



Yorkville CUSD 115 Final Solutions Report

Throughout 2025, Yorkville Community Unit School District 115 has continued to look to the community to guide us as we determine the path forward for our schools. So far, we have received feedback from 1,401 members of the community through in-person presentations, online surveys, and scientific phone surveys on what improvements they would like to see to their schools and how they would like to fund those improvements.

The Final Solutions round of community engagement was conducted in October of 2025. Using the feedback provided by the public during prior rounds of engagement, we developed three final solutions for the community to review and give their feedback. Throughout this phase, the district has been closely listening to the community as individuals considered and ranked each option.

Yorkville CUSD 115 has continued to take active steps to engage the community and solicit feedback. To achieve this, we updated messaging, met again with the community engagement committee for another in-depth discussion, and conducted online engagement and another public phone survey. Feedback from the community was documented through notes taken of all direct communications, responses provided via paper and digital feedback forms at the community engagement committee meeting and online, and spreadsheets generated from the results of the scientific phone survey. We received strong levels of engagement and feedback in the Final Solutions round, gathering 138 responses from the community engagement committee and online feedback as well as 504 phone survey responses.

We are nearing the end of this latest community engagement process. The district, equipped with all data gathered from the community to date, will now work with the board to determine the best possible course forward that aligns with the community's wishes.

Messaging

We continued to use messaging to properly communicate how we got to this point, what our successes and challenges have been, and how to approach the path forward. This messaging detailed recent progression and improvements as well as the district's space and infrastructure challenges and limited opportunities as a result. The eight key takeaways from the messaging are below, and a full copy of the messaging is provided with this report.

- Yorkville Community Unit School District 115 is the heart of our community.
- As one of the fastest growing districts in Illinois, we are able to provide our students the benefits of a larger district while maintaining our small-town feel.
- Our collaborative approach is working.
- We've accomplished this while being one of the most fiscally responsible districts in the state.
- However, our explosive growth has put us in an unsustainable position.

- Because we have historically been among the lowest funded districts in the entire state, currently only funded at 76% adequacy, we do not have the ability to make the significant infrastructure investments needed to resolve our overcrowding challenges.
- Our community has been collaborating on a plan to solve these challenges.
- This is our opportunity to restore pride in our facilities and give our students the quality educational environments they deserve.

Community Engagement Committee

The community engagement committee met in October to provide the district with direct input on potential Final Solutions. The committee is made up of a cross-section of District 115 stakeholders, including parents, teachers, taxpayers without children in the district, business owners, seniors, and local government officials. The committee has been formalized and tasked with the responsibility of actively gathering feedback from the community to determine what they would like to see for the future of District 115.

Feedback Report

Attached is a detailed report of the feedback that was collected during the Final Solutions round of this process, which includes feedback from the community engagement committee as well as online feedback collected on the district's website.

Final Solutions Phone Survey

The district conducted a second public phone survey to gauge support for each potential Final Solution. Respondents were given information on each potential solution as well as estimated costs and the average tax impact. The survey was taken before the full public had been educated on the solutions or fully informed of the district's needs. This was done to obtain an accurate representation of the public's unbiased, intuitive reactions to the solutions contained in the survey.

The results from the Final Solutions survey are provided with this report.

Final Solutions Analysis

In forming our analysis of the Final Solutions, we reviewed all data provided in this round of engagement as well as all previous engagement. Data is broken down into the intuitive reactions from the general public, the passionate responses from those who made a point to connect with the district in this process via public engagement sessions or on the website, and the informed opinions of those most engaged with the district and this process. This allows us to track the movement of opinions as individuals become more engaged and educated on the topics being discussed.

The feedback during the Final Solutions round continued to show a lot of positivity towards the process, district, and plan. And engagement continued to be extremely strong, showing a high level of interest and passion from the community, which is another encouraging sign.

All three solutions are supported overall: Solution 1 at +29%, Solution 2 at +1%, and Solution 3 at +8%. Compared to feedback we've seen in other districts, every solution receiving net positive support is uncommon—typically at least one of the solutions shows net opposition at this stage. Further, only 10% now support “No Additional Funding,” showing the community remains in favor of providing additional funding to improve their schools. In fact, this is one of the few times we have seen support for no additional funding go down in the final stage—typically it increases slightly. These are continuing signs of the positivity in the community.

While all three options are supported, the community has specific preferences.

The community shows little interest in Solution 2. This solution has the lowest favorability and is ranked a distant 3rd by the general public. This tepid support carries across all demographics. While the community engagement committee and more passionate respondents show some support, ranking it 2nd, it's clear this solution is not the preferred choice.

The community's top choice is Solution 3. This solution is ranked 1st by the general public and community engagement committee and has net positive favorability. The support from the general public is notable, because it is extremely rare that the public supports the most expensive solution at this final stage in the process. This solution is most preferred by younger residents, minorities, those with children currently in D115 schools, and those who have never had children attend D115 schools.

Solution 1 is the community's 2nd choice. This solution has the highest net favorability, is the top choice for the more passionate respondents and a close 2nd in priority for the general public. Though, it is the 3rd priority for the community engagement committee. This solution is most preferred by older residents and those who previously had children attend D115 schools.

Based on this feedback, it appears the community is not interested in Solution 2. There is little appetite for pursuing a plan and referendum that doesn't completely solve the district's overcrowding issues while achieving all the top improvements the community wishes for their schools.

The community is most interested in Solution 3. They are clearly happy with the work the district did to listen to their feedback from the last round of community engagement and incorporate it into an updated solution with a reduced tax impact. The community is also supportive of Solution 1, should the district prefer to go this route.

Should the district wish to move forward with a referendum based on Solution 3 or Solution 1, the community is ready to consider this as early as the upcoming March 2026 election. A referendum has strong odds of success at the ballot box as long as the district continues to actively engage the community, educate them on the district's needs, and show how the final plan best solves those needs and sets up the district and community for long-term success.