

# Beecher Road School World Language Program October 2017





# What Does the Research Say?

## Why should foreign language be taught in elementary school?

\*Research indicates that before the age of 10 the brain is at its optimum ability to learn foreign language sounds. The national foreign language standards indicate that “earlier starts with language instruction ensure greater success for more students.”

<https://www.actfl.org> (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages)



# What Does the Research Say?

Early second language study...

- Benefits academic progress in other subjects
- Benefits higher order, abstract, and creative thinking
- Enriches and enhances cognitive development
- Promotes cultural awareness and competency

[http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/lib/sde/PDF/Curriculum/Curriculum\\_Root\\_Web\\_Folder/BenefitsofSecondLanguage.pdf](http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/lib/sde/PDF/Curriculum/Curriculum_Root_Web_Folder/BenefitsofSecondLanguage.pdf)



# Spanish Schedule (2017-2018)



Grade	Days per 6 day cycle	Minutes per Cycle
K-3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	2	60 min.
4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	3	90 min.
5 <sup>th</sup> /6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	4	120 min.



Update

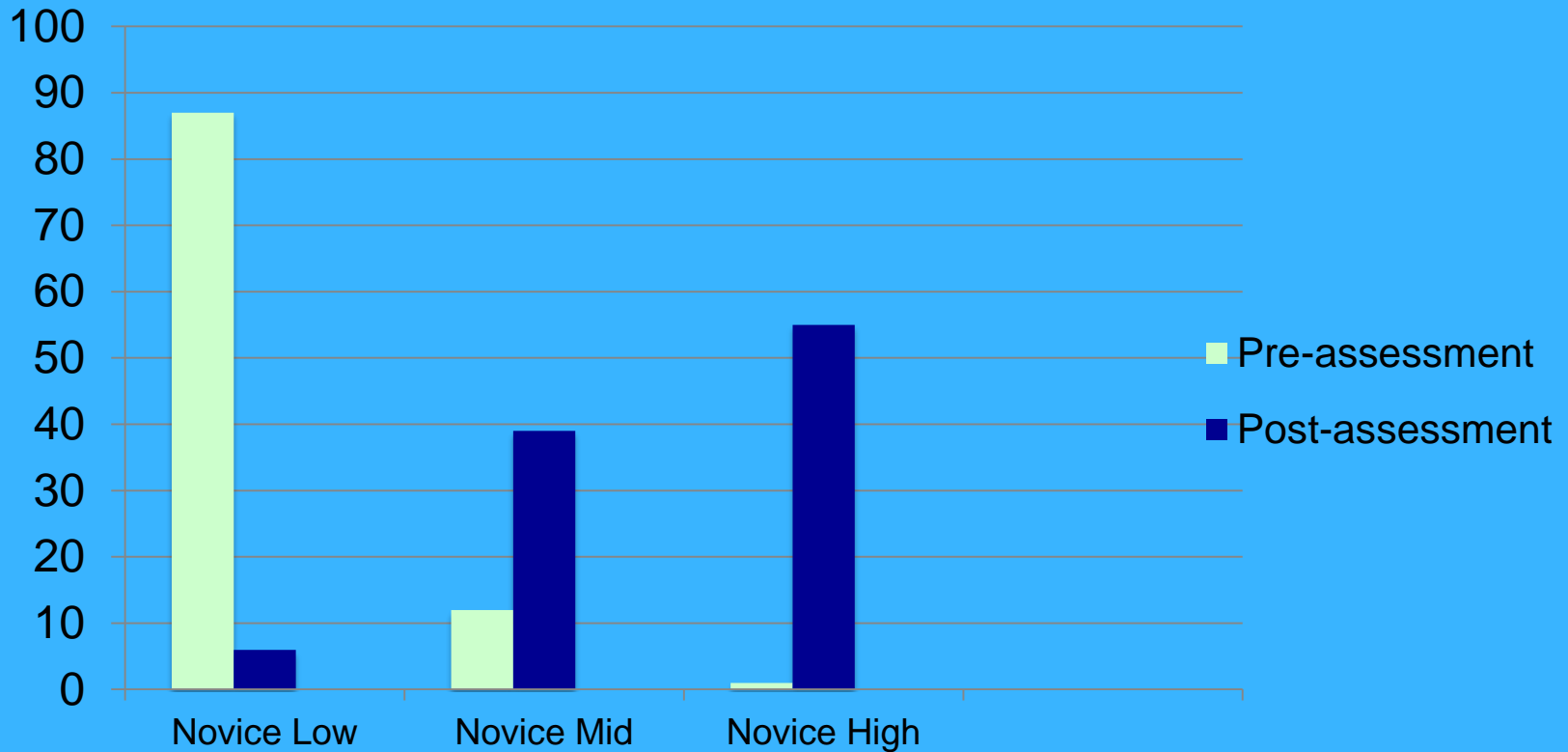
# Curriculum



Update

- ◆ Placement recommendations for 2017-2018 school year were shared with Amity Middle School.
- ◆ Results of the 2017 Exit Exam were shared with Amity Middle School.
- ◆ World Language Curriculum is up to date. It was revised, modified, and edited in the summer of 2016.
- ◆ 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Exit Exam was analyzed and reevaluated in June of 2017.
- ◆ A 5<sup>th</sup> grade writing assessment was administered to gauge student progress and prepare for 6<sup>th</sup> grade.

# 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Writing Assessment 2017



Pre-assessment (September 2016): 13% Novice-mid or higher  
Post-assessment (June 2017): 94% Novice-mid or higher

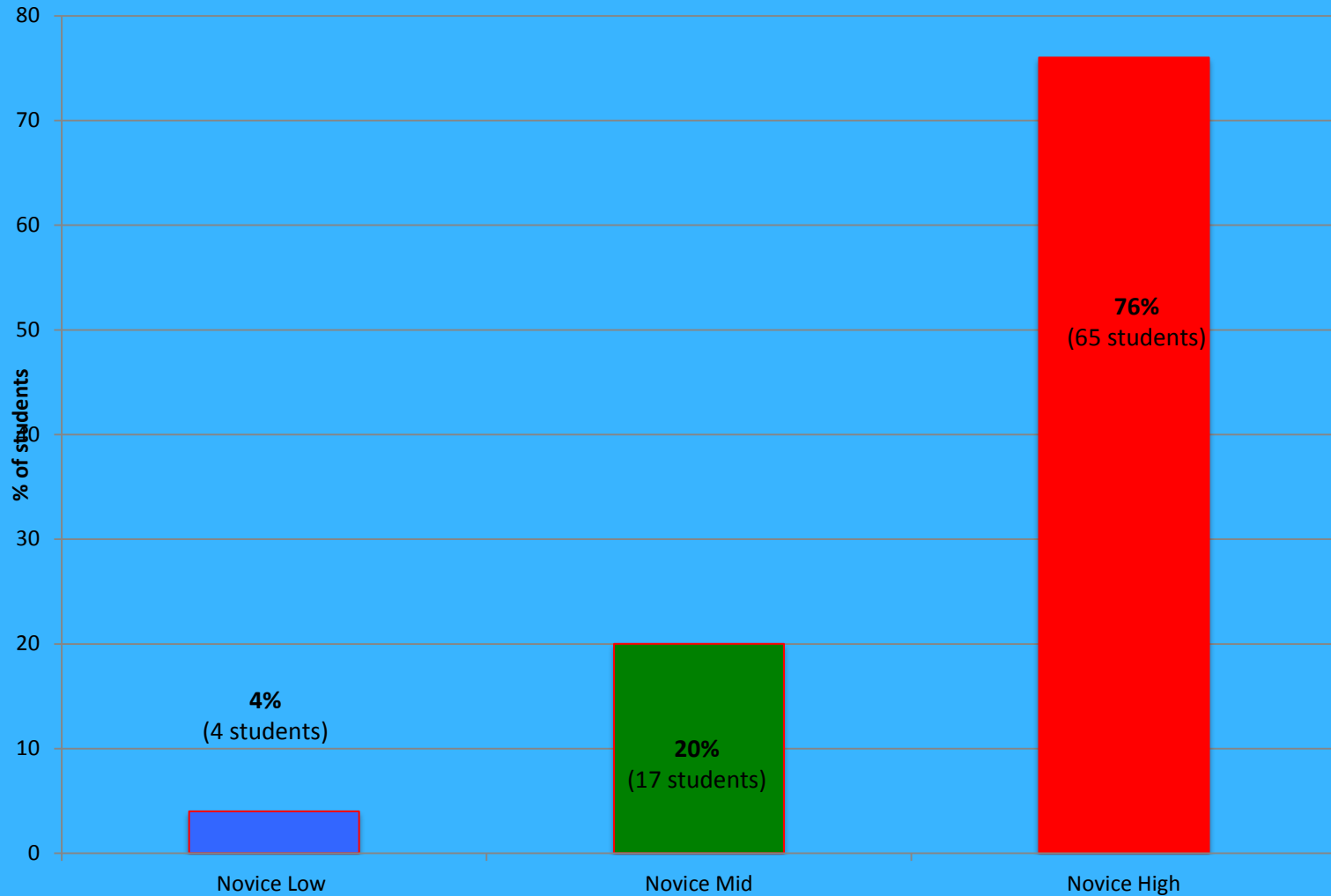
# The 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Exit Exam



- ◆ Monitor and evaluate progress of our students.
- ◆ Provide data to inform instruction and improve the overall quality of the world language program.

- ◆ Based upon ACTFL(American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Language) Proficiency Guidelines and the National Standards for Foreign Language Learning

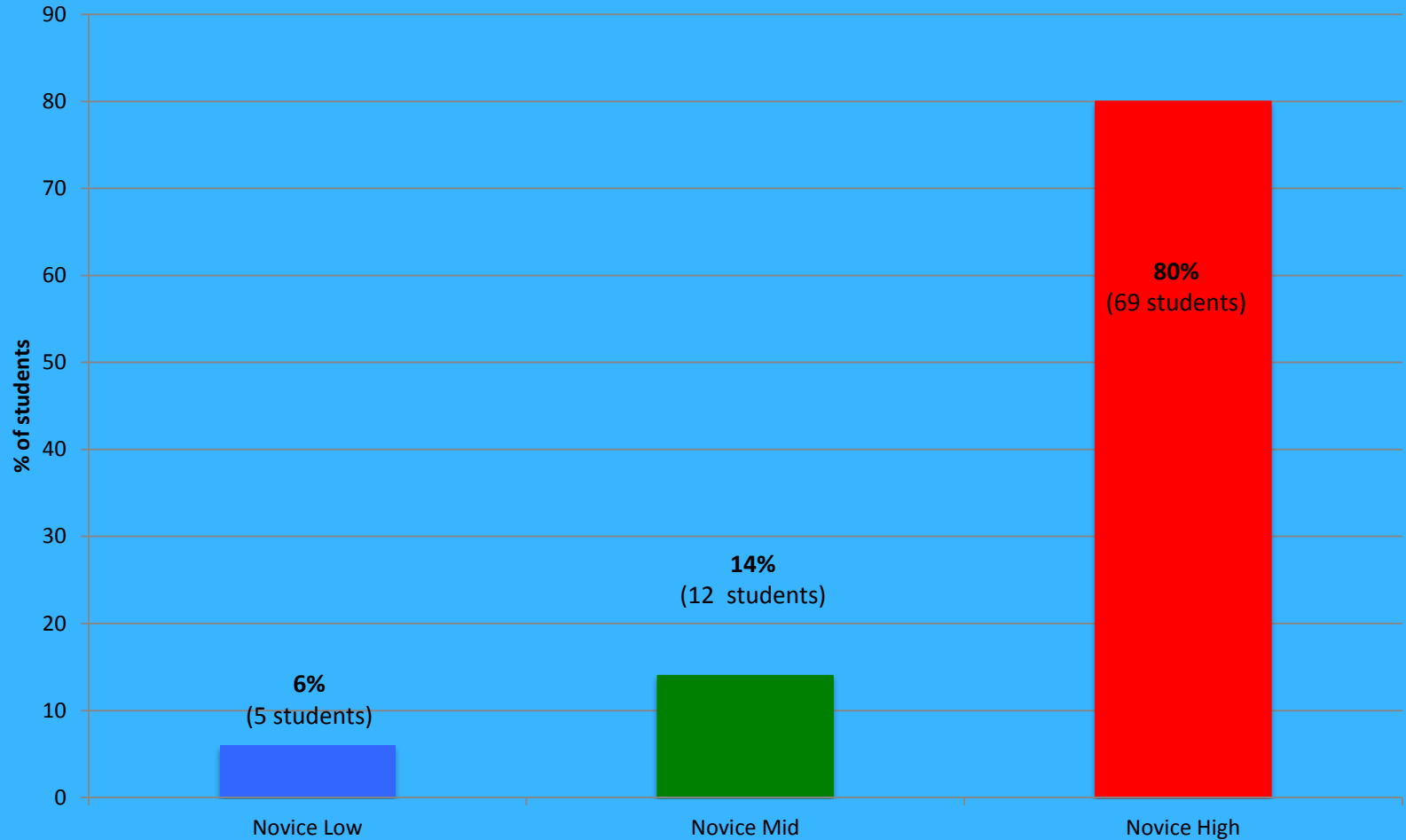
# Listening Comprehension Results





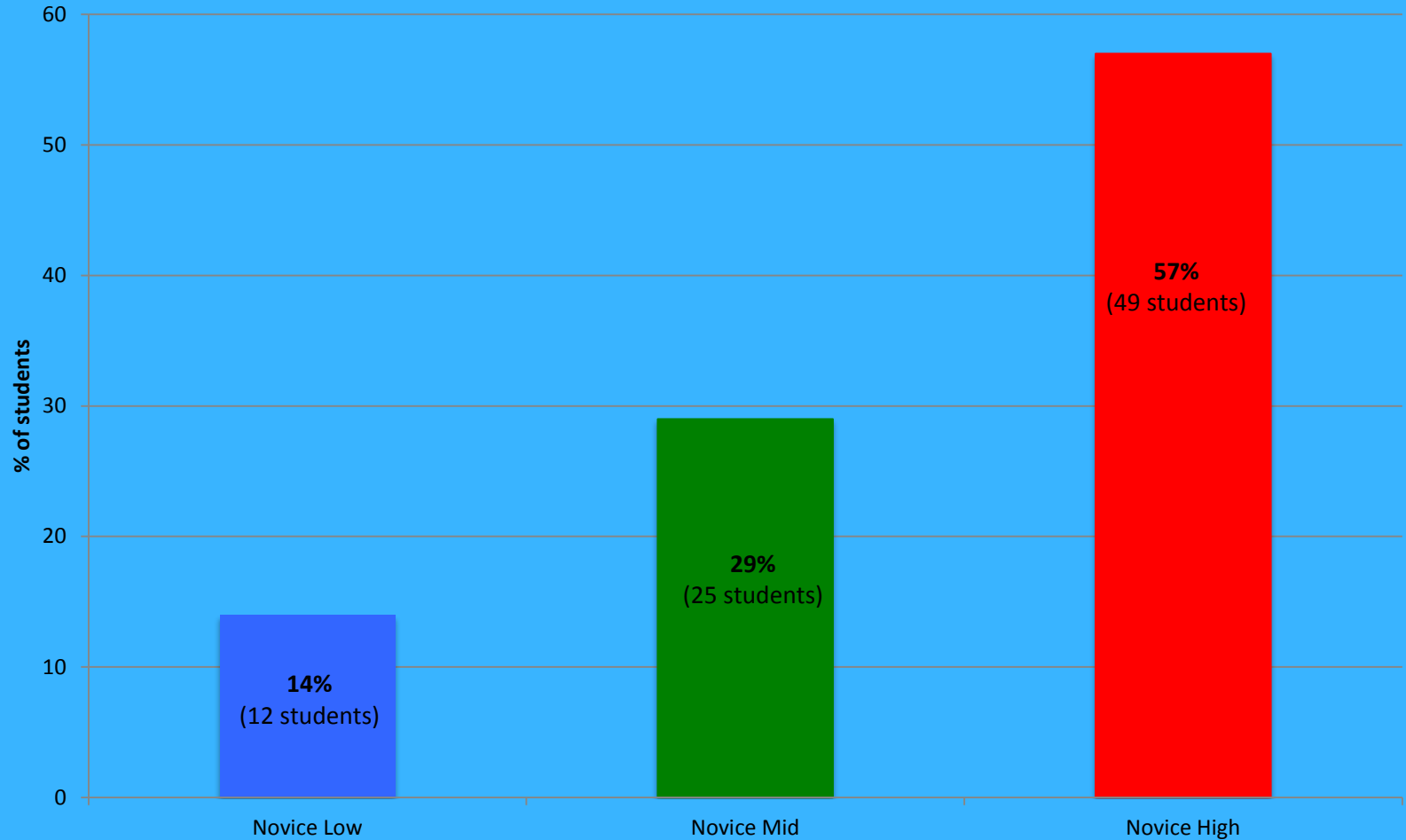
# Reading Component Results

Reading Assessment 2017



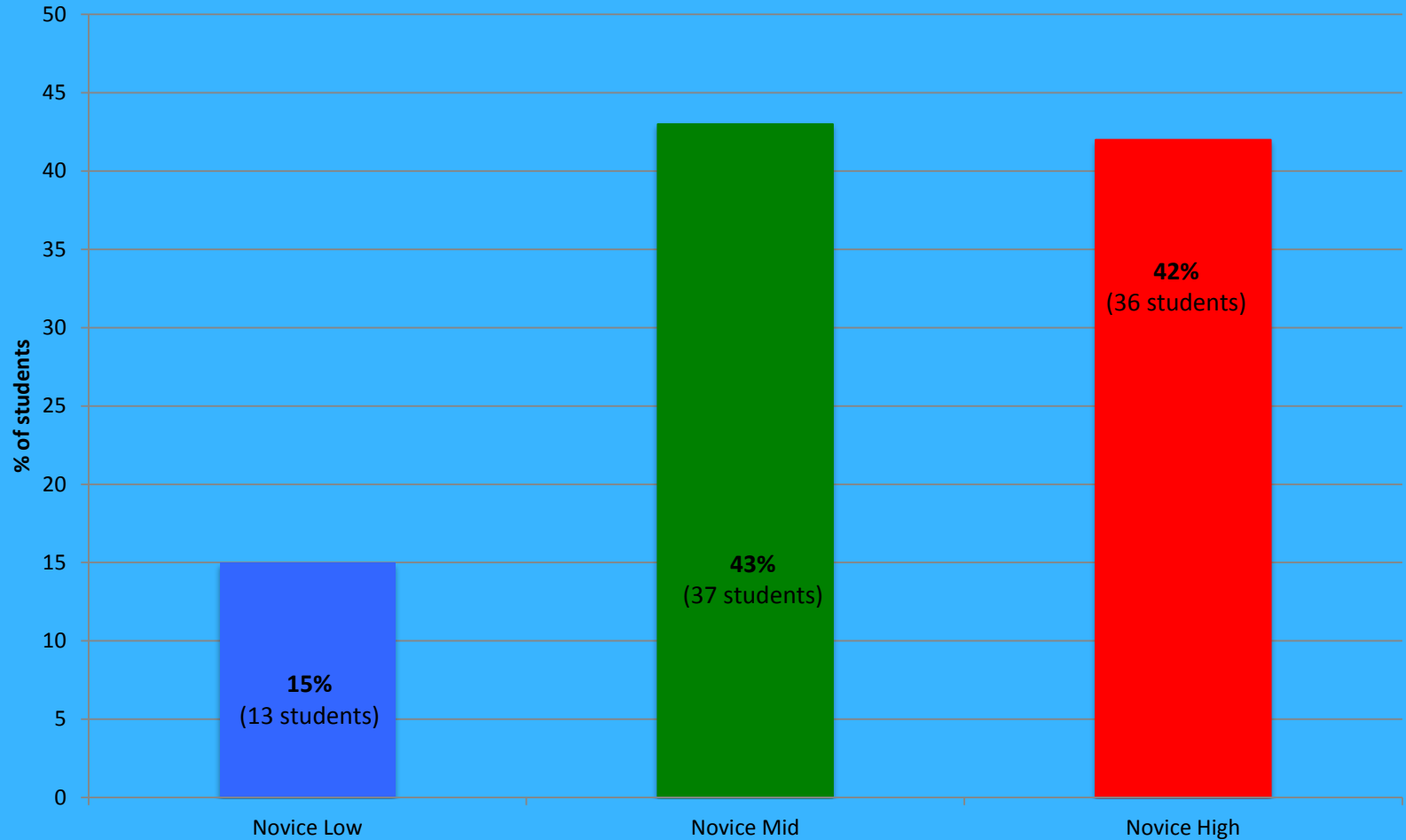
# Speaking Component Results

Speaking Assessment 2017



# Writing Component Results

Writing Assessment 2017





# Conclusions



- ◆ Areas of strength: Listening and Reading
  - ◆ Continue to implement a variety of listening and reading activities across grade levels.
  
- ◆ Areas for improvement: Speaking and Writing
  - ◆ A revised writing assessment was administered in 2016, which reflects material taught in 6<sup>th</sup> grade.
  - ◆ A 5<sup>th</sup> grade writing assessment was administered to gauge student progress and prepare for 6<sup>th</sup> grade.
  - ◆ Continue to develop more written and speaking activities in 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade to improve writing skills.
  
- ◆ The Spanish Exit Exam is...
  - ◆ a useful tool for informing our instruction
  - ◆ a valuable assessment that assists in the placement process at Amity Middle School



## Future Plans

- ◆ Review all four sections of the test on an annual basis
- ◆ Continue to share test results with Amity Middle School on an annual basis in order to assist in placement process for 7<sup>th</sup> grade
- ◆ Continue to make additional test modifications to accommodate Special Education Students/504/new students
- ◆ Continue to challenge advanced students!
- ◆ Maintain our close connections with Amity Middle School.