



OFFICE OF THE  
**STUDENT**  
ADVOCATE

Be Informed. Be Connected. Be Empowered.

## Quarter 3 Report



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@DC\_Advocate

# How Our Work Supports Families

## Stakeholder & Community Engagement

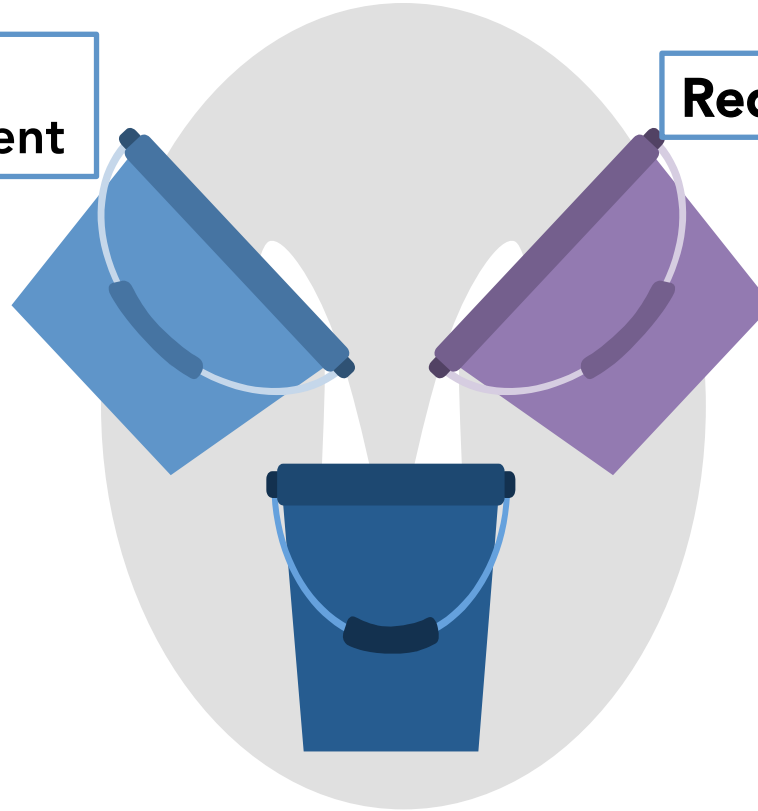
Partner with stakeholders to address systemic issues.

## Requests for Assistance

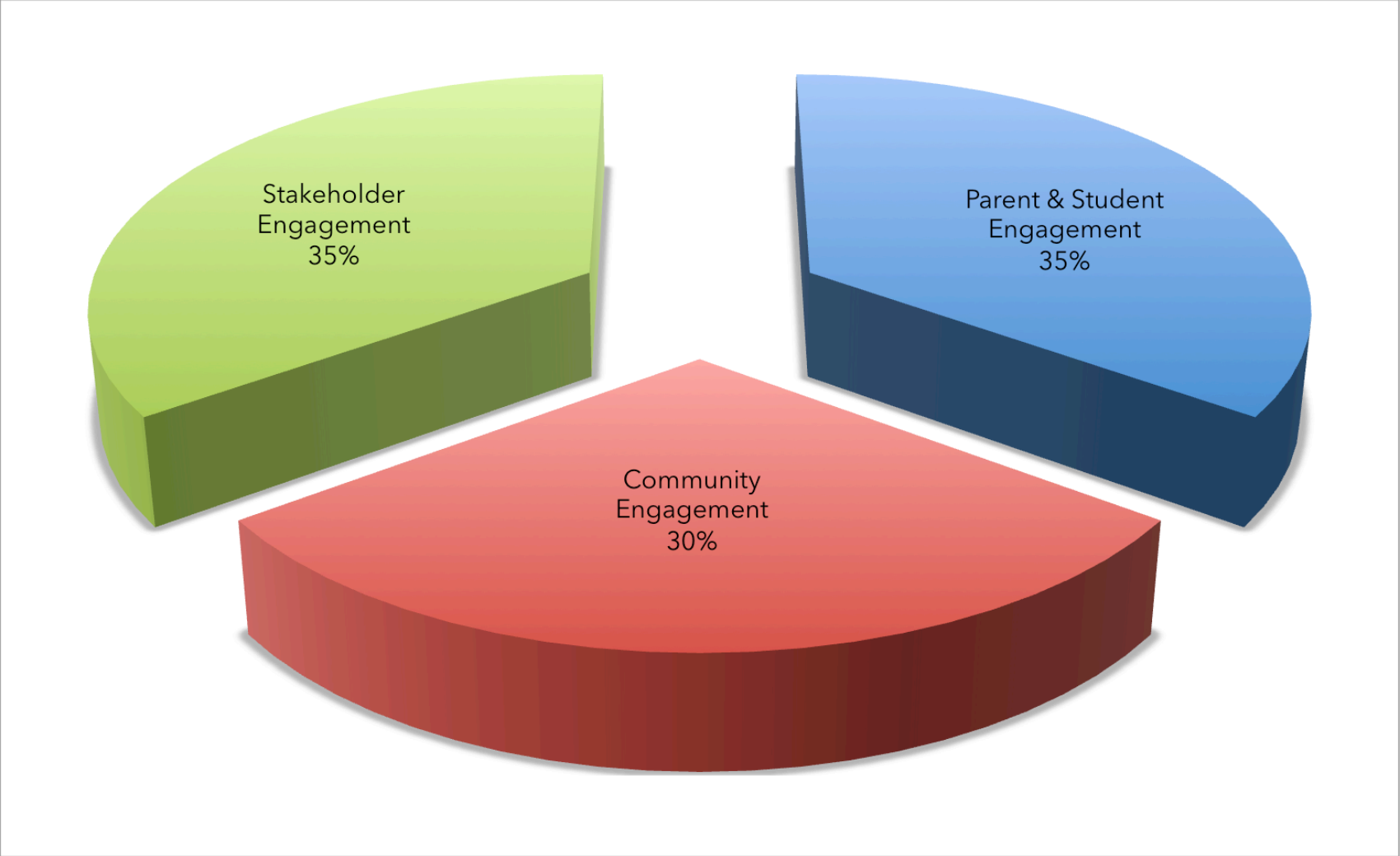
Provides direct insight into the needs of students and families.

## Resources, Trainings, and Workshops

Information obtained through requests for assistance and stakeholder engagement is used to develop relevant trainings, resources, presentations, and workshops to support the needs of District families.



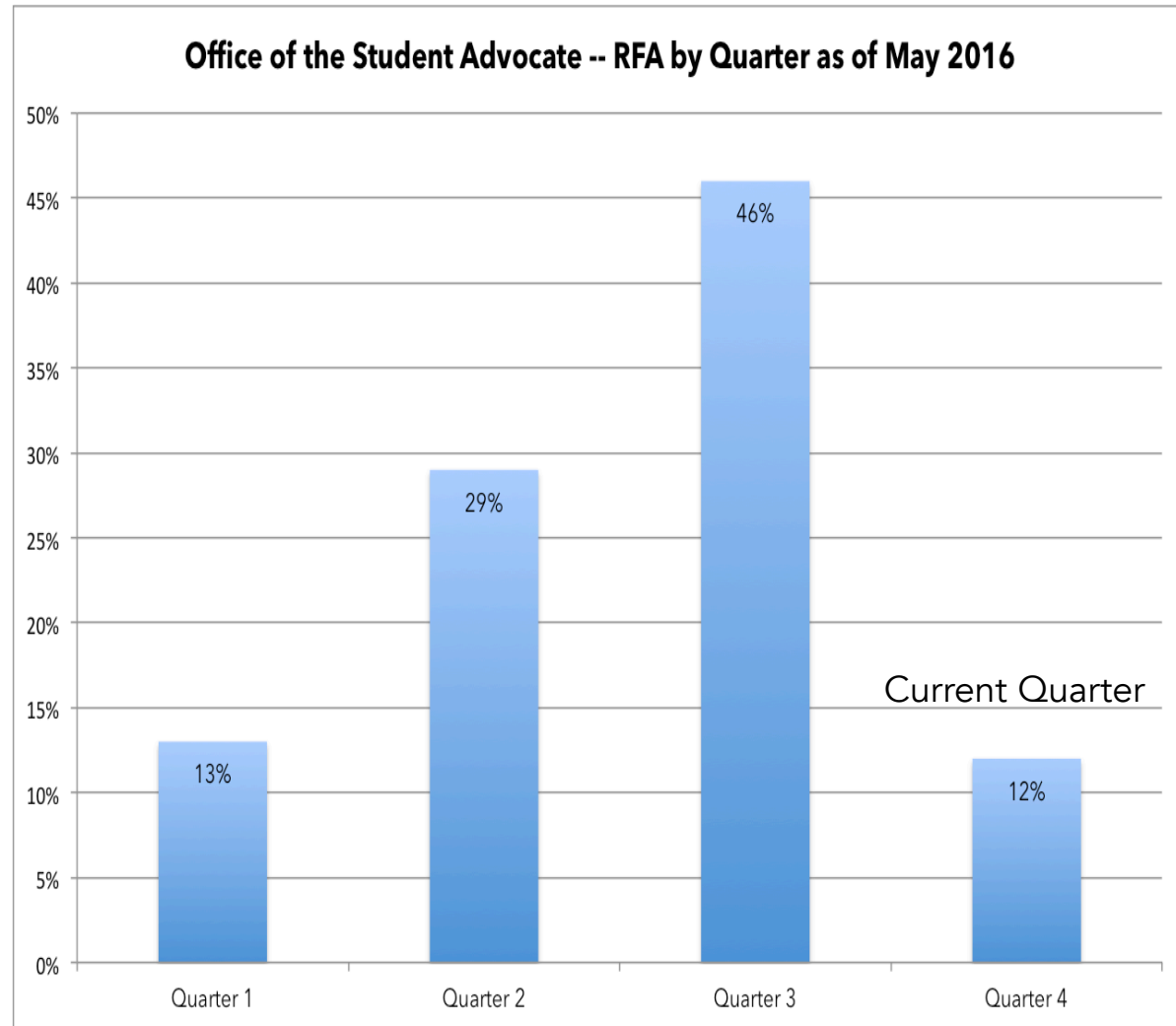
# Quarter 3 Engagement Activities



# Request for Assistance (RFAs) – Quarter Breakdown

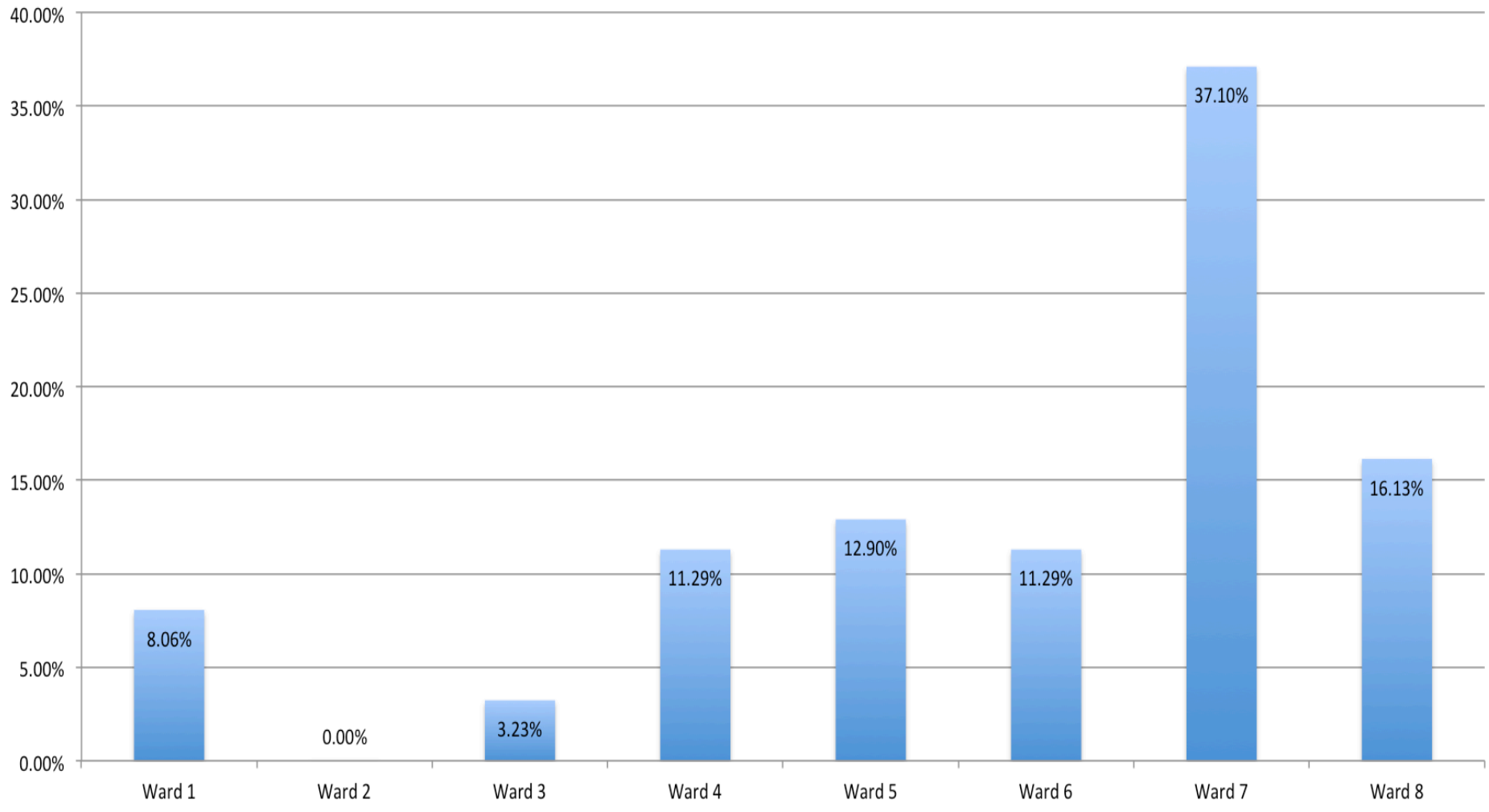
135

Requests for Assistance  
handled since July 2015



# RFA's to Date - Wards

**Office of the Student Advocate -- RFA by Ward as of May 2016**



# RFA numbers by Sector

DC Public Schools: 64%

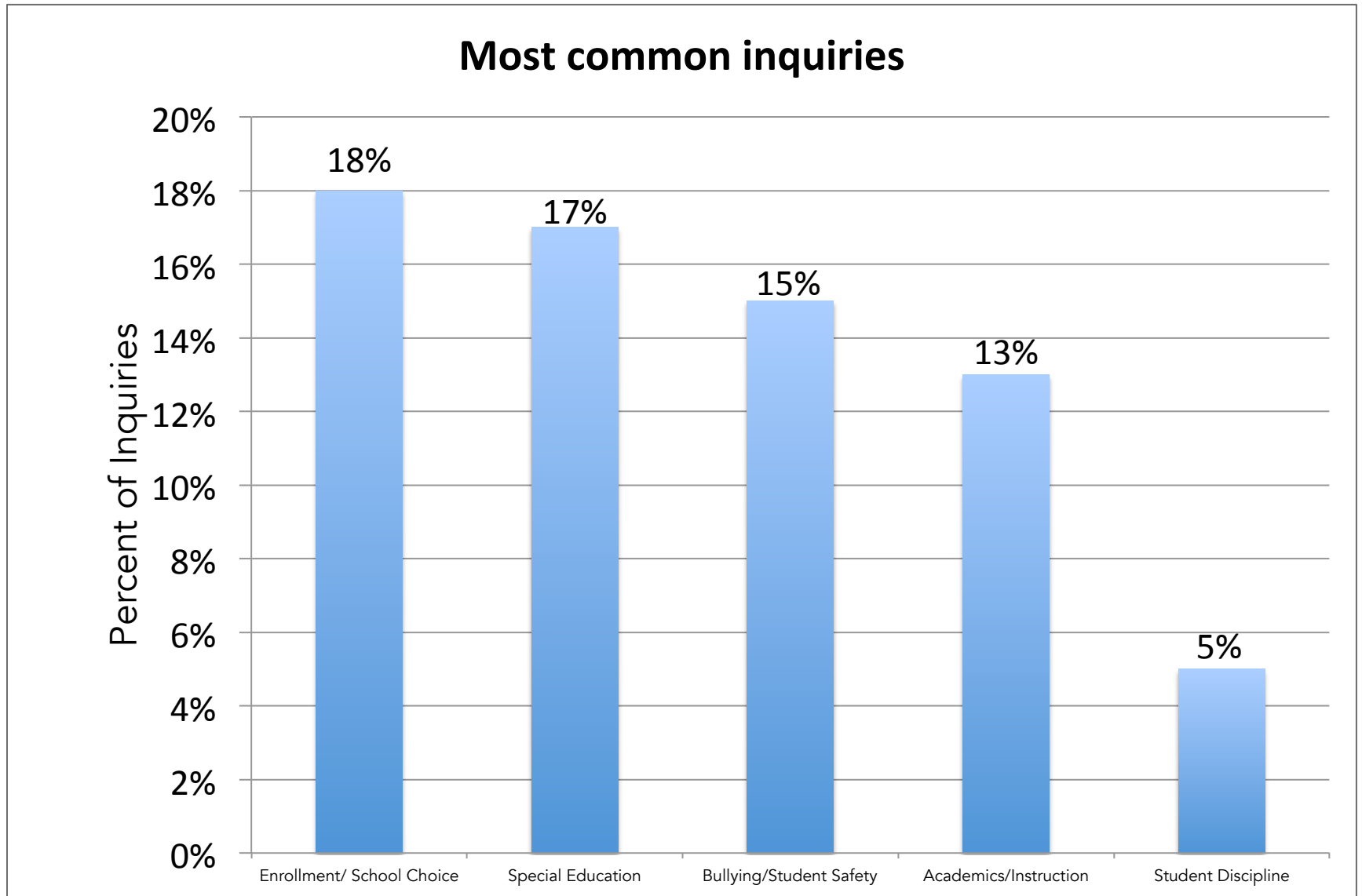
vs.

DC Public Charter Schools: 25%

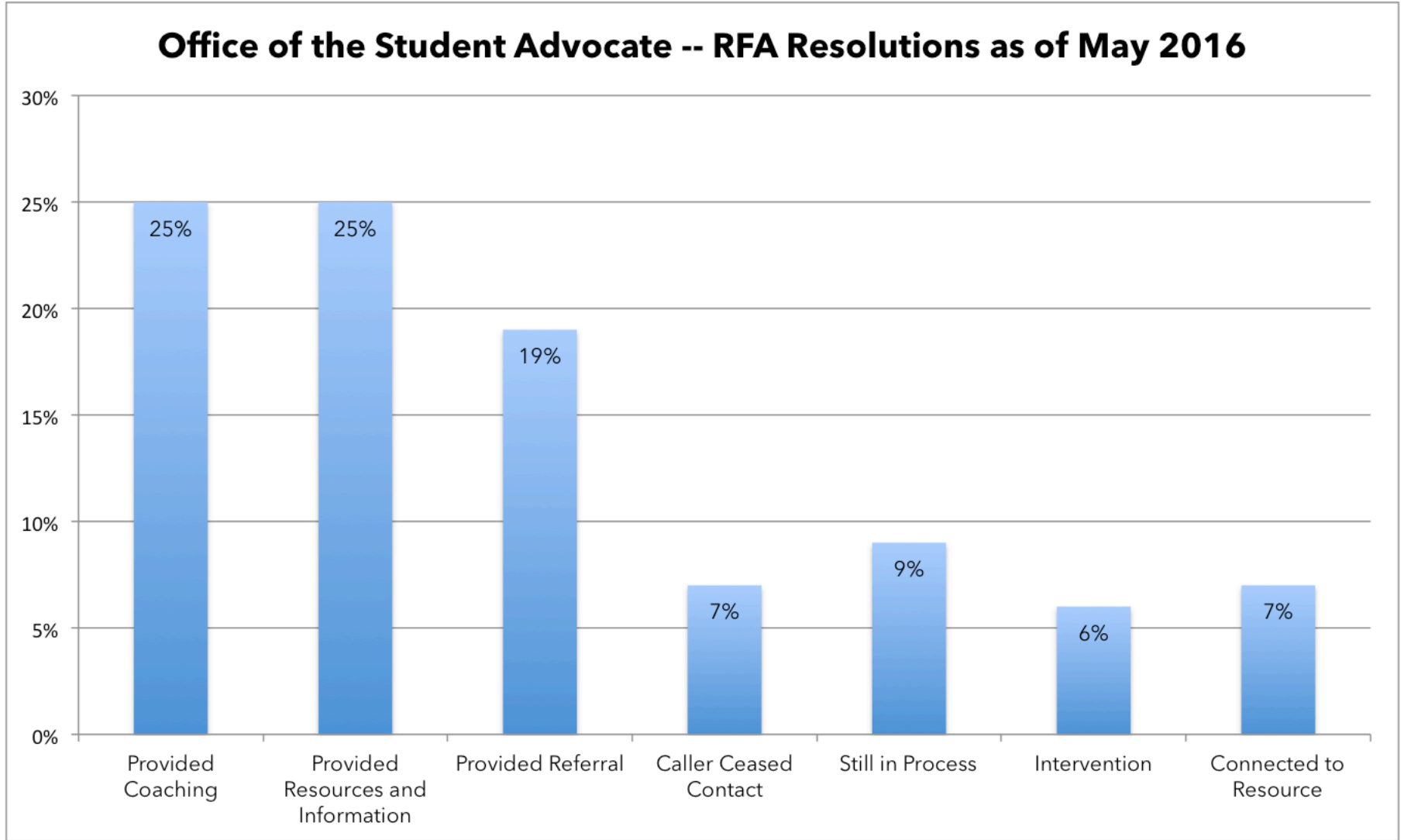
...and

11% non-public or sector not shared

# RFAs to Date - Topics



# RFA Resolutions





# Resources – Update

In Quarter 3, we developed a variety of materials on our website to empower families which are located on our webpage:

## Resource Guide

We updated our Online Education & Community Resource Guide to add more resources.

## Other Online Resources and Toolkits

We developed additional tools that are accessible on our webpage in our Advocacy & Informational Resources section:

- Effective Communication
- Enrollment
- Parent Leadership
- Public Education Governance & Advocacy
- Special Education & Other School Supports
- Student Leadership
- Testing & Assessments
- Graduation Requirements

# Workshops, Panels, Resources

**“Know Your Rights” Special Education Panel Discussions** (Ward 4, 5, 8) – the panel discussions were hosted by our office in partnership with community groups and included participation from:

Advocates for Justice and Education, Children’s Law Center, Family Voices of Washington DC., the Office of the Ombudsman for Public Education, DC Prep, DC Public Schools , the DC Special Education Cooperative, OSSE State Advisory Committee on Special Education (parent committee), OSSE Office of Dispute Resolution, other parent participants

**Ward 7 Parent Empowerment Summit Series** – focused on parent organization and leadership development in addition to advocacy training. This series will be ongoing and continue into the 2016-17 school year

Currently, we are working on duplicating these efforts in Ward 5 in partnership with the Ward Five Council on Education, and also in Ward 8 in partnership with the newly reestablished Ward 8 Council on Education

**Safe Passage work** (in the planning stages) – a collaboration with DCPS, DCPCSB, Richard Wright PCS & Man the Block, PAVE, Citywide Bullying Prevention Program – we have also talked with the DME on how use this work to inform/partner with the work they are doing

**Student Discipline Policy Analysis and Advocacy Toolkit** – partnership with the Center for Court Excellence and the Washington Lawyers Committee

# What's next for Q4?

- Developing a resource for choosing schools
- Working with OCTO to develop our database management system
- Working with OCTO to make our Resource Guide more accessible and user-friendly
- Reviewing our work and trends we've seen over past year and reflecting on next steps for SY 2016-17 in our first annual report.
- Behavior Supports workshop planning – a workshop focused on behavior intervention plans in partnership with the DC Special Education Cooperative, the Bazelon Center, DC Public Schools, and other public education consultants
- Safe Passage work and convening
- Student discipline advocacy toolkit and training
- Parent leadership training planning

# What's next for Q4?

- Continuing principal/school leader and school meetings/presentations about our office
- We will continue to work with Stakeholders to gain further information about the needs of our District Families

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## Community & Policy Engagement

- Cross-Sector Collaboration Task Force
- School Visits
- Parent Org mtgs/Ward Ed Council mtgs
- Truancy Task Force
- DC Stem Network Advisory Group
- Parent Leadership Training Institute (PLTI) Advisory Group
- April 19: Participated in an advocacy forum for DC Association for Special Education
- April 21: Co-presented with Ombudsman at the Far Southeast Family Strengthening Collaborative to discuss our respective offices and ways to collaborate with their community based organization

Questions?