# Community Survey Results

## Kewaskum School District

Fall 2021

SCHOOL PERCEPTIONS
Measuring what matters

# SCHOOL PERCEPTIONS

**Our mission is to help educational leaders gather, organize, and use data to make strategic decisions.**

- Founded in **2002** to provide independent research
- Conducted more than **10,000** staff, parent, student, and community surveys for school improvement
- Helped more than **800** districts navigate the strategic planning and referendum planning process

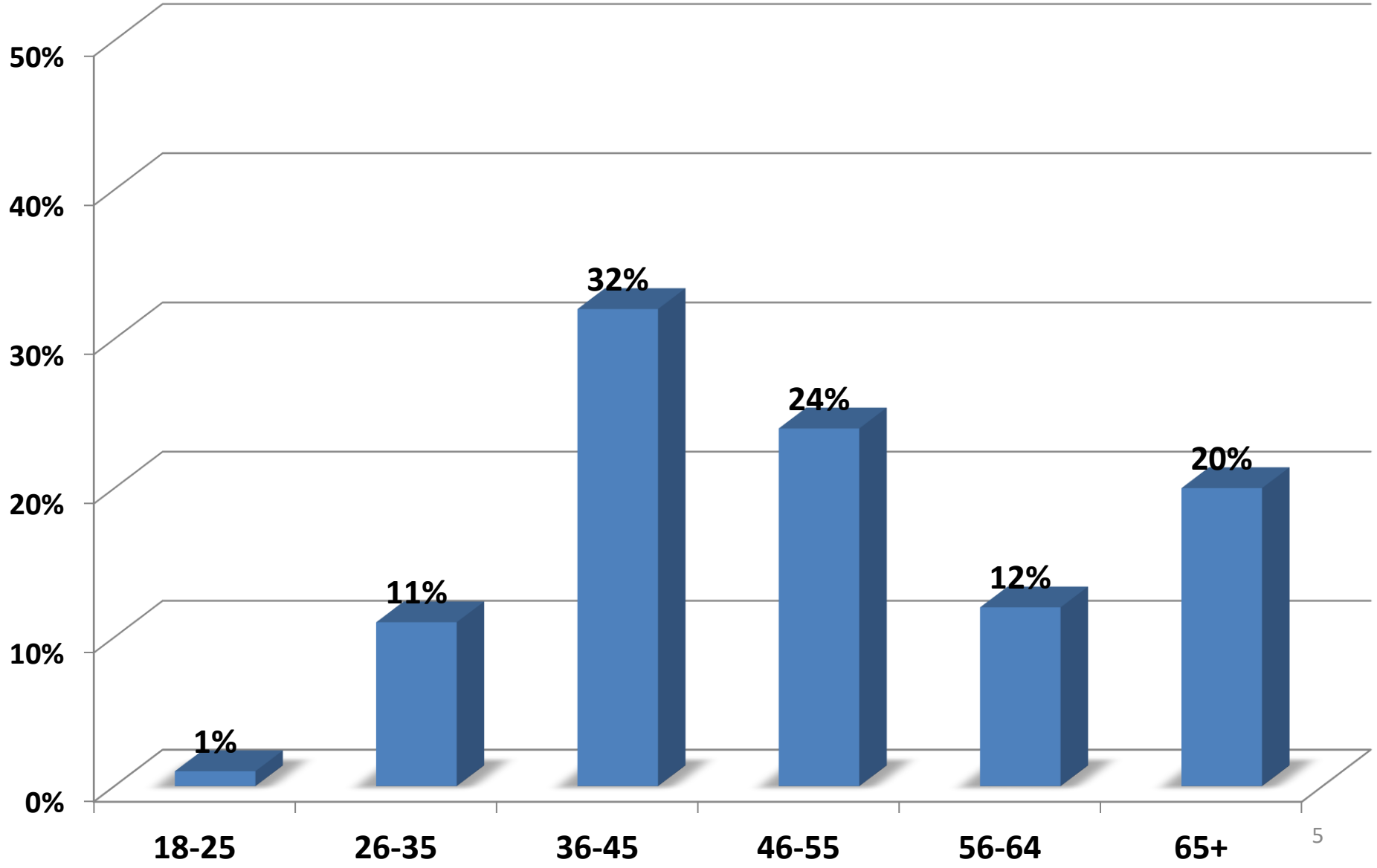
SCHOOL PERCEPTIONS

# Survey Summary

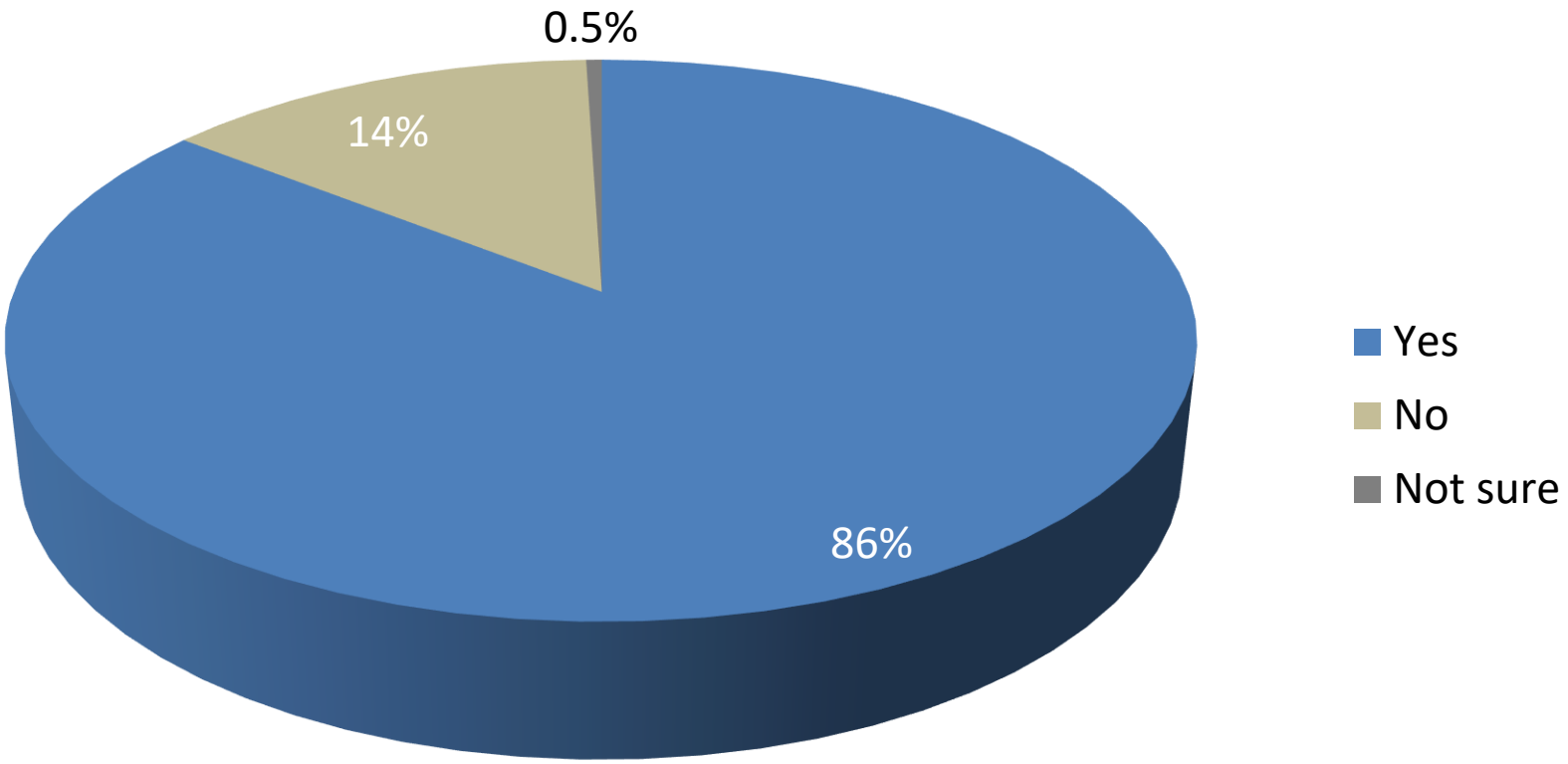
- The survey was conducted in November of 2021.
- District residents were mailed a paper survey.
  - Each survey included a unique survey access code for those who preferred to take the survey online.
- Total responses = 841 (272 paper)
- Response rate: 17%
- Margin of error: +/- 3.4%

# Respondent Information

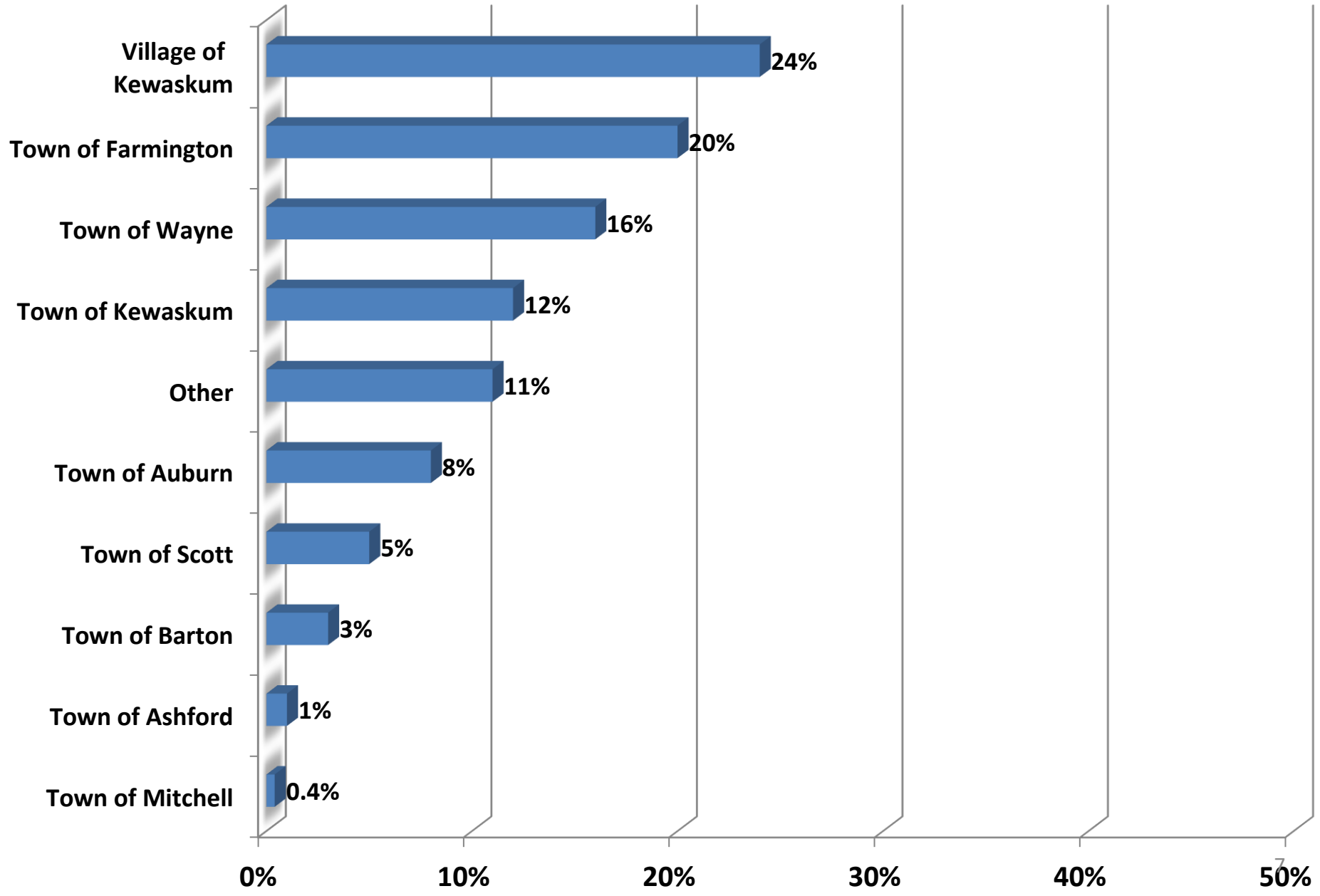
# What is your age?



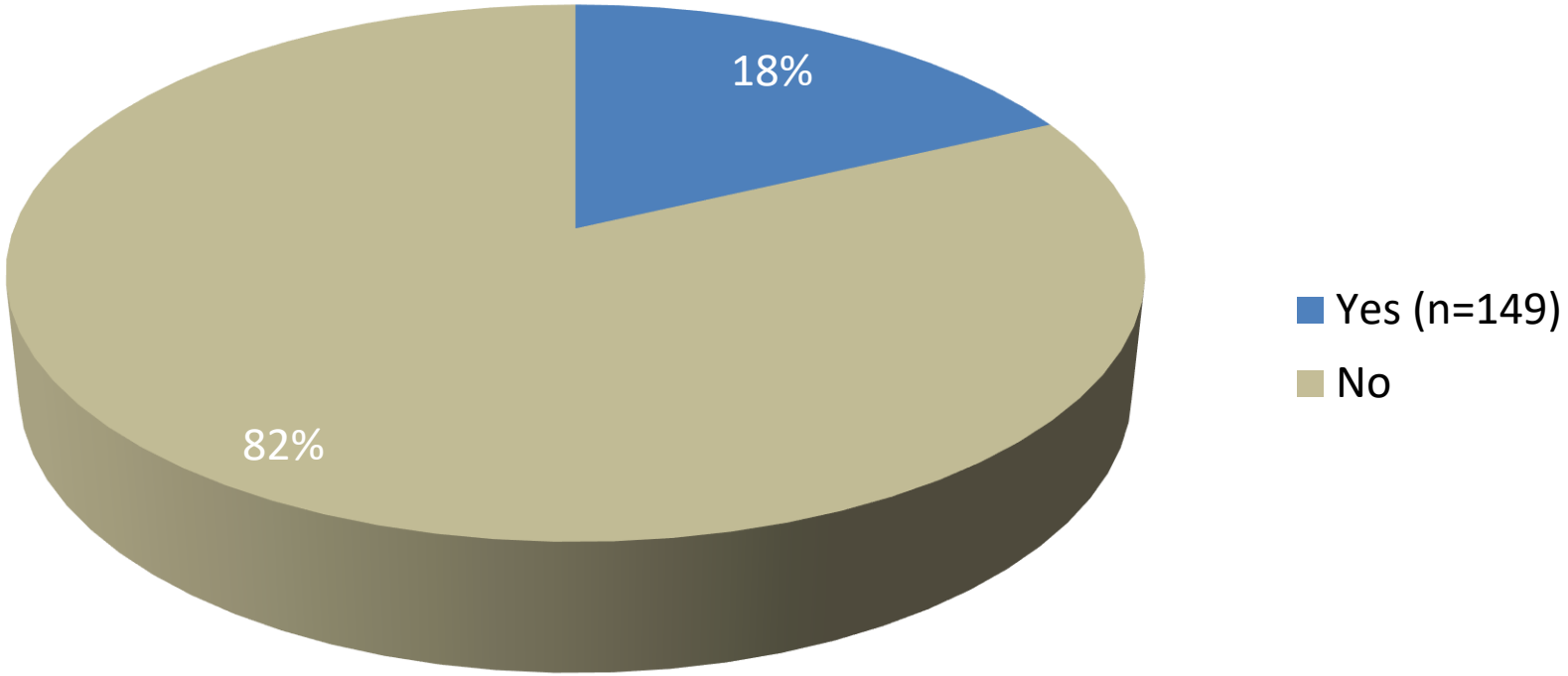
# Do you reside in the Kewaskum School District?



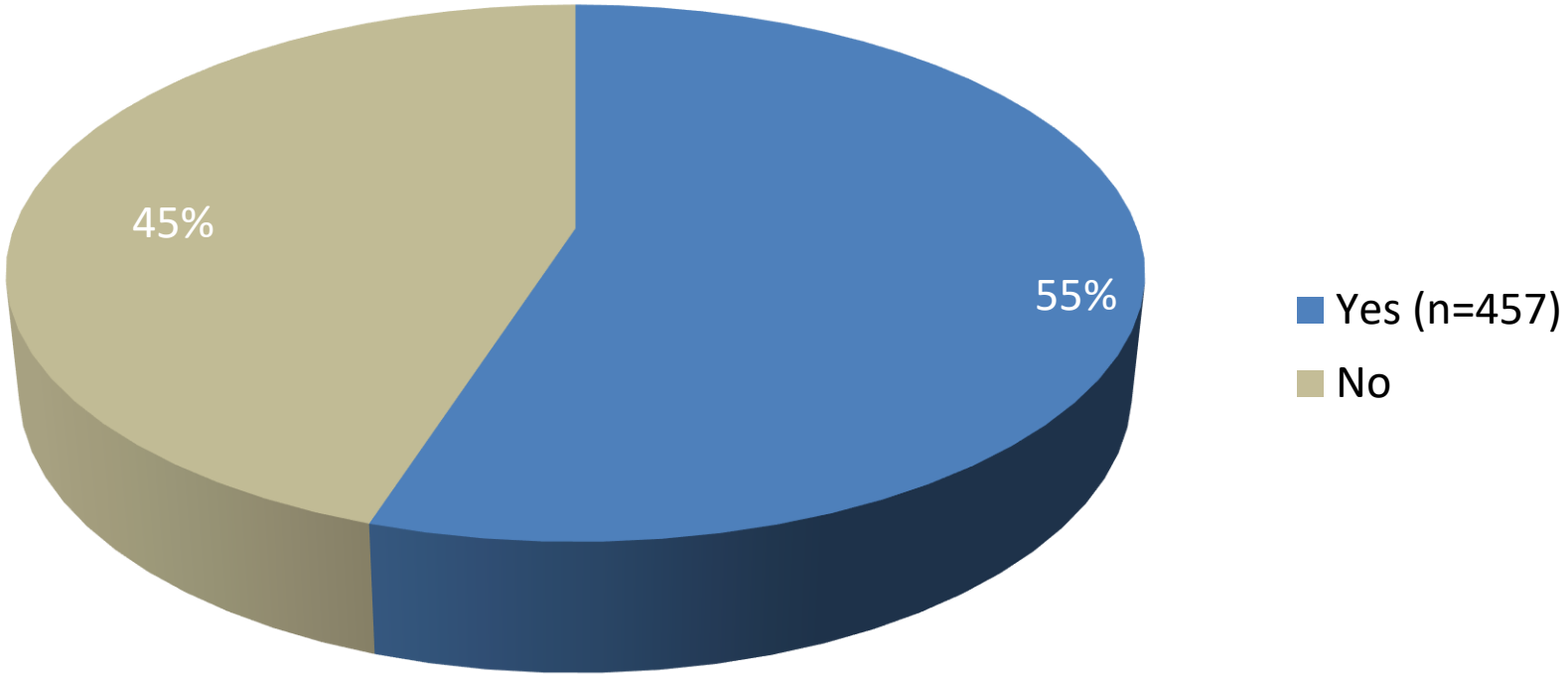
# In which city or township do you reside?



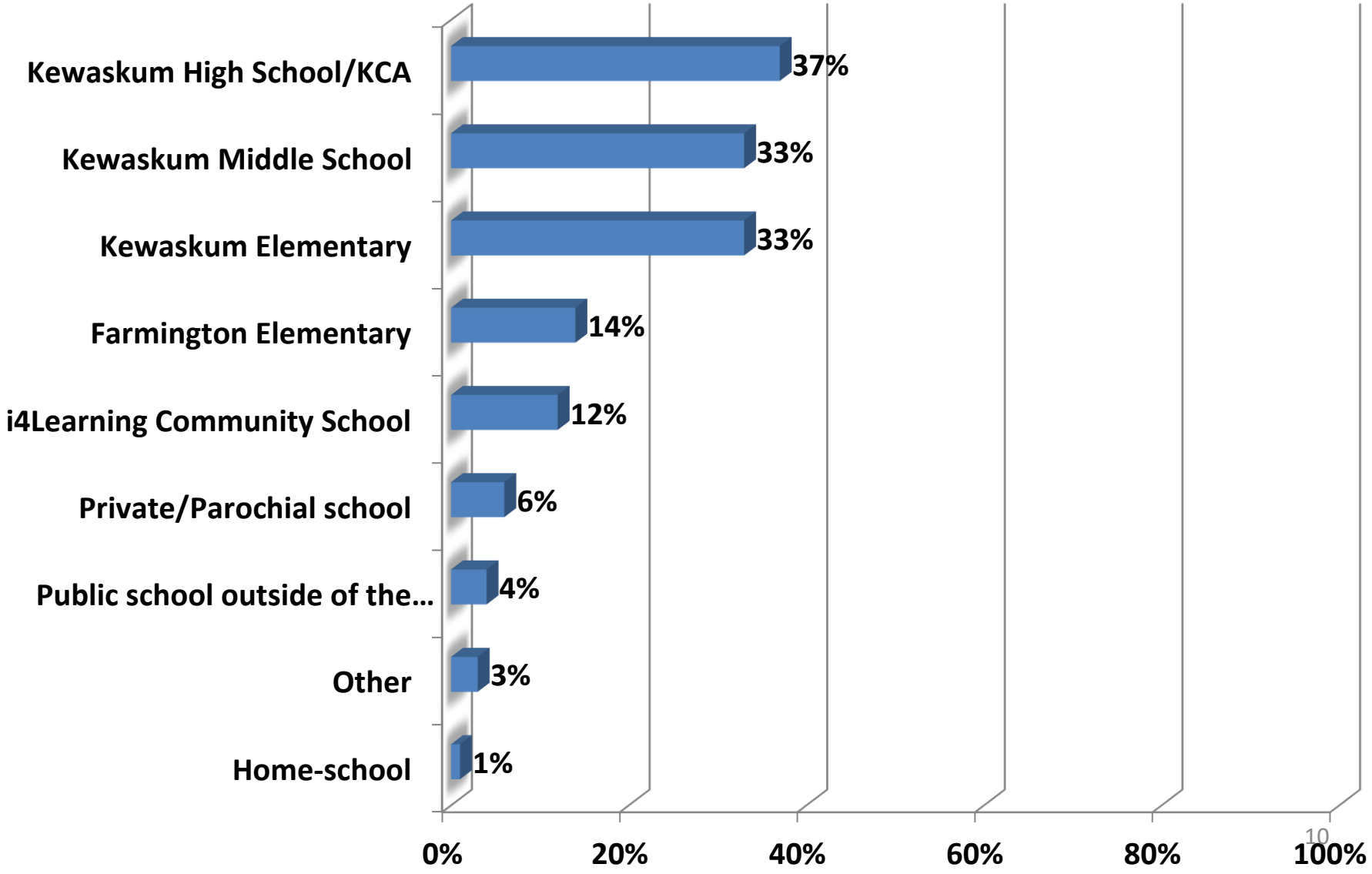
# Are you an employee of the Kewaskum School District?



# Do you have a child(ren) attending school in the District?



# If you have school-aged children, what school(s) do they attend? *(Mark all that apply.)*



# Overall Satisfaction

# How well are we doing in each of the following areas?

*Great (4), Good (3), Fair (2), Poor (1)*

| Item | Staff | Parents (Non-Staff) | Non-Parents (Non-Staff) |
|---|---|---|---|
| Delivering a high-quality education | 3.22 | 3.11 | 3.05 |
| Keeping the public informed | 2.85 | 2.89 | 2.59 |
| Managing funds appropriately | 2.95 | 2.77 | 2.64 |
| Building pride in the community | 3.19 | 3.17 | 3.09 |

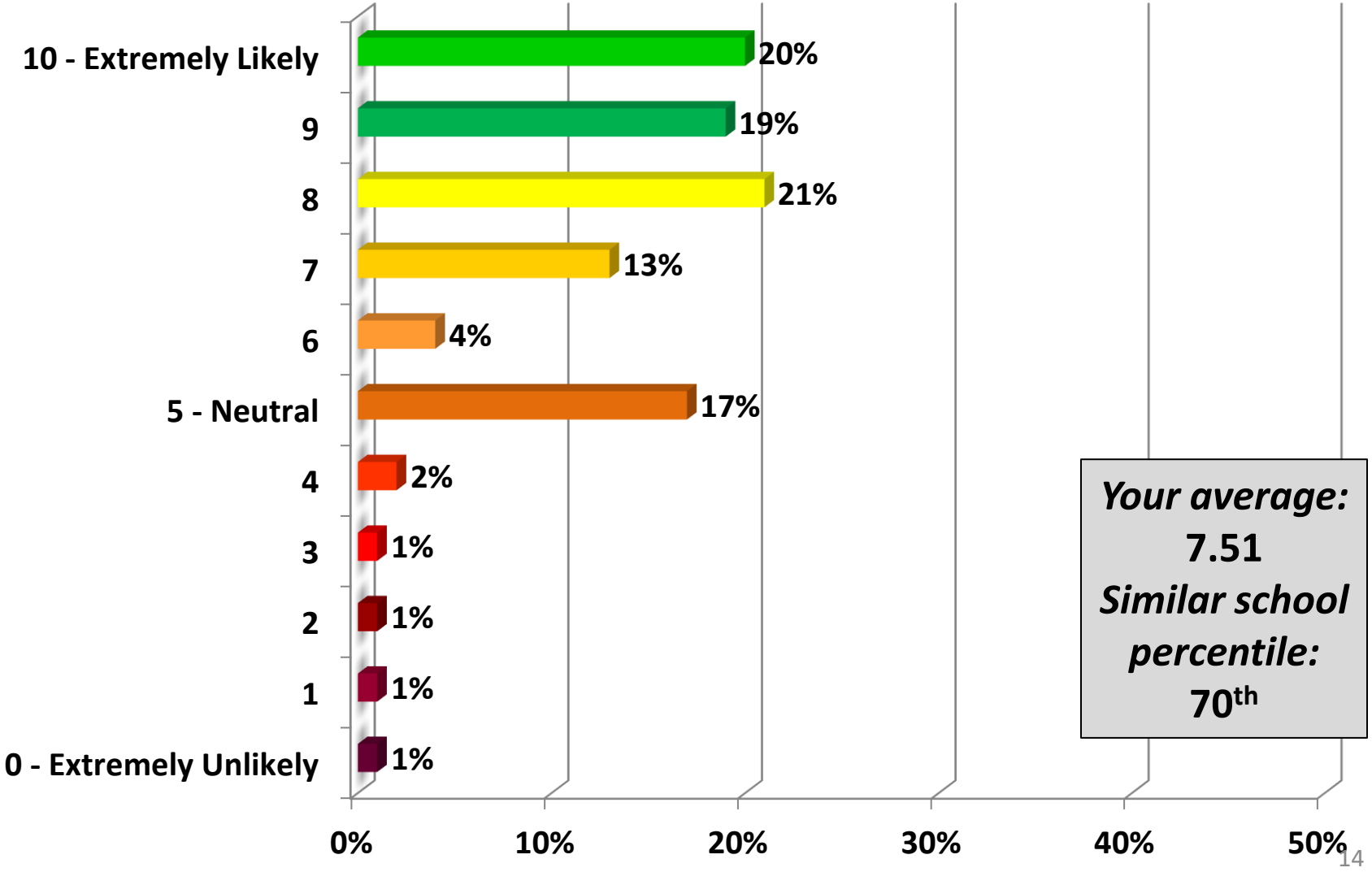
# How well are we doing in each of the following areas?

*Great (4), Good (3), Fair (2), Poor (1)*

| Item | Agree Percent | Average | Similar District Comparison Percentile |
|---|---|---|---|
| Delivering a high-quality education | 85% | 3.14 | 55th |
| Keeping the public informed | 71% | 2.85 | 55th |
| Managing funds appropriately | 68% | 2.78 | 51st |
| Building pride in the community | 86% | 3.16 | 68th |

# On a scale of 0 – 10, how likely would you be to recommend the District to a friend or family member?

*(All Respondents)*



# Culture: “The Kewaskum Difference”

“The Kewaskum Difference” has become much more than a slogan. It’s a small-town, can-do attitude. It’s neighbors helping neighbors. It’s a pride and passion for doing everything well. Kewaskum Schools must live up to this expectation in our words and actions.

# Please indicate your level of agreement with the following:

*Strongly Agree (5), Agree (4), Disagree (2), Strongly Disagree (1), Not sure/no opinion (0)*

| Item | All Residents | Staff | Parents (Non-Staff) | Non-Parents (Non-Staff) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| I feel welcomed when I visit the Kewaskum Schools. | 4.21<br>2016=4.23 | 4.22 | 4.26 | 4.11 |
| Kewaskum Schools are moving in the right direction. | 3.95<br>2016=3.73 | 4.02 | 3.95 | 3.92 |
| I am satisfied with the customer service I receive from the Kewaskum Schools. | 4.12<br>2016=4.06 | 4.18 | 4.19 | 3.91 |

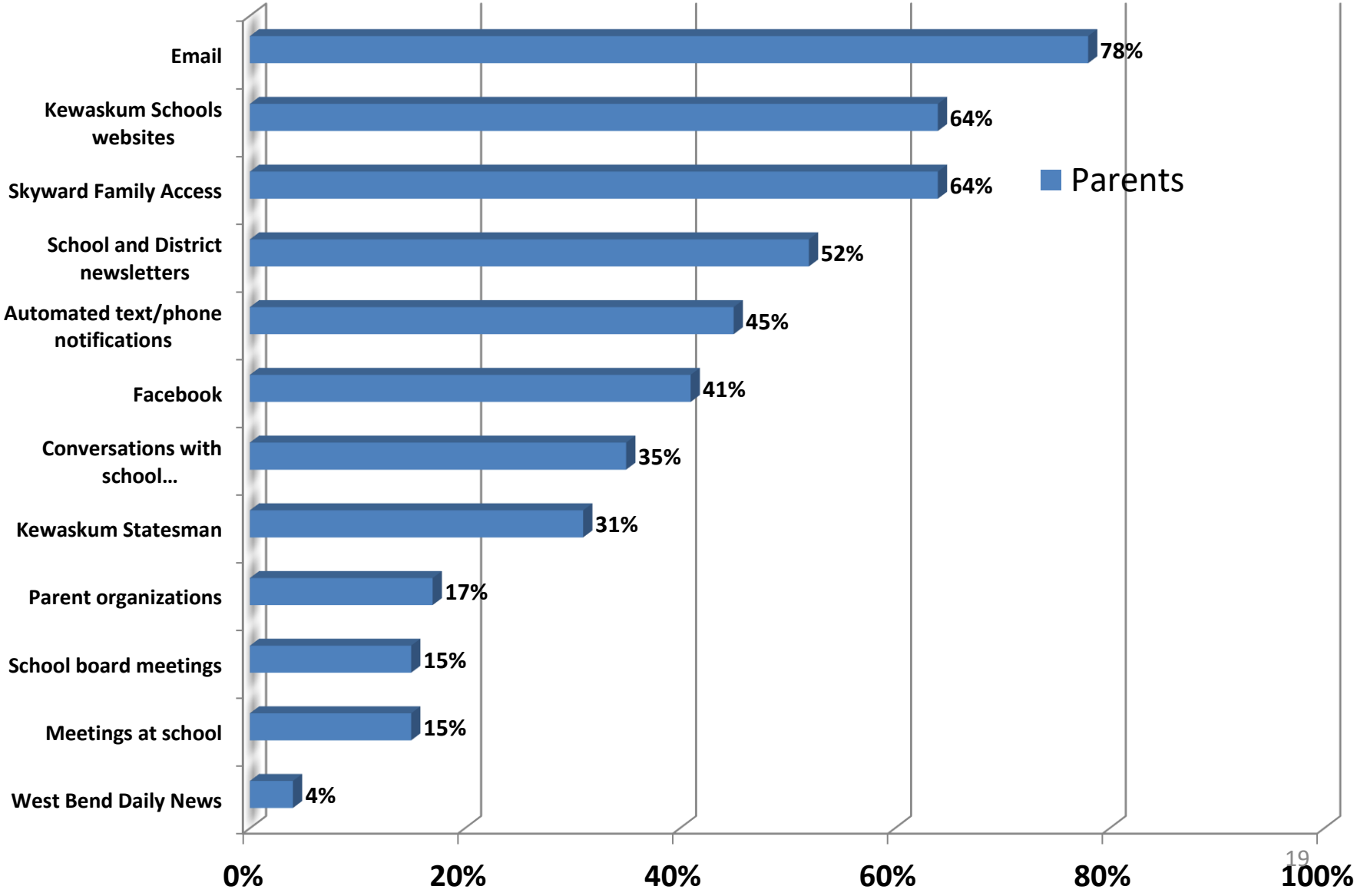
# Communication

# Please indicate your level of agreement with the following. All items begin with the words, "The District ..."

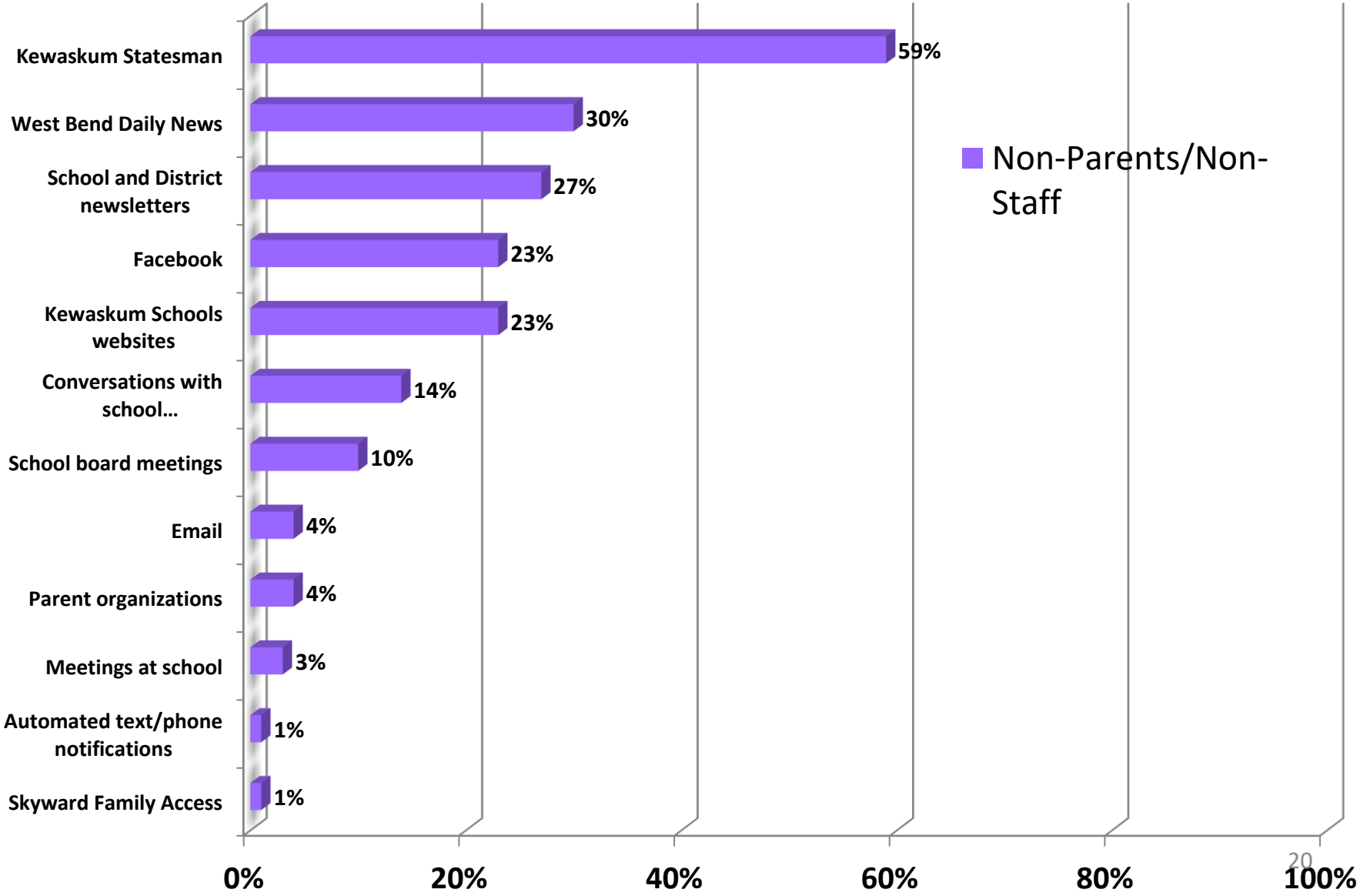
*Strongly Agree (5), Agree (4), Disagree (2), Strongly Disagree (1), Not sure/no opinion (0)*

| Item | All Residents | Staff | Parents (Non-Staff) | Non-Parents (Non-Staff) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Website is useful and up to date. | 3.95 | 4.06 | 4.01 | 3.67 |
| Provides me opportunities to give feedback. | 3.75 | 3.82 | 3.85 | 3.52 |
| Communicates with me effectively. | 3.79 | 4.00 | 3.93 | 3.33 |

# How do you receive Kewaskum School District information? *(Mark all that apply.)*



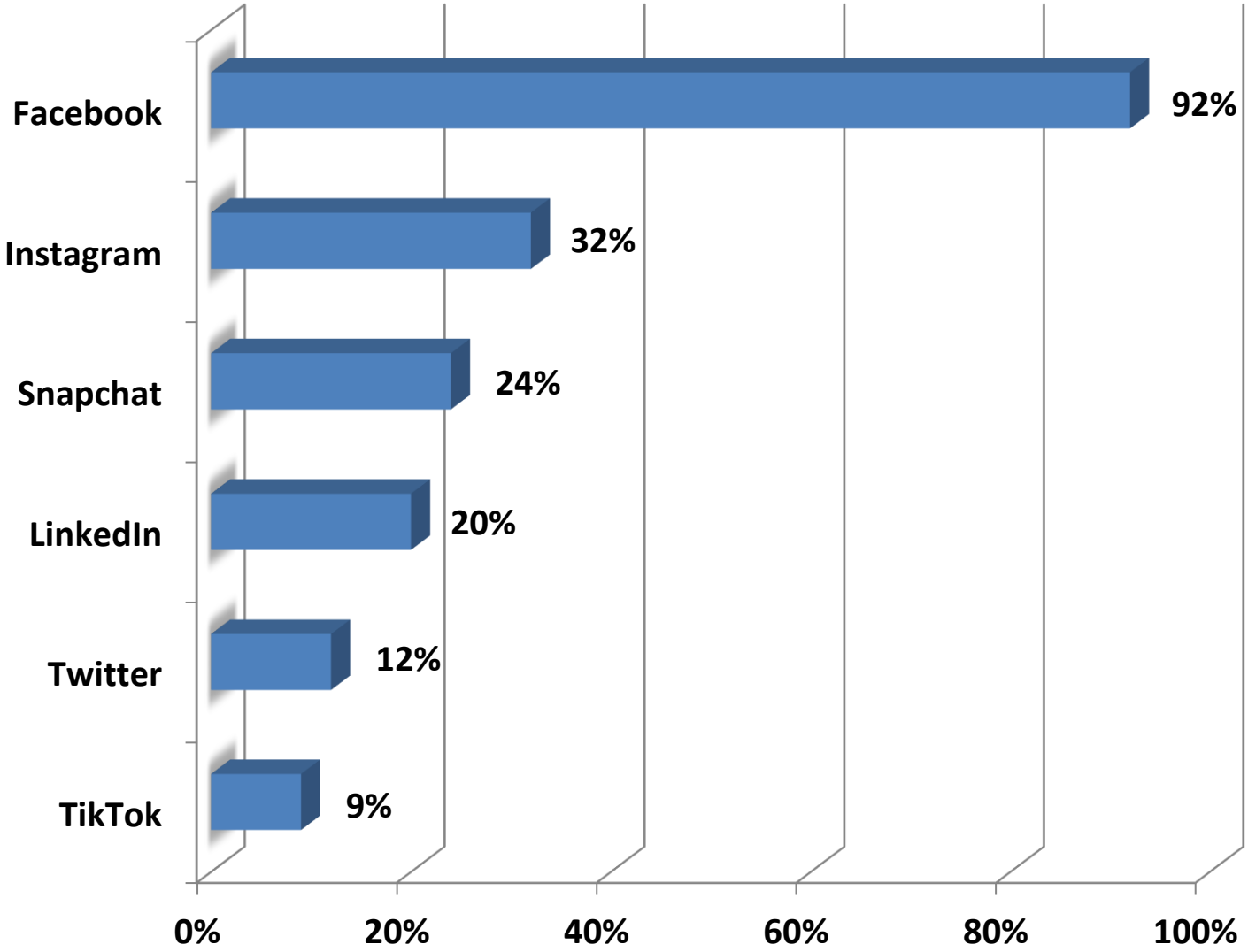
# How do you receive Kewaskum School District information? *(Mark all that apply.)*



# Which social media platforms do you use?

## *(Mark all that apply.)*

### *All Respondents*



# Facilities and Technology

Our goal is to provide facilities and technology to meet all academic, activity, and student requirements.

# Please indicate your level of agreement with the following. All items begin with the words, "The District ..."

*Strongly Agree (5), Agree (4), Disagree (2), Strongly Disagree (1), Not sure/no opinion (0)*

| Item | All Residents | Staff | Parents (Non-Staff) | Non-Parents (Non-Staff) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Provides high-quality indoor and outdoor athletic facilities. | 4.39 | 4.45 | 4.42 | 4.30 |
| Provides clean and well-maintained schools. | 4.31 | 4.09 | 4.38 | 4.24 |
| Provides adequate access to technology. | 4.23 | 4.21 | 4.28 | 4.14 |
| Provides a safe and secure campus. | 4.23 | 4.25 | 4.29 | 4.09 |
| Provides innovative learning spaces for students. | 4.14 | 4.20 | 4.17 | 4.08 |
| Provides high-quality spaces for performing arts. | 4.03 | 4.13 | 4.02 | 4.01 |

# Student Learning

Our goal is to provide programming and instruction that is engaging and challenging for all students. The Kewaskum School District received the designation of “Exceeds expectations” every year since 2013 and scored in the top 20 percent of K-12 school districts in the state.

# Please indicate your level of agreement with the following. All items begin with the words, "The District ..." (1/2)

*Strongly Agree (5), Agree (4), Disagree (2), Strongly Disagree (1), Not sure/no opinion (0)*

| Item | All Residents | Staff | Parents (Non-Staff) | Non-Parents (Non-Staff) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Encourages students to contribute to their community. | 4.09 | 4.21 | 4.07 | 4.08 |
| Provides support for students with disabilities. | 4.17 | 4.33 | 4.22 | 4.00 |
| Provides resources for college-bound students. | 4.08 | 4.24 | 4.12 | 3.98 |
| Provides programs for students interested in the arts. | 3.96 | 3.95 | 3.98 | 3.94 |

# Please indicate your level of agreement with the following. All items begin with the words, "The District ..." (2/2)

*Strongly Agree (5), Agree (4), Disagree (2), Strongly Disagree (1), Not sure/no opinion (0)*

| Item | All Residents | Staff | Parents (Non-Staff) | Non-Parents (Non-Staff) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Employs high-quality staff. | 4.10 | 4.35 | 4.15 | 3.91 |
| Helps students develop skills to be successful in life and work. | 3.99 | 4.22 | 4.03 | 3.83 |
| Provides resources for non-college-bound students. | 4.00 | 4.20 | 4.09 | 3.83 |
| Provides students with social-emotional/mental health support. | 3.88 | 3.95 | 3.93 | 3.70 |

# School Finance

We are grateful for our community's support and understand the importance of making fiscally responsible choices. The State of Wisconsin will not be increasing revenue limits (which determines the District's budget) for schools for the next two years. However, we are receiving COVID-19 relief funding (ESSER) from the federal government. The challenge is that the federal funding is a one-time source and does not address our long-term financial challenges. Depending on how the State of Wisconsin funds schools in the future, we may see significant shortfalls after the COVID-19 funds are exhausted. Therefore, budget cuts may be needed in the future. While we do not endorse any of the following, we must consider all options to balance our budget.

**Class Sizes:** Average class sizes currently range from 20 to 25 students at the elementary level and 24 to 30 at the middle/high school level.

**Course Offerings:** Elective, Advanced Placement (AP), and college courses are offered to high school students.

**Technology:** The District's technology (including wireless access, servers, and classroom computers) needs regular maintenance to meet students' learning needs.

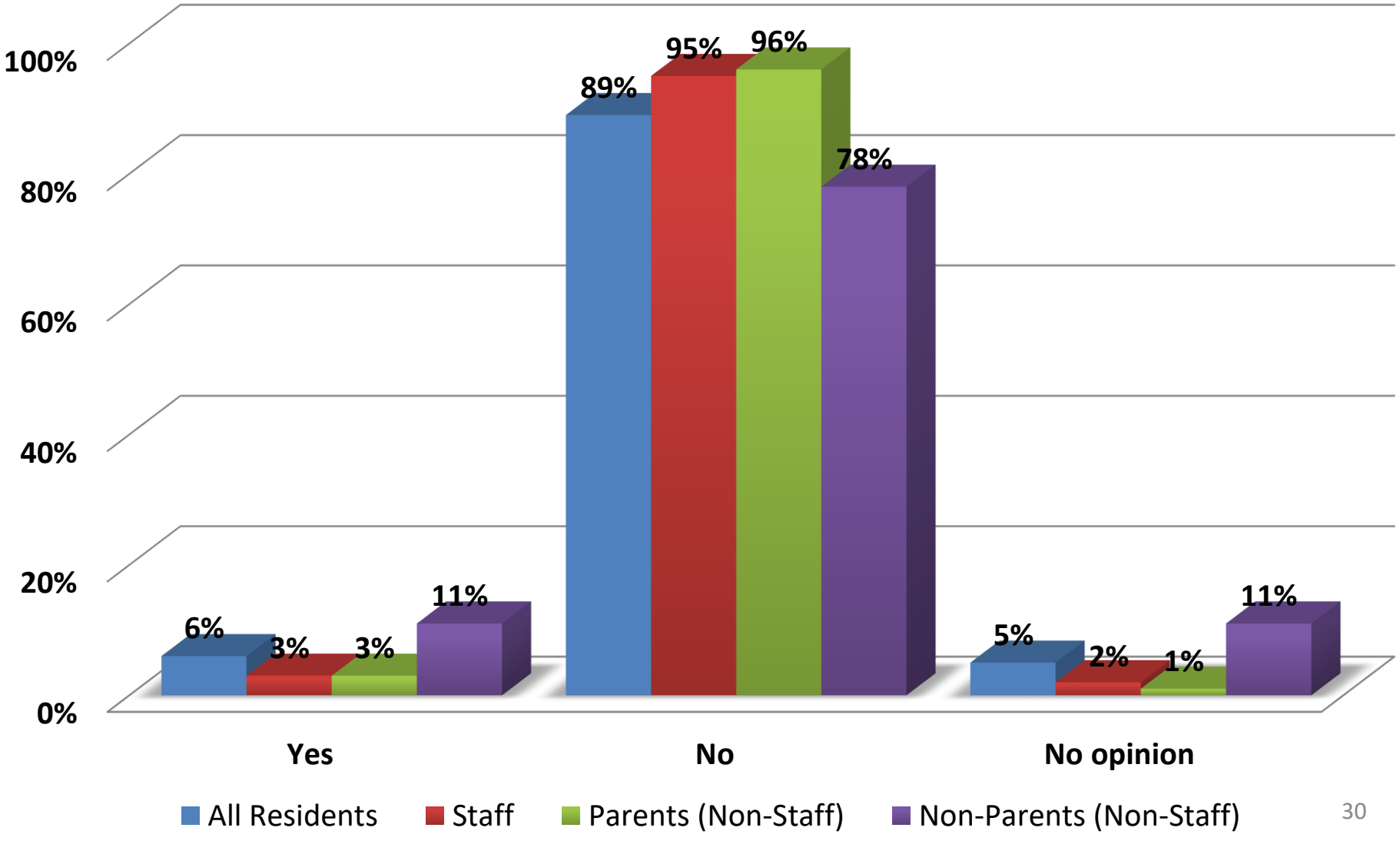
**Building Maintenance:** The District sets aside some of the annual budget to stay current with building maintenance, make routine security updates, and prevent project backlogs.

**Facility Use:** Non-school-related organizations in our community use school facilities almost daily at little to no cost. These organizations support many of our students, parents, and community members.

**Athletic/Activity Annual Fees:** Elementary students are charged a $40 academic fee. Middle school students are charged a $60 academic fee and a $10-$25 athletic/co-curricular fee per activity. High school students are charged a $60 academic fee and a $25-$60 athletic/co-curricular fee per activity. The current fee structure generates $110,000 annually.

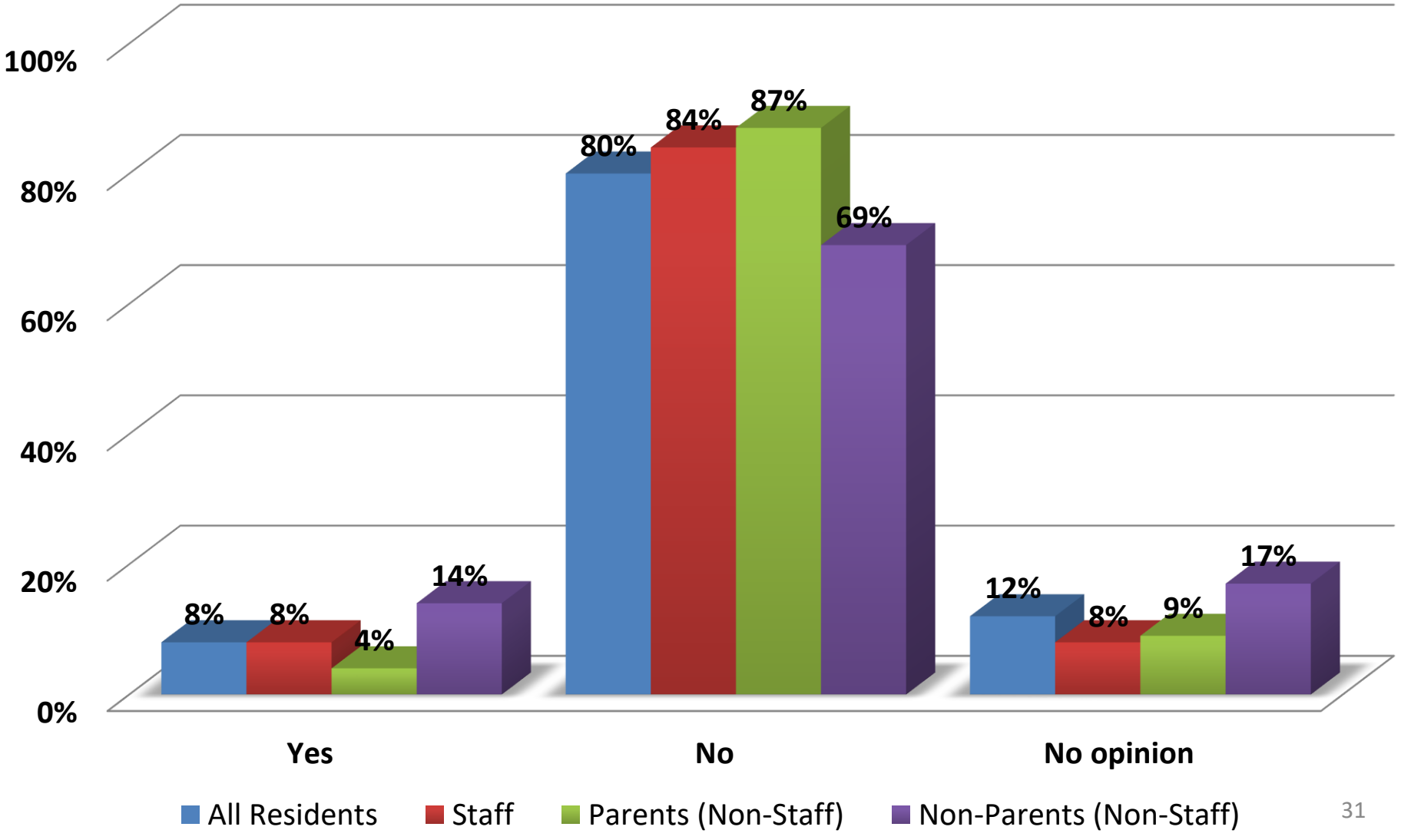
# Should the District consider cutting teachers and increasing class sizes?

*(School District Residents Only)*



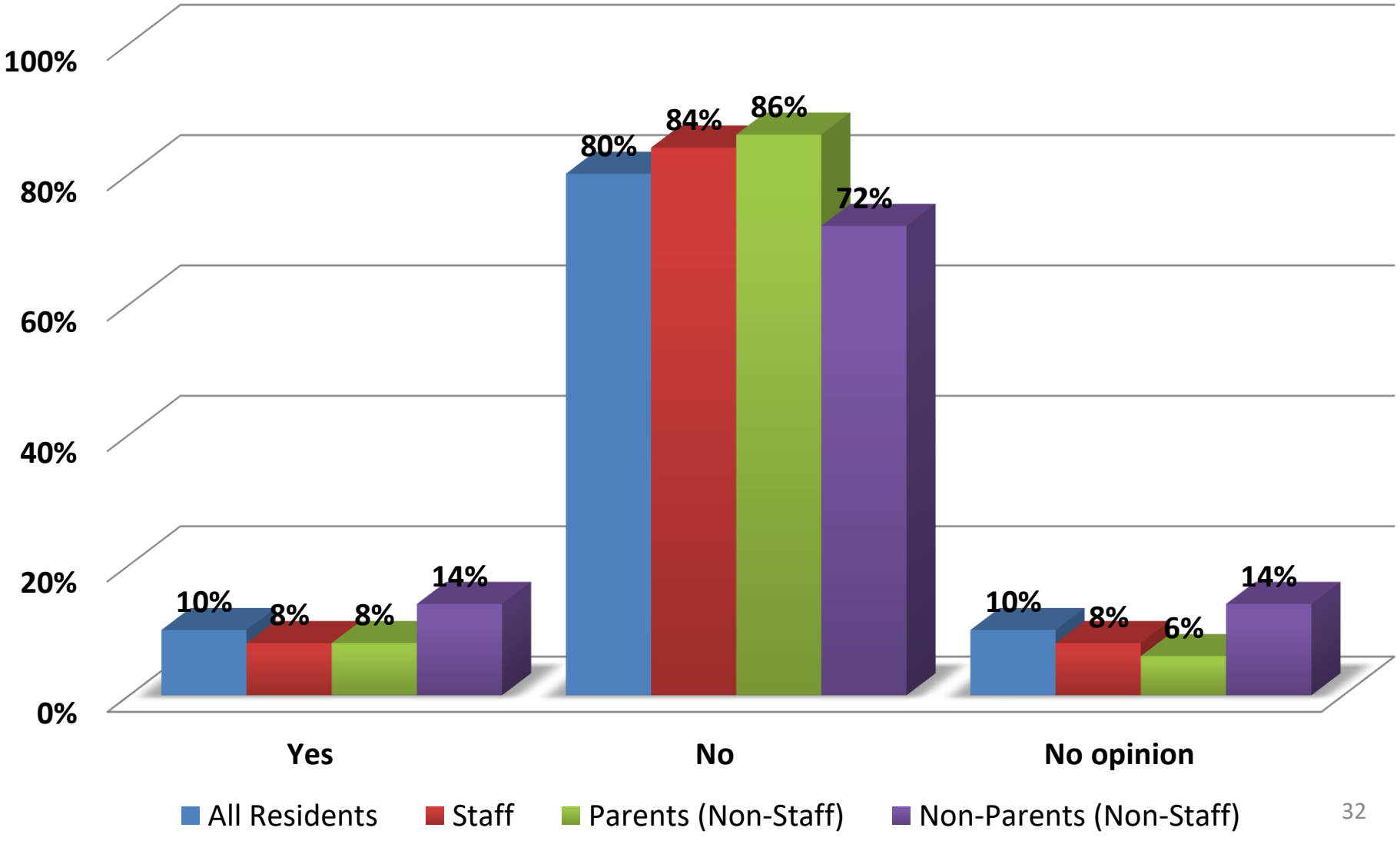
# Should the number of electives, AP, and college courses offered be reduced?

*(School District Residents Only)*



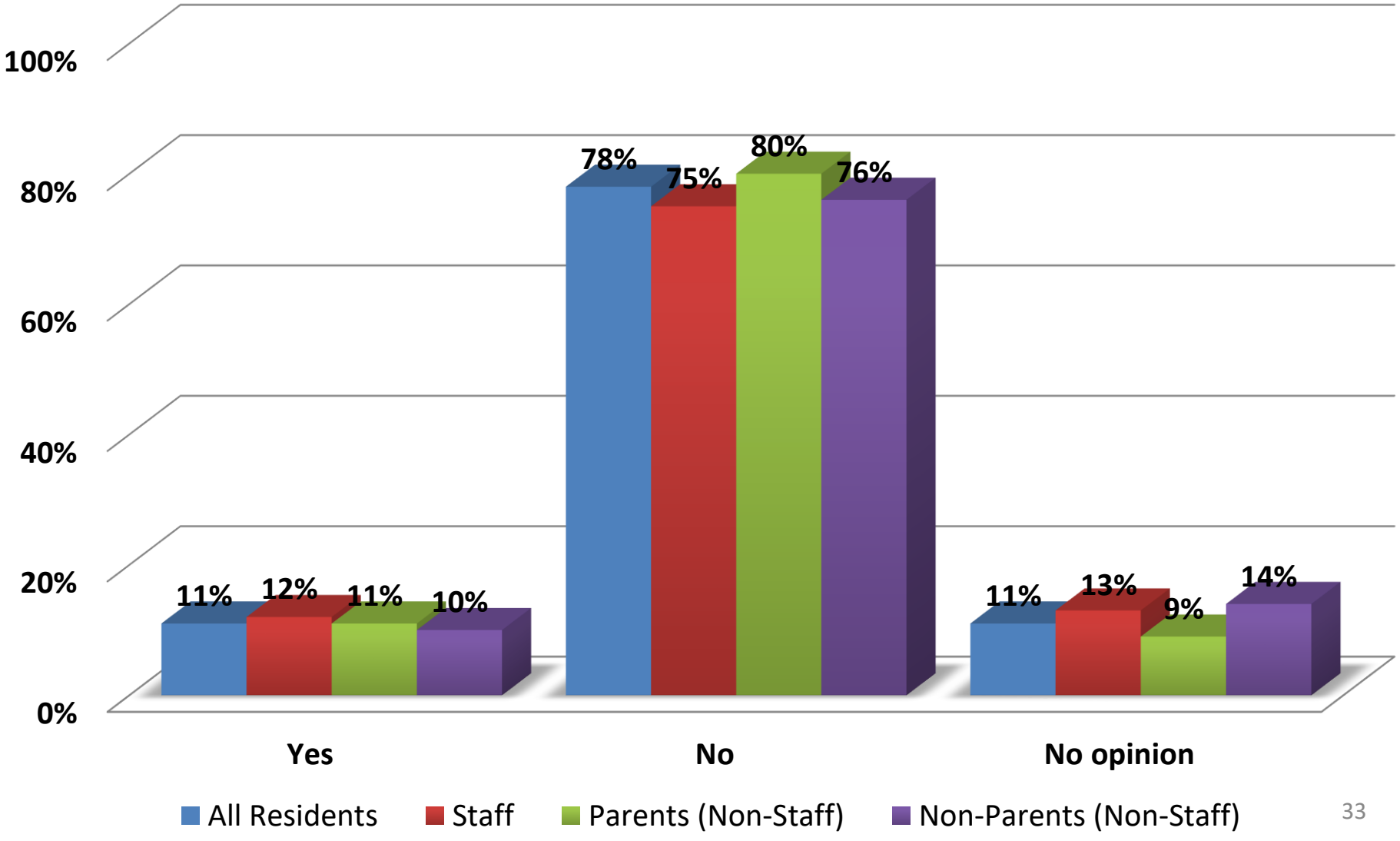
# Should the District consider delaying technology updates?

*(School District Residents Only)*



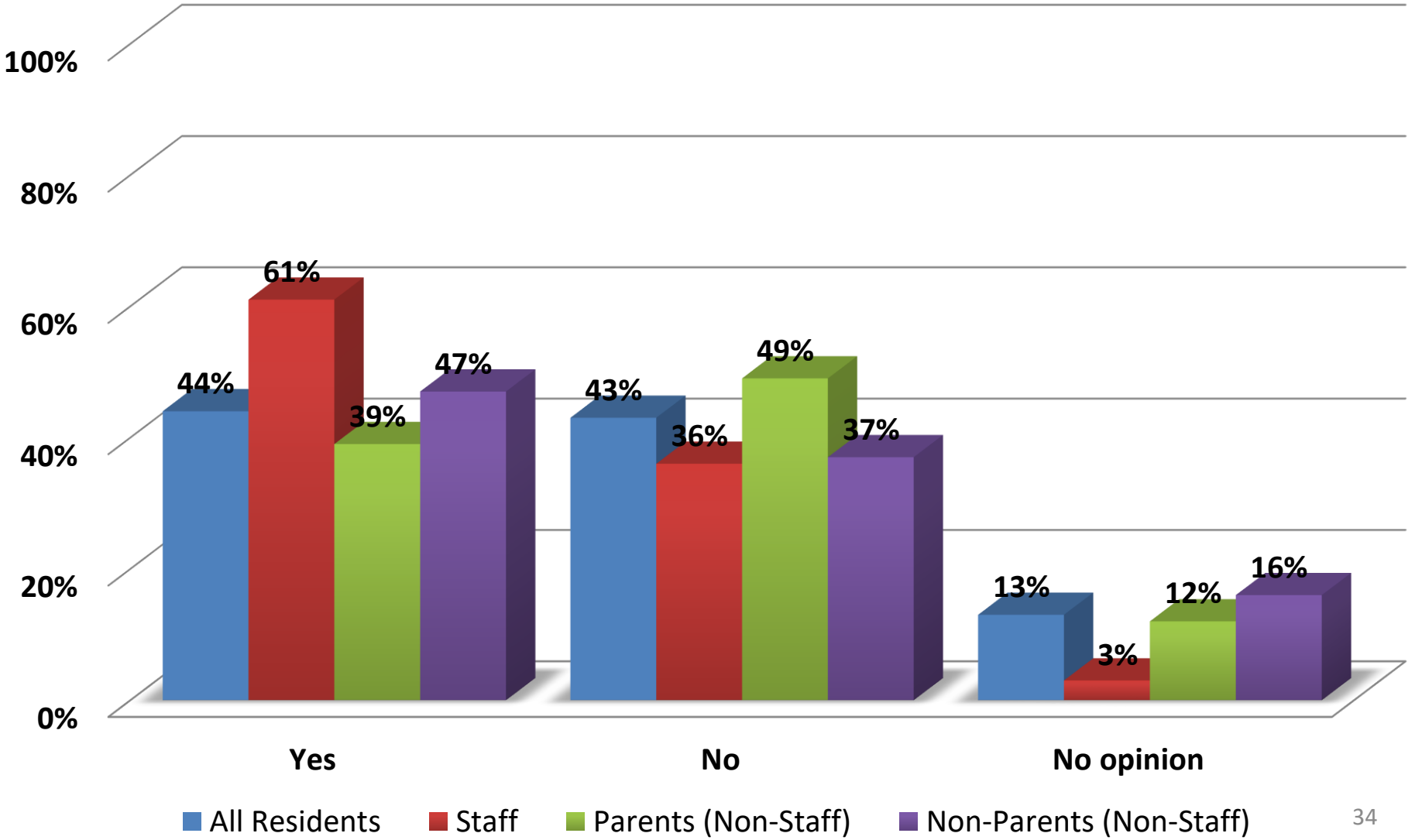
# Should the annual maintenance budget be reduced?

*(School District Residents Only)*



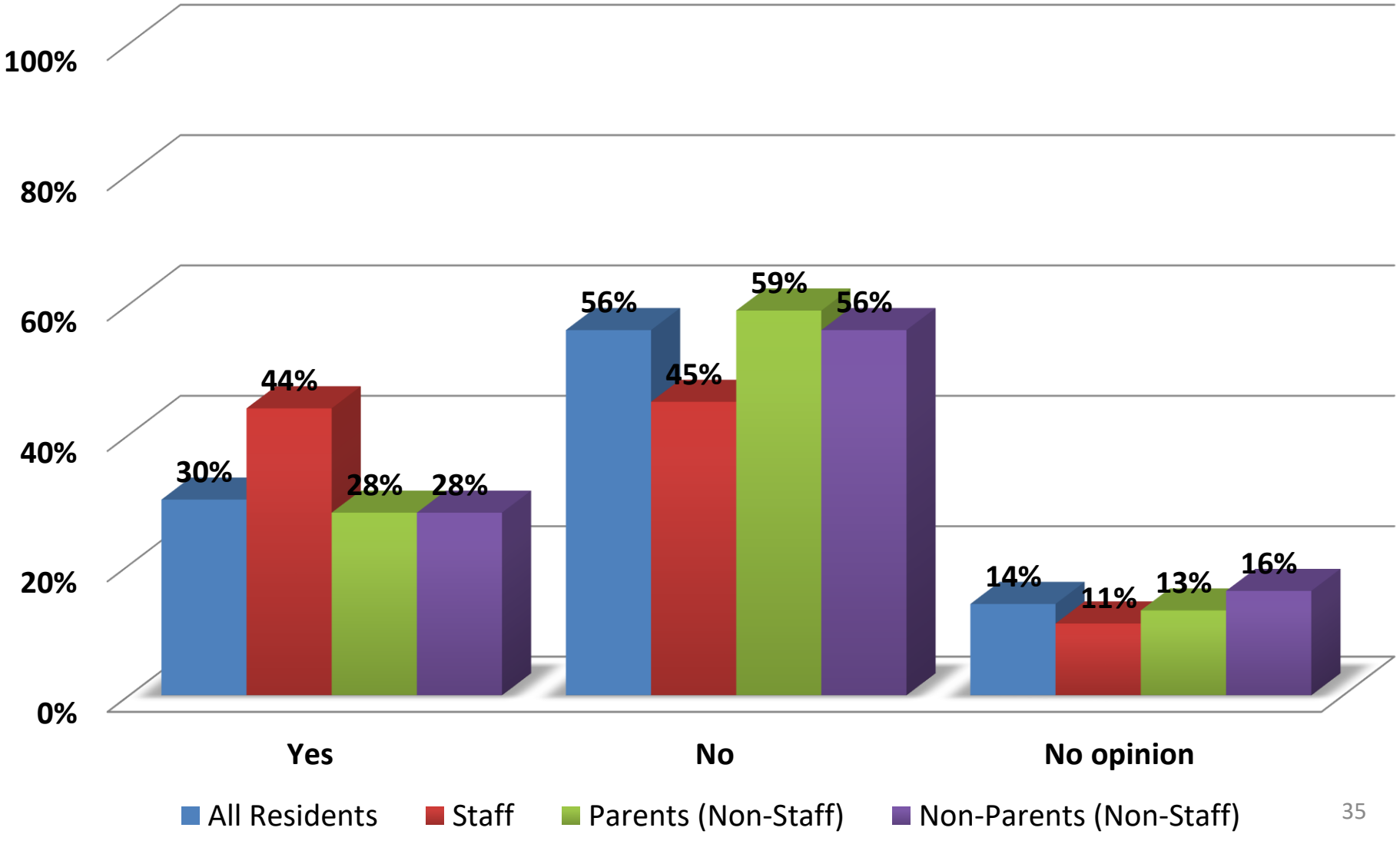
# Should the District consider raising the facility rental fees?

*(School District Residents Only)*



# Should student fees be increased?

*(School District Residents Only)*



The i4Learning Community School (i4L) is located at 5760 Mohawk Road on the District's west side. The school currently serves 97 students in first through fifth grade, down from an average of 117 students over the past three years. The Board of Education recognizes the importance of this school in the Wayne area but also has a responsibility to study the cost of operating each school. Therefore, the Board created an ad hoc committee, made up of parents and staff, to explore consolidating our elementary schools to save money. The committee found:

- In the next 10 years, the i4L building will need an estimated $1.2 million to address maintenance needs (roofing, flooring, etc.). This is higher than the other two elementary schools on a per student basis.
- If i4L were closed, the District would save approximately $325,000 annually in operating expenses and would sell the building.
- According to our bus company, if i4L were closed, the maximum time students spend on the bus would not increase.

A recent Kewaskum area population study predicts elementary student enrollment will stay steady (between 822 and 849 students) over the next 10 years. As you can see in the table below, if i4L were closed, Kewaskum and Farmington elementary schools have capacity to serve all elementary students. This change would also:

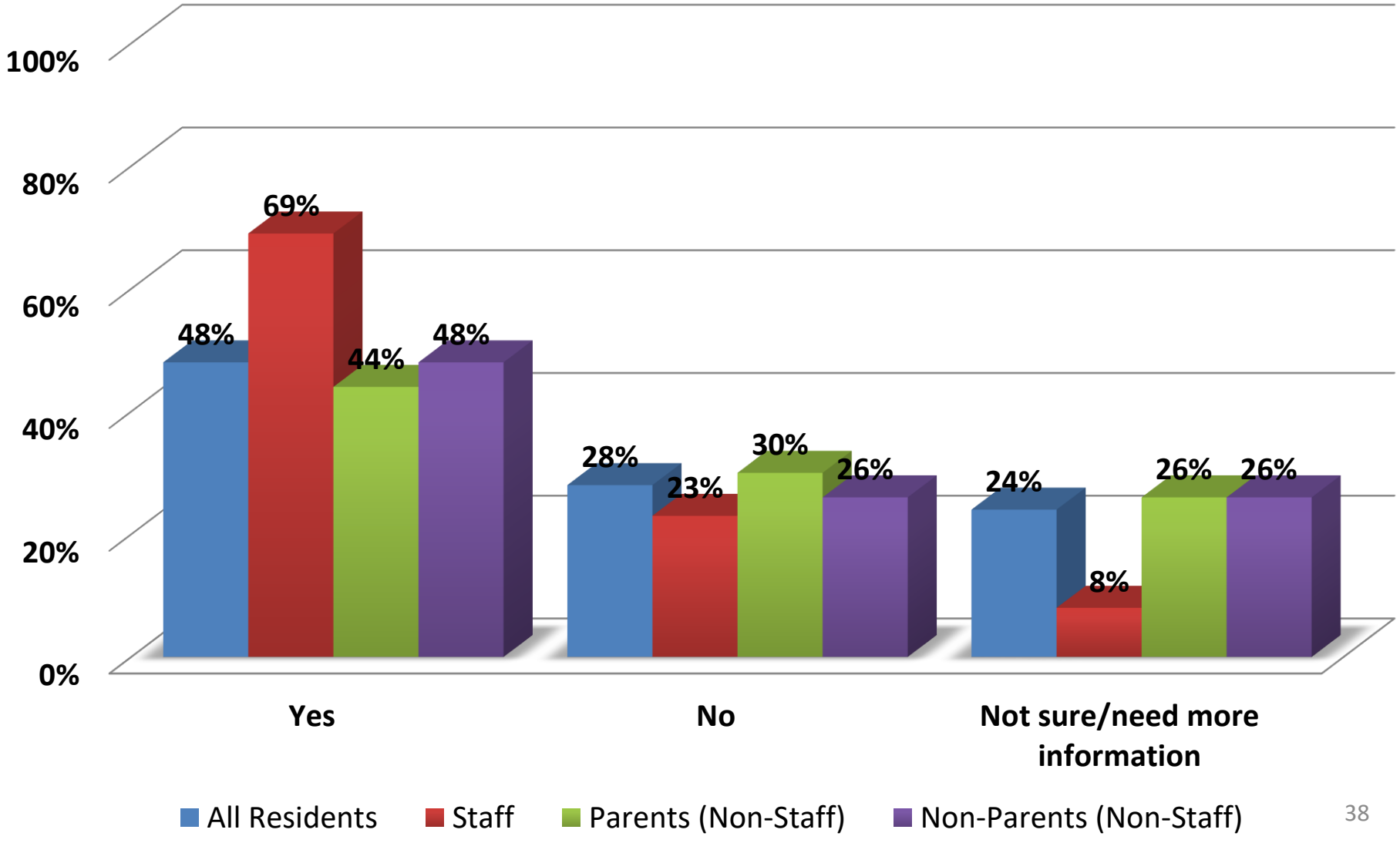
- ✓ Make it easier to balance class sizes.
- ✓ Better utilize staff and reduce staff travel between schools.
- ✓ Provide all families with access to before and after daycare services.

| School | Capacity | 2021 Enrollment | Excess Space |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Kewaskum Elementary** | 725 | 540 | 185 |
| **Farmington Elementary** | 375 | 187 | 188 |
| **i4Learning Community School** | 175 | 97 | 78 |

The Board of Education recognizes closing the i4Learning Community School would cause challenges for some families. Those parents may choose to open-enroll their children into a neighboring district or a private school. Because state funding is tied to enrollment, this could negatively impact our operating budget by up to $10,000 annually for each student lost.

# Would you support closing the i4Learning Community School?

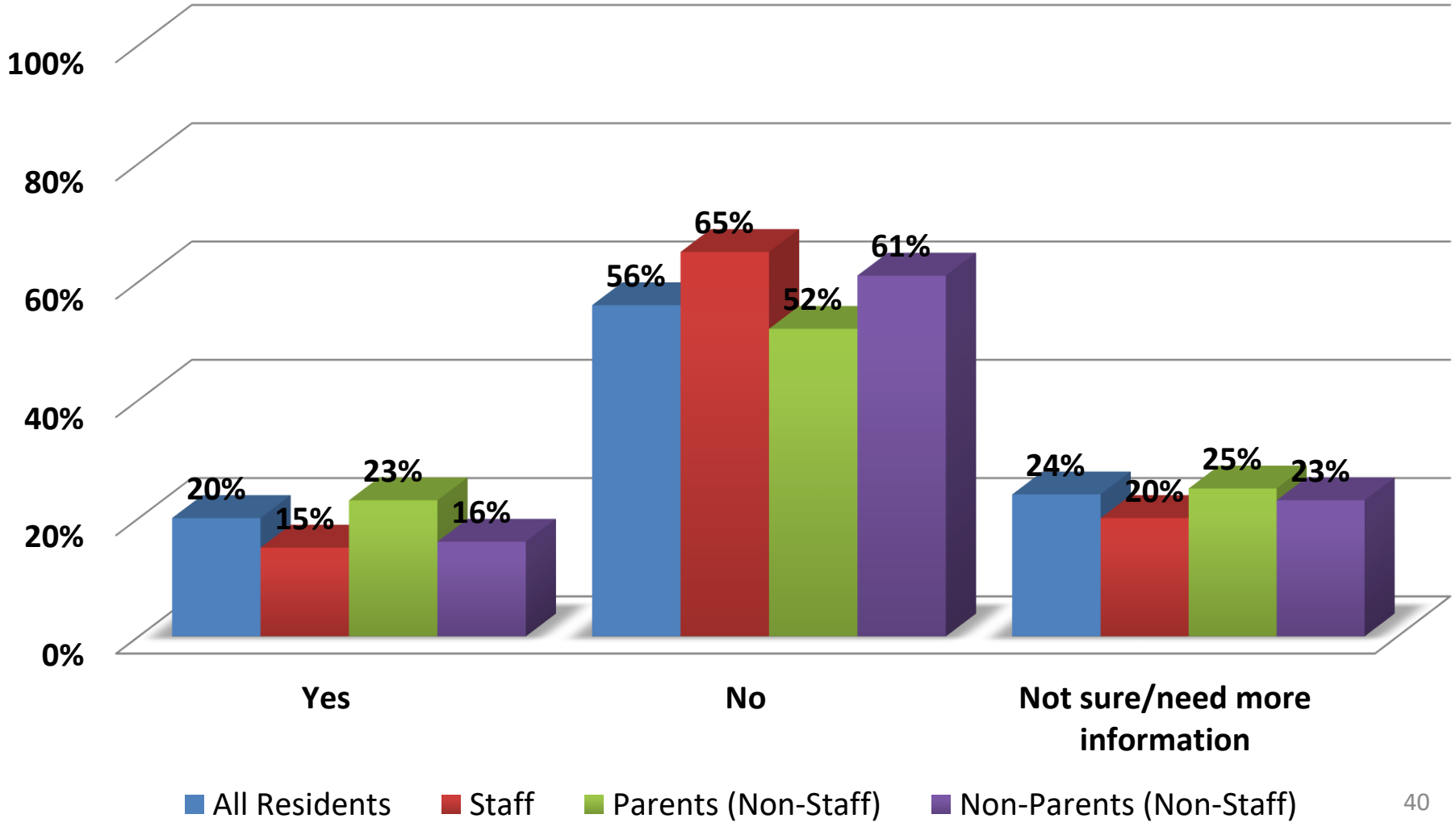
*(School District Residents Only)*



Instead of closing the i4Learning Community School, the District could ask taxpayers to support additional funding through an operational referendum.

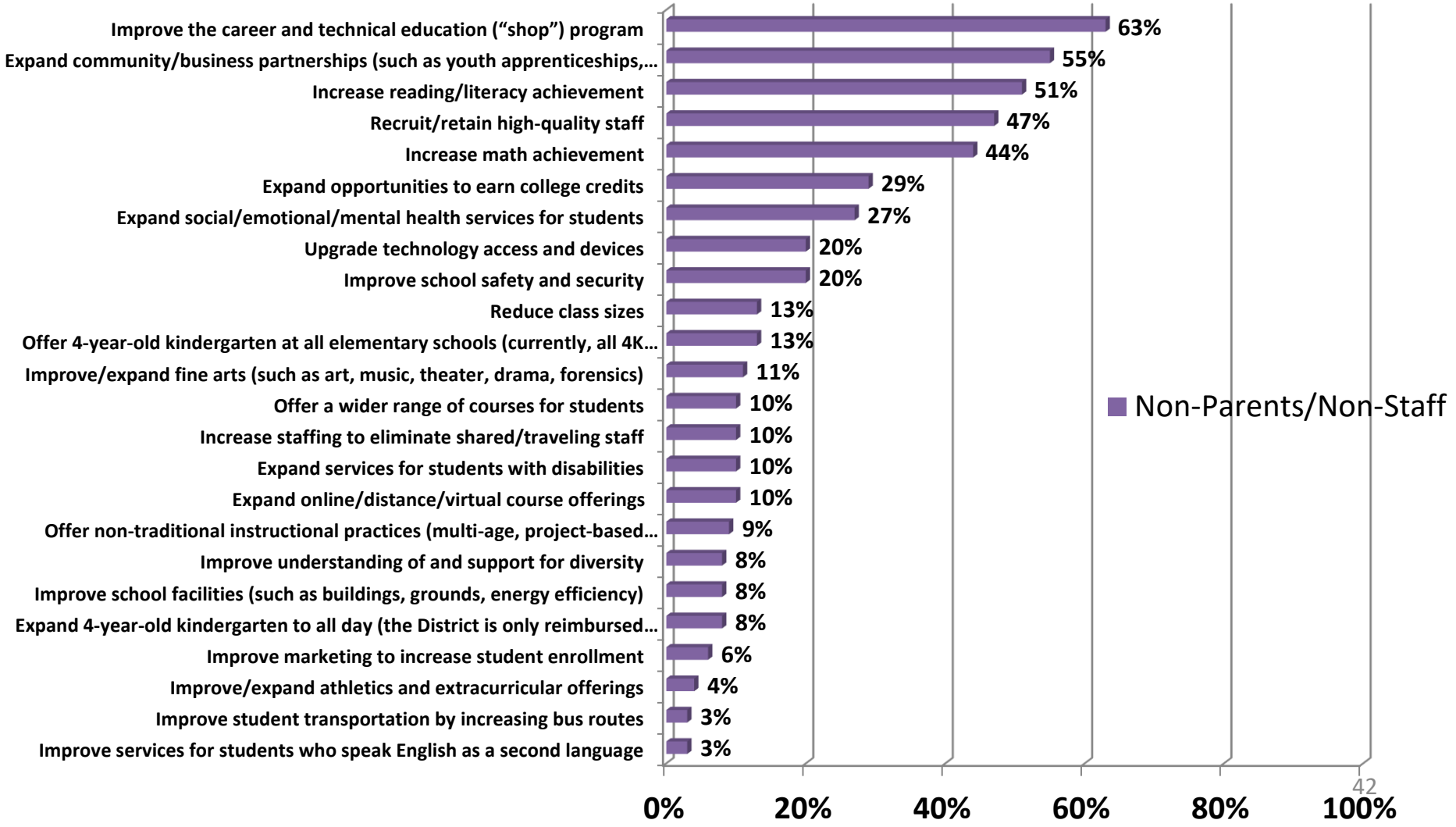
# Would you support an ongoing operational referendum (raising taxes) instead of closing the i4Learning Community School?

*(School District Residents Only)*

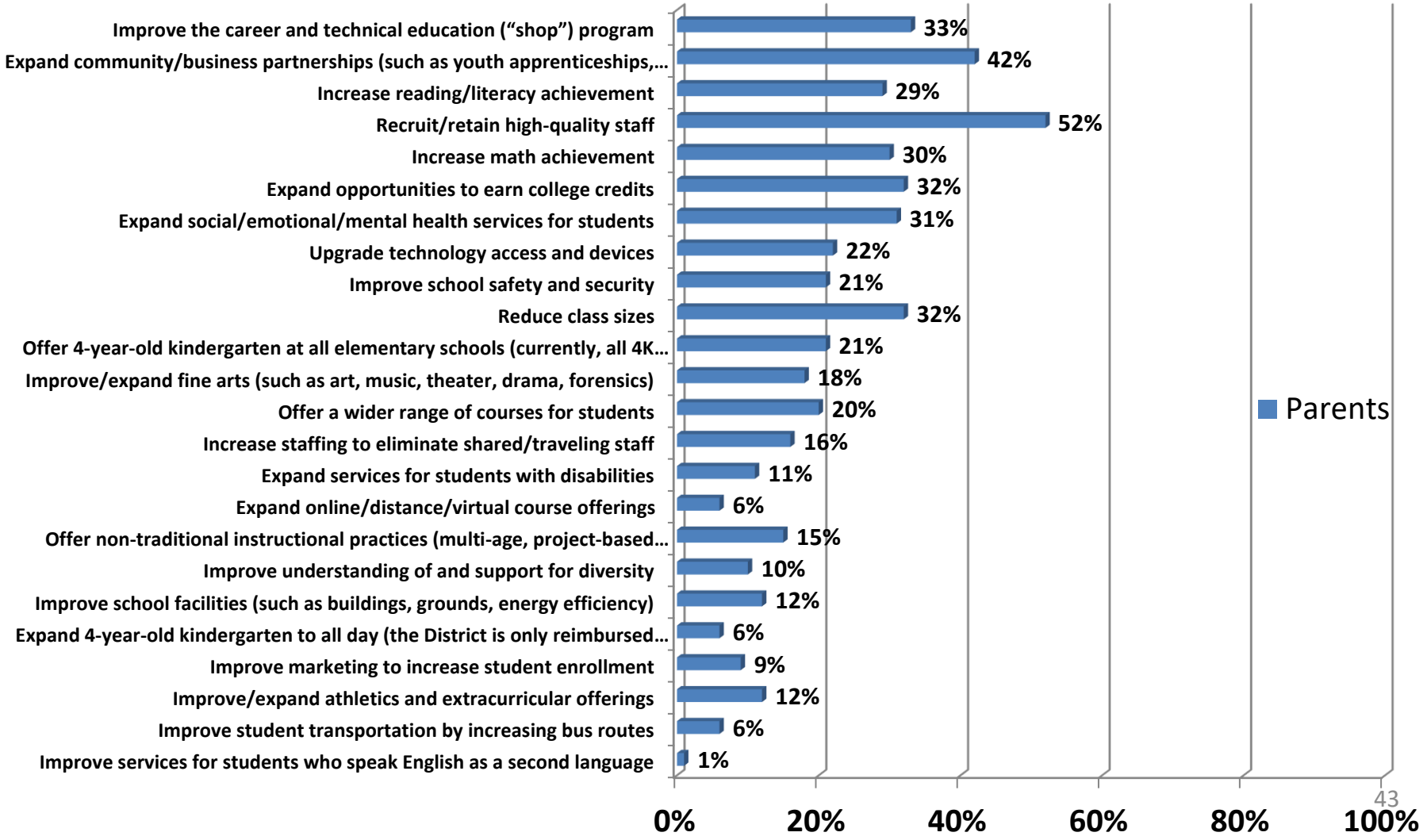


# Future Planning

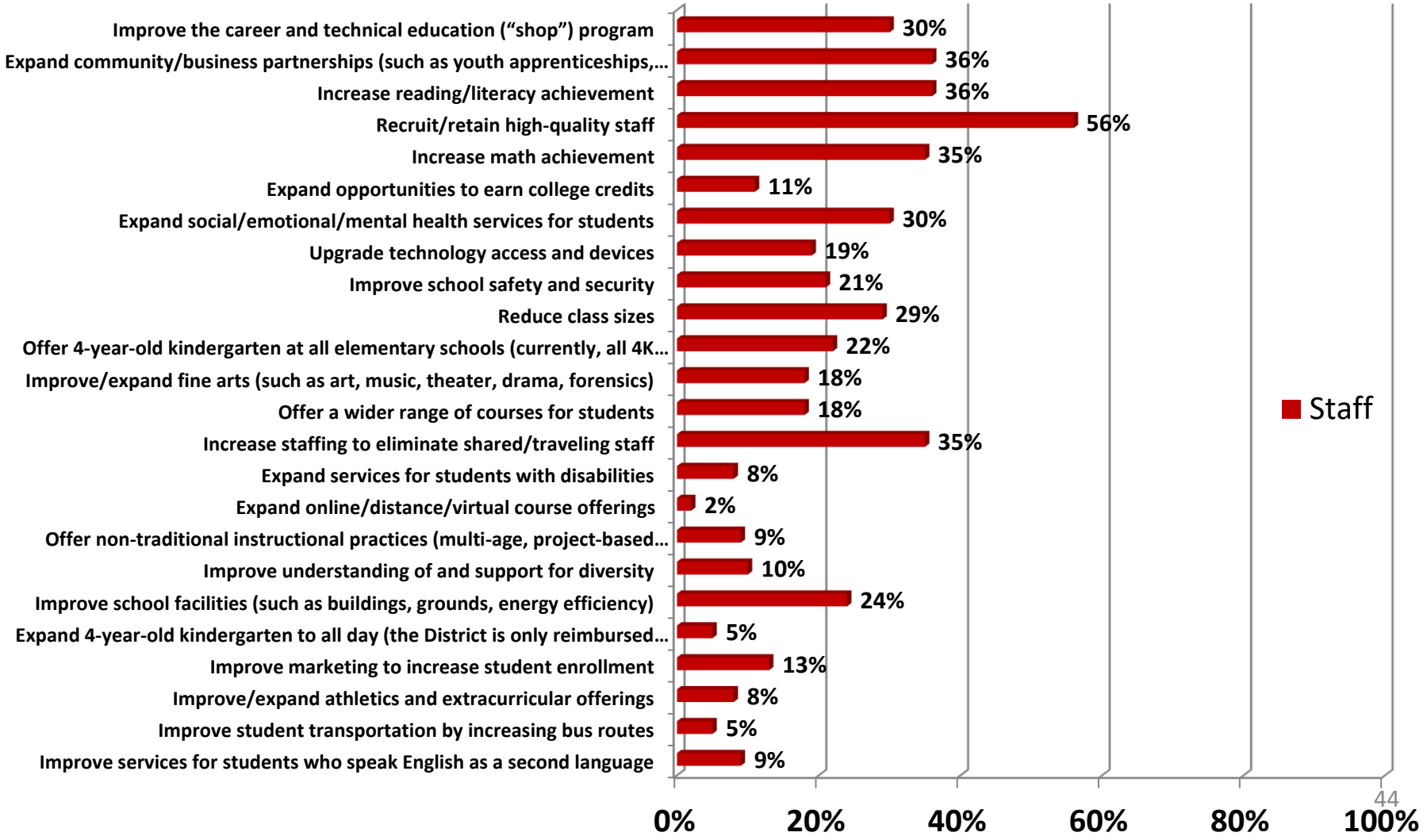
# This question may be challenging, but given the District's limited resources, please pick the five items that you feel would be most important for us to prioritize in the future.
# Non-Parent Non-Staff Residents



# This question may be challenging, but given the District's limited resources, please pick the five items that you feel would be most important for us to prioritize in the future.
## Parent Residents



# This question may be challenging, but given the District's limited resources, please pick the five items that you feel would be most important for us to prioritize in the future.
## Staff Residents



# Thank you!




Parent Surveys - Staff Surveys - Student Surveys - Community Surveys

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