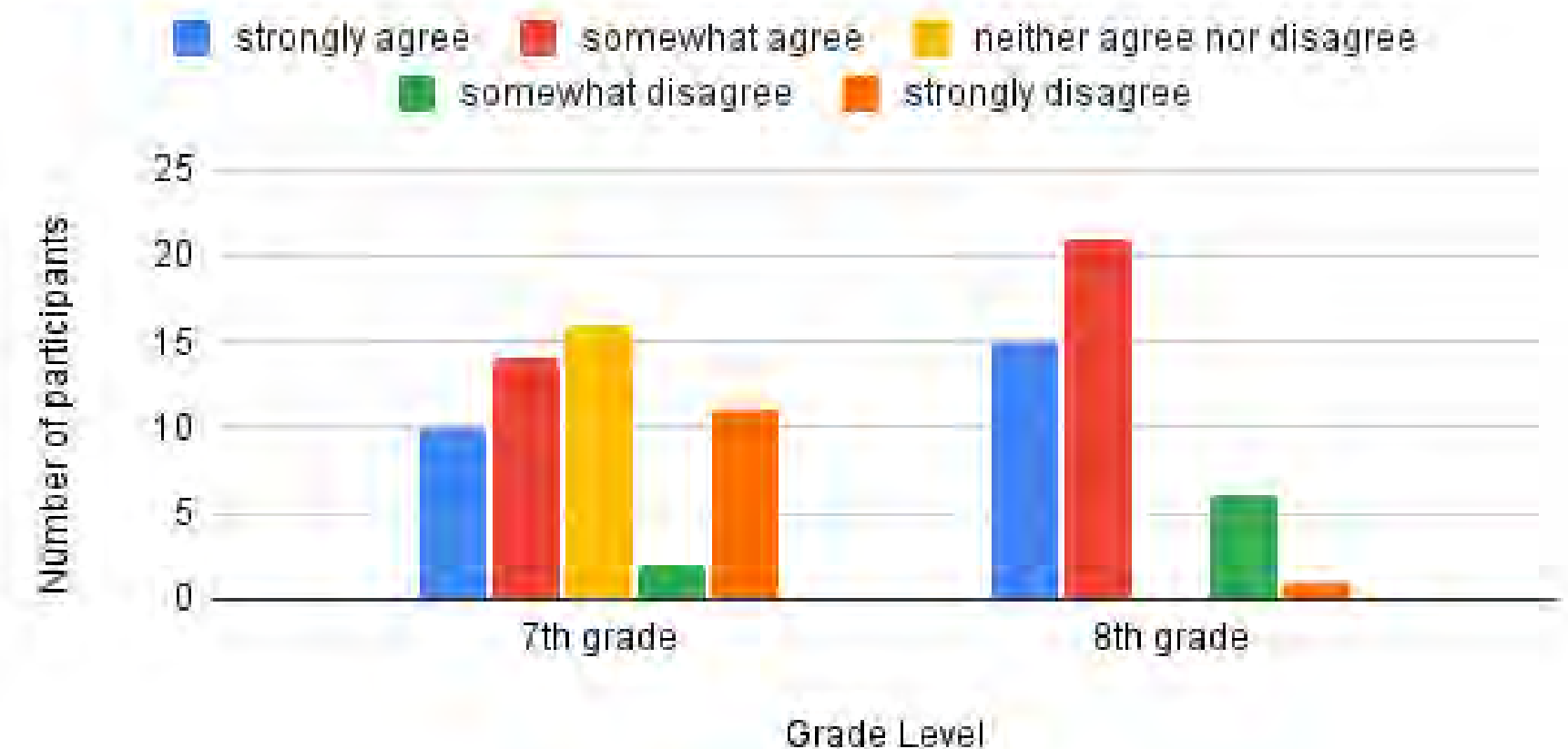
Fairness is important because students should feel as if everyone in the school, even the administration, are equal. The students feel like teachers pick and choose who gets treated better.

Students also feel like when one kid does something bad the others that are in a class with them don't need to suffer for the bad.

Prepared for High school

The 8th graders feel that the rules prepare them for high school more than 7th graders

The rules and policies at KLA are preparing me for high school.



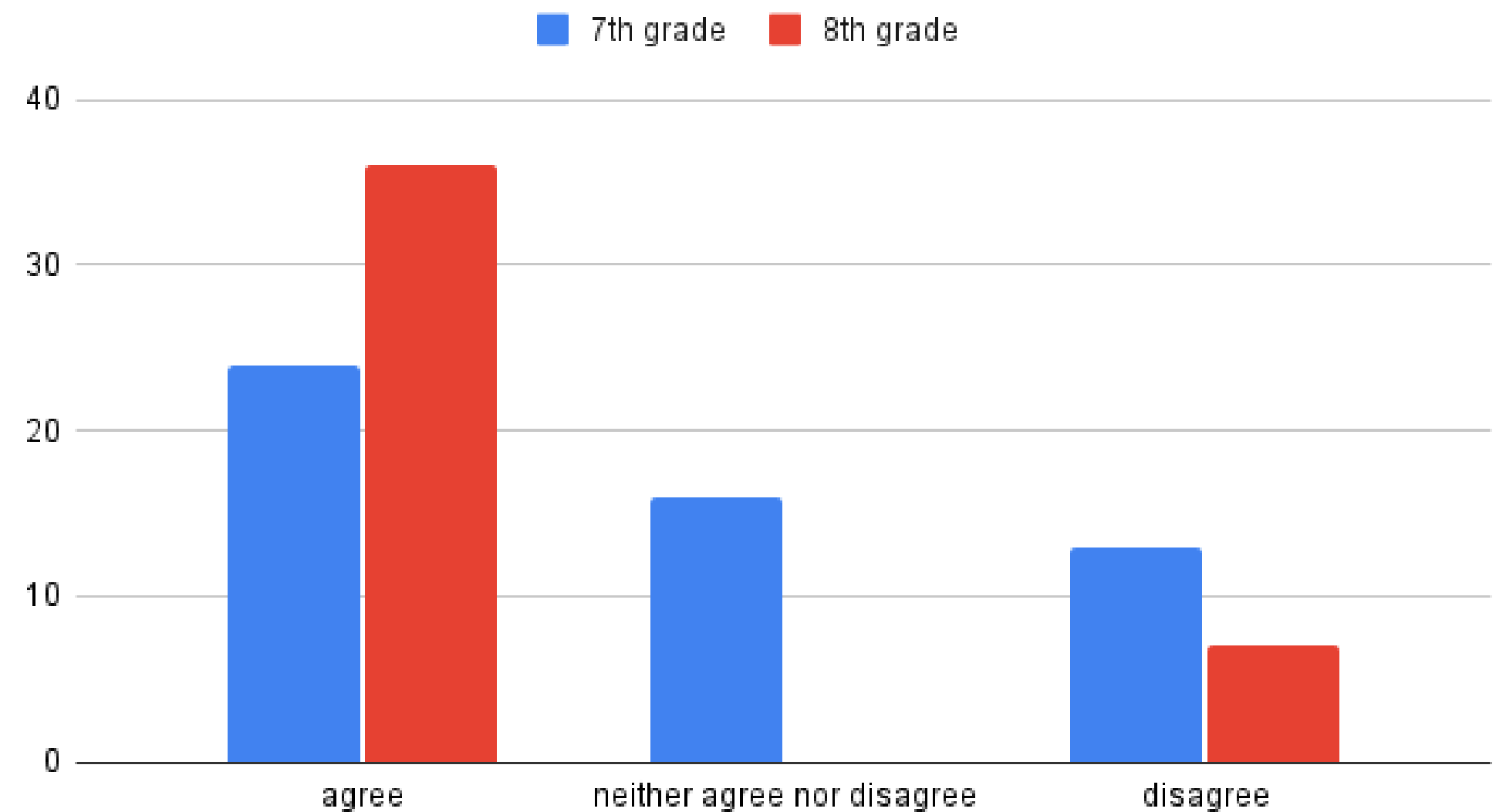
This slide separates the 7th and 8th graders

Mental Health

Most students at KLA feel as if the policies can affect their mental health

This means that students should have a saying in the policies at KLA

The policies at KLA affect kids mental health



School Administration Ideas: Walking Silently

“Like, I mentioned about with the walking in the straight line, I don’t think that’s preparing you guys for the real world. Where are you going to walk in a straight line when you get to high school? It’s not.” (Teacher/Admin Interview)

“A lot of times when hallways are chaotic, that chaos also enters into the classroom. So now instead of the teacher being able to start the lesson immediately, the teacher’s taking five, ten minutes to get the class quiet.” (Teacher/Admin Interview)

School Administration Ideas: Bathroom Policy

“A lot of students are actually just going there to play in the restroom and not using the restroom, and then your missing important information in your classroom.” (Teacher, Admin Interview)

“I personally am not going to ever tell someone that you don’t have to use the bathroom. If it’s really that kind of emergency, then I mean you have to go”. (Teacher, Admin Interview.)

Freedom and Control

“I think that if you do not give kids any freedom at school that they will act out more. I also think that if you do not give kids the chance to be independent they will not learn from their mistakes” (Student Survey)

“I also feel as if students should be able to walk into class by themselves with no adult watching. They should put trust into their students AT LEAST ONCE!!!” (Student Survey)

Conclusions

- **Some policies at KLA are understandable, like the phone policy, some agree and some disagree**
- **Some teachers and students don't like the bathroom policy**
- **Some students and teachers don't think rules are preparing them for high school**
- **Students want more freedom**
- **These policies affect students mental health**

Recommendations

Students should have open transitions and get to use lockers daily so they can have more freedom and be prepared for high school

The students and administrators should take a monthly survey to see how they feel toward policies and if they are being treated fairly.

Students should get two bathroom breaks every day that they can use whenever they have to go.

Students should have a meeting with the counselor to see what's going on at home in order to avoid suspensions.



Thank you for your time, have a wonderful day.