



Barneveld School District

Community Survey Report
December 13, 2023

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Background Info



**Survey/Respondent
Information**



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

- Founded in **2002** to provide independent research
- Conducted over **10,000** staff, parent, and student, and community surveys for school improvement
- Helped more than **900** districts navigate the strategic planning and referendum planning process

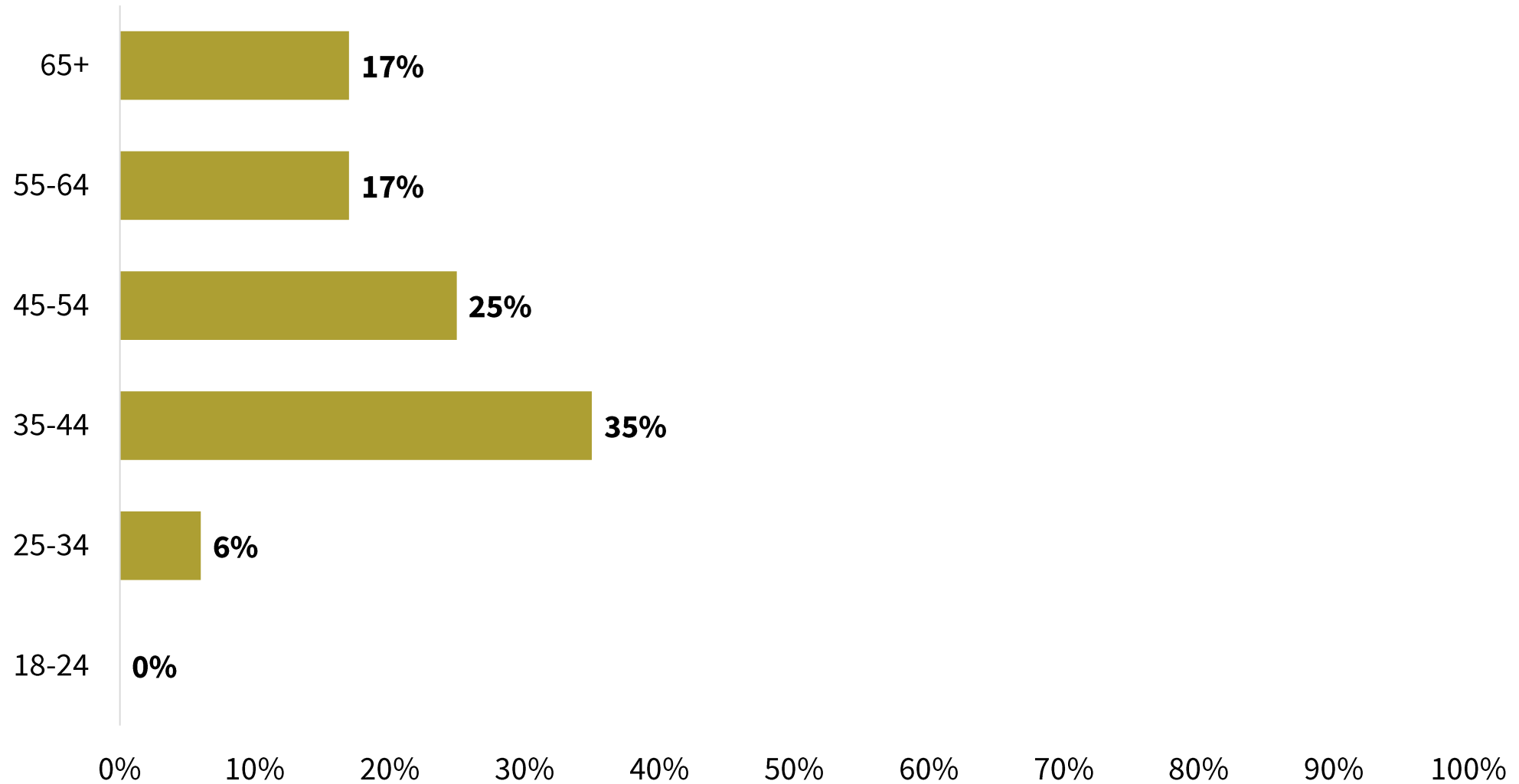


Survey Information

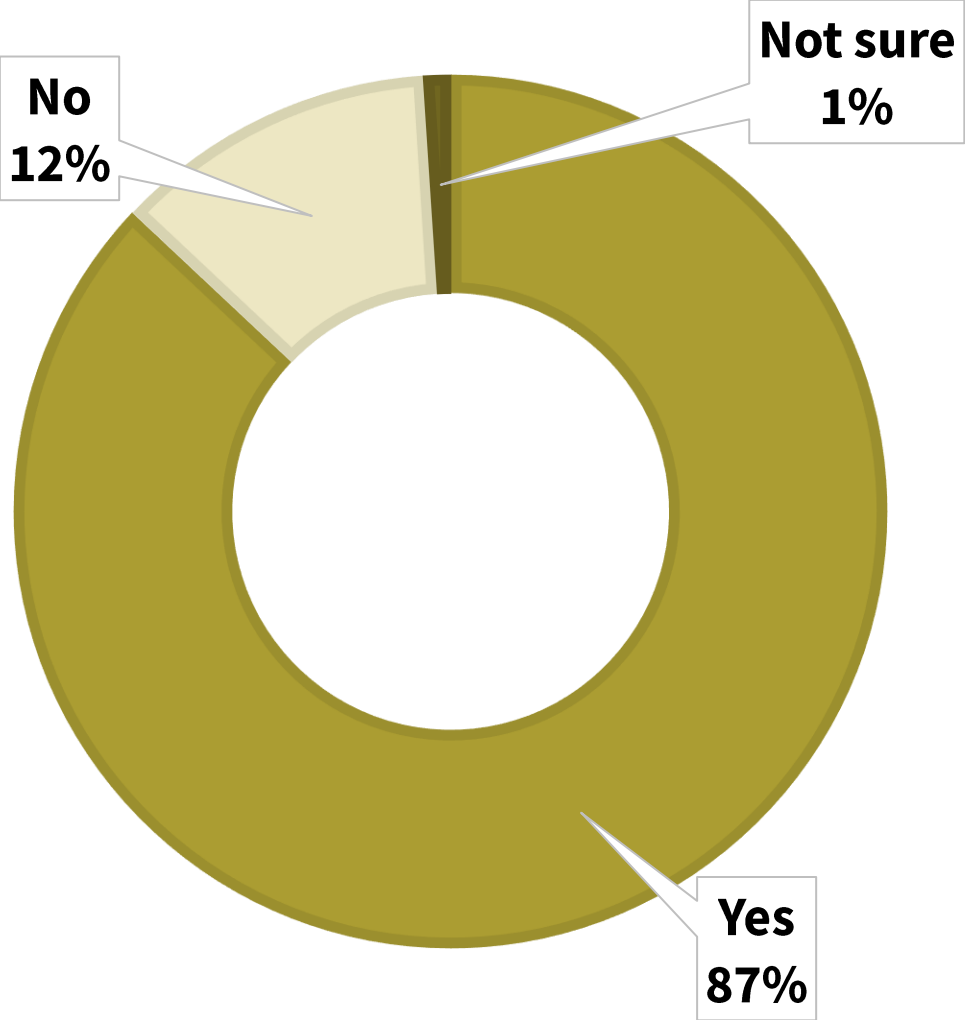
- **December 6, 2023** survey deadline
- **278** total respondents
- **29%** response rate
- **+/- 5.99%** margin of error



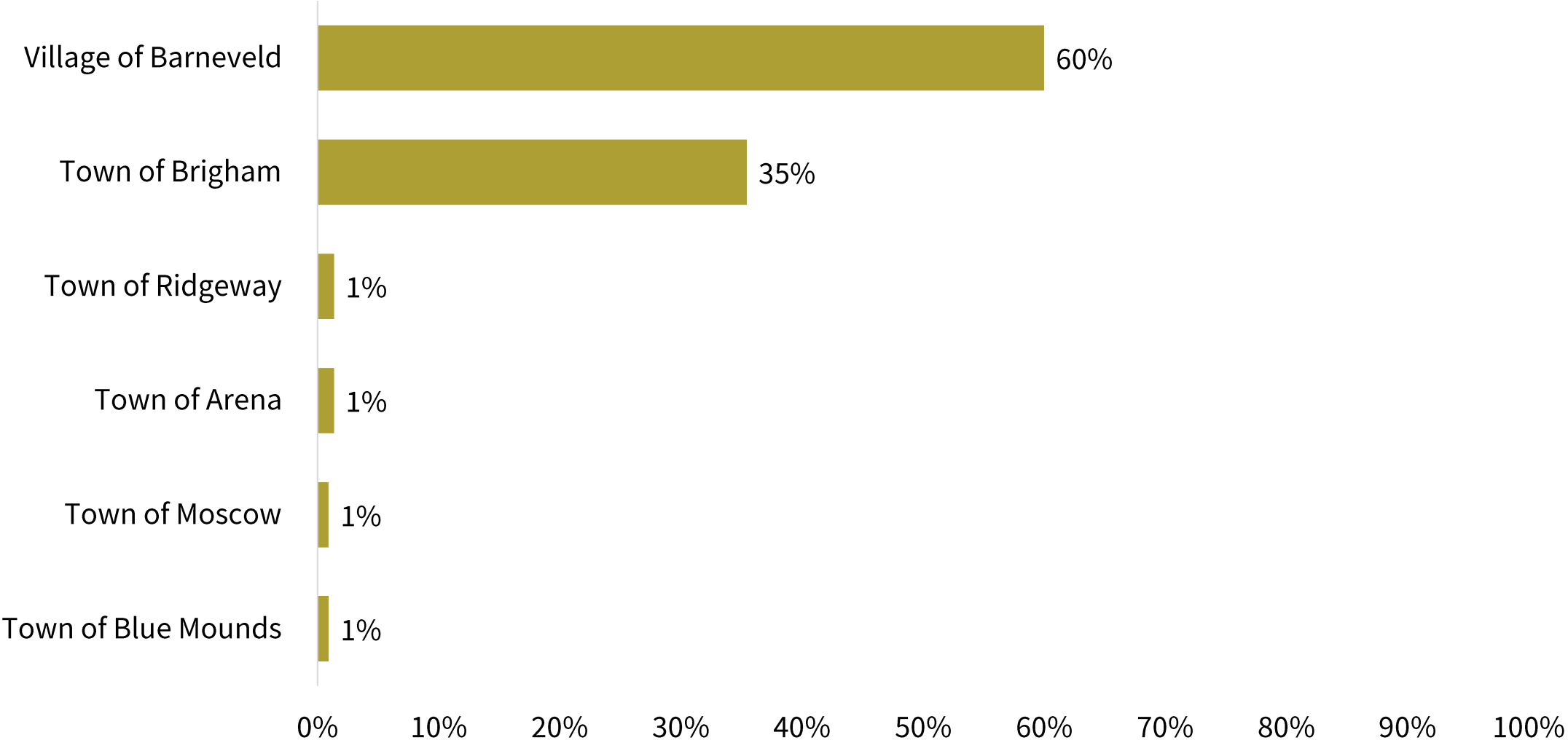
What is your age?



Is your primary residence in the District?



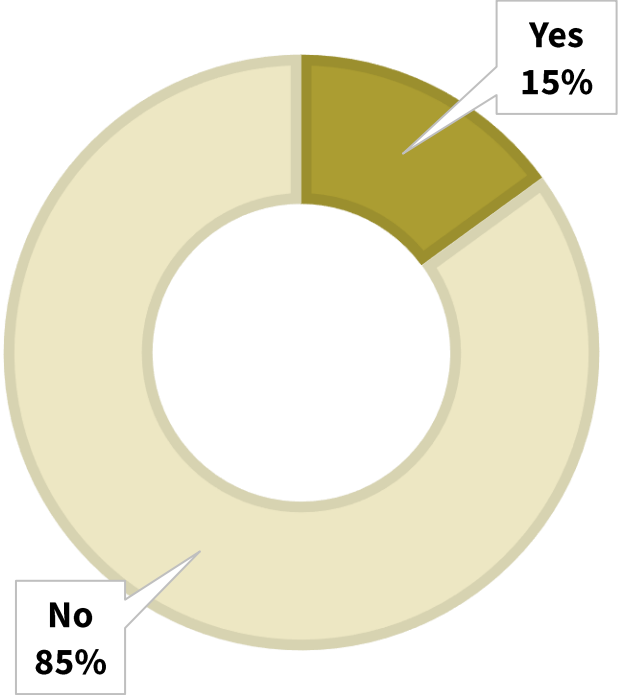
In which municipality do you live?



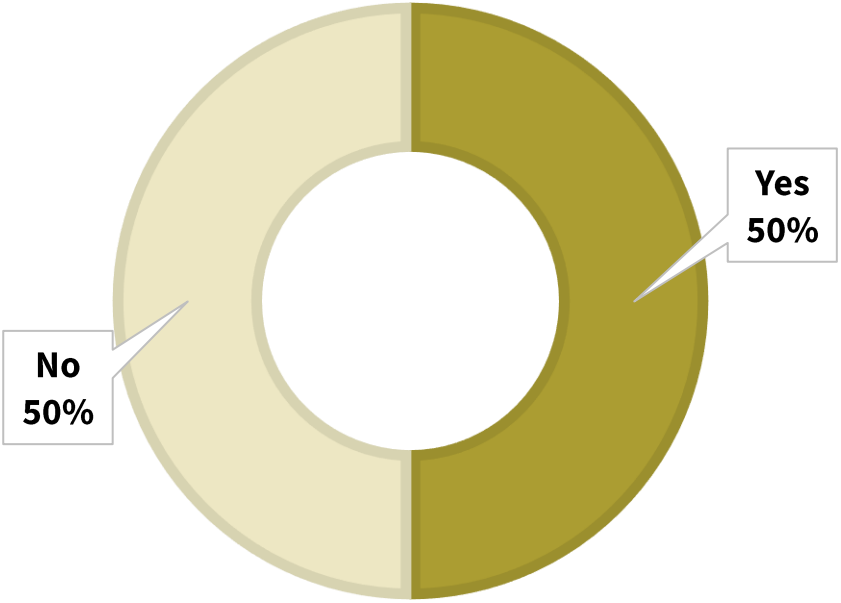
Respondent Information



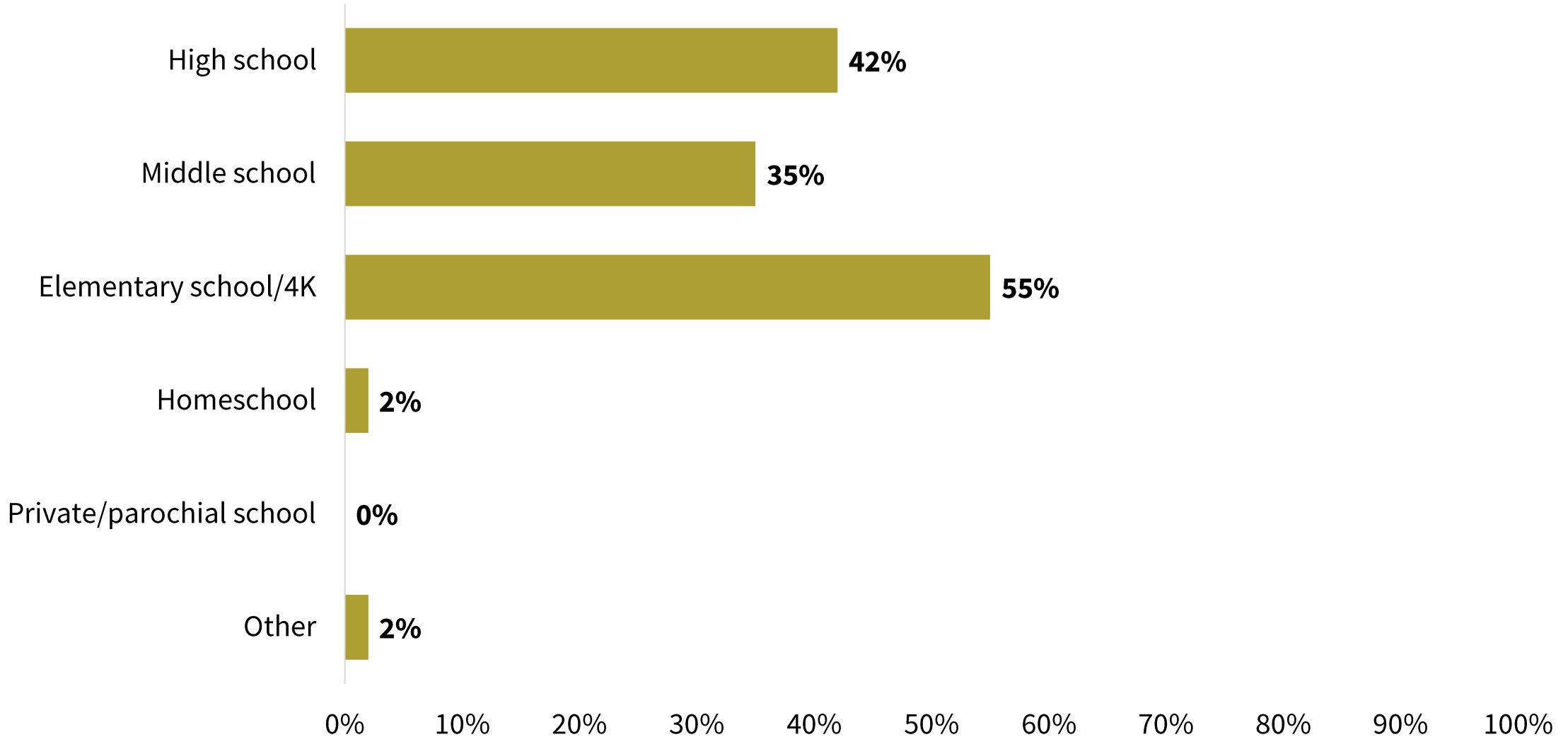
Are you an employee of the District?



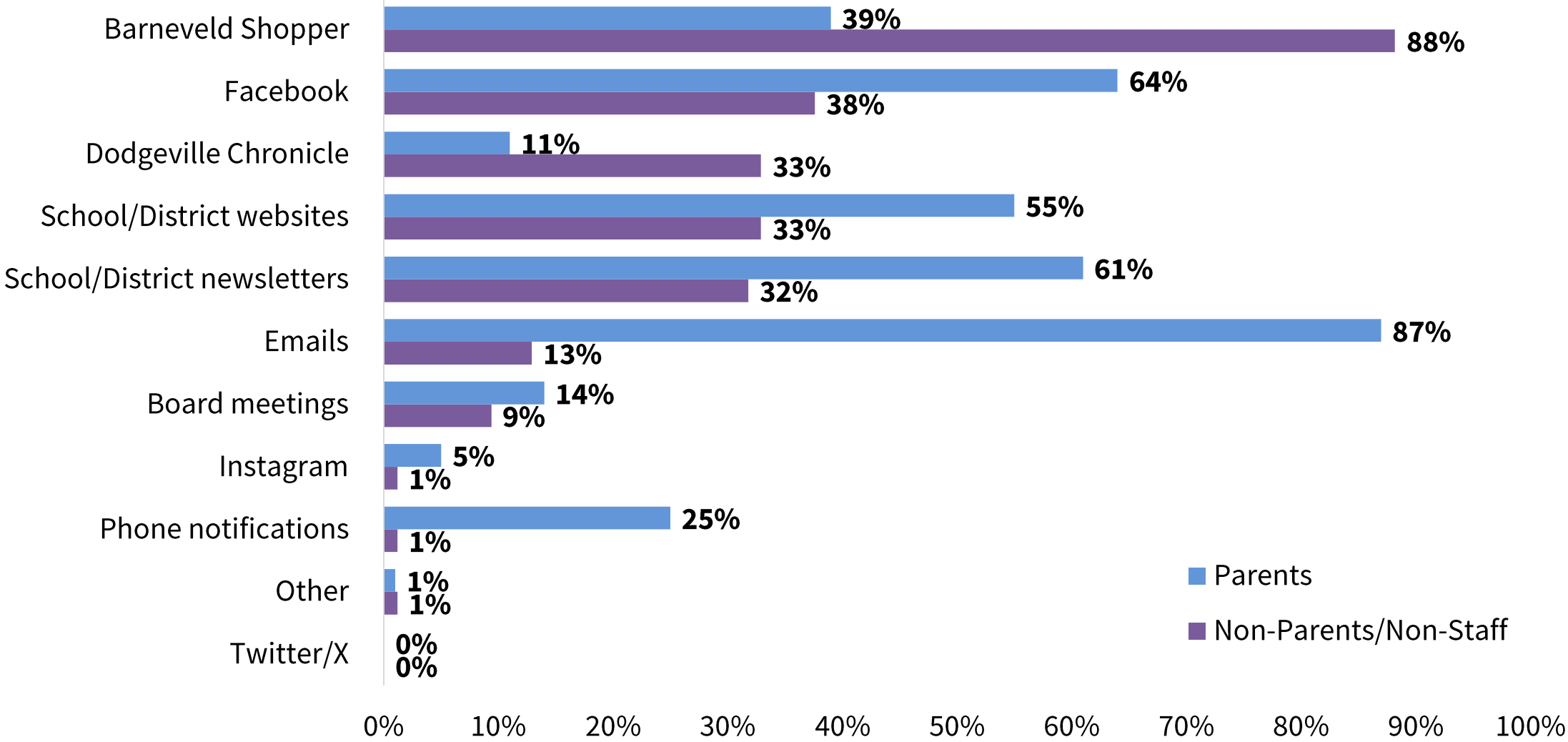
Do you have children attending a school in the District?



If you have school-aged children, what school(s) do they attend?



How do you like to receive school/District information?



Financial Challenges

One of the most significant challenges facing the Barneveld School District is the lack of predictable, sustainable funding for rural school districts like ours. **Making matter worse, the recently approved state budget actually cut the amount of money we receive.**

In addition, we have experienced increasing costs for such things as transportation, utilities, compensation, insurance, technology, and special education services.

Given this situation, the District will need to secure additional funding to:

- ✓ Maintain current courses, college and career preparation, and student services.
- ✓ Pay for building maintenance and technology.
- ✓ Keep staff compensation competitive with neighboring school districts and local businesses.





Financial Challenges (cont'd)

Two operational referendum options were developed for Barneveld voters to consider:

Option 1: A non-recurring referendum providing \$1.2 million each year for three years.

This referendum will need to be renewed when it expires after three years. The next referendum could be for a different dollar amount.

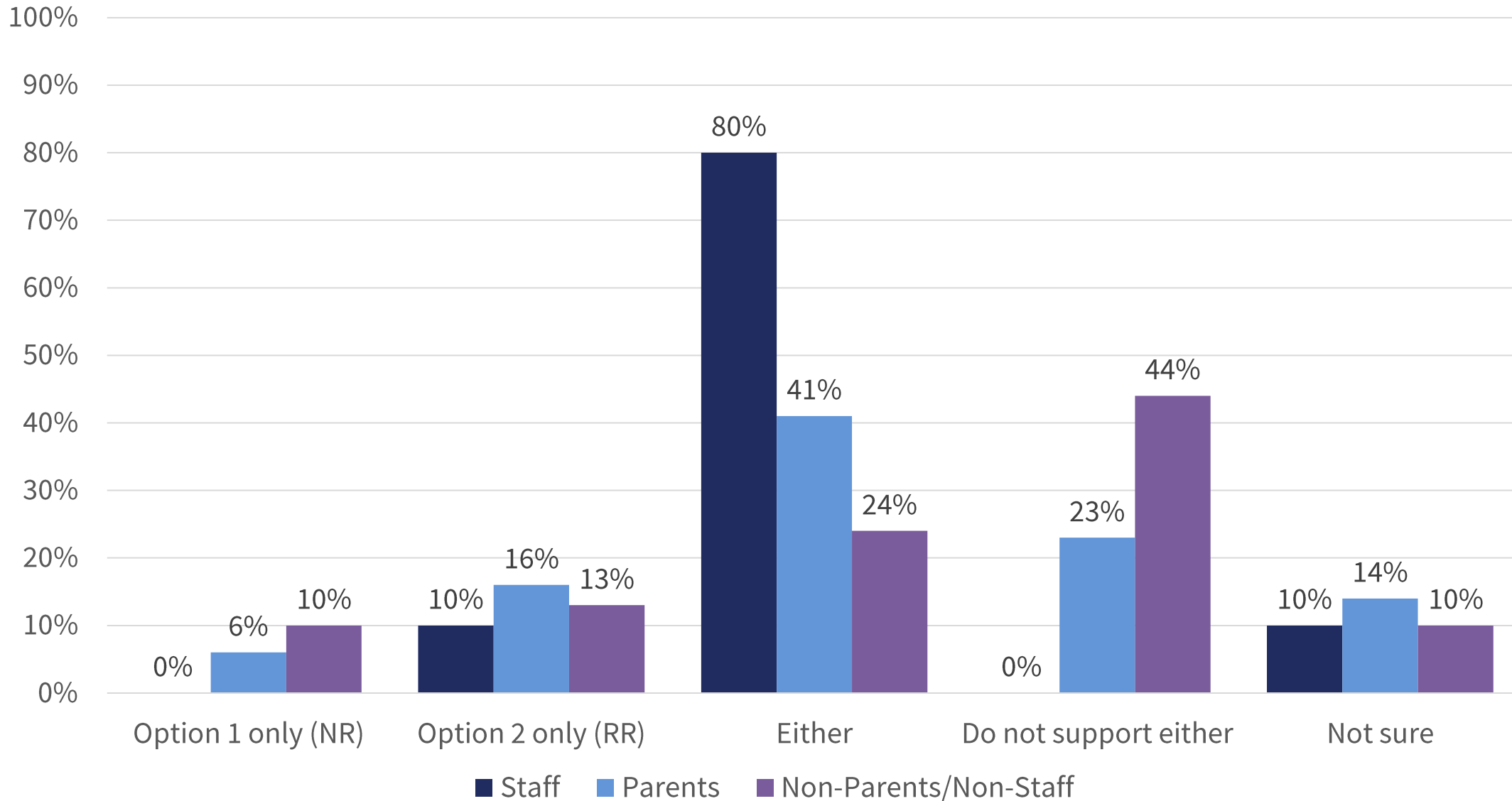
| Option 1 | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| School Year | 2024-25 | 2025-26 | 2026-27 |
| Property Tax Mill Rate Increase | \$2.17 | \$2.29 | \$2.35 |
| Annual Tax Impact | \$217 | \$229 | \$235 |

Option 2: A recurring referendum providing \$1 million on an ongoing basis.

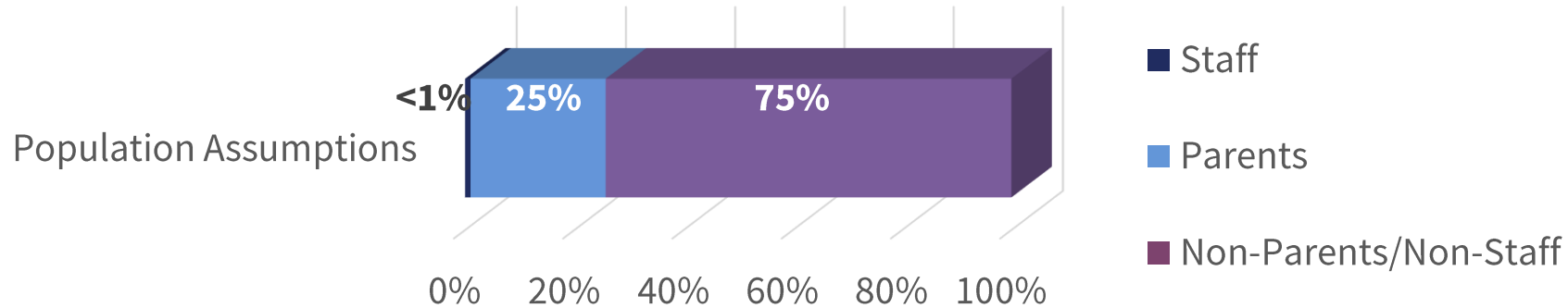
This referendum does not expire. As a result, we would not need to ask voters to renew it every three years. It also means the amount stays the same year after year.

| Option 2 | | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|-----------------|
| School Year | 2024-25 | 2025-26 | 2026-27 | 2027-28 & After |
| Property Tax Mill Rate Increase | \$1.61 | \$1.72 | \$1.75 | \$1.90 |
| Annual Tax Impact | \$161 | \$172 | \$175 | \$190 |

Which referendum option do you support? (*Residents*)



Additional Analysis: Operational Referendum



Weighted support for each option:

Option 1: $0.25 (47\%) + 0.75 (34\%) = \underline{\underline{37.3\%}}$

Option 2: $0.25 (57\%) + 0.75 (37\%) = \underline{\underline{42.0\%}}$



Cost-Cutting Options

If voters do not support the referendum, budget cuts will be needed. The District does not endorse or recommend any of the following, but we must consider all options.



Cost-Cutting Scores

Yes = 10 No = 1 Median = 5.5

| <i>Should the District...?</i> | Staff | Parents/ Caregivers | Non-Parents/ Non-Staff |
|---|-------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Reduce transportation services | 4.10 | 4.84 | 5.62 |
| Delay curriculum updates | 3.45 | 3.60 | 5.39 |
| Delay technology upgrades | 4.18 | 4.44 | 5.28 |
| Increase class sizes | 1.73 | 2.38 | 4.25 |
| Reduce MS/HS athletics and fine arts offerings | 1.97 | 2.85 | 4.07 |
| Reduce academic support services | 1.82 | 2.15 | 4.00 |
| Reduce MS/HS course offerings | 1.26 | 2.42 | 3.44 |
| Reduce elementary school specials | 1.47 | 2.46 | 3.30 |
| Reduce spending on routine building maintenance | 1.50 | 2.78 | 2.85 |



School District Feedback

In addition to being financially stable, we also need to ensure the Barneveld School District is achieving the expectations the community has for us. The following items will establish a baseline to measure our progress.

Score averages are based on:

Strongly Agree=5, Agree=4, Disagree=2, Strongly Disagree=1.

“Don’t know/doesn’t apply” are not included in the calculation.



Communications

Each item begins with the words, “The District...”

| Item | Staff | Parents | Non-Parents/ Non-Staff |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------------------|
| Provides me with opportunities to offer feedback. | 3.89 (83%) | 3.84 (83%) | 3.50 (71%) |
| Communicates with me effectively. | 3.79 (82%) | 3.81 (81%) | 3.14 (57%) |
| Has a website that is an effective place for me to learn about what’s going on at school. | 4.03 (89%) | 3.87 (83%) | 3.61 (76%) |
| Has social media accounts (such as Facebook) that help me learn about what’s going on at school. | 4.42 (97%) | 4.35 (98%) | 3.48 (71%) |



Culture

Each item begins with the words, “The District...”

| Item | Staff | Parents | Non-Parents/ Non-Staff |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------------|
| Maintains a safe and secure campus. | 4.21 (92%) | 4.16 (94%) | 3.89 (88%) |
| Has the support of the community. | 3.72 (78%) | 4.10 (91%) | 3.78 (81%) |



Leadership

Each item begins with the words, “The District...”



| Item | Staff | Parents | Non-Parents/ Non-Staff |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------------------|
| Administration is doing what it takes to make our district successful. | 4.17 (94%) | 3.90 (83%) | 3.28 (63%) |
| School board is doing what it takes to make our district successful. | 3.72 (79%) | 3.72 (76%) | 3.12 (57%) |
| Is heading in the right direction. | 3.88 (88%) | 3.64 (72%) | 3.11 (57%) |

Academics and Development

Each item begins with the words, “The District...”

| Item | Staff | Parents | Non-Parents/ Non-Staff |
|---|----------------|---------------|---------------------------|
| Prepares students for potential careers. | 4.19 (97%) | 3.97 (89%) | 3.77 (86%) |
| Prepares students for education after high school (such as tech school or college). | 4.30 (100%) | 4.10 (93%) | 3.92 (90%) |
| Has high expectations for students. | 4.11 (89%) | 3.92 (84%) | 3.82 (84%) |
| Develops students' character. | 4.14 (91%) | 3.93 (86%) | 3.67 (78%) |



Support for Learning

Each item begins with the words, “The District...”

| Item | Staff | Parents | Non-Parents/ Non-Staff |
|---|---------------|---------------|---------------------------|
| Employs high-quality teachers/staff. | 4.45 (97%) | 4.19 (95%) | 3.75 (82%) |
| Effectively partners with local businesses and community members. | 4.21 (97%) | 3.88 (84%) | 3.39 (69%) |



Top Five “Feedback” Items by Subgroup

*(Items in the top five across all three groups are in **blue**.)*



| Rank | Staff | Parents | Non-Parents/Non-Staff |
|------|--|--|--|
| 1 | Employs high-quality teachers/staff. (4.45) | Has social media accounts that help me learn about what's going on at school. (4.35) | Prepares students for education after high school. (3.92) |
| 2 | Has social media accounts that help me learn about what's going on at school. (4.42) | Employs high-quality teachers/staff. (4.19) | Maintains a safe and secure campus. (3.89) |
| 3 | Prepares students for education after high school. (4.30) | Maintains a safe and secure campus. (4.16) | Has high expectations for students. (3.82) |
| 4 | Effectively partners with local businesses and community members. (4.21) | Prepares students for education after high school. (4.10) | Has the support of the community. (3.78) |
| 5 | Maintains a safe and secure campus. (4.21) | Has the support of the community. (4.10) | Prepares students for potential careers. (3.77) |

Bottom Five “Feedback” Items by Subgroup

(Items in the bottom five across all three groups are in orange.)

| Rank | Staff | Parents | Non-Parents/Non-Staff |
|------|--|--|--|
| 15 | Has the support of the community. (3.72) | Is heading in the right direction. (3.64) | Is heading in the right direction. (3.11) |
| 14 | School board is doing what it takes to make our district successful. (3.72) | School board is doing what it takes to make our district successful. (3.72) | School board is doing what it takes to make our district successful. (3.12) |
| 13 | Communicates with me effectively. (3.79) | Communicates with me effectively. (3.81) | Communicates with me effectively. (3.14) |
| 12 | Is heading in the right direction. (3.88) | Provides me with opportunities to offer feedback. (3.84) | Administration is doing what it takes to make our district successful. (3.28) |
| 11 | Provides me with opportunities to offer feedback. (3.89) | Has a website that is an effective place for me to learn about what's going on at school. (3.87) | Effectively partners with local businesses and community members. (3.39) |

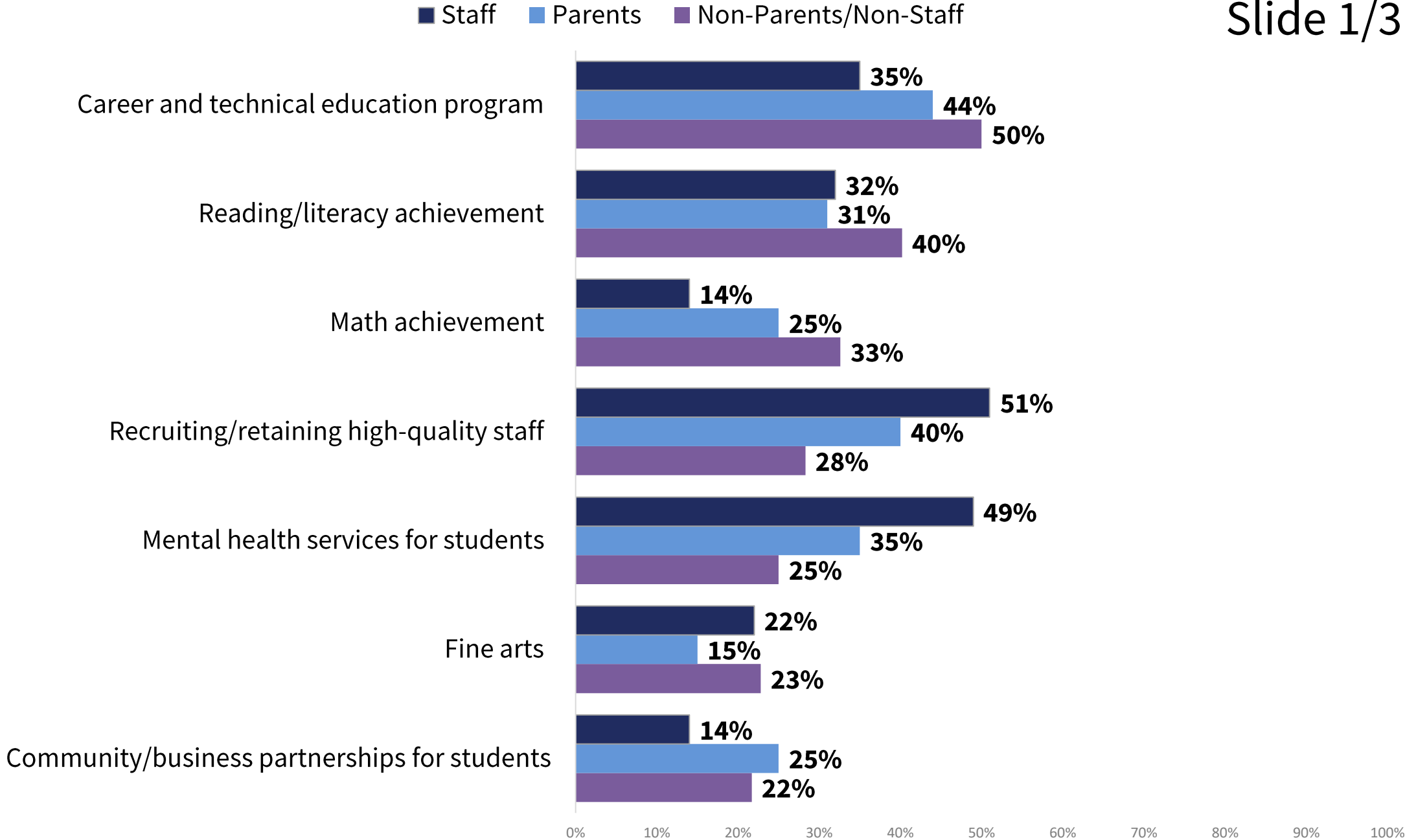


Future Planning

Over the next five years, where do you believe we should focus our improvement efforts?

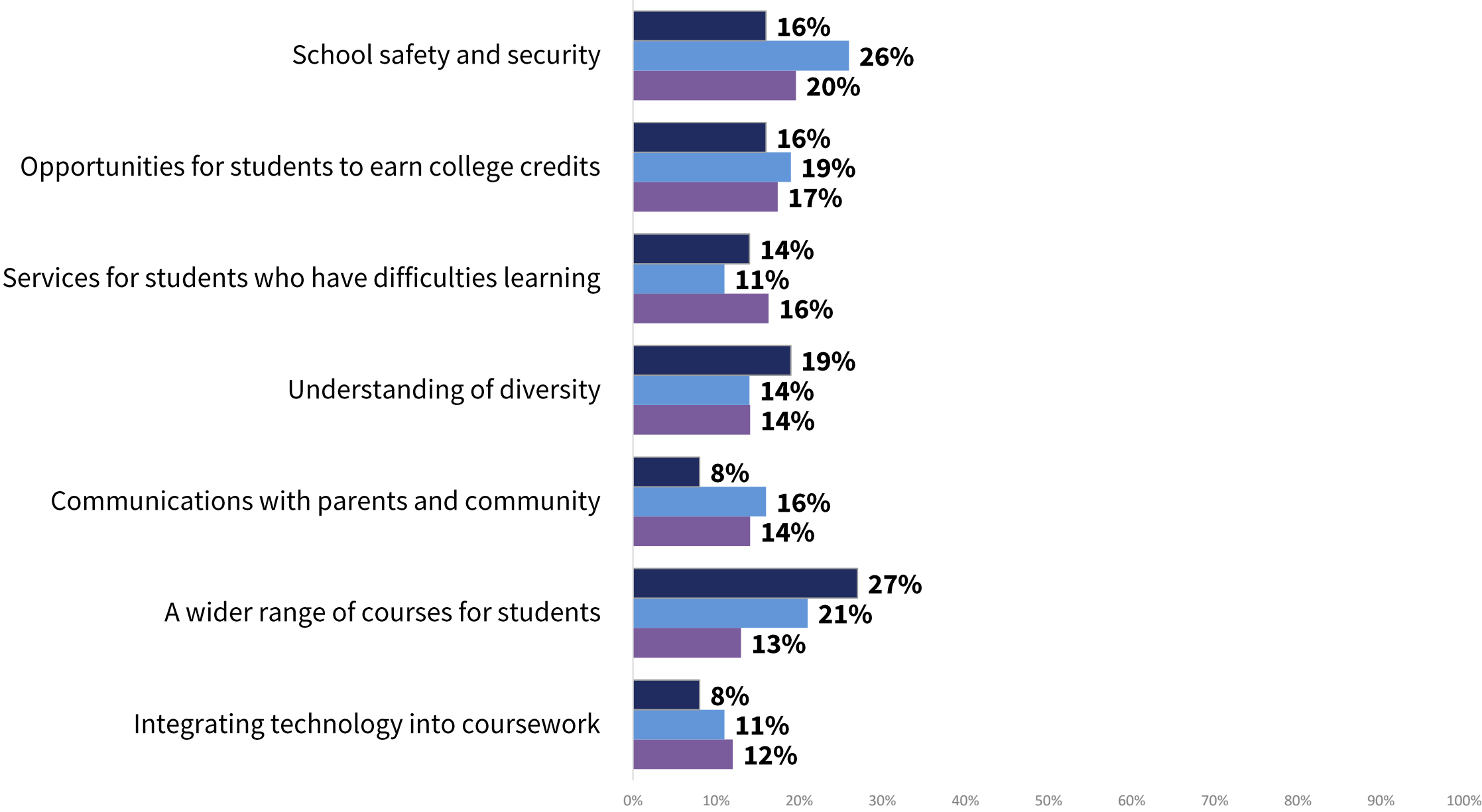
Please choose up to four areas.

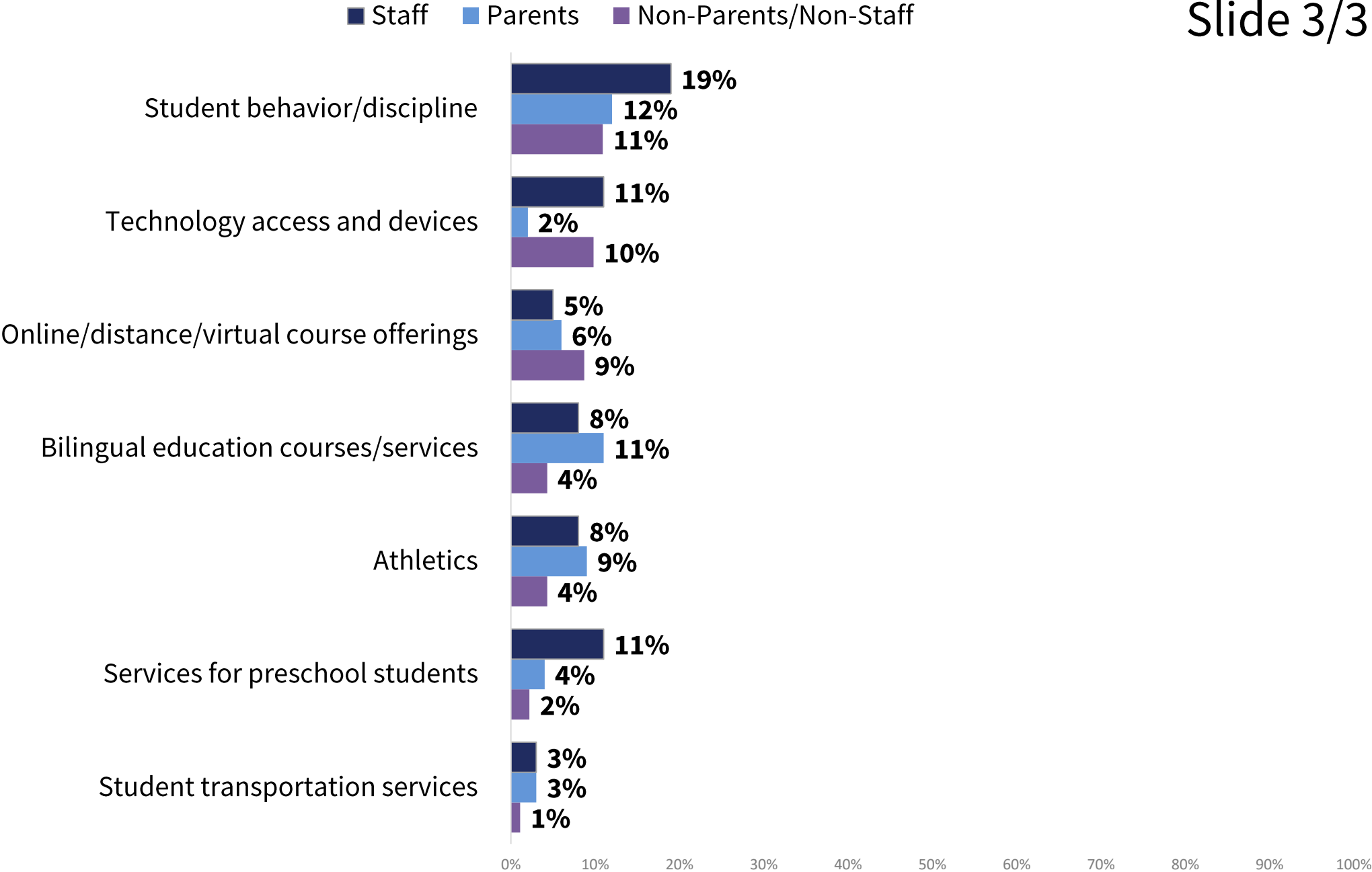






■ Staff ■ Parents ■ Non-Parents/Non-Staff





How is the District doing in each of the following areas?

Great = 4, Good = 3, Fair = 2, Poor = 1



| Item | Staff | Parents | Non-Parents/ Non-Staff |
|-------------------------------------|-------|---------|---------------------------|
| Delivering a high-quality education | 3.32 | 3.19 | 2.92 |
| Keeping the public informed | 3.05 | 2.92 | 2.53 |
| Managing funds appropriately | 2.87 | 2.48 | 2.02 |
| Building pride in the community | 3.16 | 3.11 | 2.93 |

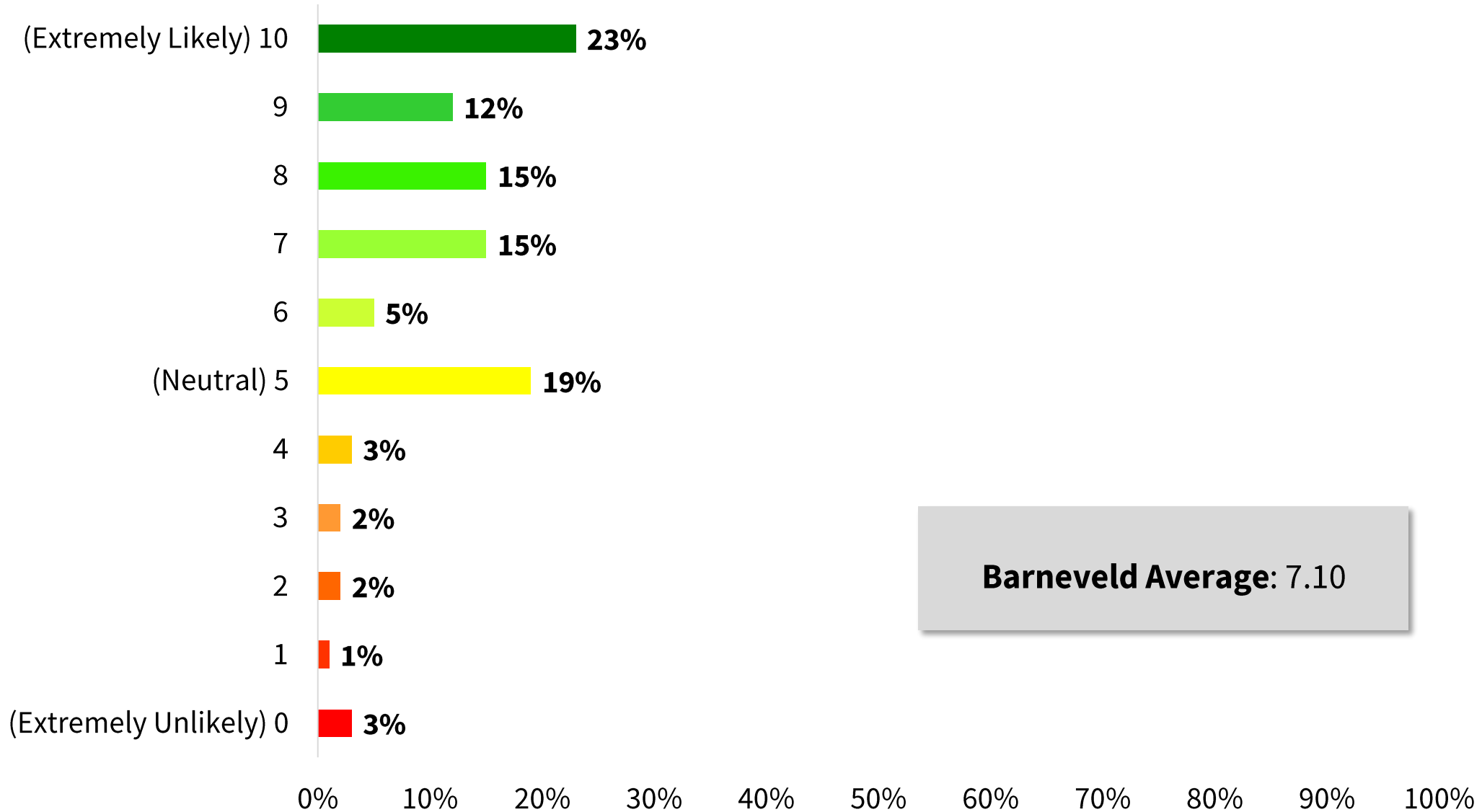
How is the District doing in each of the following areas?

Great = 4, Good = 3, Fair = 2, Poor = 1



| Item | Percent “Great” or “Good” | Average |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------|
| Delivering a high-quality education | 86% | 3.13 |
| Keeping the public informed | 69% | 2.81 |
| Managing funds appropriately | 51% | 2.38 |
| Building pride in the community | 78% | 3.06 |

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





Questions?



SCHOOL PERCEPTIONS

Measuring what matters

262.644.4300 | schoolperceptions.com

