



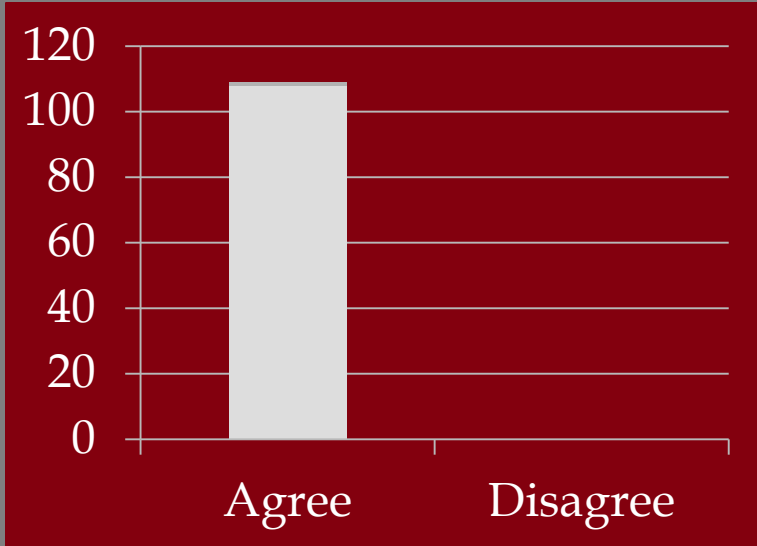
LEGISLATIVE SURVEY RESULTS 2016 – 2017

VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS

BUDGET ISSUES

STATEMENT #1

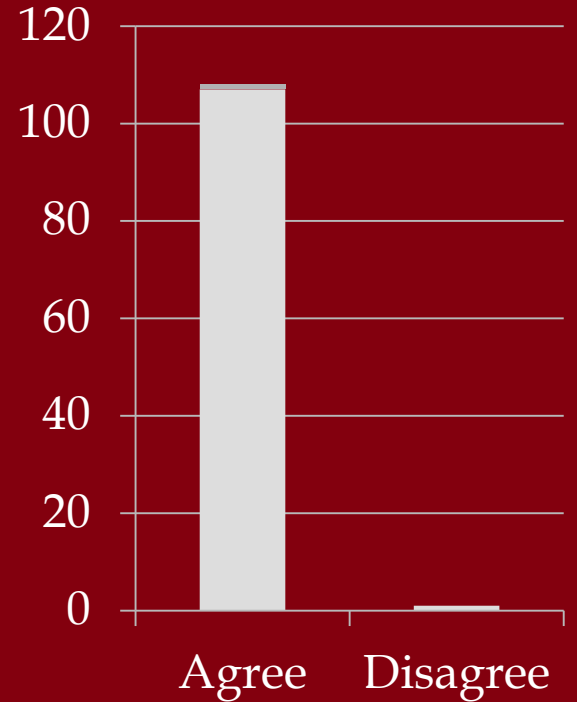
VASS supports the full funding of all mandates passed by the General Assembly. The partial funding or absence of funding for these mandates results in an added burden on local schools.



BUDGET ISSUES

STATEMENT #2

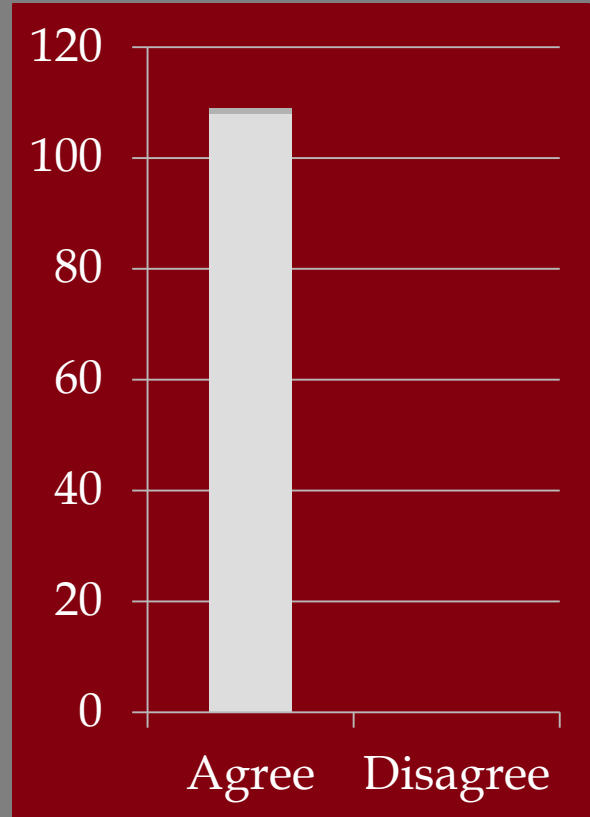
VASS recognizes that the Support Position Cap has eliminated hundreds of millions of dollars in state funding and reduced the ability of local school divisions to meet the changing needs of their students and requirements from the State. VASS supports the State Board's request that the SOQ Support Position Cap be removed.



BUDGET ISSUES

STATEMENT #3

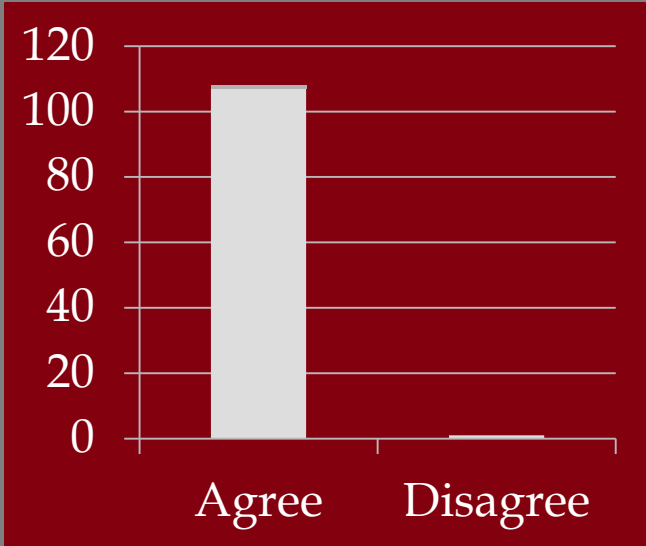
While VASS appreciates and overall supports the SOQ staffing changes recommended by the State Board, these changes must be accompanied by appropriate state funding in addition to staffing flexibility if qualified applicants cannot be found to fill these added positions. Until these conditions are met and the Support Position Cap removed, VASS opposes the State Board's recommendation that the Class Size and Staffing Waivers contained in the Appropriations Act be eliminated.



BUDGET ISSUES

STATEMENT #4

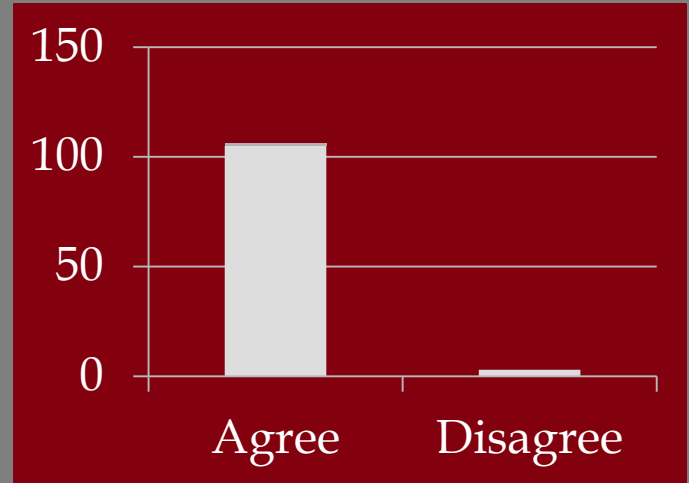
VASS requests that the Virginia Department of Education provide a cost estimate to local school divisions of any changes made to the Standards of Accreditation prior to their approval.



BUDGET ISSUES

STATEMENT #5

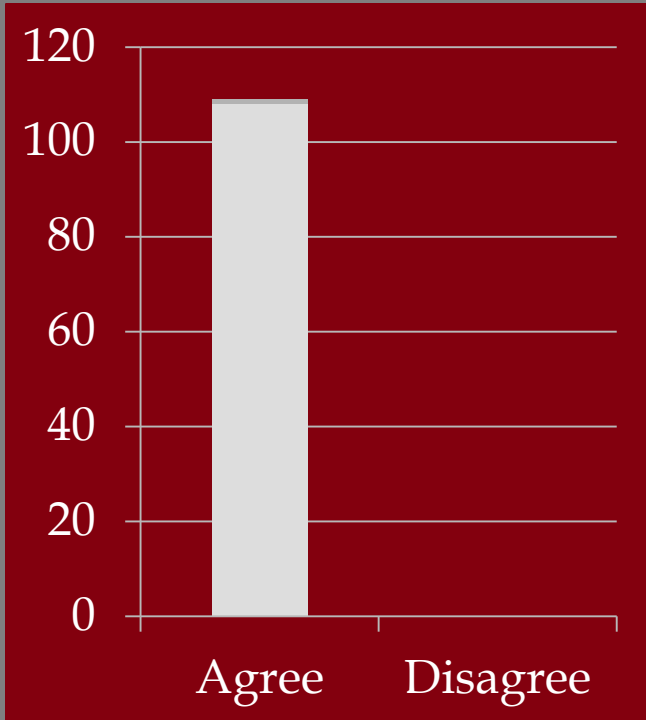
VASS supports the General Assembly returning to the 2019-2020 biennium for full funding of the VRS Board of Trustees' recommended rate.



ASSESSMENT & ACCOUNTABILITY

STATEMENT #6

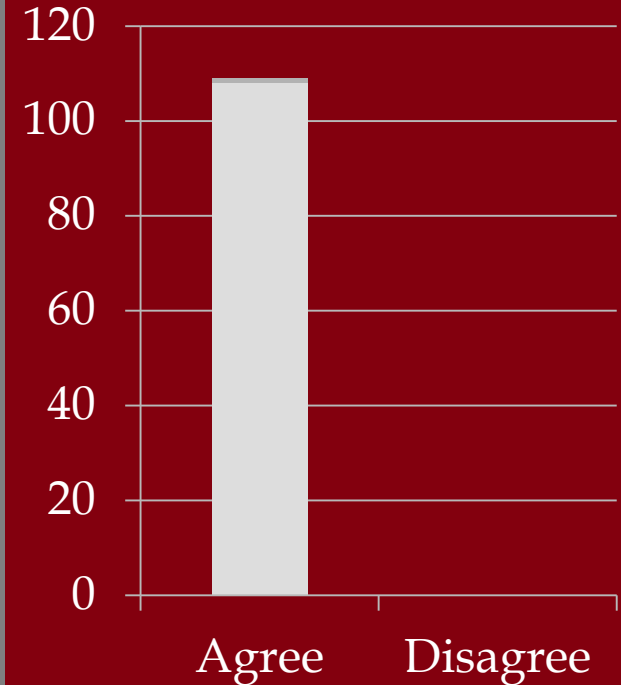
VASS supports the work of the State Board of Education in identifying and implementing a revised balanced assessment and accountability model. This model must address issues of equity between both individual schools and school divisions based upon individual community needs and the diversity of student populations.



ASSESSMENT & ACCOUNTABILITY

STATEMENT #7

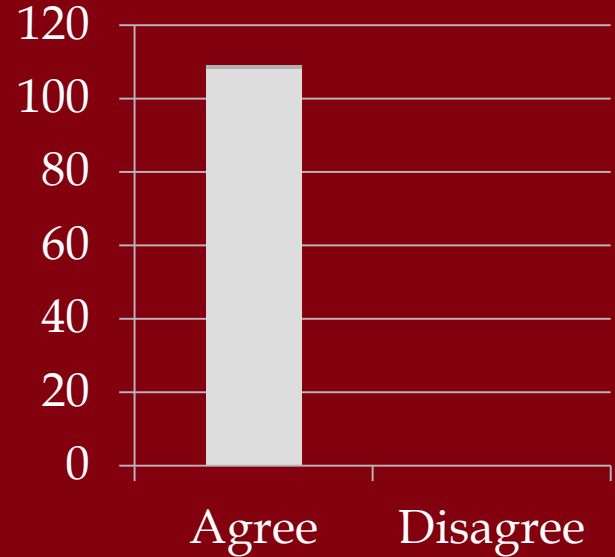
VASS recognizes that there is a need to provide School Divisions with flexibility in the time, cost and staffing that it takes to come into compliance with parts of the new model being recommended by the State Board of Education (i.e. - graduation and staffing requirements).



ASSESSMENT & ACCOUNTABILITY

STATEMENT #8

VASS supports the Virginia Department of Education moving forward with the development of an appropriate alternative for English language learners to be used as part of the school accreditation process.



ASSESSMENT & ACCOUNTABILITY

STATEMENT #9

VASS opposes any acceleration of the timeline to remove the VGLA for use with English language learners in determining school accreditation that is in advance of the date required by provisions of the Every Student Succeeds Act.

