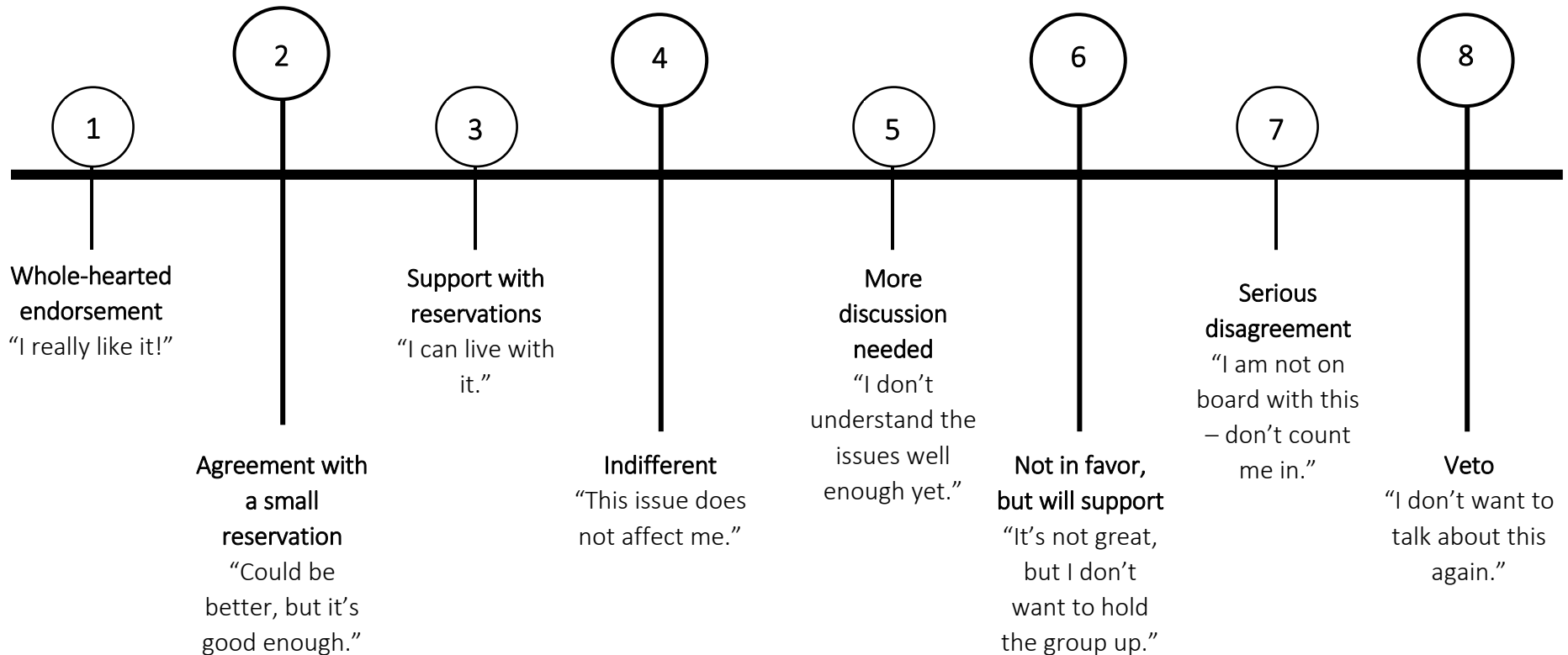


School-based Decision Making (SBDM) Councils and Consensus: *Gradients of Agreement*¹

School-based decision making (SBDM) councils are charged with making decisions that often require reaching consensus or a *general agreement* necessary for the group to move forward. While on the surface consensus seems simple enough; however, reaching an agreement is not always black or white or as easy as a *yes* or *no* or *thumbs up* or *thumbs down*. Instead there are varying *gradients of agreement*. The tool below, which was developed by Sam Kaner et al, includes eight levels of agreement ranging from whole-hearted endorsement to an absolute veto. Definitions for each level is included beneath each option:



¹ [Gradients of Agreement can help move groups forward.](#) Michigan State University. Web. 19 Nov. 2018.