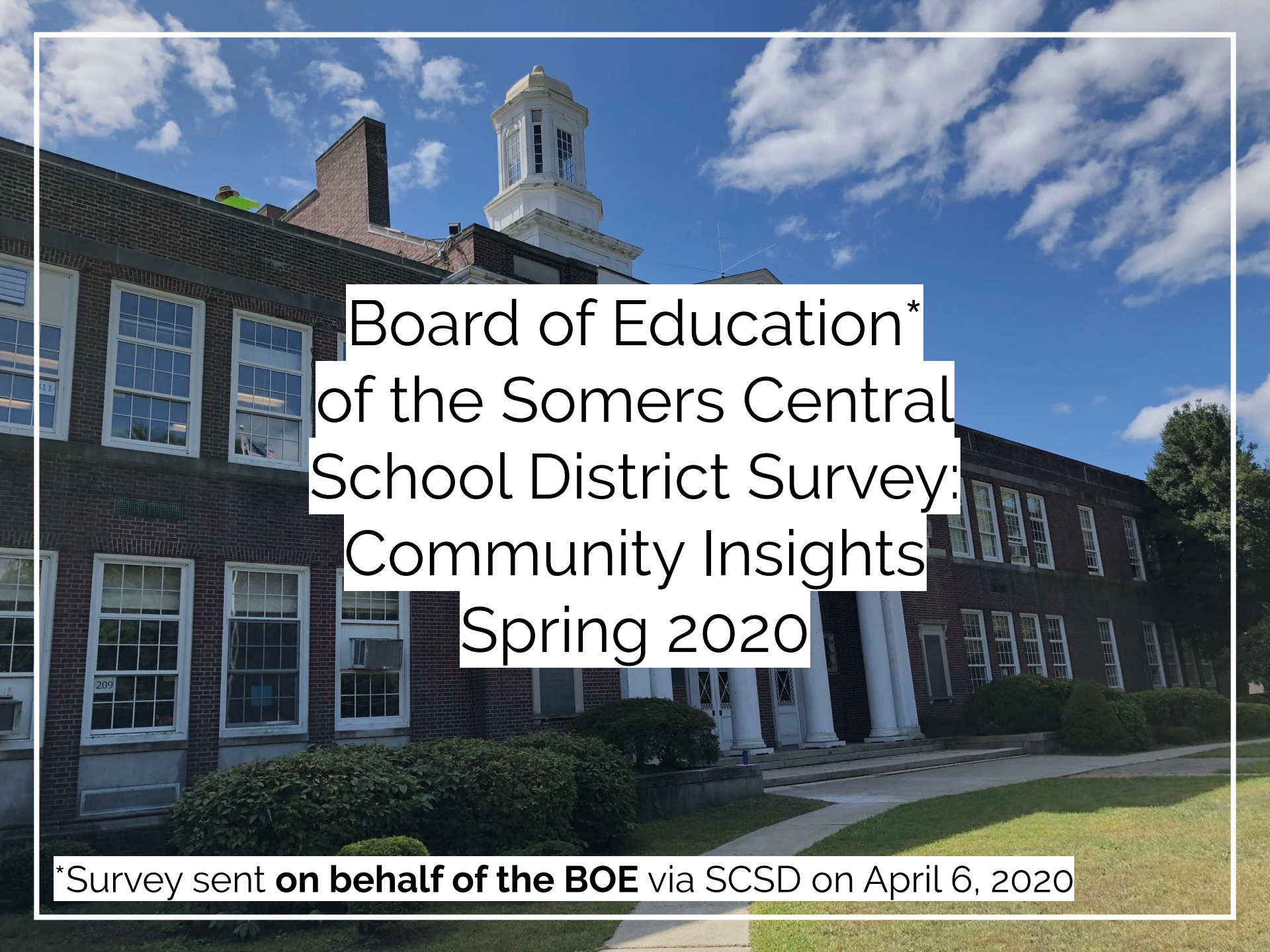


A photograph of a large, multi-story brick building, likely a school or government building, with a prominent white cupola on the roof. The building has many windows and a classical entrance with columns. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds. The text is overlaid on the center of the image.

Board of Education* of the Somers Central School District Survey: Community Insights Spring 2020

*Survey sent **on behalf of the BOE** via SCSD on April 6, 2020



Two Goals of BOE Communication Committee: Community Engagement Current & Future

Current Community Engagement

Relationship to SCSD

Budget Vote & Access to
Information

Access to BOE &
Participatory Interest

Future Opportunities for Community Engagement

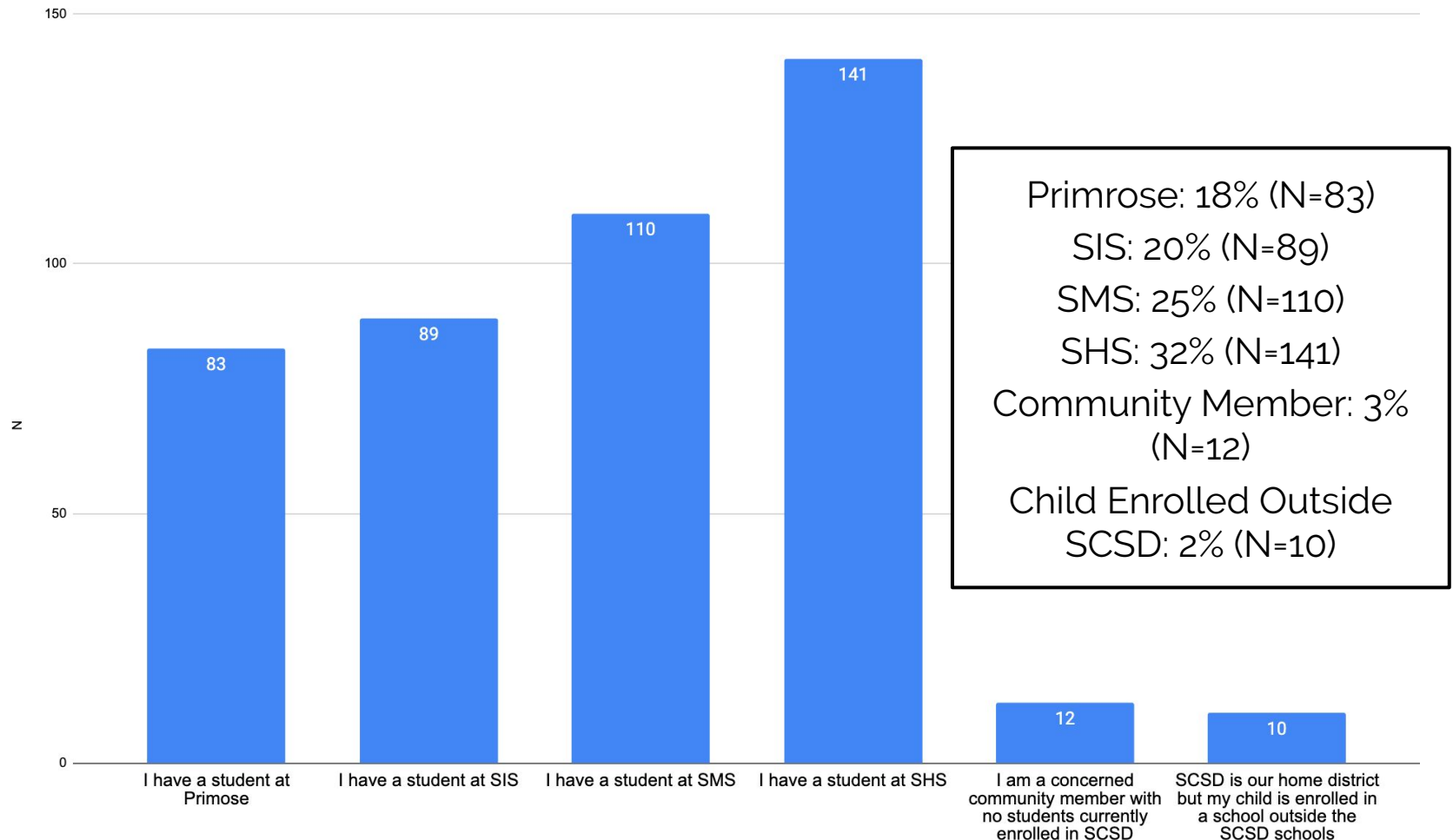
Opportunities for
Engagement

Current Communication
Channels

Community Interest in BOE
Work

SURVEY DEMOGRAPHICS (N*=294)

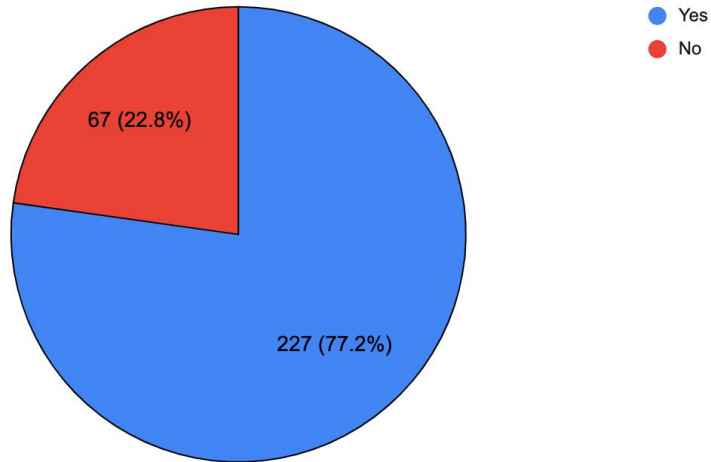
What is your relationship to SCSD (please select all that apply)?



*Survey distributed via SCSD not directly via BOE, total recipient N is unknown.

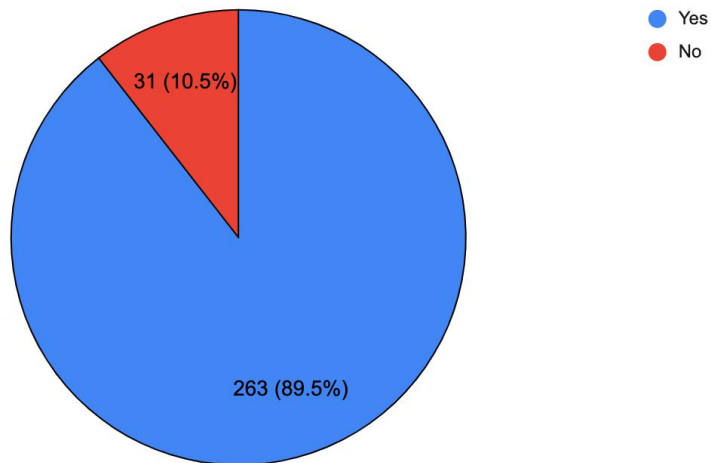
Budget Vote & Access to Budget Information

Have you voted for the school budget in the past 5 years?



77% of respondents
have voted for the budget in
the past 5 years

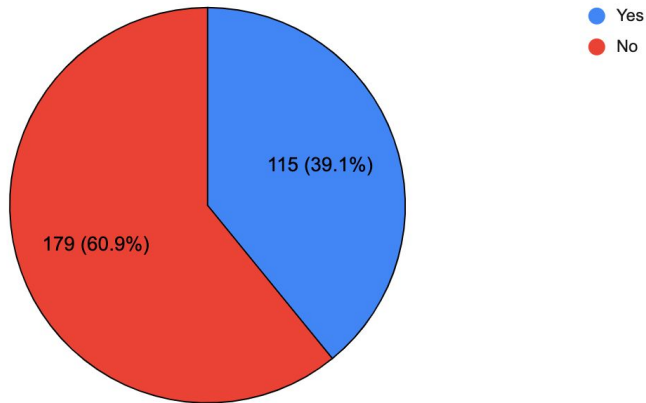
Have you read about the school budget in the past five years?



90% of respondents
have read about the budget
in the past 5 years

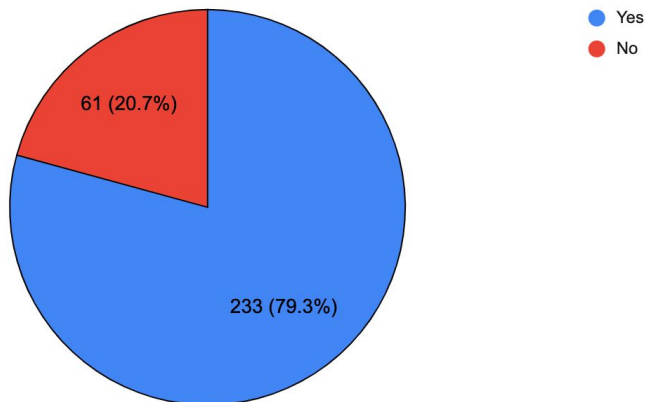
Access to BOE: Meetings, Trustees, Connecting, Participating

Have you watched the recorded BOE meetings on Channel 18 or the SCSD website?



39% of respondents have watched recorded BOE meetings on Channel 18 or on the SCSD Website

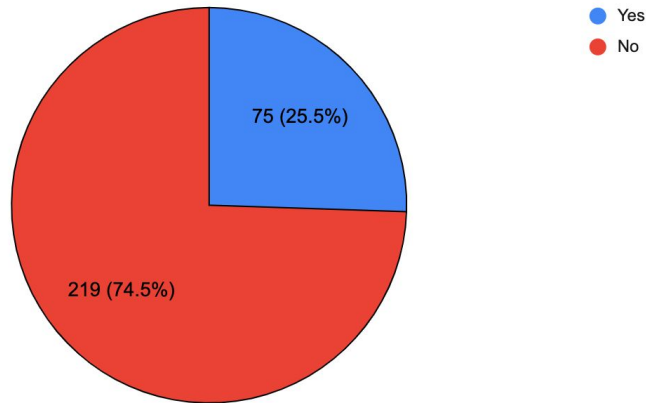
Do you feel like the school board is available and accessible to the community?



79% of respondents feel like the BOE is available and accessible to the community

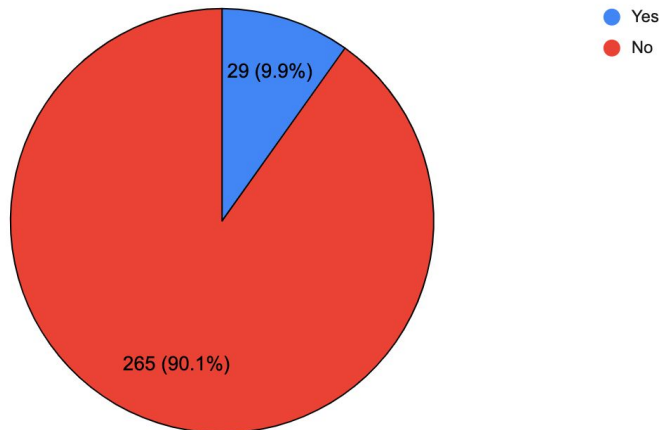
Access to BOE: Meetings, Trustees, Connecting, Participating

Have you ever tried to connect with the school board or members of the school board?



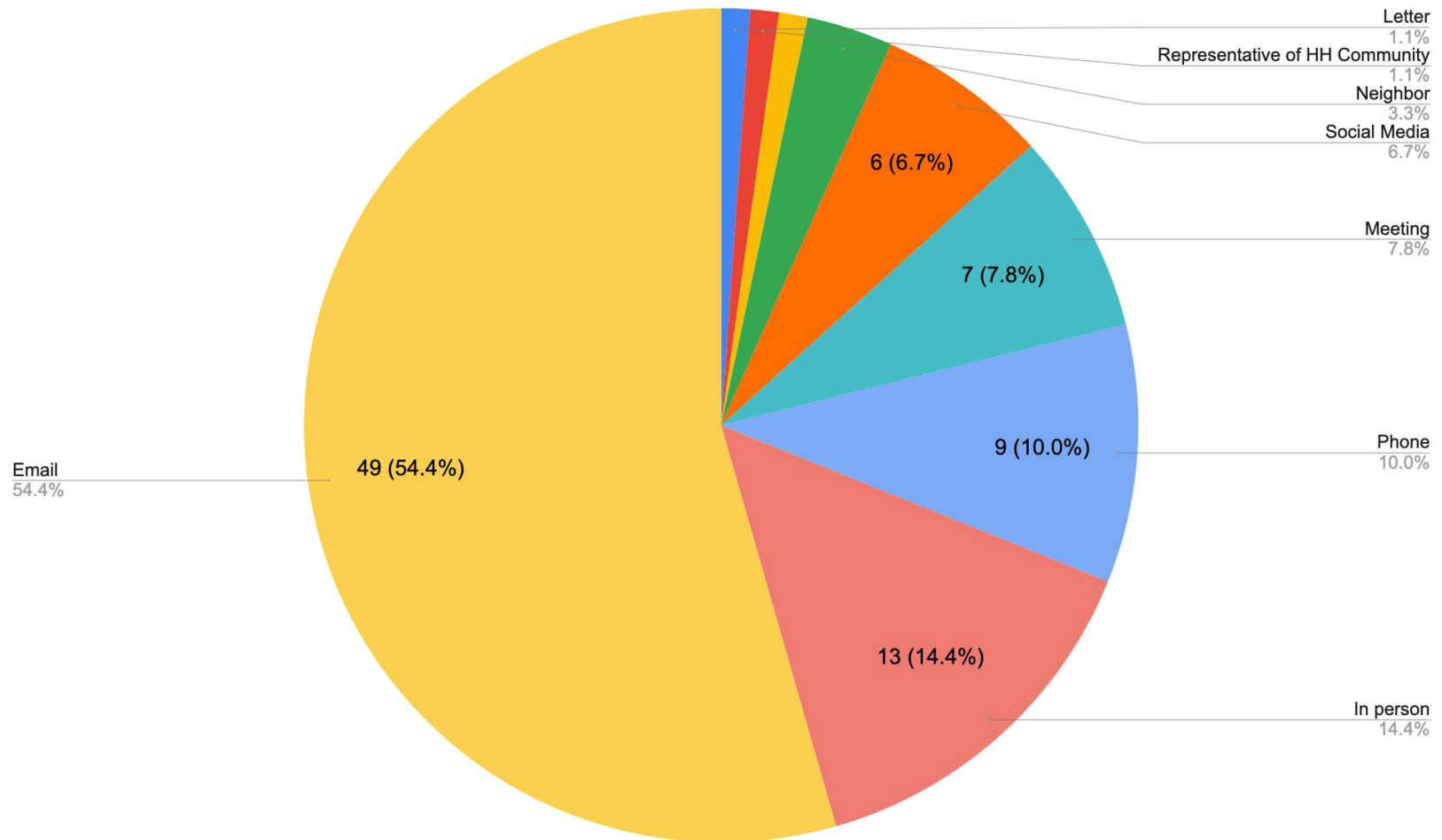
26% of respondents
have tried to connect with
the BOE or members of the
BOE

Have you ever run or considered running for the school board?



10% of respondents
have considered running for
the BOE

How have you tried to connect with members of the SCSD BOE (N=90)?



Where would you like to see the BOE be more active?

Attendance at...

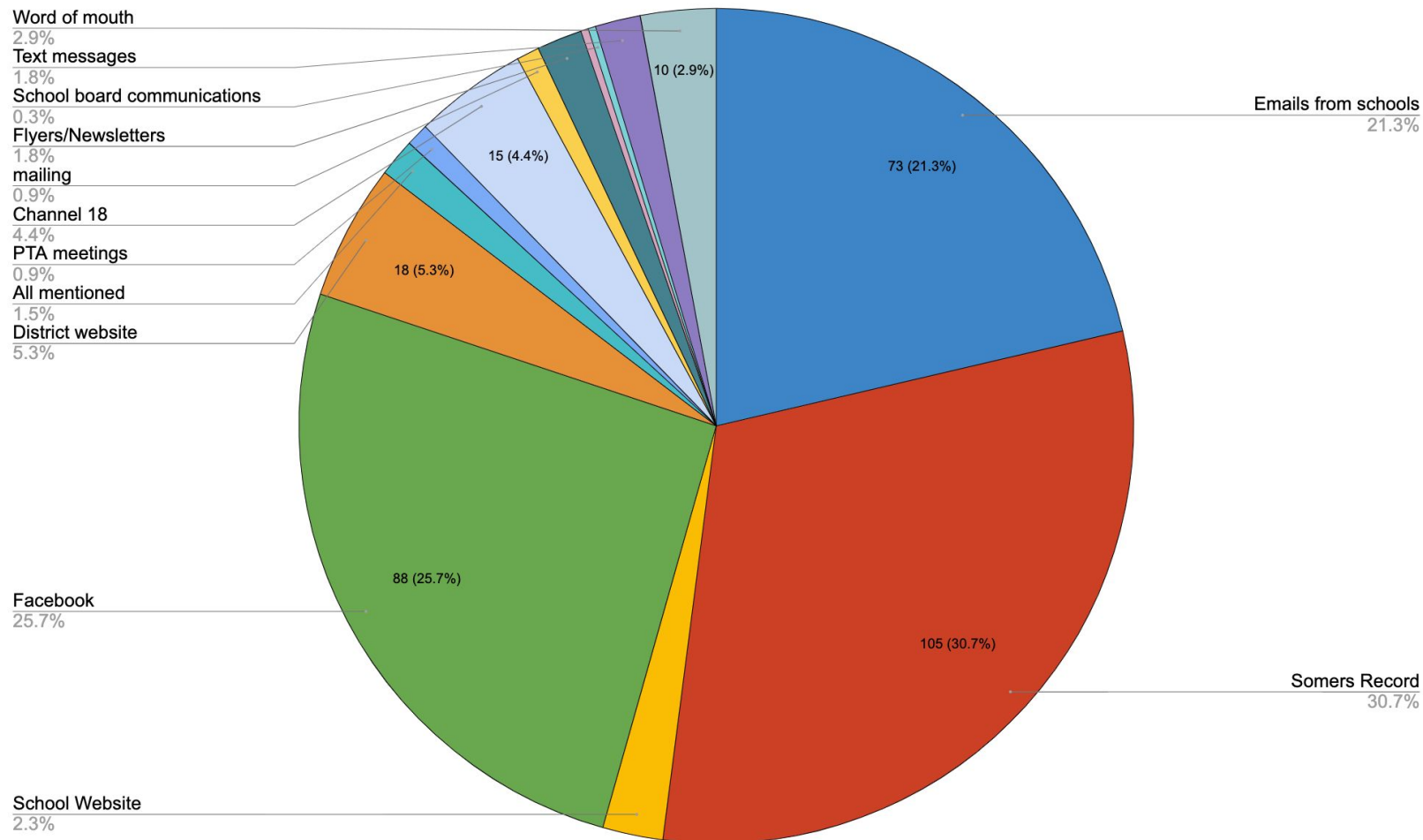
School open houses
Back to school night
School events
PTA/SEPTA meetings
Sporting events
Town events
Enrichment for the kids

Sharing information at...

Schools, meetings with parents/community members
Posting meetings on social media
Meetings at critical times (e.g., now)
Meetings conducted online
BOE involvement in curriculum

Where do you receive information about SCSD (e.g., Somers Record, Facebook, etc...)?

(N=208 responses, multiple selections per person)



What kind of information would you like to receive from SCSD BOE (N=103)?

Financial:

Clearer breakdown of where funds are spent and how it is prioritized

Where tax dollars are being spent and what educational investments are being made

Budget Info, Curriculum Planning, Transportation Changes, Improvement in Technology and Interactive Web-Learning

Transparency around budget and strategy plans for next 3-5 years

BOE Roles & Responsibilities:

How are BOE involved in decision making, curriculum and what their role is in running the schools?

Data gathered on how we are performing compared to neighboring districts

Plans for the development of the district curricula, staffing updates and building renovations

Proposed changes to curriculum

Policy changes and budget issues/choices

BOE Engagement & Communication:

Ways that the BOE is thinking outside the box to address social emotional needs of students

What, if any, additional assistance can **senior residents of our community** consider to enhance the educational process?

Would like to hear more about community concerns and how the BOE/District is working on them.

This may exist but maybe receive an email with the meeting minutes.

Key Insights

There are clear opportunities to.....

Communicate the role of the BOE

See the BOE taking a more active role in SCSD oversight

Increase information about ongoing BOE work around policy, budgeting, and curriculum

Increase two-way communication between community members and BOE using preferred channels

Gather and share more clear data/information about **new** initiatives AND **ongoing** performance of current initiatives within and across SCSD

A photograph of Somers Central School, a large brick building with a prominent white portico supported by columns. A small cupola sits atop the roof. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds. The building has many windows, some with white frames. A sidewalk leads to the entrance, and there are green bushes in the foreground.

Thank you for your
time!

Questions?