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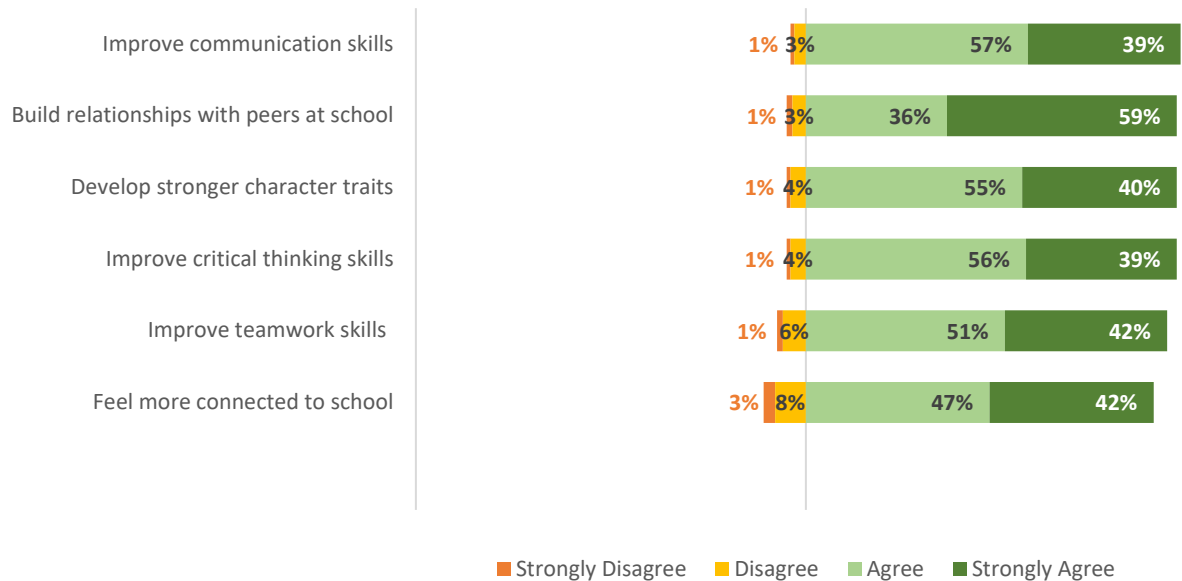
Orange County Department of Education
Educational Services Division



Orange County Academic Decathlon (OCAD) 2025-2026 Student Survey Data

In March of 2026, 202 Decathletes participated in a survey to gather information regarding the OCAD program's impact on increasing student engagement and developing skills in the areas of communication, critical thinking, collaboration, and positive character traits. Below are the survey results.

Percent (%) of students who reported OCAD helped them to:



Note: Percentages were rounded to the nearest whole number.

Data Highlights:

- **96%** of students reported improved **skills in communication**.
- **95%** of students reported that OCAD helped them **build relationships with their peers at school**.
- **95%** of students reported that OCAD helped them develop **stronger character traits**.
- **95%** of students reported improved **critical thinking skills**.
- **93%** of students reported improved **skills in teamwork**.
- **89%** of students reported feeling more **connected to their school**.

Thoughts from Students:

"Academic Decathlon really helped me connect with my peers at school. I appreciated the teamwork and collaborative skills it fostered. It was quite a unique and refreshingly original experience."

"I believe that Academic Decathlon has made me more academically well-rounded in various topics, and has improved many vital skills that will be helpful in a future career."

"It was my favorite part of high school. I'm a senior, and I wouldn't have spent my four years doing anything else."