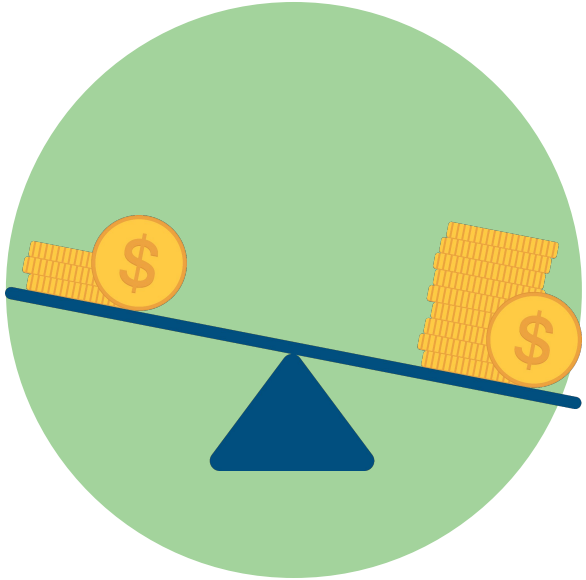
SDRP Phase III Update: Summer Stakeholder Engagement & Closure/Consolidation Criteria

August 18, 2025

EVANSTON/SKOKIE
SCHOOL DISTRICT 65

Every Child, Every Day, Whatever it Takes

Why consider the need for consolidation/closures?



Ensuring Long-term Financial Stability



School Buildings in Need of Significant Repairs and Improvements



Declining Student Enrollment and Underutilized Schools

Our Reality: Taking a holistic look



$189 Million
operating budget

$20 Million
in operational reductions over the past two years alone

$10 -15 Million
in estimated reductions necessary for FY27

2.3% Expense Growth
expenses outpace revenues on an annual basis *(structural deficit)*



18 School Buildings
(+Foster) with 1.2M sqft of building space

8 Square Miles
D65 Attendance Boundaries

79 Years Old
(average building age)

$188 Million
in recommended facility repairs/improvements

Poor or Very Poor
building conditions



6,193 Students
declining enrollment for the next 10 years (aging population)

65% Occupancy
school building occupancy

Decreasing # of Youth
2020 Census indicates a decreasing # of youth under 13

79.3% Enrollment Average
D65 returns to pre-pandemic student enrollment

Stakeholder Engagement Series

June/July 2025

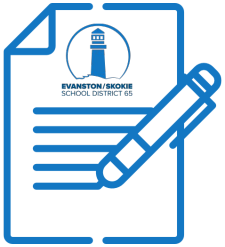
Multifaceted Stakeholder Engagement



Creation of SDRP Resource Hub



Communications Toolkit



Media Outreach



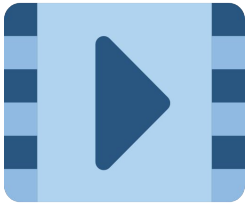
School Board Meetings



Fast Five Weekly News Blast



Community Partnerships



Video



Email and Text Messages



Social Media

Purpose of Summer Stakeholder Engagement Series

Purpose

- Allow stakeholders the opportunity to provide feedback on the categories and criteria developed by the Facilities Committee

Agenda

- Build shared understanding and provide additional context
- Review categories, criteria, and weighting
- Share level of satisfaction or dissatisfaction
- Ask clarifying questions and understand next steps

Stakeholder Engagement Outcomes and Analysis

- Analysis conducted through Northwestern University (NEERA partnership)
- Reviewed and utilized by SDRP Steering and Facilities Committees
- **Now available online!** district65.net/sdrp

Online Survey



865 Responses



June 24-July 7

In-Person Stakeholder Engagement Sessions



~90 Participants

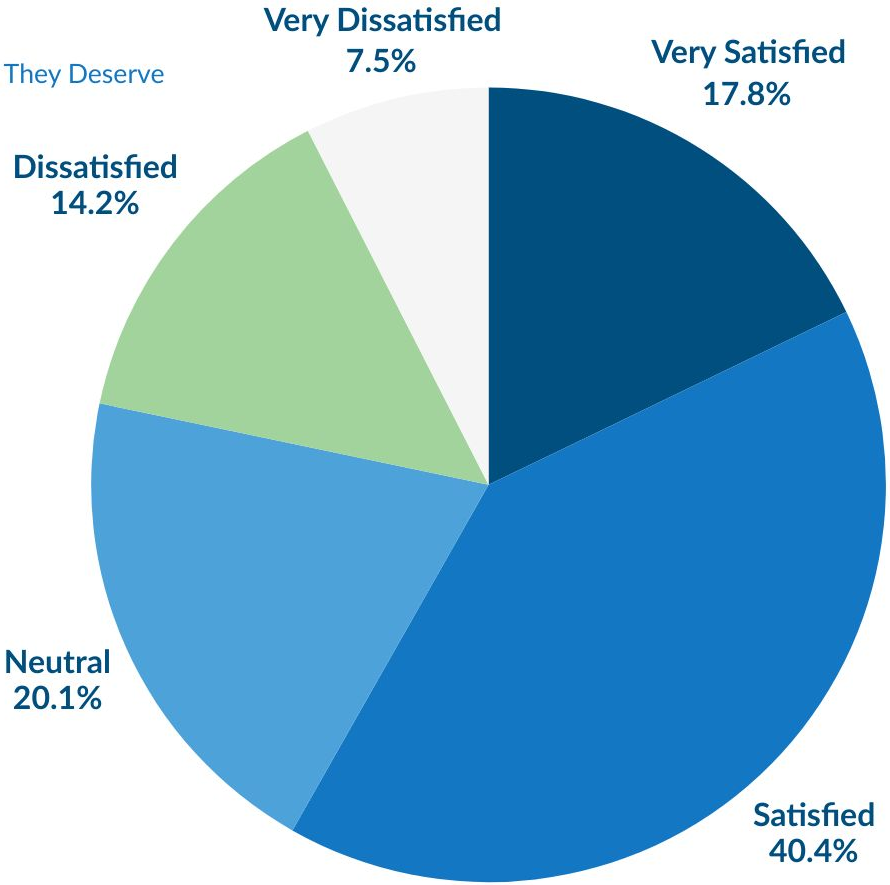


2 events
(June 24 and 25)

EQUITY

Connecting Every Student to the Resources and Support They Deserve

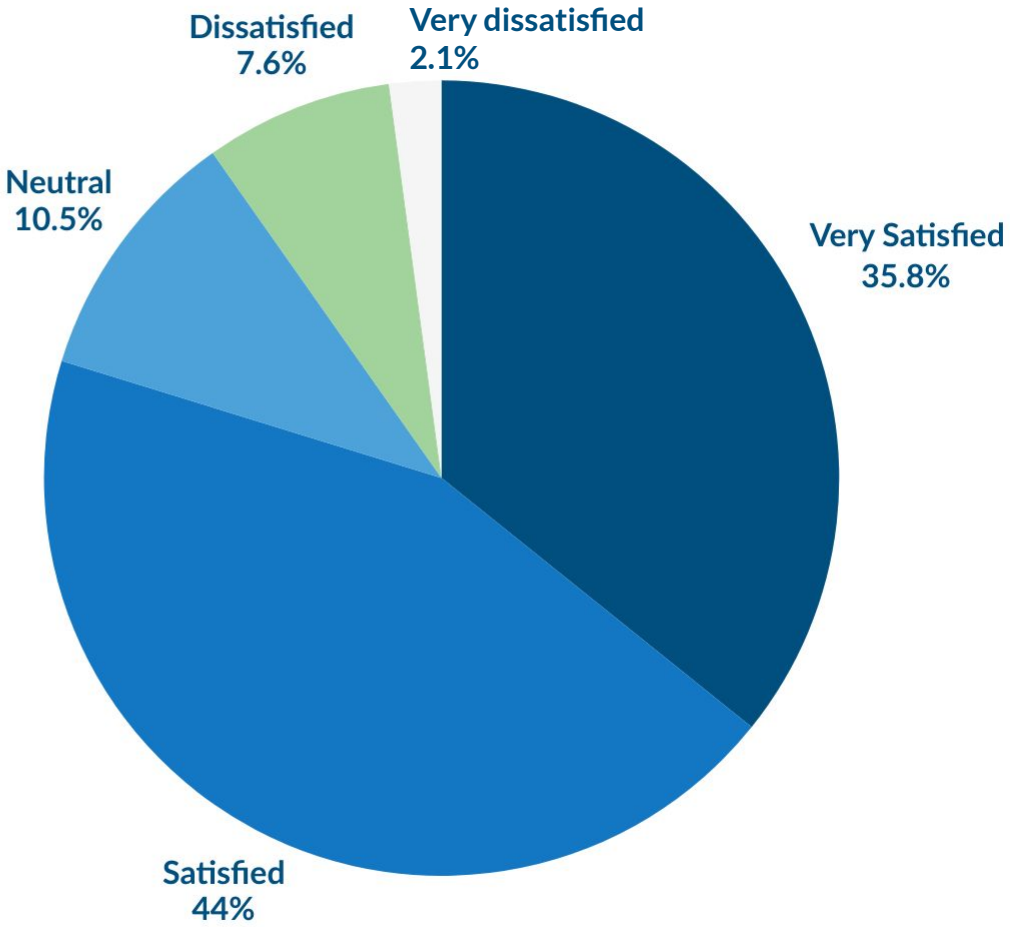
How satisfied are you with using these proposed criteria to guide decisions about potential school closures or consolidations?



Geography

Making School Access Safe and Practical

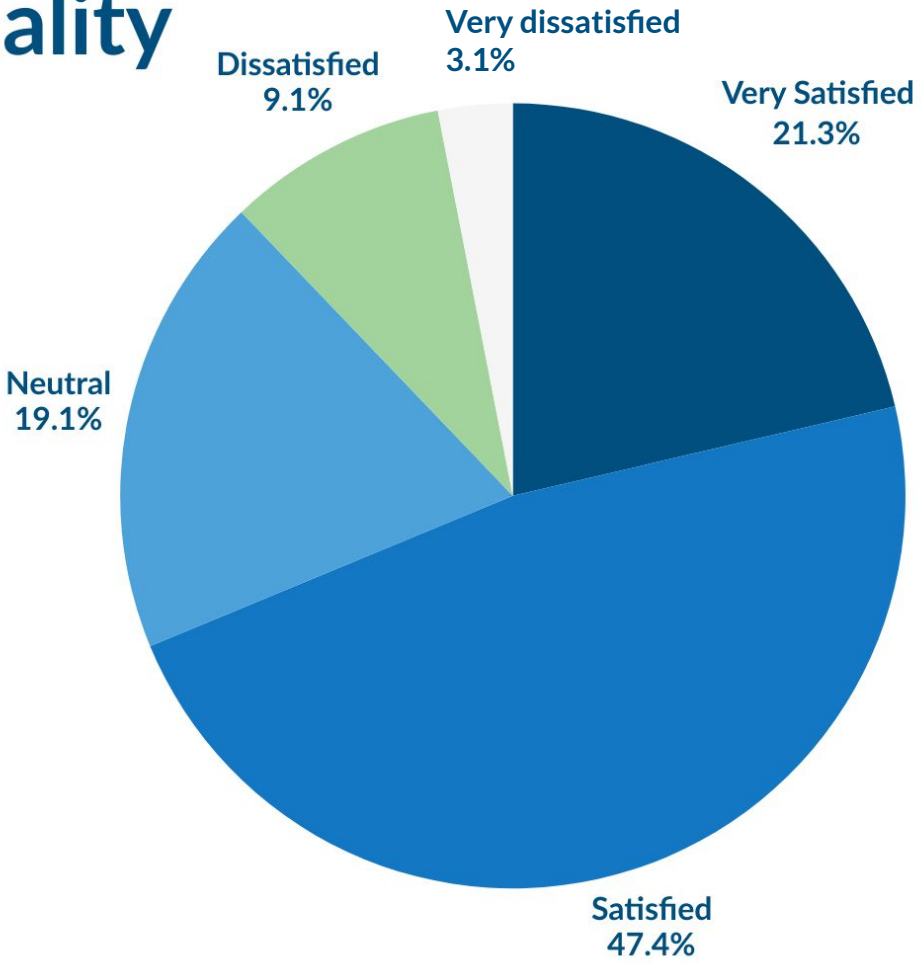
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Building Functionality

Ensuring Schools Meet Today's and Tomorrow's Needs

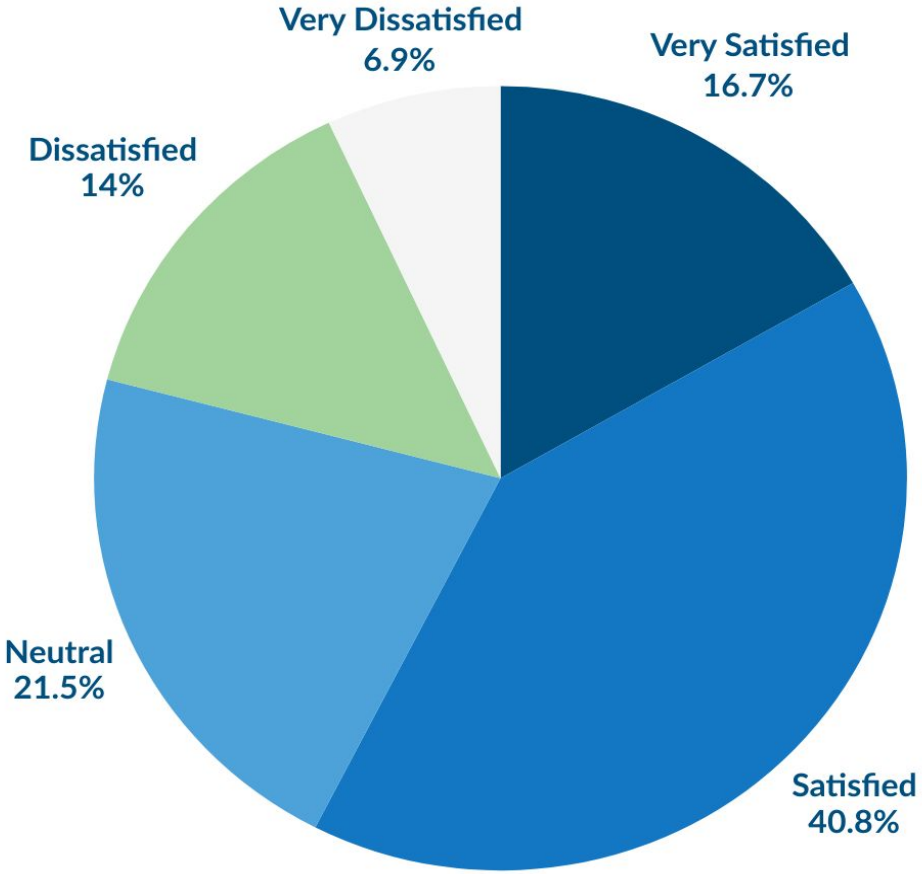
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Financial Impact

Being Responsible with Public Resources

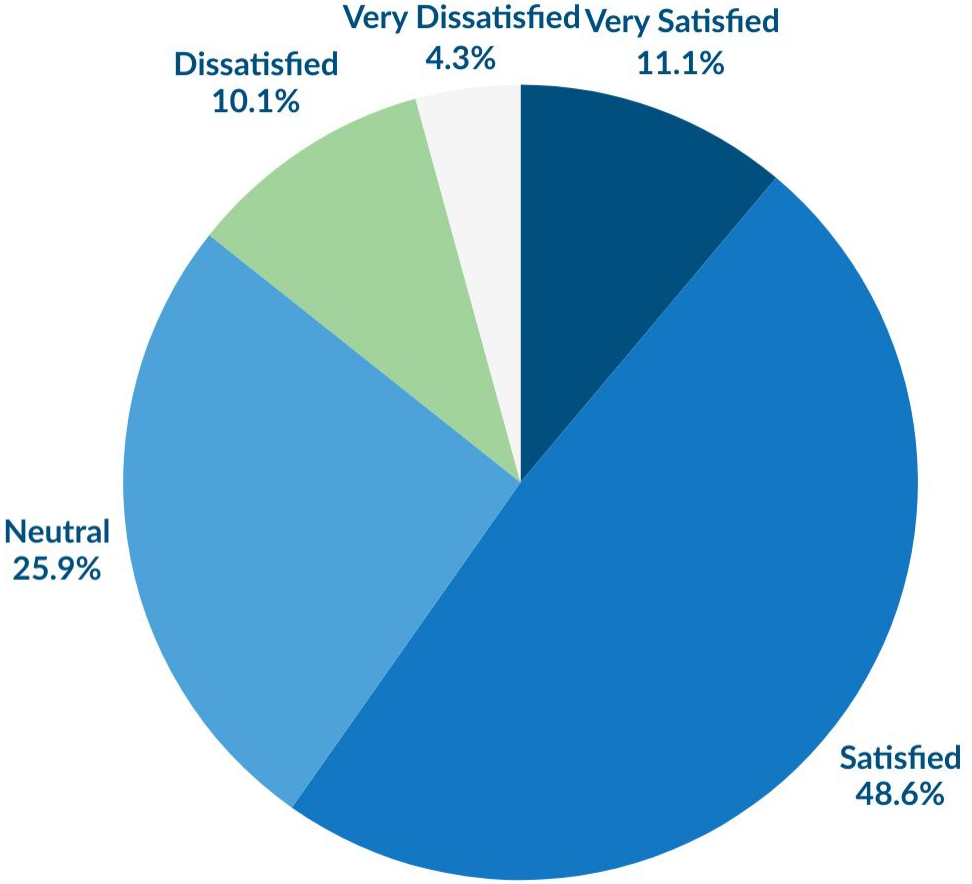
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Overall

Overall Satisfaction of the Proposed Criteria

When thinking holistically across categories, how satisfied are you with the proposed criteria overall?



School Closure/Consolidation Criteria Finalization



Reviewing Stakeholder Analysis

- Summary data publicly available on D65 website
- All categories received levels of approval over 57% and overall the satisfaction rate was 59.7%.
- Review of open-ended feedback from those who indicated dissatisfaction of the criteria

Category Weighting and Ranking/Values

Calculations: The subcommittee determined that criteria would be equally weighted in a category and that the data would be normalized to create values between 1 and 5.

Scoring System

- **1** = Least Impactful to Close
- **5** = Most Impactful to Close

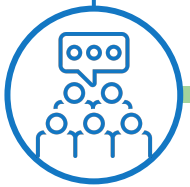
Equity - Impact Criteria - It was determined that this criteria would develop a sum of the number of students that belong to at least one of the marginalized groups named.

Refining of Equity Criteria

- Purpose is considering the impact of school closure/consolidation on our most vulnerable and at-risk students.
- Equity criteria will continue to be included in building school closure/consolidation scenarios; however, without specific metrics related to race or ethnic background at the scorecard level.
    - Despite this shift, scenario analysis will help ensure there is not a disproportionate impact to any racial group.
- Equity criteria will still include consideration of socioeconomic status, students receiving special education services, and students receiving English Learner support.

Next Steps: Structural Deficit Reduction Plan

April 2025
Stakeholder Engagement
(in-person meetings/online survey)





Meeting summaries shared on District 65 website

April-June
Analyze feedback

SDRP Committee Work

June 2025
Finalize/present criteria to stakeholders and board





July-August
Development of school closure/consolidation scenarios

September-October
Stakeholder input on scenarios (1st & 2nd rounds)

November
Board decision on scenario





December 2025
Public Hearings *(potential closures)*

2026-2027 School Year
Approved scenario in effect











Creating a bright future for current and future generations of District 65 learners



Questions?