

THE CAREER ACADEMY JOINT BOARD MEETING
MINUTES OF MEETING - Tuesday, September 9, 2025, at 9:30 AM
The Career Academy, 8800 O St, Room 107

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ANNOUNCE OPEN MEETING ACT POSTING AND LOCATION
3. ROLL CALL
4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
5. PUBLIC COMMENT
6. CONSENT AGENDA
 - 6.1. Routine Business
 - 6.2. Human Resources Matters
 - 6.3. Student Enrollment Matters
7. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS/REPORTS
 - 7.1. Facilities Update
 - 7.2. Fundraising and Donor Update
 - 7.3. Director's Report
 - 7.4. Other Reports
8. ACTION ITEMS
 - 8.1. Election of Officers
9. ITEMS PULLED FROM CONSENT AGENDA
10. EXPEDITED/EMERGENCY ACTIONS
11. ANNOUNCEMENT OF UPCOMING MEETING DATES OR EVENTS FOR THE BOARD
12. REQUEST FOR CLOSED SESSION
13. ADJOURNMENT

**THE CAREER ACADEMY JOINT BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 5, 2025, 9:30 A.M.
ROOM 200**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Joint Board members (hereinafter "Joint Board") of the Southeast Community College Area (hereinafter "College") and Lincoln Public Schools (hereinafter the "District") Career and Technology Education ("CTE") Joint Venture Consortium (hereinafter "Consortium") created by Interlocal Agreement dated October 17, 2013 ("Agreement"), was called to order by chair Paul Illich 9:32 a.m. on August 5, 2025. Notice of the meeting was given in advance by publication and posting according to law.

2. ANNOUNCE OPEN MEETING ACT POSTING AND LOCATION

One current copy of the Open Meetings Act was posted in the meeting room at a location accessible to the members of the public. At the beginning of this meeting, the chair announced and informed the public about the location of the posted Open Meetings Act information.

3. ROLL CALL

Present Board Members:

Dr. Skretta LPS
Dr. Illich SCC
Ms. Mumgaard LPS
Mr. Uhrmacher SCC

It was determined that a quorum was present to conduct business.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Uhrmacher and seconded by Dr. Skretta to approve the June 3, 2025 minutes of the Joint Board meeting as presented.

Motion Passed:

Mr. Uhrmacher	YES
Dr. Skretta	YES
Dr. Illich	YES
Ms. Mumgaard	YES

MOTION PASSED

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

Speaker(s): Dr. Illich

- 6.1 Routine Business**
- 6.2 Human Resource Matters**
- 6.3 Student Enrollment Matters**

No items presented for consent.

7. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS/REPORTS

7.1 Facilities Update

Speaker(s): Josh Jones

There are no facility updates at this time.

7.2 Fundraising and Donor Update

Speaker(s): Josh Jones

Josh Jones briefly mentioned that Kayla Jacox from the LPS Foundation is working with her team to plan the upcoming TCA 10-year anniversary celebration which is scheduled for October 30th from 5pm - 7pm. The team is also preparing a new fundraising package to present to Business Partners that attend the celebration.

7.3 Director's Report

Speaker(s): Josh Jones

Josh Jones briefed the Board. Current enrollment is at 831 to start the year compared to 751 students at this time last year.

Mr. Uhrmacher asked if there were any updates with SkillsUSA competitions. Mr. Jones answered that there were several trips over the summer for club competitions. Most notably, one TCA student placed 11th in the SkillsUSA Culinary competition.

ACTION ITEMS

Speaker(s): Dr. Illich

8. ITEMS PULLED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

8.1 Discuss, consider and take all necessary action to authorized and approve the insurance package for 2025-2026.

Speaker(s): Kim Miller / Derek Aldridge

Mr. Aldridge briefed the board by giving an overview of how The Career Academy was set-up. TCA is NOT a separate legal entity. The TCA building is owned by both LPS and SCC 50/50. This has created difficulty for risk management and insurance to develop a plan due to the uniqueness of the agreement. Consequently, fewer insurance carriers want to engage in TCA. Mr. Aldridge predicts that this will continue to be a trend.

Josh Jones asked why the insurance companies do not want to insure TCA. Mr. Aldridge explained that TCA is not solely K12 and not solely Higher Ed. It is hard for insurance companies to understand what TCA is. The bigger the entity, the easier to insure, so since TCA is not large, it is not worth the risk. Also, lawsuits would get very messy. Annie Mumgaard mentioned that regardless of the size, insurance is getting harder and more expensive for everyone.

Kim Miller mentioned that the policy starts August 10th, which is why this special meeting was required. She said the building value continues to go up every year, so it costs more to insure. Last year the deductible for wind/hail for TCA was \$50,000. Now the cost is 1% of the property value or roughly \$410,000. She estimates it would cost \$2-\$5 million dollars to replace the roof. Each partner

would need to come up with half. The total increase is \$15,000 per year.

Annie Mumgaard asked if \$15,000 was in the budget, Kim Miller answered yes.

Josh Jones asked what would happen is SCC took ownership of the building and LPS paid out to SCC in an attempt to make the building easier to insure. Derek Aldridge said it would not help SCC at all and it would not help the deductible rates at all.

A motion was made by Ms. Mumgaard and seconded by Mr. Uhrmacher to approve the insurance package as presented for 2025-2026.

Motion Passed:

Mr. Uhrmacher	YES
Dr. Skretta	YES
Dr. Illich	YES
Ms. Mumgaard	YES

MOTION PASSED

9. EXPEDITED/EMERGENCY ACTIONS

10. ANNOUNCEMENT OF UPCOMING MEETING DATES OR EVENTS FOR THE BOARD

The next regular meeting is scheduled for September 9, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 200 at The Career Academy.

11. REQUEST FOR CLOSED SESSION

There was no request for closed session.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Board President, Dr. Illich, adjourned the meeting at 9:54 a.m.

DATED this 5th day of August 2025

SOUTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE AREA AND LINCOLN

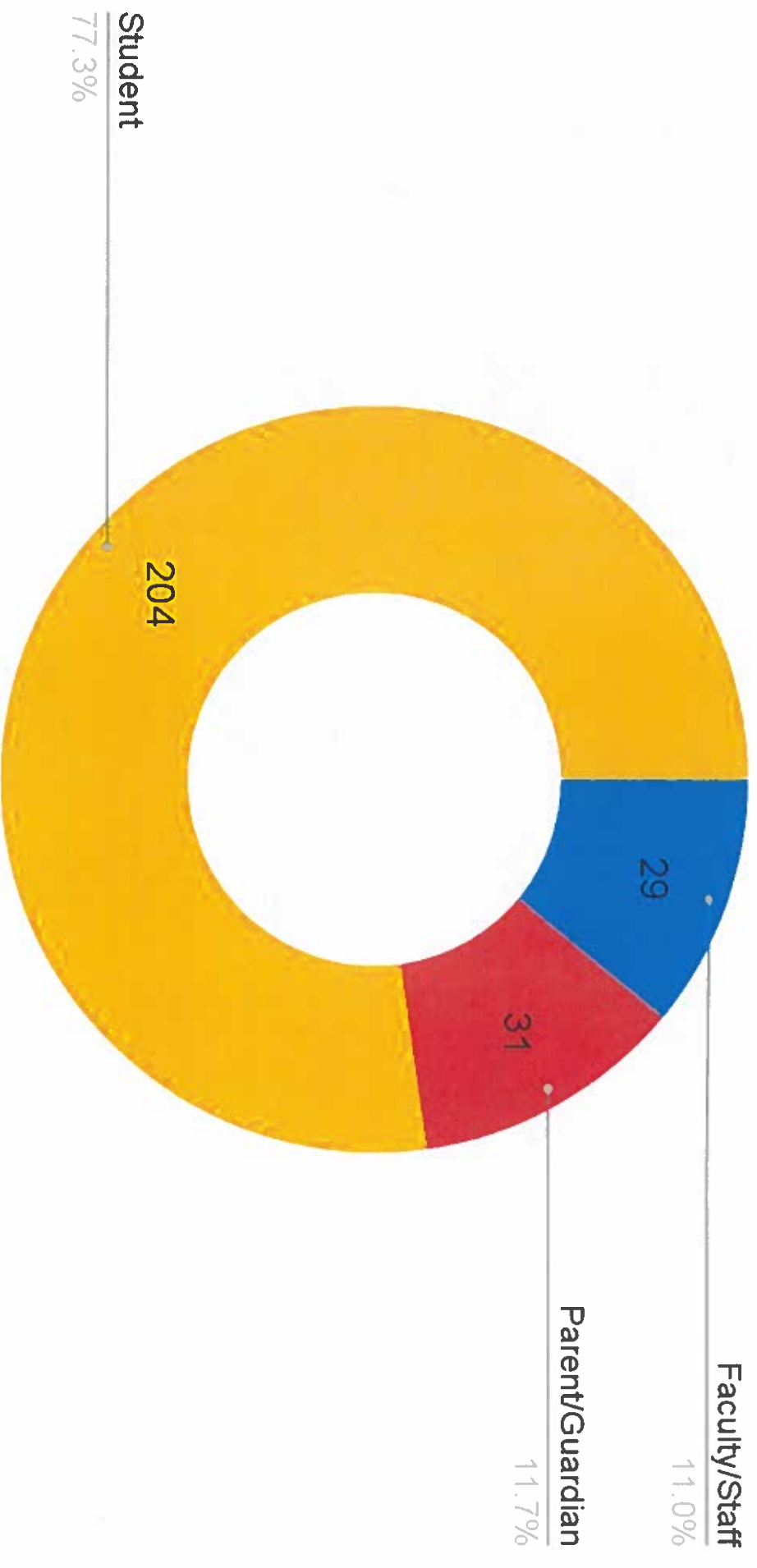
PUBLIC SCHOOLS CAREER ACADEMY JOINT BOARD

TCA Perception Survey Data

2024 - 2025 School Year

What is your connection to TCA?

Number of respondents based on affiliation

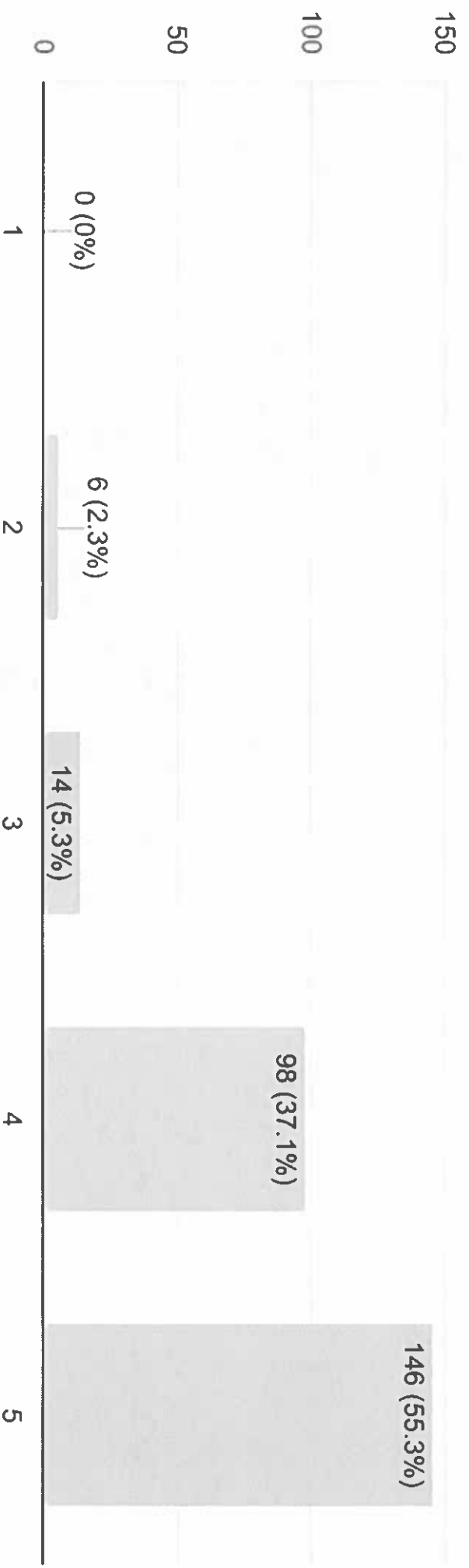


General Questions

The data represented within this section was collected from all respondents of the survey. Results are presented as a collective data set rather than by specific affiliation at TCA.

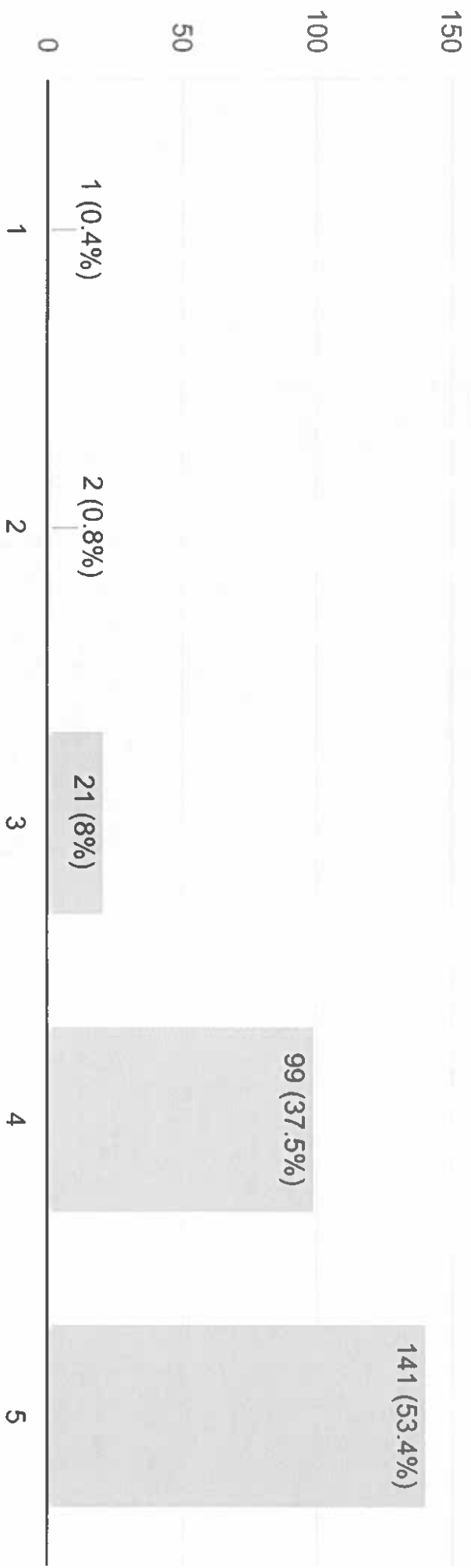
On a scale of 1 (needs improvement) to 5 (exceeds expectations), how would you rate the **overall learning environment** of TCA?

On a scale of 1 (needs improvement) to 5 (exceeds expectations), how would you rate the overall learning environment (e.g., classrooms) of TCA?
264 responses

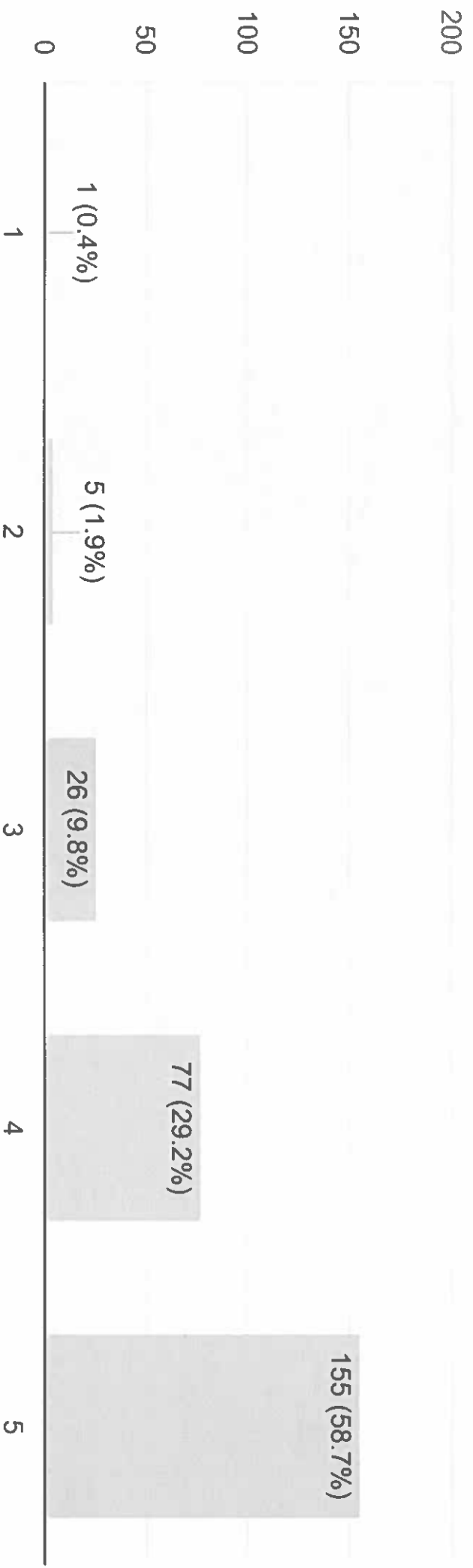


TCA's school mission statement is to provide quality career-focused programs to prepare students for continued education and employment that contributes to the economic growth of themselves and their community.

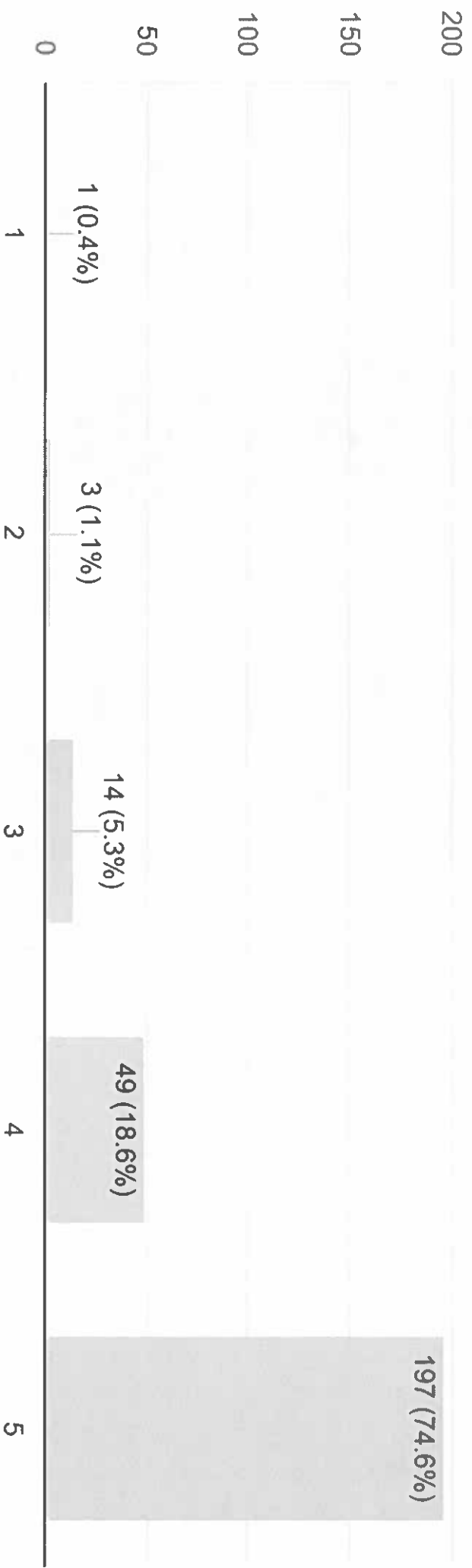
On a scale of 1 (needs improvement) to 5 (exceeds expectations), how would you rate the success of our program in meeting the expectations of the mission statement?



On a scale of 1 (needs improvement) to 5 (exceeds expectations), how would you rate the level of communication regarding important dates and information pertaining to TCA?

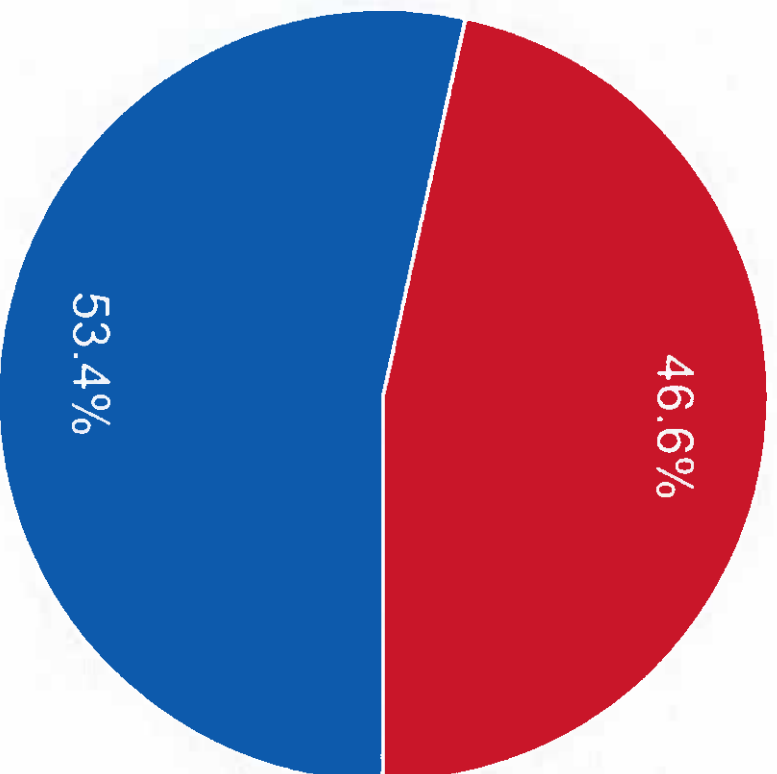


On a scale of 1 (not likely) to 5 (very likely), how would you rate your likelihood to recommend TCA to other people (family, friends, colleagues, etc.)?



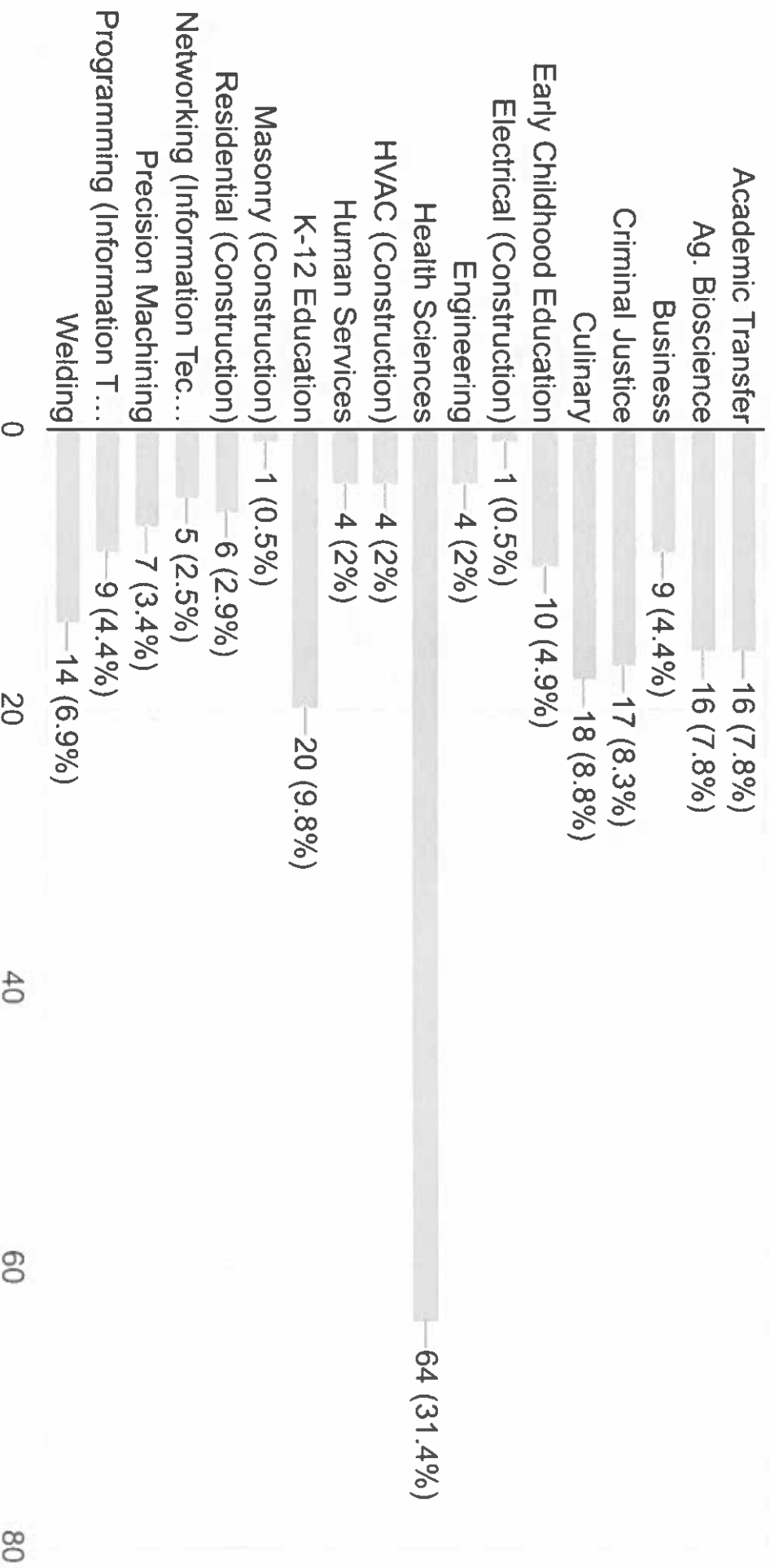
Student Responses

I am currently a...



- Junior
- Senior

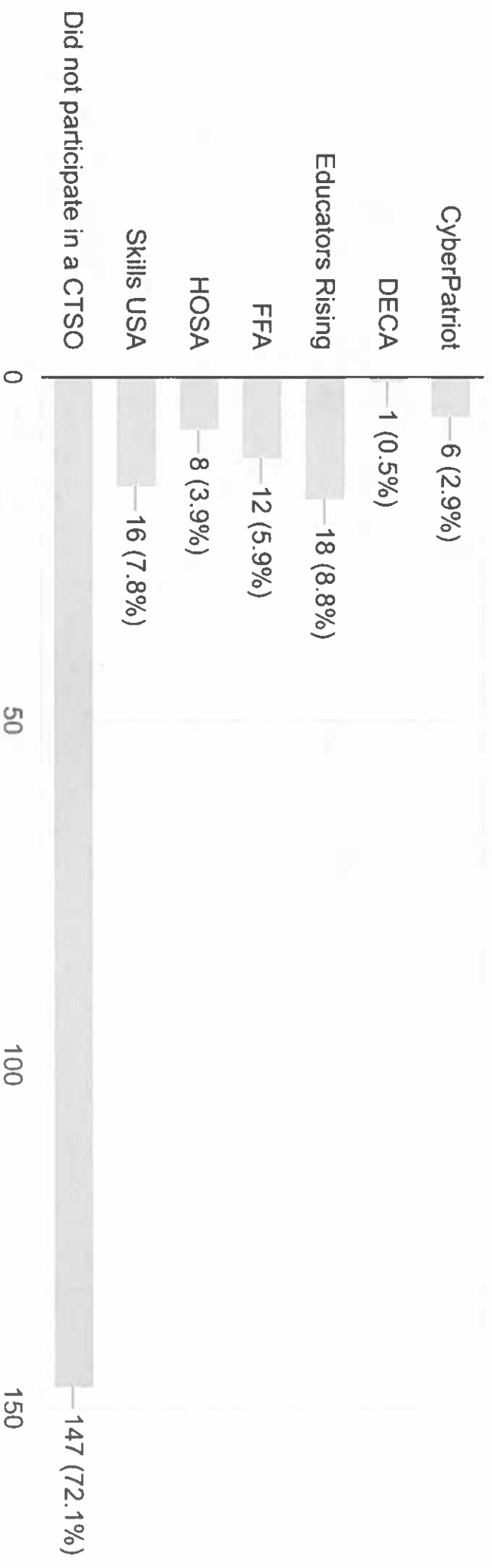
Student Responses by Pathway**



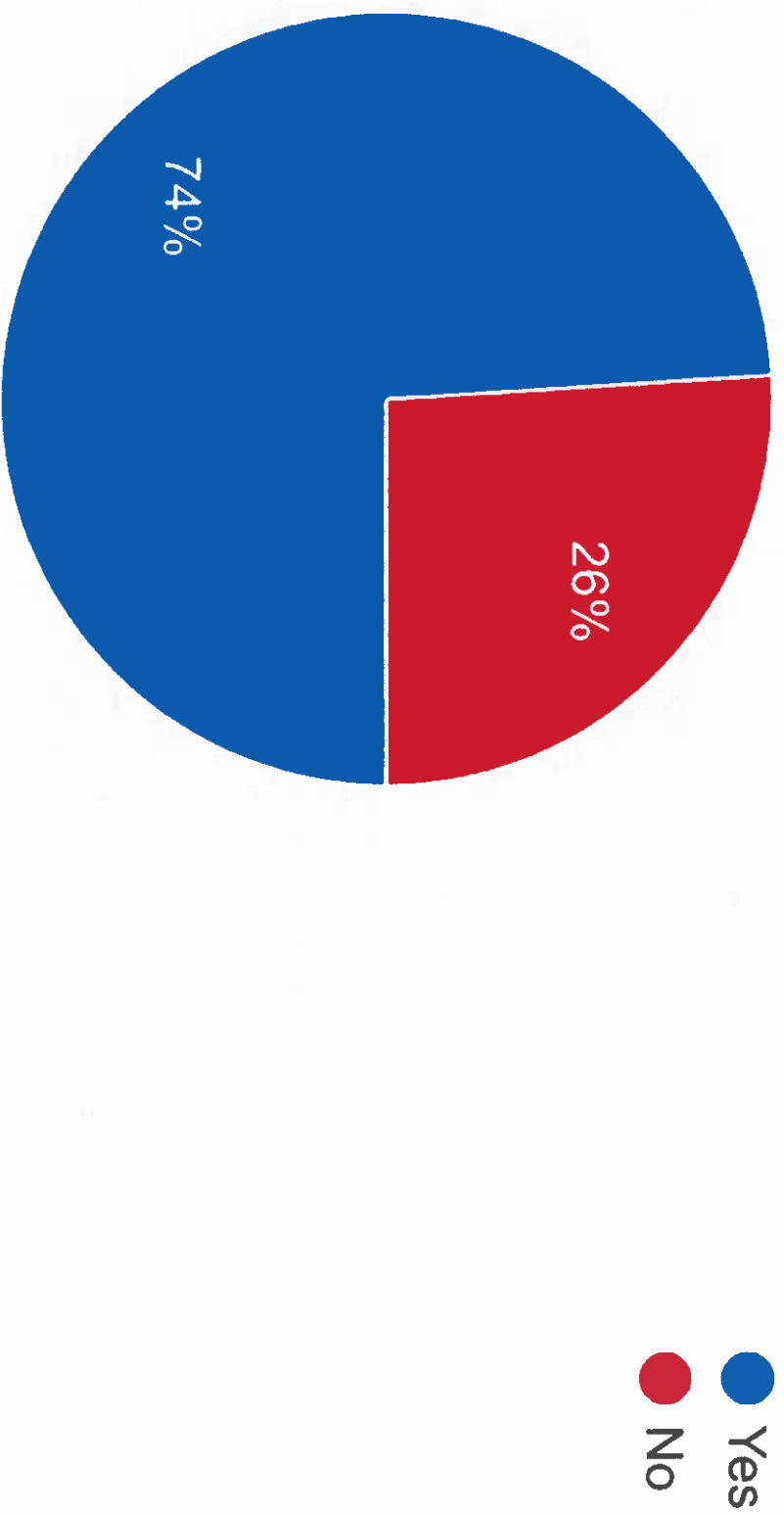
** Values above are slightly different from the TCA affiliation data as students had the option to indicate if they were enrolled in multiple pathways during the 2024-2025 school year with this question.

Student Participation in CTSOs

27 percent of student respondents indicated involvement in one or more CTSOs at TCA.

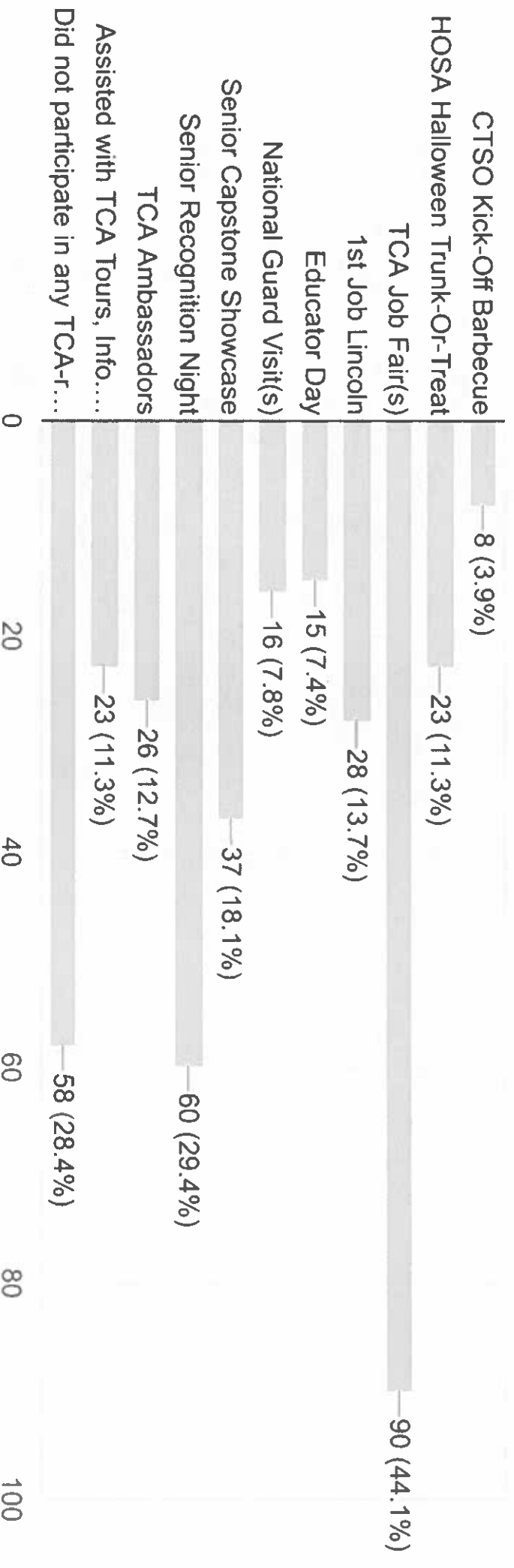


Were you aware of Career Technical Organization (CTSOs) opportunities associated with your pathway?



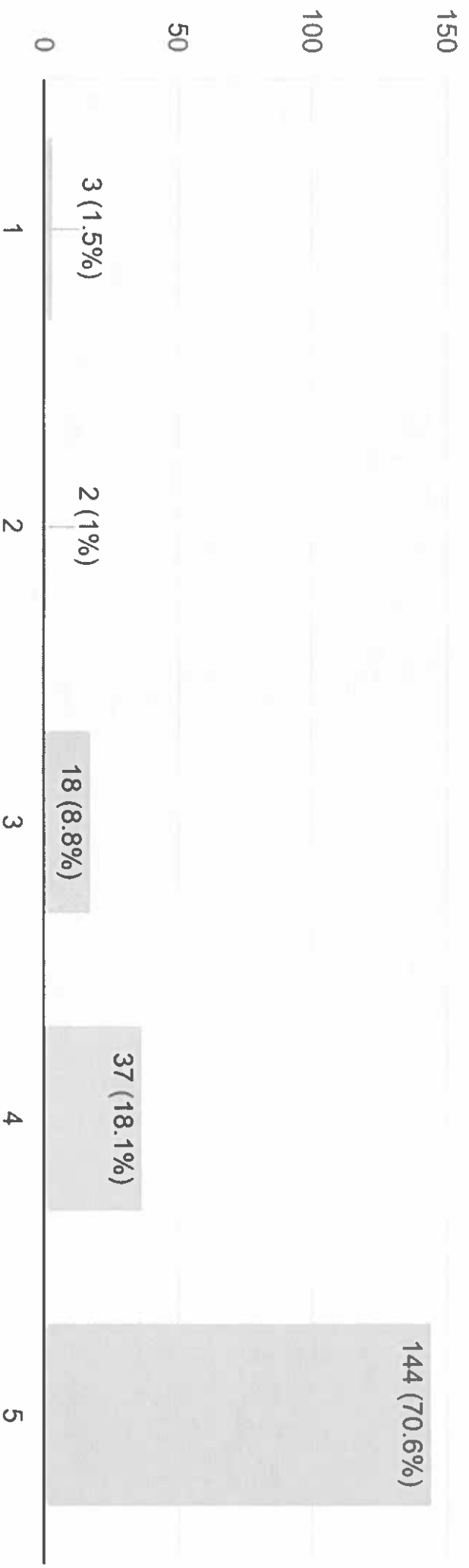
Student Participation in On-Campus Activities

145 of the students who completed the survey indicated that they attended one or more on-campus activities during the 2024 - 2025 school year (approximately 71 percent of respondents).



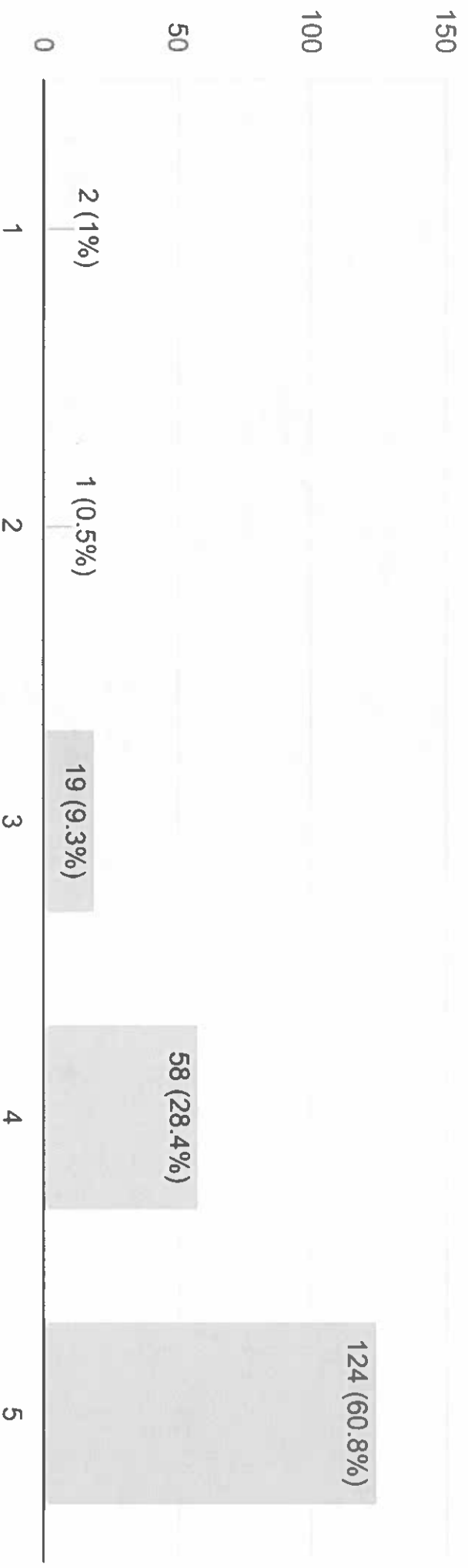
On a scale of 1 (needs improvement) to 5 (exceeds expectations), please rate how you perceive the validity of the following statement:

The Career Academy has enhanced my high school experience.



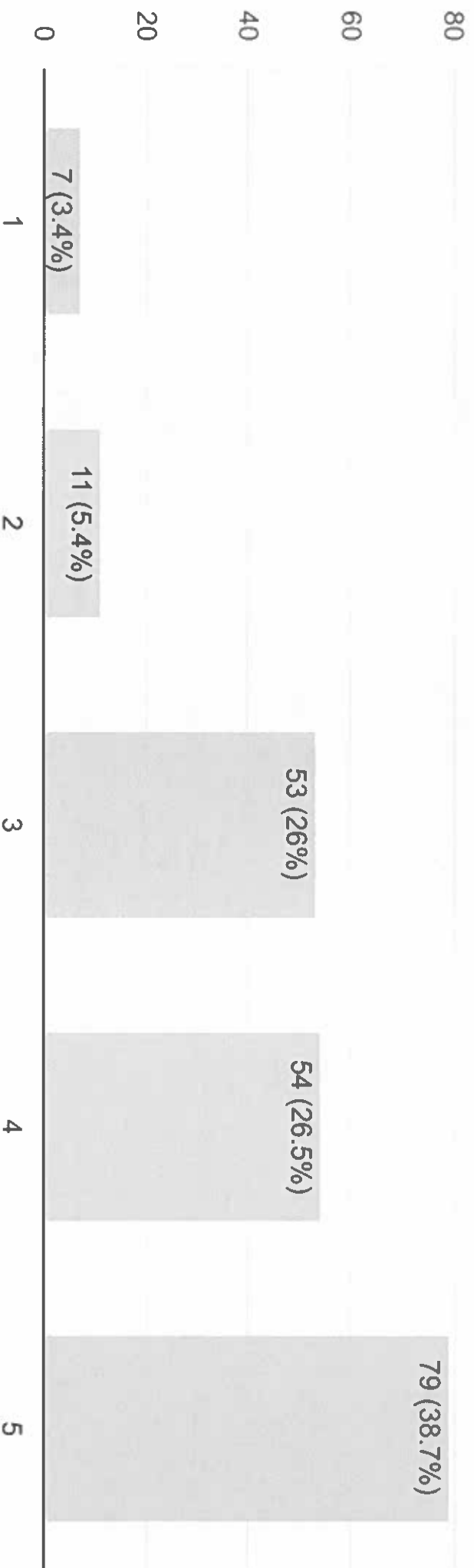
On a scale of 1 (needs improvement) to 5 (exceeds expectations), please rate how you perceive the validity of the following statement:

The Career Academy has prepared me for the next steps in pursuit of my educational and/or professional goals.



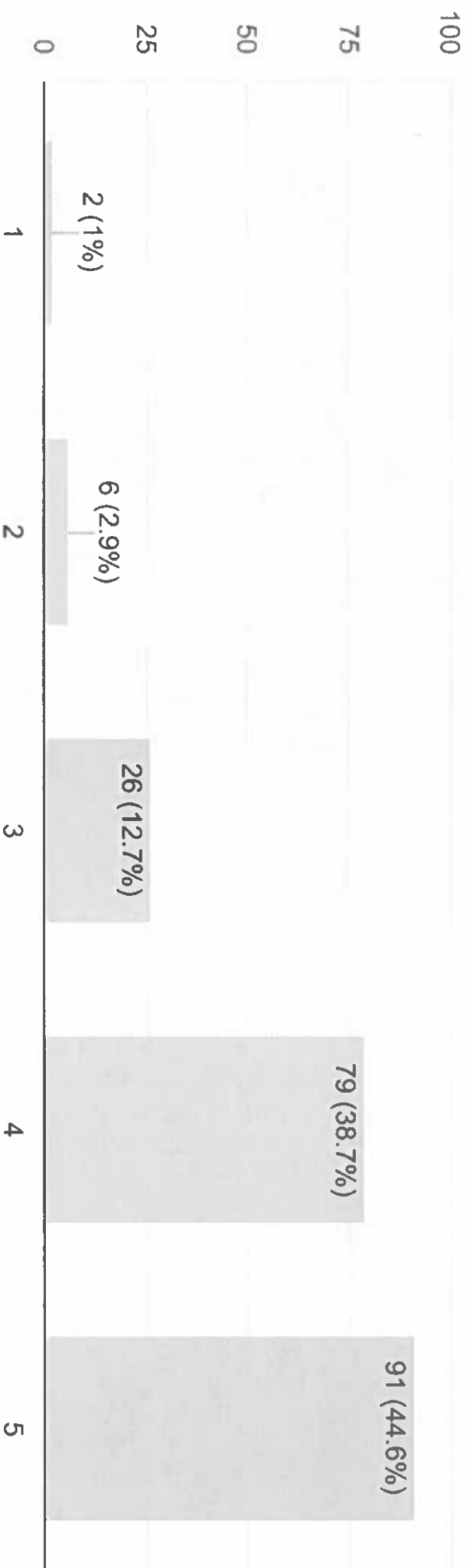
On a scale of 1 (needs improvement) to 5 (exceeds expectations), please rate how you perceive the validity of the following statement:

I feel connected to The Career Academy outside of my pathway courses.



On a scale of 1 (needs improvement) to 5 (exceeds expectations), please rate how you perceive the validity of the following statement:

I feel well-informed about upcoming dates and events based on communication from The Career Academy.



Student Written Feedback

Based on your experience, what has been your favorite aspect of TCA?

Being able to connect with peers from other schools that I may have never met otherwise

meeting people with the same passions as me and having teachers that love and care about what they are teaching

Being able to do higher learning in high school

The teachers.

FFA

learning about livestock and having fun with labs

Being able to figure out what i want to do with my career after highschool and get a view of what the career would look like.

The focused learning - it's two hours each day of working on a single subject and having spare time to do extra, as opposed to the several short class periods at the high school level

The environment and the people here are just absolutely amazing people

Much smaller classrooms and connecting with teachers

I really liked the ability to come in early and have a spot to study when I needed it.
the teachers

The people and being able to do things I wouldn't experience at a normal high school

Getting a taste of what college will be like and meeting other ambitious people

Being able to learn about my interests and having a teacher with lots of experience and knowledge about the subject.

The hands on experience in the field I'm interested in

The culture

Meeting new people and getting to learn about what the medical field is like

Based on your experience, what recommendations (or feedback) do you have regarding how TCA can improve?

Keep funding the program.

TCA is a 10/10, I've heard freshman talking about wanting to go there, and they can't even go till their juniors

I would like anatomy to be college credit because we do way over the bar in terms of learning and work for the credits we get.

the education path started a week early, then the week of finals it was mandatory team building and field trips. I feel it should be one or the other. this is not that big of a deal, it just makes it go longer than needed and both these things were added last minute.

Have a better system for students to access videos if they're from LPS. Due to LPS, students can't access YouTube and a non-LPS computer won't always be available, so having a method where we can access the videos straight from the assignments themselves would be a huge improvement.

Make posters for high schools they stick out more than announcements.

Add a QR code to them where kids can sign up for TCA this prevents the possibility of missing information because of a one time announcement

Based on your experience, what has been your favorite aspect of TCA?

getting hands on experiences

One of my favorite parts of TCA was the fact that there are people from different schools learning the same things as you. It gives you a perspective into how things will be after high school and during college. You get to see people you've never seen before in your life. It makes it more fun to learn more from other schools even if its just knowing when their prom is. Another part that is my absolute favorite is that the classes are much more in depth than other classes. The teachers care so much about their teachings and make sure that the students know and understand the subject and I am very glad to be able to be in TCA.

The more professional environment. I like that the people here had to advocate and put themselves out here to be here. It's nice to be surrounded by people that care for their future. I recommended my best friend here and we're going together next year!

I love the community TCA has made for me. All the students and faculty are so supportive of me and make an effort to know me. I've met so many people I can add to my support system

I like doing more work and learning related to the college education I will be pursuing.

learning more about my future

My classmates

Teachers and the extracurricular activities

I love that it is different from what i do at my normal high school. There are interactive experiences i do not get to engage in and i also enjoyed meeting new people and making new friends.

Being able to connect with peers of similar interests.

I love the sense of community. You feel wanted and valued at TCA. The instructors and staff do everything they can to support students and get them involved but part of that comes with advocating for one self.

different learning environment

learning skills with a wide range of uses that I can expect to utilize in many ways in the future.

being able to meet new people

Based on your experience, what recommendations (or feedback) do you have regarding how TCA can improve?

While I was successful throughout my time at TCA, I understand that a lot of people struggled in my pathway. Due to this I feel like assignments were made easier and my teachers lacked sticking to deadlines. I overall enjoyed my experience and the classes I took, but I wish that I was more challenged by the work and assignments.

I think there should be a little more attention towards the stress of it and recommendations on how to keep going on with tca even when it gets hard

Make in class classes have more breaks

Having more guidance and one on one help.

I wish I could have had more opportunity for collage credit and my anatomy class

I think the field trips and more interactive days were always my favorite so maybe providing more opportunities for those! Examples are the health science career days both at SCC and UNMC.

I would recommend treating us more like adults especially the seniors because we are constantly tied down at our home highschool since we have to also be with 14 year olds, but personally I am 19 and still in school so it is nice to get treated like a 19 year old. I would love to have opportunities shown more often, in understanding finances and how the future might be impacted with certain choices and decisions I could be making.

Unfortunately there is not always an availability for everyone to have experienced adults shed a bit of wisdom upon the younger generation, so this a great opportunity to those who want to watch us succeed (even the most unlikely).

To keep on the good job.

I would have liked more field trips for Culinary because we were told we would have a few over the course of the 2 years but we didn't have any.

I don't like these surveys

Don't be in any other extra curriculars

Make it clear to the students what they are getting out of a class before enrolling into it

Keep on welcoming and providing for those in need, I feel like more people should be at least aware of whats going on here at TCA, its a very successful and supportive organization.

Based on your experience, what has been your favorite aspect of TCA?

The more trusted freedoms

I feel that the teachers are much better at getting information through to students. overall i feel they are much better at teaching. I have learned more in one of there classes then i do in a week of my highschool classes. I think of my teachers at TCA as people to look up to.

I think one of my favorite things about TCA is that it always feels so welcoming. I walk in everyday greeted with smiling faces and always feel appreciated from the staff. The staff takes in consideration of the students and they recognize mistakes happen and they work well with students' schedules both in and outside of class.

The different learning approach

I loved getting more info on what is to come in my future.

Making new friends

The connections.

The freedom it gives you scc gives you the work and give you time and the environment to get it done.

How much some of the teachers care about you and your well being

i think the teachers and students ive met while i was hear it really opened my eyes to everthing

My favorite thing about TCA has been being able to get a head start with learning about a pathway that I am interested in and being able to confirm and say that, that is what I want to do before having to decide in college!

the freedom and how I able to be responsible for myself

Gaining insight into what college is like and having a transition period between high school and college

Getting a glimpse of college environment and classes

I would say being able to make new friends and be more connected to my teachers and being able to get help when I need it but also having so much fun at all the events we have.

Able to work in my career path while in higschool

Based on your experience, what has been your favorite aspect of TCA?

The community and all the resources provided from staff.

The family you make along the way

Having small class sizes but lots of learning opportunities

The changed high school schedule

I loved being able to take classes that are usual for me in what I want to pursue outside of high school

I have love the hands on learning.

My favorite aspect has been able to take classes I am interested in and ones that will help me in the future. I love that I got to create my whole schedule for my senior year in order to take a lot of classes that will transfer to college.

Learning with the people in your pathway, connecting to people with similar interests as you.

I loved my experience here at TCA I wish I would have done it last year. I love all the opportunities I had to start my nursing career early.

FFA

Dual credit and making new friends and getting to explore your pathway or other pathways you are interested in.

My favorite aspect was probably the learning experience more comparative to a college learning experience than to a high school one.

The work space and being able to do things i wouldn't be able to in my home high school.
get days off finals week

Meeting new people and learning more about criminal justice.

Meeting all the teachers, the new friends I've made and being able to be creative with my mind for a grade.

the people ive met

I just like the environment. I would much rather spend my day here than my home high school.

Based on your experience, what has been your favorite aspect of TCA?

The teachers and content of what I'm learning

How close of a relationship a student to have with a teacher helping the student to learn better

The people around me

That I am able to go take classes that will prepare me for my future.

Learning about the different machines in Precision Machining

The college classes

learning about the careers i want to do

I love how invested the teachers are not only academically but also on a more personal level.

Making new friends

Beginning career-based learning rather than a regular highschool experience

The mix of freedom and schooling I get

the friendships and connections i have made with staff. my teacher makes a huge impact in my life each day

My favorite aspect of TCA is how social it is. There is so many opportunities to be social and to grow connections with others who are interested in the same thing as you. It's genuinely very comforting knowing there is people out there who find joy in the same career field

My favorite aspect has been the classes in general I feel like I learn a lot and it excited me for next year working with my hands

the welding instructors are really nice and they build a bond with the whole class

My pathway teacher. I have loved the way that she's taught material and her side stories from her other jobs and experiences definitely add so much to class. Definitely what I'm gonna miss the most from TCA as well.

My Teachers

Based on your experience, what has been your favorite aspect of TCA?

The ability to get hands on learning experience and not just sit in class and learn material the actual physical aspect is what makes TCA ten times better.

The new experiences and hands on.

My favorite aspect has been meeting new people who share the same interest as me.

The freedom to pick the classes that are useful to me and will help me in my future instead of just what's required to graduate.

I learned a lot

My favorite aspect of TCA has been the environment it has provided. It has been extremely welcoming by staff and a refreshing and exciting learning environment. The teachers I've had while at TCA were very supportive and wanted me to thrive in my classes. I was pushed in my classes and even though they were hard, they were some of my favorite classes. I got to engage in activities that I never thought I would in high school and it makes my days exciting to come to TCA to learn.

the flexibility

The opportunities

I really like the community here at TCA. It is nice having smaller classes and being able to connect with the staff. Everyone here is super welcoming.

My favorite experience was the opportunities that I was exposed to due to networking, and the introduction to possible careers I could move towards.

Teacher being nice to student

the staff are very helpful and care about student success

The people I have met

The people

The courses as well as the people, everyone is so nice and friendly. Also how casual it is compared to high-school.

I love how I got to control more what classes I was taking for my future and all the teachers were great!

Based on your experience, what has been your favorite aspect of TCA?

The only people that are here chose to be here, we are all invested and want to be here, that attitude

All the people i have met and experience i have gained

Making new friends with similar interests

The challenging courses and hands on learning with the labs.

How within your pathway classes it feels like a big friend group. Everyone talks to everyone and no one gets excluded

The different people I have gotten to meet

It's truly been a wonderful experience overall, I met some really good people and made some lifelong connections. The people that run TCA do an amazing job and I can't be more thankful for being able to be a part of it. Thank you.

not having to go to highschool for 8 hours a day

College level work in Culinary has with longer sessions has been really nice to get used to the way things work in college and how work/syllabuses are given out (plus all the connects and foods ive gotten)

I love the connection and community we all have and I am also very proud of the good courses I have for my health science program

The teacher and the food we got to eat

Individuality

The food in my pathway

The teachers, they were amazing.

Getting to study the things that you are wanting to do for your future is very helpful to keep yourself motivated.

the teachers and making friends there

meeting new people from different schools

My favorite part of TCA would have to be the experiences I get to do outside of class such as FFA and field trips.

Based on your experience, what has been your favorite aspect of TCA?

My favorite aspect has been the additional freedom and responsibilities compared to a traditional high school.

Being able to actually learn what i want to and feel like i have gained a lot of new and important learning.

In depth learning and meeting new people

The freedom of expression with assignments and the willingness of teachers and instructors to be flexible

I loved the pathway. Our teacher took us on tons of field trips and gave us opportunities for hands on learning. She encouraged a lot of my classmates on speaking their opinions and adding into our class conversations, and made sure to incorporate everyone's learning styles into her lesson plan. I'm really glad she was a teacher for the pathway.

Learning how to weld
learning, less high school.

Community

All the extra opportunities provided

The community it has the respect you are given it being my first it has really shown me what it's like to be able to be someone.

Based on your experience, what recommendations (or feedback) do you have regarding how TCA can improve?

More big projects using our new information. I think this well let us test out multiple chapters of knowledge and help us see how it all fits together.

Better communication

Keep up the great attitude!

Have people come in and monitor classes during school to understand what changes need to be made

In the years to come, as tca grows you could expand clubs, events, and programs for even more pathways

More community events or activities that connect people outside their pathways

More dad jokes

more metal

Sometimes classes end up taking a bit more time than the expected amount. It makes it more likely to miss the bus. There have been days I was barely able to make it to the bus because of getting to leave the health sciences building at 2:50 and needing to get to the bus in a minute or two. The bus schedule could be moved a little forward if it would be possible. Sometimes the buses get held back and you get to class at 12:55 when it was supposed to be 45. Not a huge issue for me but sometimes there is a lot that can happen in those 10 minutes, especially in harder courses. I just wish there was a bit more leeway of time with the buses. Something like "the buses arrive at 12:45, classes start at 12:50". around 80% of times I arrive by bus, it is around 12:42 or later. This causes barely any time to get to your class comfortably. I absolutely love the bus system though, it makes it easier and more accessible to get to TCA especially when someone doesn't have a car. I enjoy laying down and listening to music for 30 free minutes or using that time to study. This is not a big issue at all, only a personal preference on the times of the bus.

Maybe more ways for us to support the culinary pathway (and others!) with donations or bake sales. I think that the Academic Transfer pathway also might need more involvement and extracurricular opportunities.

More study time

I don't know how this could be done, but I wish different pathways interacted with each other more.

I honestly have no recommendations, I feel like TCA is run very well and any student who attends and tries will help successful and happy with their attendance.

Based on your experience, what recommendations (or feedback) do you have regarding how TCA can improve?

I have mentioned this in a meeting before but, offering student shadowing for freshmen and sophomores (and maybe even 8th graders) to come in to TCA and follow a student through a day of whatever pathway they are interested in. Would greatly increase interest in new students.

I love everything at TCA! My only complaint is the neon yellow shirts! Please never again!

One recommend I would say is letting effective every student at TCA. Have [one] day as a study hall day and on that they can work in there due or missing assignments. In addition they can also plan ahead a day before there study hall day to meet. With there teachers and work together/ work on a hard assignment and get it done.

I would have liked to get to know other students in my classes with the help of teachers doing a better job of ice breaker activities to feel more comfortable with getting to know others.

My only recommendation would just be having more field trips and in class stuff.

A suggestion that I have is to keep expanding into a lot of fields. The more you grow the more people you'll be able to connect with.

More jokes

Don't make it stressful.

Creating a more convenient way to access blocked videos on our school issued computers. If a video link goes to YouTube, and we cannot view the video because it is blocked, it is a hassle to try to access it via another device.

Don't limit pathways to only one session of the day.

Improve how to get students' attentions.

Try to advertise TCA a little more to high school students. I don't think enough people know about what it can offer.

Based on your experience, what recommendations (or feedback) do you have regarding how TCA can improve?

connection to college classes- doesn't really provide the credit advertised

i was not a fan of my class being on line and all past videos was not very helpful and i wish i didnt take the class this semester.

The school needs to be open on weekends more often it makes it so much harder to come in and get work done when i am not able to come after on my days off it makes getting my projects done harder.

More hands on learning for criminal justice or addign forensics classes.

I think TCA is awesome and does everything really great the one thing I would say is maybe having a once a month meeting with everyone in a session to go over important things going on that month especially because not everyone is there everyday.

Make sure you stay on top of your work

Teachers feel biased toward me and they're not fully listening to what I'm saying and assuming I'm fine with my class courses

There could be way less homework in the pathway. There is way too much.

Having more interactive things for the students during the day like the Scooters coffee, you could bring dounts, or I liked when HOSA made the bracelets for childrens.

Better communication

Advising on credit needed and optional classes or have an offblock

With the whole aspect of welding, a welder doesn't sit comfortably in a chair and welds. The real world is different, so maybe through some more real world situations at these kids and get them ready for what's coming.

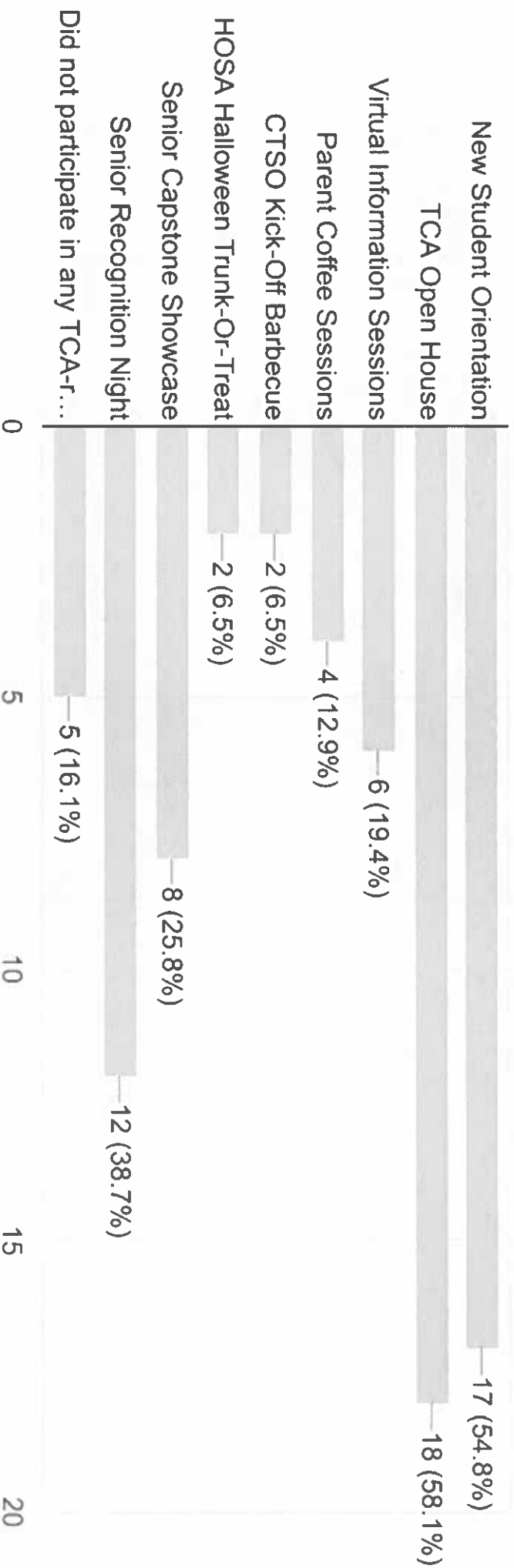
There isn't really much you can improve on since it is already so amazing. I just wish that the programs we can be involved in (Skills USA, etc.) were brought to our attention.

I would say don't be afraid to try something that you have never done before.

Parent/Guardian Responses

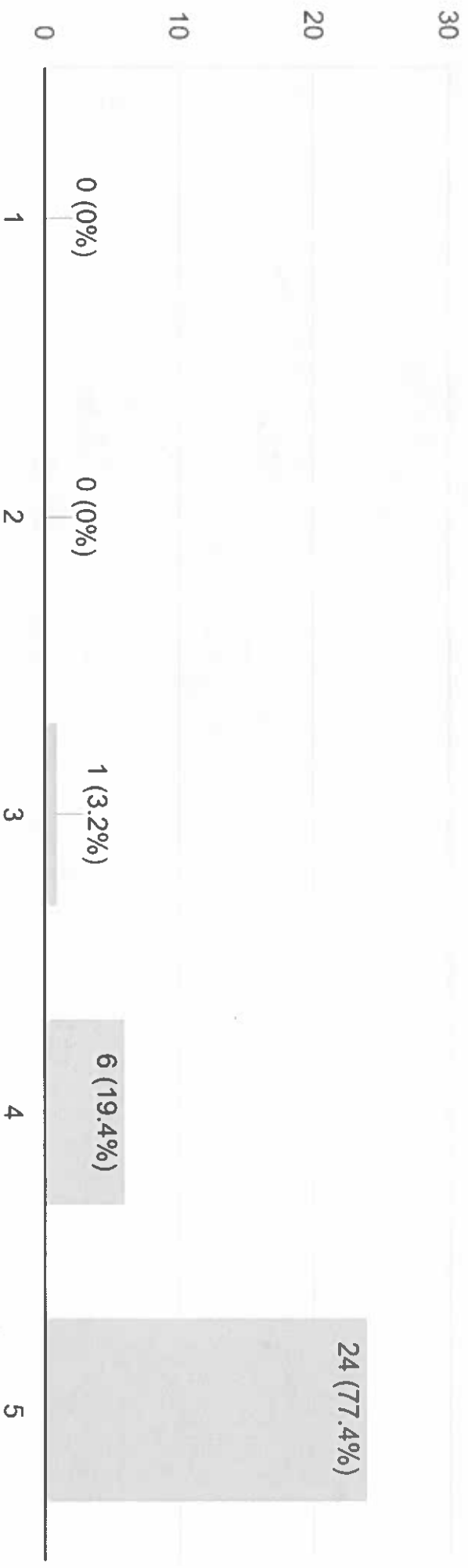
Parent/Guardian Attendance at TCA Events

83 percent of the guardians who completed the survey indicated that they attended one or more events hosted by TCA.



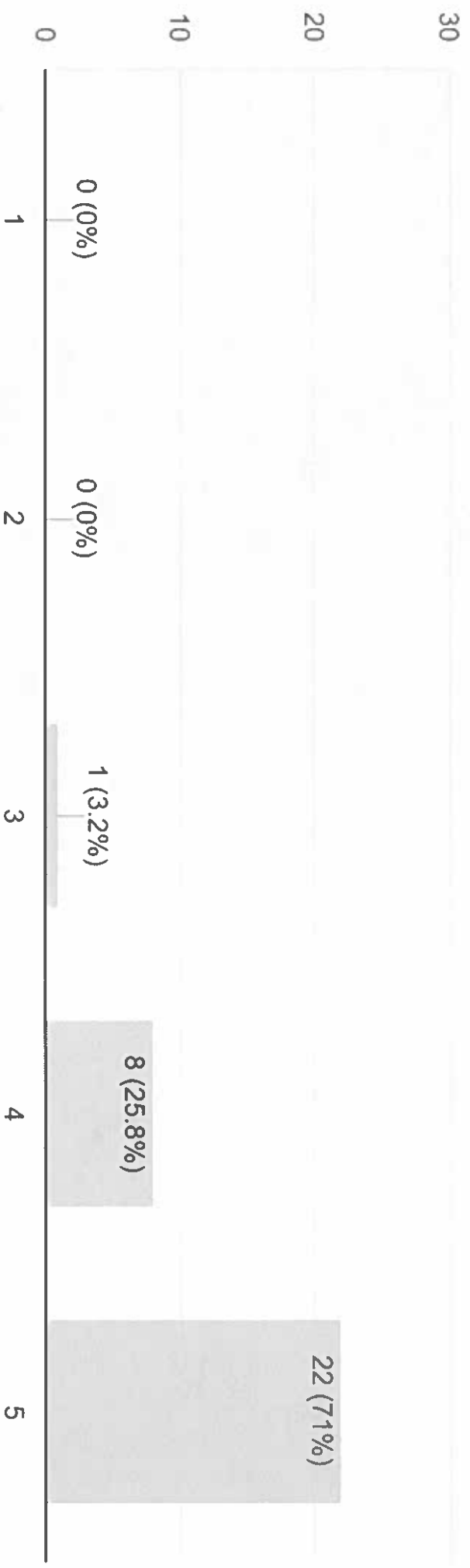
On a scale of 1 (needs improvement) to 5 (exceeds expectations), please rate how you perceive the validity of the following statement:

The Career Academy has enhanced my student's high school experience.



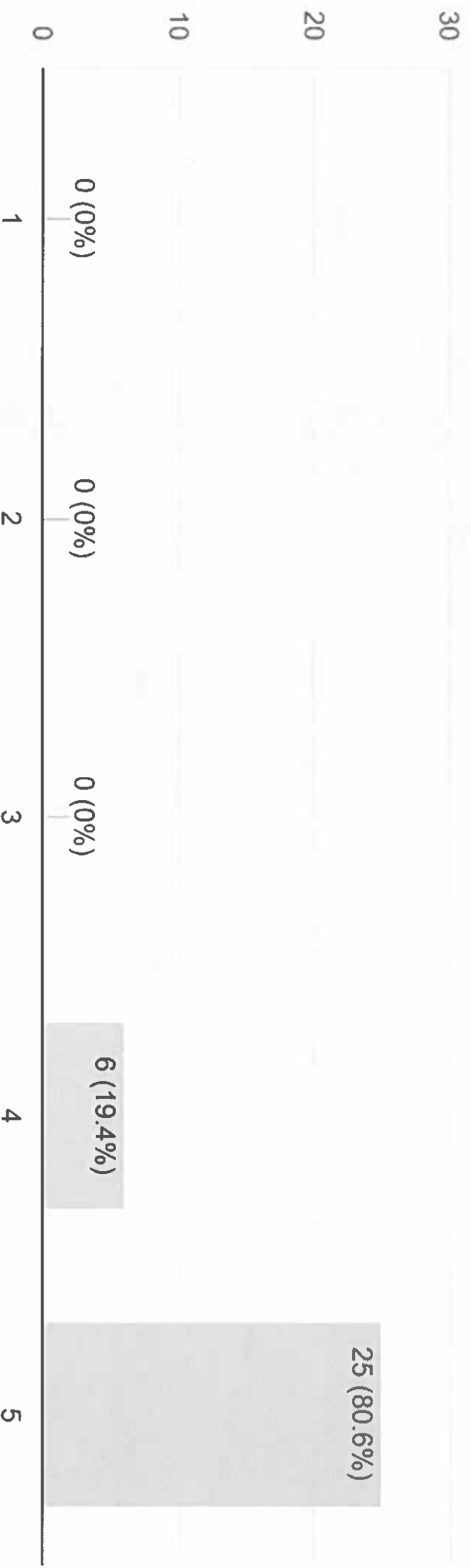
On a scale of 1 (needs improvement) to 5 (exceeds expectations), please rate how you perceive the validity of the following statement:

The Career Academy has prepared my student for the next steps in their educational and/or professional goals.



On a scale of 1 (needs improvement) to 5 (exceeds expectations), please rate how you perceive the validity of the following statement:

I feel well-informed about upcoming dates and events based on communication from The Career Academy.



Parent/Guardian Written Feedback

Based on your experience, what has been your favorite aspect of TCA?

Opportunity to get hands on experience with different types of skills training at discounted cost. Providing opportunities to connect with different employers in our community.

Seeing my daughter mature and love going to TCA. She feels treated like an actual human being and loves every aspect of TCA. The staff and teachers are incredibly knowledgeable and supportive.

The personal connections that the instructors have made; small class sizes; career focused instruction; clear communication from teachers and administrators; caring staff

We moved to Lincoln 9 years ago from Los Angeles, where I continue to be made aware of what is happening in that big school district. Lincoln (particularly the TCA) part is extraordinary in comparison. I'm so happy my daughter got to experience TCA, she has thrived.

Working with Mr. Jones, the staff and instructor of the course.

College like atmosphere to prepare them for the next step

My daughter loves attending every day! She speaks very highly of her professors, feels connected and enjoys her assignments.

I like having the students exposed to careers they may be interested in

Friendly to the home school community

My daughter LOVES TCA. It brought back her spark.

How it has provided opportunities to learn and explore the career field my son is interested in.

The communications kept us well informed! Our student loved the coursework and would have taken 100% of his classes at TCA if that were possible.

That my child talks about his classes with excitement, he's interested in the topics and wants to do his work.

Having students "test out" their interests to see if it is truly what they want to do in college is amazing!

It gave my son a new outlook on high school and college

Watching our son grow and to see TCA inform him of what he wants to study in college. He's off to a great start with 30 credits towards his degree.

Based on your experience, what recommendations (or feedback) do you have regarding how TCA can improve?

Based on my experience, I don't have any recommendations

Nothing. It's all fantastic. So glad my daughter had the opportunity to attend.

Drop off and pick up for students who do not drive and also don't attend a school that provides bussing.

I would have liked more clear, and earlier communication the SkillsUSA competition held in Grand Island. I never fully understood what was happening there and how I could personally observe. In the end it worked out just fine and I was able to watch my daughter in the culinary arts competition, which I loved!

Redirection of the less-serious students who are participating in the course.

I don't really understand the system with the attendance, I get calls regarding my son absent in TCA sometimes when he can be excused or when he don't have regular classes and seems they don't communicate between LHS and TCA

I felt like my oldest daughter had more support and more welcomed into the program vs what this child has had with the program. It was more just class and seemed to be more of a "just go figure it out on your own". Not very personable like I would expect with a smaller college/school. It could seem more this way too because this child missed a lot first semester due to sports too. Overall I am very glad that LPS has this program to offer.

I wish some of the classes could start Freshman year.

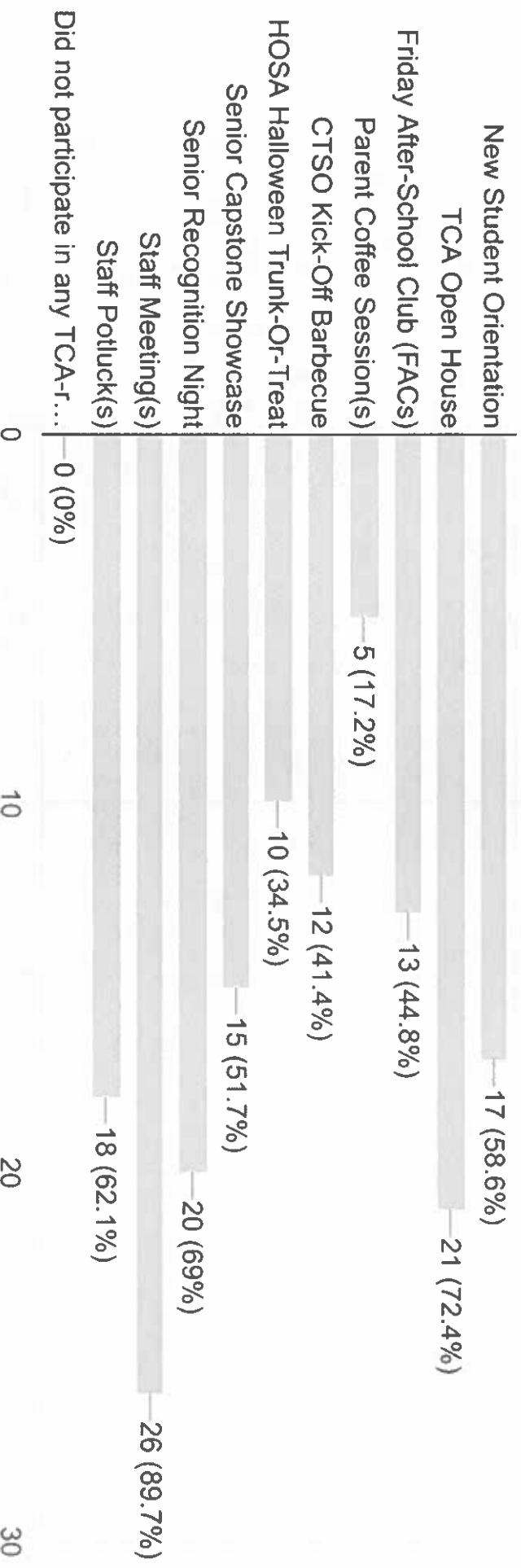
Our student came home to tell us he wanted to enroll but I wasn't as aware of this program as a parent. I likely overlooked it but any and all communications to parents of sophomores is encouraged to make sure as many students as possible have the opportunity to enroll. He's enrolled in a University and this experience helped him do that with confidence. 😊

Next year, can you give more advance notice about the spring plant sale? 😊

Faculty/Staff Responses

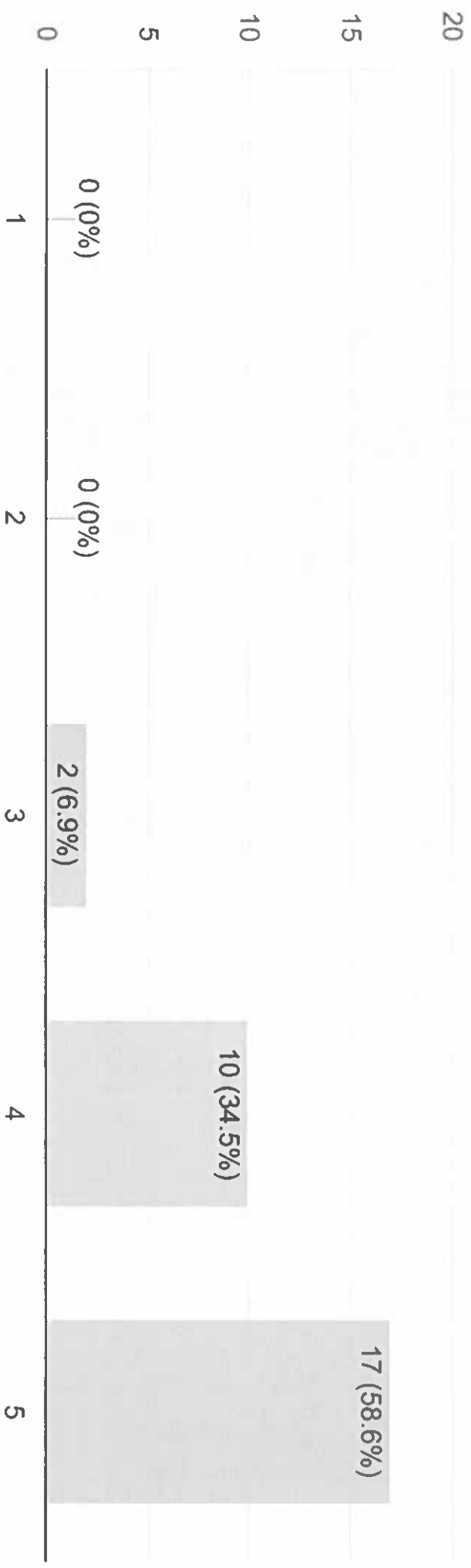
Faculty/Staff Attendance at TCA Events

100 percent of staff members who completed the survey indicated that they participated in one or more events related to TCA.



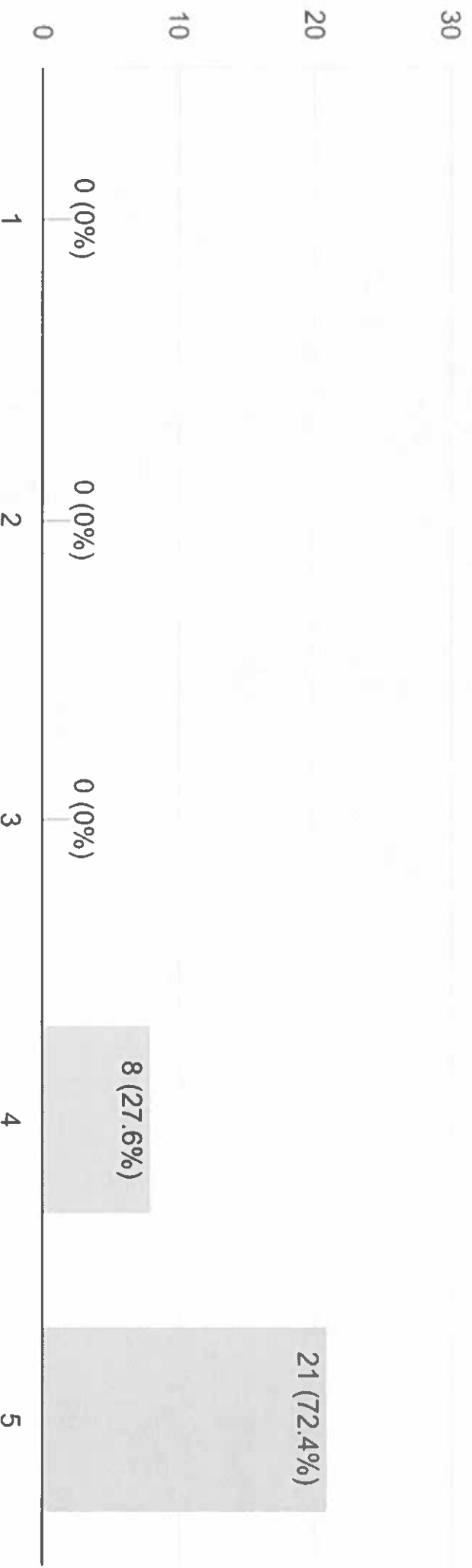
On a scale of 1 (needs improvement) to 5 (exceeds expectations), please rate how you perceive the validity of the following statement:

The Career Academy has supported my growth as an educator in pursuit of my educational and/or professional goals.



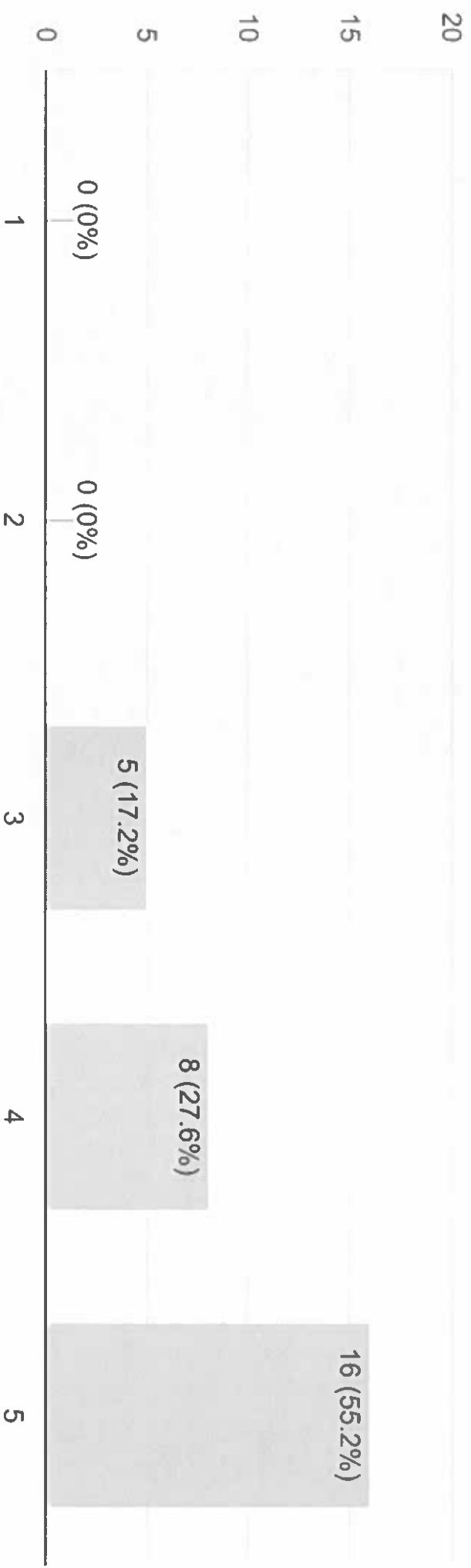
On a scale of 1 (needs improvement) to 5 (exceeds expectations), please rate how you perceive the validity of the following statement:

I feel well-informed regarding upcoming events, meetings, and other activities occurring at The Career Academy.



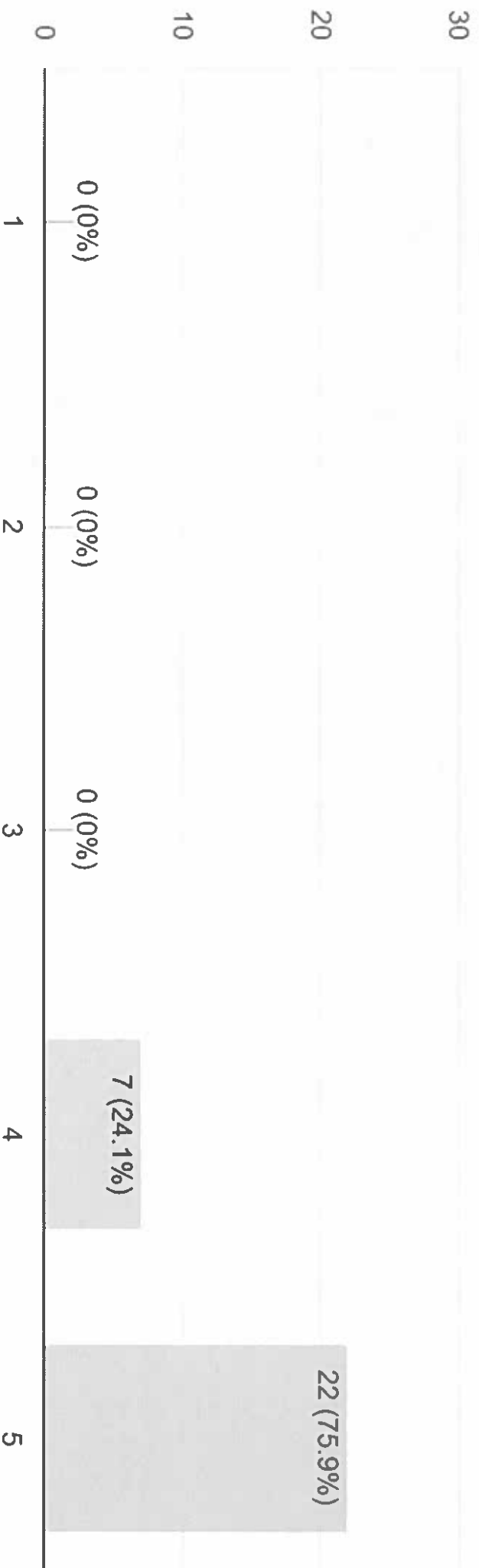
On a scale of 1 (needs improvement) to 5 (exceeds expectations), please rate how you perceive the validity of the following statement:

The Career Academy promotes an environment of collegiality for all staff.



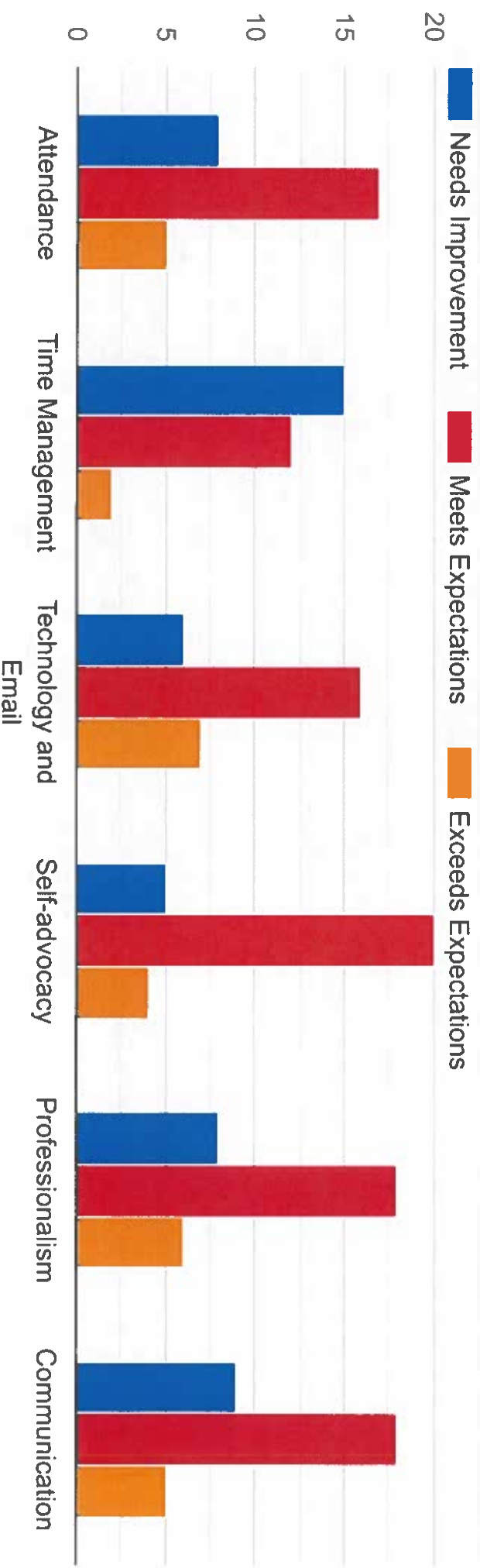
On a scale of 1 (needs improvement) to 5 (exceeds expectations), please rate how you perceive the validity of the following statement:

I know who to go to if I have a concern or need.



Please rate how you feel students met the expectations of **The TCA Habits for Success** by the end of your time working with them.

Mark one response per Habit listed.



Faculty/Staff Written Feedback

Based on your experience, what has been your favorite aspect of TCA?

The student centered approach to teaching and preparing students for expectations in the post secondary world and careers.

Collaborating with other pathway instructors to partner to create cross-curriculum opportunities for our students.

I enjoy working with Josh and Jocelyn. They are two of the better supervisors I have had.

The breadth of available trade-related subject matter

Seeing students grow, succeed, mature, come back from failure, connect with adults, create friendships within pathways.

Positive learning atmosphere for students and teachers

I love the environment. Expectations are higher. I love that most students are here because they are looking to their future and we get to help them along the way. I always feel supported with any questions or student concerns.

It is a positive work environment- it feels like everyone who is here wants to be here- it feels good to come to work each day, to be with both students who want to be here and staff who do as well.

My favorite aspect of TCA is the environment itself. Students are always very respectful to one another, and I love seeing them make new friends within their pathways and even outside of their pathways. All staff is almost always in a great mood, and it is just a nice place to come into for work.

Hands on learning

The quality of education that is available to each and every student at the TCA.

Seeing students create new and lasting friendships with others from different high schools

Seeing the longstanding connections of TCA out in the community; really starting to see former students either returning to check in or out working in the community.

Fieldtrips and collaboration!

Administrative support is excellent, which I believe promotes a positive attitude on the part of faculty and staff. I feel that all are working toward the same goals, which doesn't necessarily happen everywhere.

Based on your experience, what has been your favorite aspect of TCA?

Watching the growth of the kids that come to TCA

I think it gives the students a chance to work towards their future in a meaningful way.

100% there to make sure our kids are taken care of and help them realize and learn their own paths. Whatever that may be.

Witnessing first hand academic progress for all my students - very rewarding!

Based on your experience, what recommendations (or feedback) do you have regarding how TCA can improve?

I think we can do more to better prepare students to be successful at TCA during their 1st semester with us.

Figuring out a way to change the once a week format for LPS classes.

Instructors, LPS for sure, could be better at reaching out to parents when students struggle...or when they're successful. Communication amongst staff could improve so we are all on the same page ie: what is going on daily inside TCA and how it affects students. We need to know who is going to be gone and the plan for the day from secretaries to administration to staff.

Majority of students are doing well w/ the TCA Habits of Success (esp. 2nd semester) - I do think we (all teachers) need to be more intentional teaching/reinforcing Habits of Success in Semester 1 - especially to new Jr's to TCA. Most of our interventions are on an individual basis (tardies/truancies/behavior) - am wondering as we grow - if we are in need of more structure for the students who struggle w/ attendance & behaviors? Not sure what that looks like...

More accountability in the Learning Center. When students have been assigned there, would like to see them work on missing items for classes.

I believe we are doing a great job. We need to continue to push and elevate students coming into our facility. We have high expectations for those students and we must continue to push the students to that level

Hold students accountable and make it their responsibility to complete assignments and not all on the teacher

Clear expectations/structure for Learning Center use

One thing I have noticed in my short time here is the inconsistent teacher enforcement regarding classroom distractions such as cell phones, open computers that are gaming, excessive talking during class, etc. I know that LPS and TCA has policies in place to address these issues but I think there must be a concerted effort to enforce these policies by all. I know instructors do not want to be the bad guys but I think these expectations must be uniformly enforced to promote the best learning environment possible. Administration could help with this by occasionally looking in during class time and pulling students out and talking to them about the expectations, when they are not being met. Personally, I have little tolerance for classroom distractions, but it becomes harder to hold students to high standards if enforcement is inconsistent. I think most instructors would welcome any assistance in minimizing classroom distractions.

As an institution, we should definitely continue to hammer these expectations home in student/parent emails, during orientations, at stand-up meetings, etc., so expectation remain very clear.

I think there is always something that can be done to improve what class offerings we have. I don't know what we could do but, I have no help at all to give on this matter it is just something that I considered.

TCA Director's Report

September, 2025

Student Voice

- Aiden Glantz: Welding & Precision Machine
- Ben Schmale: Construction

25/26 Enrollment Update

- Current Enrollment: **797**

JUNIORS	404
SENIORS	388
INDEPENDENCE ACADEMY	5
EAST	105
LINCOLN HIGH	93
SOUTHEAST	119
SOUTHWEST	123
NORTHWEST	86
NORTHEAST	58
NORTH STAR	84
STANDING BEAR	57
BRYAN COMMUNITY	6
NON-PUBLIC	61

- Pathway Enrollment:

ACADEMIC TRANSFER	59
AG/BIO	40
BUSINESS	38
CONSTRUCTION	39
CRIMINAL JUSTICE	43
CULINARY	21
EDUCATION	67
ELECTRICAL	39
ENGINEERING	47
HEALTH SCIENCE	221
HUMAN SERVICES	36
HVAC	14
IT-NETWORKING	15
IT-PROGRAMMING	12
PRECISION MACHINE	21
WELDING	85

24/25 Year in Review

Trend of Success, DF, and Withdrawal Rates | TCA classes as of 6/1/2025 2:57:14 PM

Hover over Academic Year and click the [+] to drill to the information by term. Click on [-] to return to Academic Year

Race/Ethnicity: All Gender: All Division of course: All Year in High School: All

2024-2025	84.5%	9.1%	6.4%
2023-2024	85.8%	8.4%	5.8%
2022-2023	85.1%	8.5%	6.4%
2021-2022	82.6%	9.3%	8.1%
2020-2021	82.2%	11.0%	6.8%

- 24/25 Perception Data
 - Packet included

25/26 SIP & MAP Goals

- SIP Goal: Goal: Increase retention to a 78-percent return rate of students entering the 2026-2027 school year.
- Map Goals:
 - Develop a communication/marketing plan that increases awareness of TCA and its programs. Strengthen relationships with high school leadership, & the business community.
 - TCA will strengthen our collective efficacy as a staff & school by investing in personnel resources, expanding professional development opportunities, and fostering a culture of recognition and growth for students and employees on both the LPS & SCC
 - TCA will continue to focus on increasing matriculation to SCC for graduating Seniors. During the 25/26 school year we will increase matriculation by 3% from the 24/25 school year.

Safety & Security at TCA

- LPS SEM at front desk.
 - Controlled Entrance...without enclosure (typical to other schools)
 - TCA supported by SCC Security Team
 - TCA completes all required SRP drills
 - Certain rooms lack coverage due to glass
 - Security considerations moving forward

Other items for discussion

- LPS Foundation fundraising event in October.
- IT/AV 11-year review to be completed in October by joint team of LPS & SCC specialists