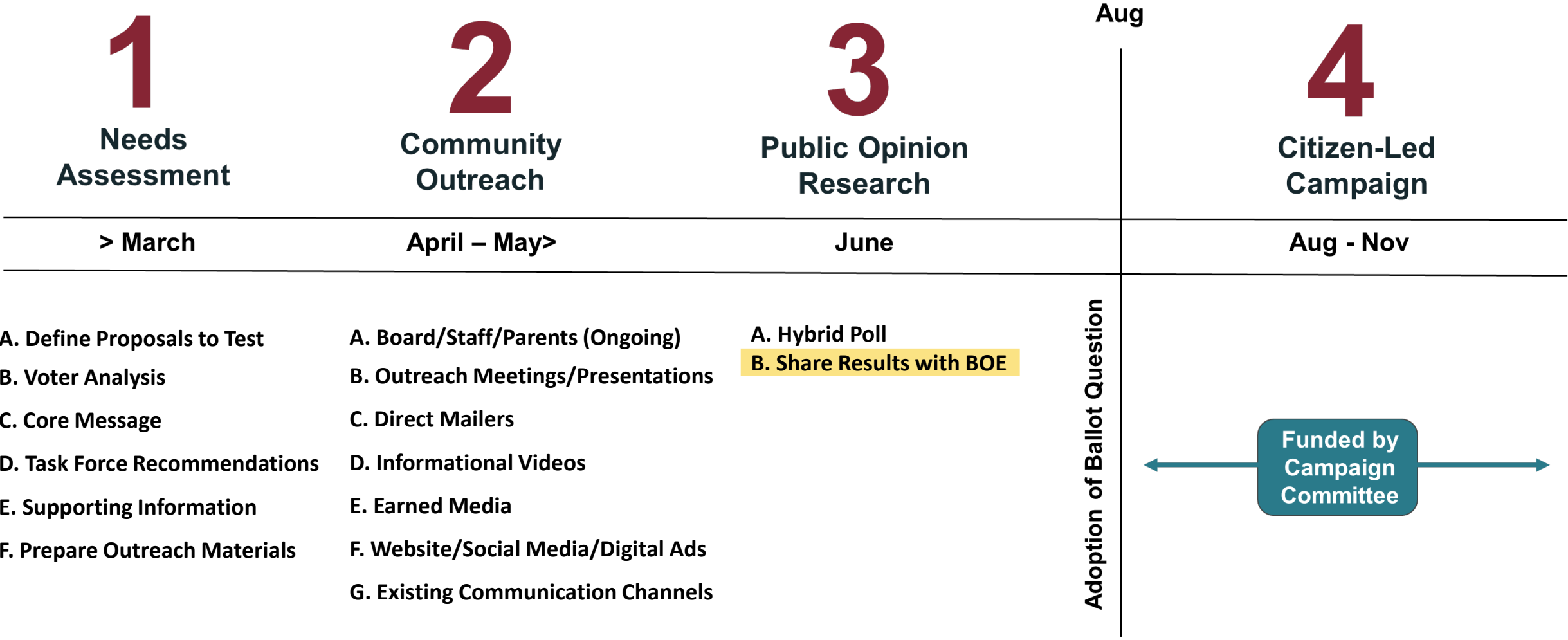


Public Engagement Program Update

SCHOOLS • PARK RIDGE • NILES •
64
DISTRICT 64



Public Engagement Timeline



Citizen Task Force

- 40 Members
- Business Leaders, Civic Leaders, Seniors, Parents, Students, Others
- Helped Vet the Proposal Before Sharing/Testing Districtwide



PARK RIDGE-NILES
SCHOOL DISTRICT 64

Direct Mailer #1 (16,101 Households)



PARK RIDGE-NILES SCHOOL DISTRICT 64

Together we discover, learn, grow and care.

April 18, 2024

Dear Community Members:

Park Ridge-Niles School District 64 seeks your thoughts and recommendations on a funding proposal that may be placed on this fall's ballot to protect and improve our aging school buildings.

The District's seven elementary and middle school buildings are 26 to 98 years old and face many age-related facility challenges.

Among the facility and site improvements District 64 seeks to address include:

- Health, safety, and security upgrades, including updating fire alarms, performing asbestos abatement, replacing outdated interior and ancillary doors, improving fencing and railings, and enhancing air quality
- Updating plumbing, electrical, and HVAC systems and other critical infrastructure
- Replacing aging roofing and exterior windows and repairing foundations and masonry
- Addressing Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility code issues and other accessibility needs
- Updating classrooms, science labs, and career and technical education (CTE) spaces, including replacing outdated, inefficient lighting, aging flooring, ceilings, casework, and furniture
- Reconfiguring and improving band, choir, and orchestra rooms at the middle schools to allow for programming to be held during the school day, versus before and after school
- Constructing a new cafeteria/commons area at Lincoln Middle School to replace the current cafeteria, which does not have fire sprinklers and is located in the basement
- Reconfiguring and adding spaces to move student support services out of the hallways, where they are currently provided
- Adding space to reintegrate special education services

Each of District 64's schools would benefit, including Lincoln Middle School. This historic 98-year-old building would undergo major renovations to create healthier, safer, and more secure instructional spaces.

The proposed districtwide renovations and additions would ensure that every District 64 student and teacher has access to a safe and comfortable learning environment, enabling and promoting positive educational opportunities and experiences.

The estimated annual tax impact of the proposed \$98.36 million bond referendum is \$488 for a home with a fair market value of \$500,000. For homeowners who are eligible for the Senior Citizen Exemption and/or other exemptions, the tax impact would be lower. To determine the estimated tax based on your property, a tax calculator is available on our website at www.d64.org/2024proposal.

Nothing is set in stone until we gather additional public input. The District will be hosting public information meetings and online webinars where you can learn more about the possible funding proposal and provide feedback. A complete list of dates, times, and locations for these sessions will be posted on our website at www.d64.org/2024proposal.

Continued on back

8182 Greendale Avenue, Niles, IL 60714 • (847) 318-4300 • F (847) 318-4351 • d64.org

Anticipated Benefits of 2024 Bond Proposal

✓
Creating healthier,
safer, and more
secure schools

✎
Protecting academic
excellence

✎
Reducing costly
and disruptive
emergency repairs

✎
Extending the
useful life of
existing facilities

✎
Enhancing
ADA-accessibility

✎
Ensuring all students
have access to a
quality learning
environment

✎
Improving energy
efficiency

✎
Attracting and
retaining quality
teachers

✎
Protecting
property values

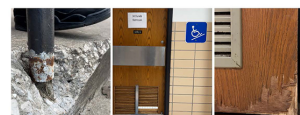
DISTRICT 64'S AGING SCHOOL BUILDINGS FACE MANY FACILITY CHALLENGES

Park Ridge-Niles School District 64's seven schools—five of which are more than 70 years old—face many challenges, including health, safety, and security issues; outdated plumbing, electrical, and HVAC systems; ADA-accessibility issues; and other facility needs. District 64 seeks the community's input on a possible bond referendum to address these unmet facility needs.



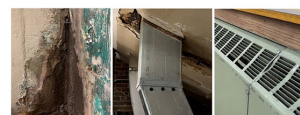
Health, Safety & Security Challenges

Many of the District's facility needs are tied to health, safety, and security, including aging fire alarm systems, HVAC systems, interior doors, fencing, and railings. ADA-accessibility code issues and asbestos also need to be addressed. The District also seeks to move Lincoln Middle School's cafeteria out of the basement, which does not have fire sprinklers.



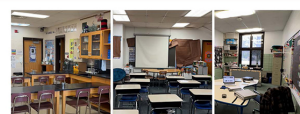
Mechanical & Infrastructure Needs

The District's aging schools face many mechanical and infrastructure challenges, including outdated roof systems (downspouts and gutters), plumbing, electrical systems, and lighting. All of the schools have masonry needs and some have foundation problems.



Outdated Classrooms & Labs

All seven schools have outdated classrooms, and the middle schools have additional needs, including science labs; career and technical education (CTE) classrooms; and band, choir, and orchestra spaces that need to be updated, or, in some cases, reconfigured or expanded.



Need for Instructional and Support Service Space

Instructional space is so limited at District 64's elementary schools that special education and ELL programming is taking place in hallways. Reading and math interventionists, and other support professionals, are also using hallways when assisting students. It's often noisy, disruptive, and not conducive to learning. Given a lack of space at the middle schools, band, choir, and orchestra are held before and after school.



schools were built in 1928 and three in the 1950s.

✓ Just over 54% of the bond proceeds would go toward the middle schools and 46% toward the elementary schools.

the timing and composition of the possible bond referendum until August 2024, providing time for additional public input.



PARK RIDGE-NILES
SCHOOL DISTRICT 64

Direct Mailer #2 (16,101 Households)

EACH DISTRICT 64 SCHOOL FACES FACILITY CHALLENGES



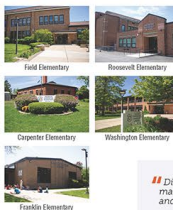
Lincoln Middle School
At 96 years old, Lincoln Middle School has the most facility challenges by far, including:
• Outdated plumbing, HVAC, roofing, lighting, interior doors, and flooring
• Asbestos throughout the building
• Outdated instructional spaces, commons areas, and student support spaces
• Inefficient cafeteria, currently lacking sprinklers in its basement location

Renovate vs. Replace

Should voters approve the 2024 Proposal, Lincoln Middle School would be renovated, not replaced. There are many reasons for this decision:
• Renovating is less expensive than building a new school
• There is strong community support to protect and preserve the historic school
• Many residents have moved back to the District to their children can attend this iconic school
• Renovation is a much more sustainable approach



Emerson Middle School
While the challenges are not to the same extent as those faced at Lincoln Middle School, Emerson has many facility needs, including:
• Outdated HVAC, roofing, plumbing, electrical systems, lighting, interior doors, and fencing
• Outdated science labs
• Undersized band, choir, and orchestra rooms
• Foundation issues at the gym entrance
• Overcrowded and poorly configured special education spaces



Five Elementary Schools
Like the two middle schools, there are many pressing facility challenges at each of the five elementary schools, including:
• Outdated HVAC at four schools
• Foundation issues at two schools
• Aging roofing, plumbing, and electrical systems
• Dated, inefficient lighting
• Outdated interior doors and frames
• Asbestos abatement needs at all schools

“District 64 has developed a funding proposal that will help protect what matters most: improving our aging schools, keeping our kids healthy and safe, and continuing to support strong, desirable communities.”
– Dr. Ben Collins, Superintendent, Park Ridge-Niles School District 64



2024 FUNDING PROPOSAL
PROTECT Our Buildings.
PROTECT Our Children.
PRESERVE Our Future.



PARK RIDGE-NILES SCHOOL DISTRICT 64
20101 Greenleaf Avenue, Suite 100, IL 60141

- INSIDE**
- ✓ Details about District 64's funding proposal
 - ✓ Anticipated benefits of school improvements
 - ✓ Opportunities to provide input



2024 FUNDING PROPOSAL
PROTECT Our Buildings.
PROTECT Our Children.
PRESERVE Our Future.

Possible 2024 Bond Referendum

Park Ridge-Niles School District 64 is considering placing a bond referendum on this fall's ballot to address our highest-priority capital facility needs. Among the districtwide improvements that would be addressed include:

- Health, safety, and security upgrades
- Mechanical and infrastructure improvements
- Lab and classroom updates
- Additional instructional and student support services spaces

All seven District schools would be updated, including the historic 96-year-old Lincoln Middle School.

Focused on Preserving, Not Replacing

The 2024 Proposal focuses on updates and renovations rather than demolition and replacement. Investing in what we already own, including three historically significant schools that are nearly a century old, is a more sustainable approach that would cost significantly less than rebuilding, saving taxpayer dollars.

New construction projects would be limited to building additions at three schools.

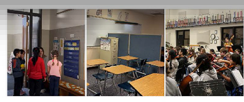
SEVEN AGING SCHOOLS

The District's seven schools face many age-related challenges, with all but one more than 65 years old.

96 years old (1928) Field Elementary School Lincoln Middle School Roosevelt Elementary School	74 years old (1950) Carpenter Elementary School 71 years old (1953) Washington Elementary School	68 years old (1956) Franklin Elementary School 26 years old (1998) Emerson Middle School
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www.d64.org/2024proposal

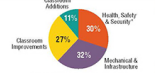
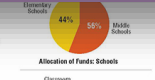
Need for Instructional and Support Service Space
Instructional space is so limited at District 64's elementary schools that special education and ELL programming is taking place in hallways. Reading and math interventionists, and other support professionals, are also using hallways when assisting students. It's often noisy, disruptive, and not conducive to learning. Given a lack of space at the middle schools, band, choir, and orchestra are held before and after school.



- Emergency repairs can be expensive and disruptive
- Inefficiencies in our educational spaces are negatively impacting programming, student support, and the ability to attract and retain quality teachers

If the 2024 Proposal is placed on the November 2024 ballot and approved by voters:

- Construction would begin as soon as the Summer of 2025
- It is estimated that all the improvements could be completed within two years.
- Much of the work would be addressed during the summer and after-school hours to limit disruptions.



Estimated Tax Impact
The proposed bond measure would have an estimated annual tax impact of approximately \$488 for a home with a fair market value of \$600,000.

Cost of Waiting
Every year the District waits, the cost would increase due to construction inflation. In five years, assuming a 4% annual increase, the total price tag would increase by \$21 million.

Efficiency Savings
The District estimates that it could save more than \$300,000 annually with updated, energy-efficient lighting and mechanicals.

Timing
The Board of Education will make a final decision regarding placing a funding proposal on this fall's ballot in August, providing time for additional public input.

*Includes Lincoln addition, allowing reference to be removed and the November ballot not be updated.



PROVIDE FEEDBACK, STAY INFORMED

Keeping you informed, listening to your feedback, and providing project oversight is important to us.

- For further information about the proposal, visit the District's website at d64.org/2024proposal.
- Questions and feedback can be sent to 2024proposald64@gmail.com.
- Should the referendum be placed on the ballot and approved by voters, District 64 would keep the community informed with project updates at Board meetings, community information meetings, and on our website at d64.org.

www.d64.org/2024proposal



Scan the QR code to learn more and access online video tours of District 64's schools.



PARK RIDGE-NILES SCHOOL DISTRICT 64

Meetings, Presentations & Tours

- 17 Presentations and Tours
- Over Six Weeks



Website Landing Page

2024 Proposal

PROTECT Our Buildings. PROTECT Our Children. PRESERVE Our Future




Resources

- ⊕ [FAQs For A Possible Bond Referendum](#)
- ⊕ [Community Task Force Meeting Presentation](#)
- ⊕ [Community Sessions Presentation](#)
- ⊕ [Master Facilities Plan](#)
- ⊕ [Transparency Page](#)
- ⊕ [Estimated Tax Calculator](#)
- ⊕ [Newsletter Mailed To District Voters](#)



PARK RIDGE-NILES
SCHOOL DISTRICT 64

Informational Videos

<div>  <div>2024 Proposal: Meetings & Presentations</div> </div>			
APRIL - JULY	APRIL	MAY	AUGUST
Board of Education Meetings April 18 May 16 June 27	Community Meetings & Presentations April 9 - 9:30 am - Beans, Brew & Ben April 9 - 7 pm - Lincoln Tour April 11 - 6 pm - Before D64 Jazz Fest April 15 - 7 pm - Maine South Music Booster April 16 - 6 pm - PT3 Meeting (Special Ed Focused) April 18 - Noon - Virtual Presentation April 24 - 6 pm - Before D64 Band Concert April 24 - 7:30 pm - Virtual Presentation April 27 - Noon - Lincoln Tour	Community Meetings & Presentations May 1 - 9 am - Virtual Presentation May 1 - Noon - Rotary May 8 - 7 am - Kiwanis May 8 - 9 am - Beans, Brew & Ben May 8 - 7 pm - Lincoln Tour	The School Board will make a final decision regarding a possible referendum question for the November 2024 Ballot

As meetings get added they will be placed here and on our [District calendar](#). Additionally any important updates or information will also be shared in our weekly eNews newsletter. [Community members can sign up for the eNews here](#).

D64 Facilities Tour

Lincoln Middle School

WATCH HERE




Lincoln Middle School

D64 Facilities Tour

Emerson Middle School

WATCH HERE




Emerson Middle School

D64 Facilities Tour

Elementary Schools

WATCH HERE








Elementary Schools

PLEASE READ - IMPORTANT INFO FOR A POSSIBLE BOND REFERENDUM



PARK RIDGE-NILES

SCHOOL DISTRICT 64

Digital Campaign (491,808 Impressions)

- Banner ads
- Short video clips



Animated Banners Ads
6 Sizes



6-Second Ads
15-Second Ads
30-Second Ads

2 Size Videos



[illegible][illegible]

PUBLIC OPINION STRATEGIES



PARK RIDGE-NILES
SCHOOL DISTRICT 64



Park Ridge-Niles SD 64 Feasibility Survey

June 8-12, 2024

PREPARED BY:

Jim Hobart, Partner

Project #240207

METHODOLOGY




Public Opinion Strategies is pleased to present the key findings of a survey conducted in Park Ridge-Niles SD 64. The survey was completed June 8-12, 2024, among 200 registered voters, and has a margin of error of $\pm 6.93\%$. Interviews were conducted via phone.

Jim Hobart was the primary researcher on this project. Torie Bolger was the project director and Colin McInroe provided analytical support.



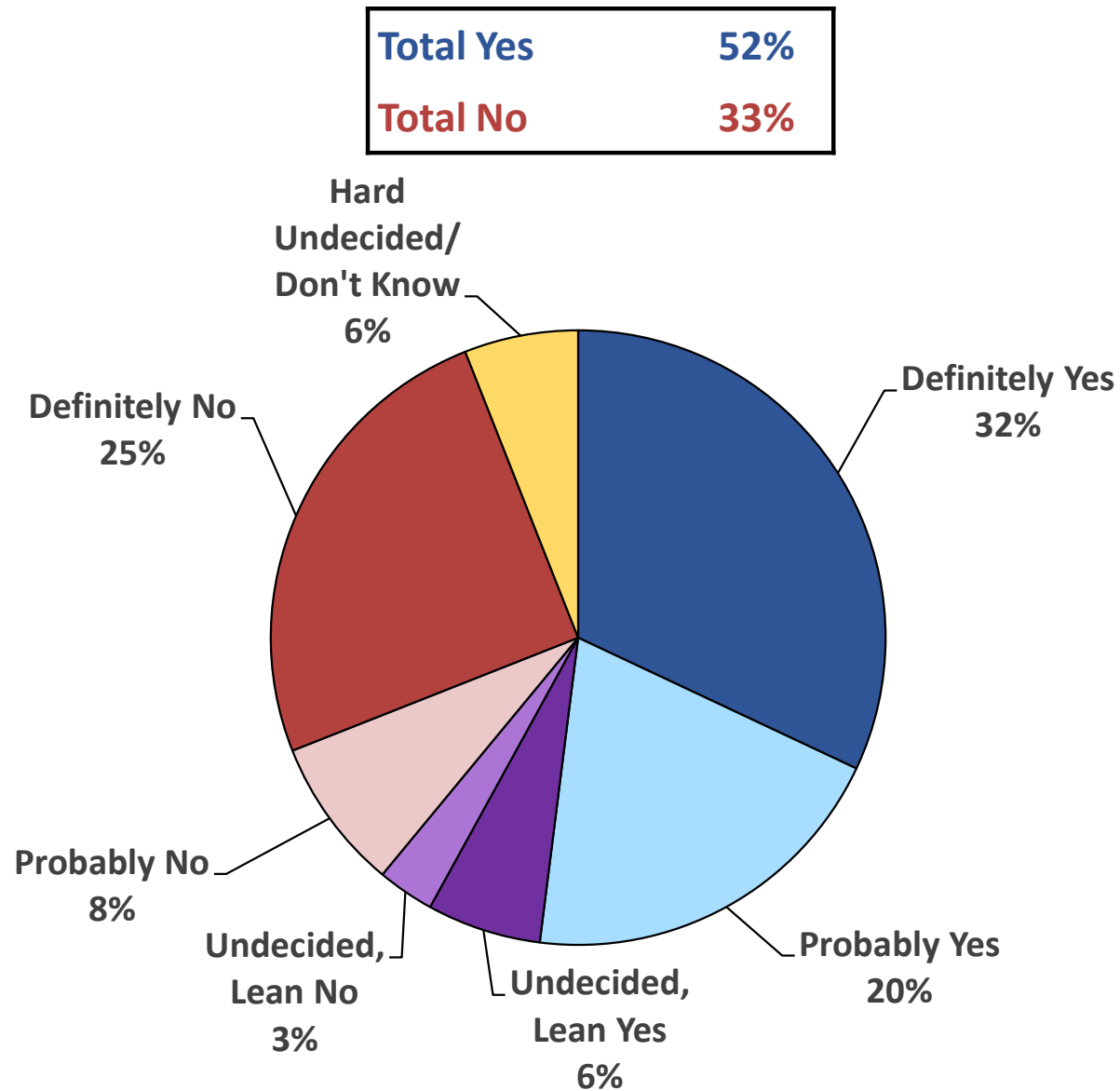
The Ballot Measure

The Ballot Measure

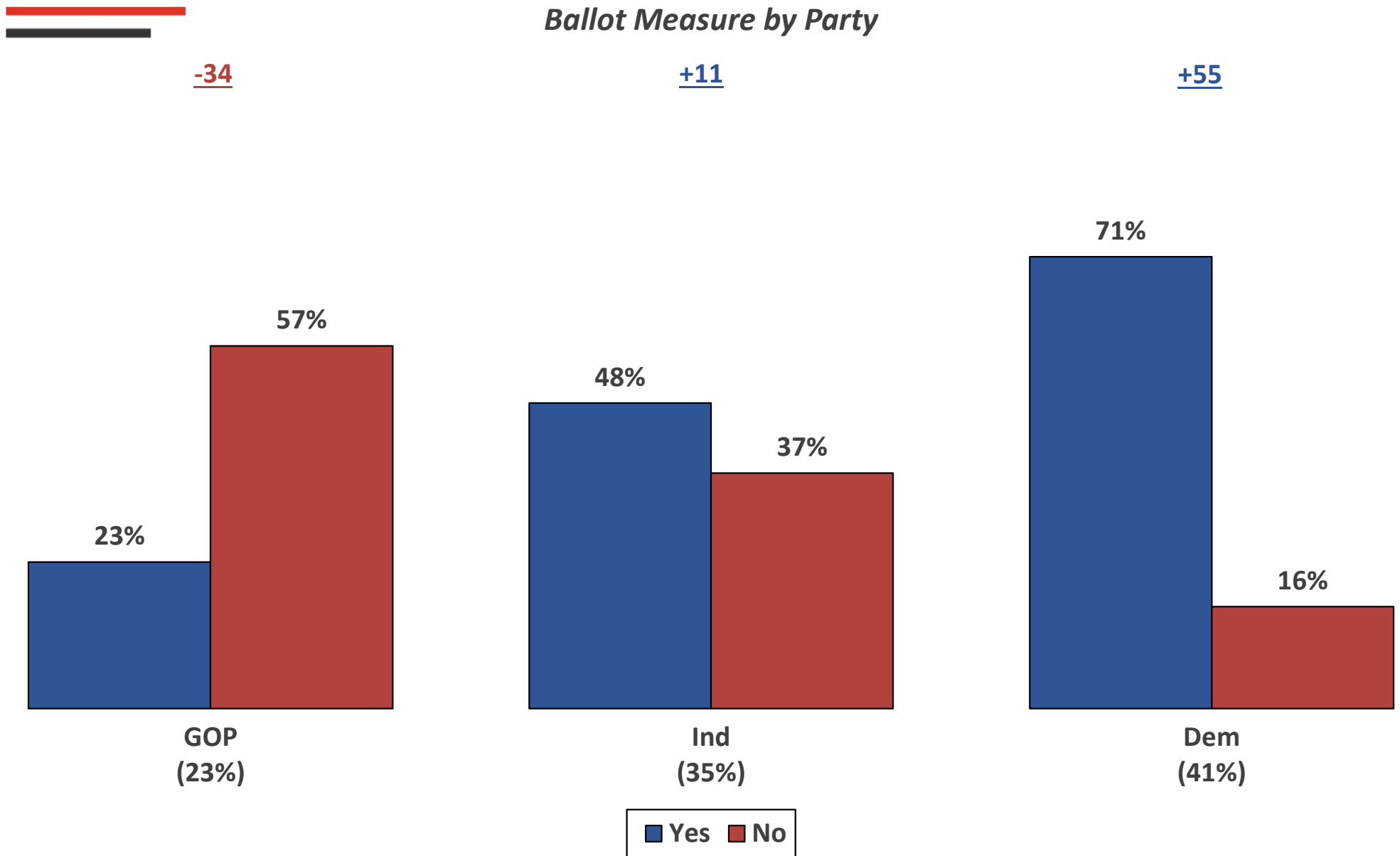


“Shall the Board of Education of Park Ridge-Niles Community Consolidated School District Number 64, Cook County, Illinois, alter, repair and equip existing buildings, build and equip additions thereto and improve school sites, including but not limited to improving safety and security; replacing roofs, plumbing, electrical systems, HVAC and air quality systems; updating classrooms and science labs; installing energy-efficient improvements; increasing accessibility under the Americans with Disabilities Act; and adding space for special education; and issue bonds of said School District to the amount of \$98,360,000 for the purpose of paying the costs thereof?”

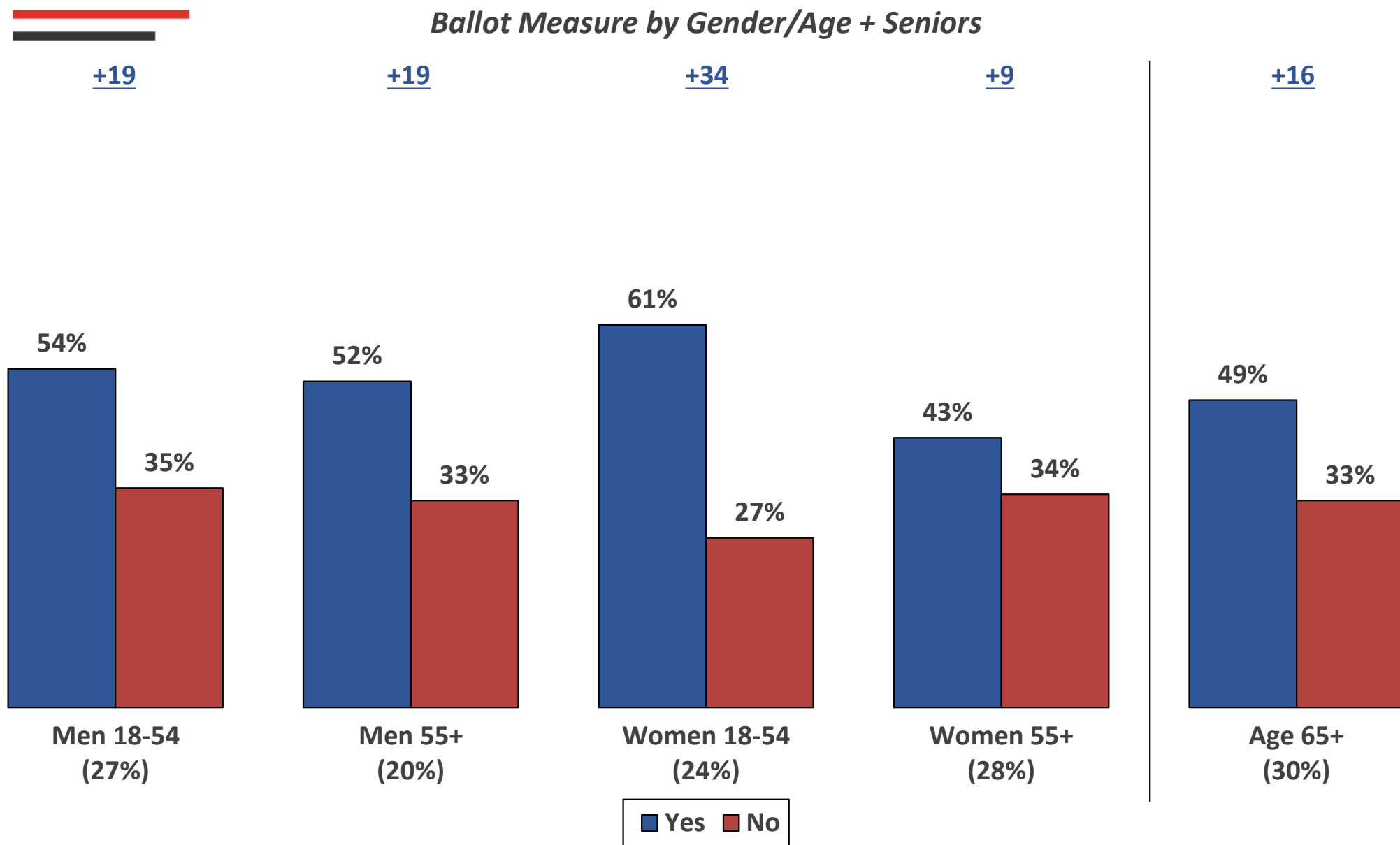
A slim majority of voters support the measure.



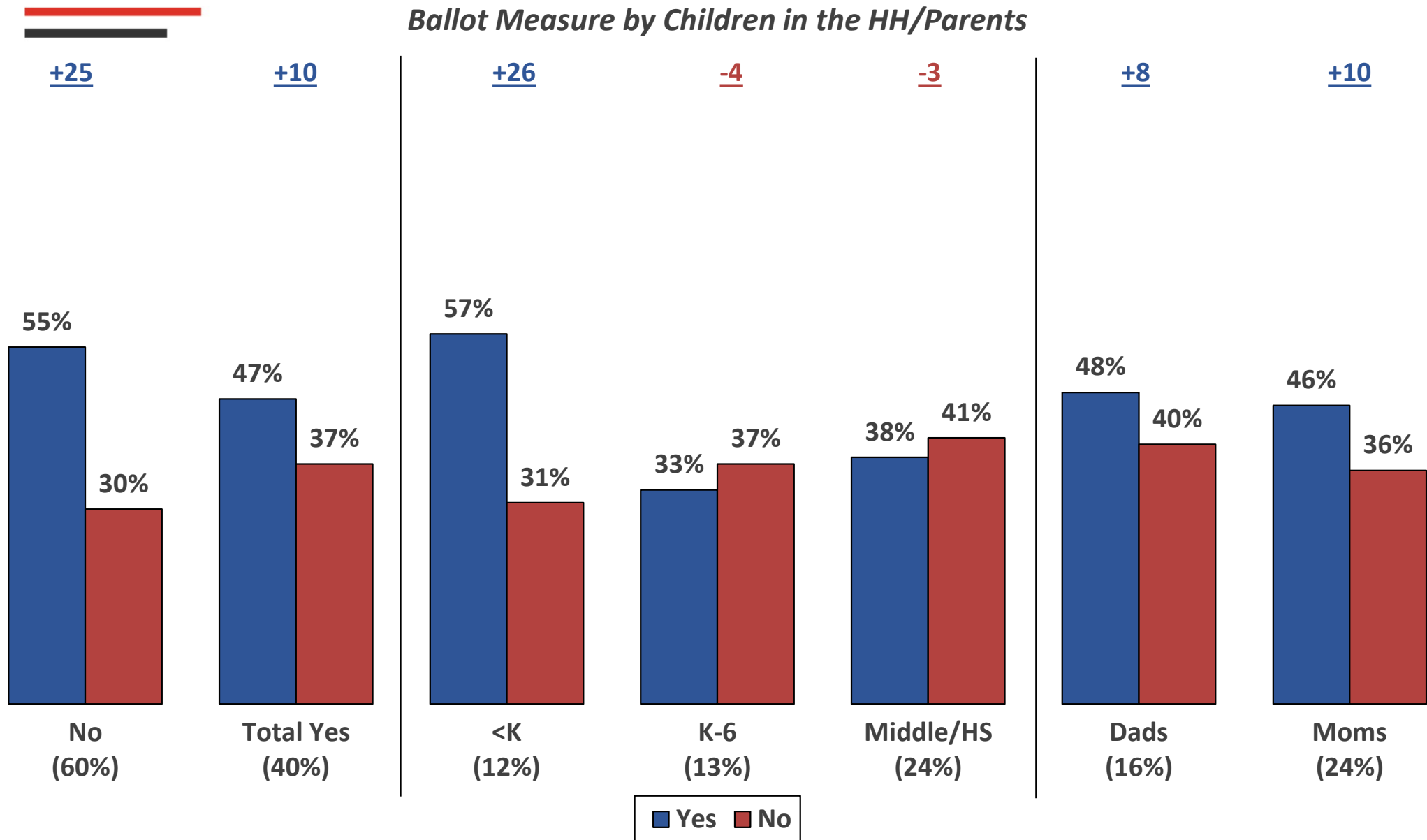
Democrats are the base of support for the referendum. Republicans are staunchly opposed.



Younger women are the most likely to support the referendum.



Parents with young children are significantly more likely to support the referendum than other parents.



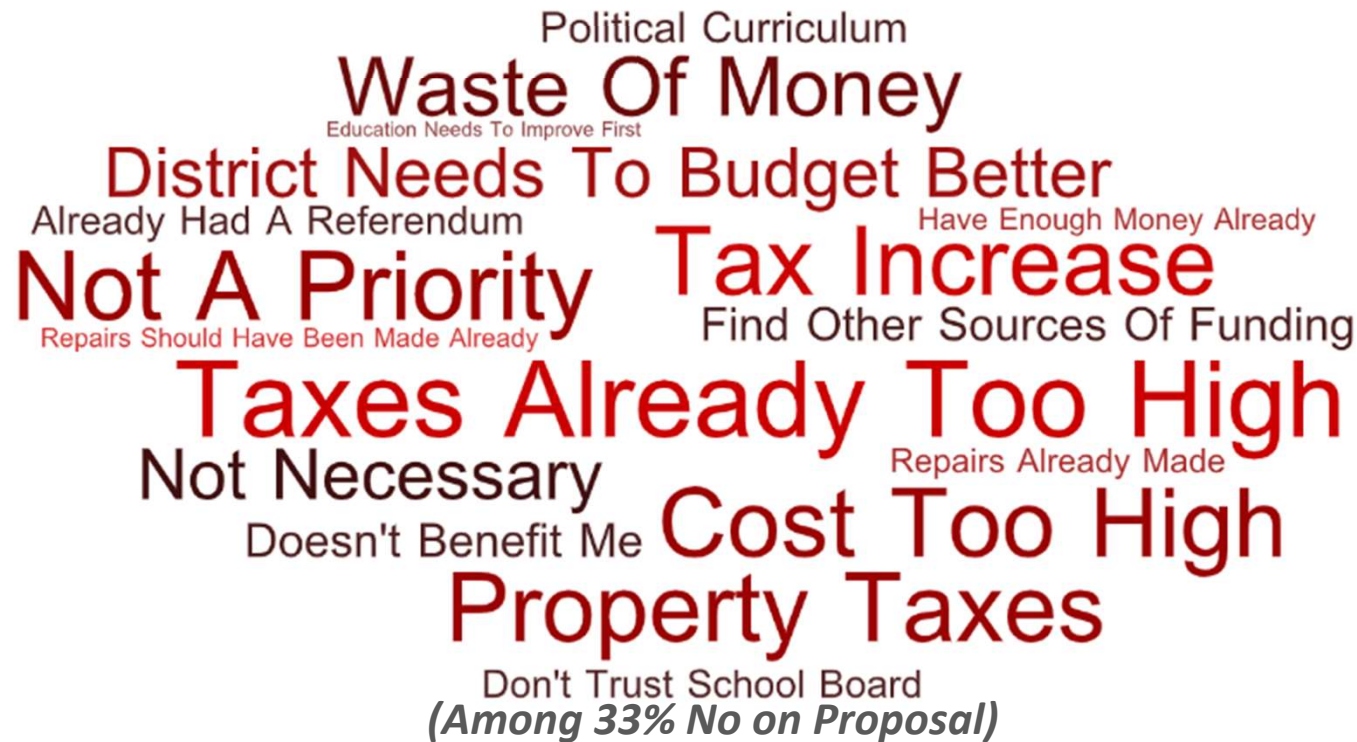
Supporters of the proposal see it as implementing necessary improvements.



(Among 52% Yes on Proposal)

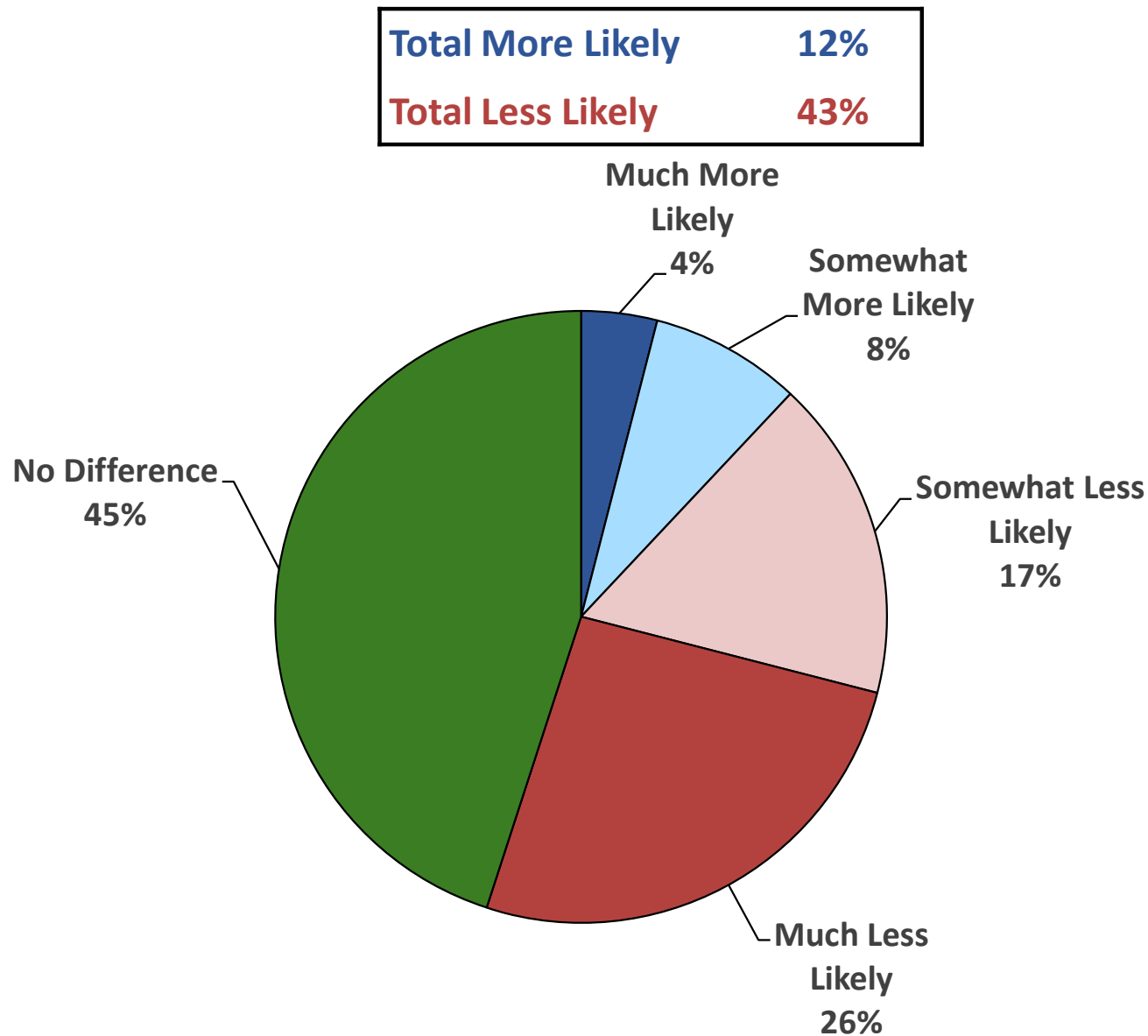
Improvements Needed	21%	Buildings Need Upkeep	11%	Property Values	8%	Air Conditioning	4%
Education/Schools Important	18%	Good for Community	10%	Investment	8%	More Funds Needed	3%
For the Children	14%	Have Children/Grandchildren	10%	Necessary	6%	More Resources	3%
Safety	11%	Accommodations for Disabilities	9%	Maintenance	5%		

Those against the referendum are concerned about an increased tax burden.



Taxes Already Too High	32%	Waste of Money	12%	Already Had A Referendum	6%	Have Enough Money Already	3%
Tax Increase	27%	Not A Priority	9%	Don't Trust School Board	6%	Repairs Should Have Been Made Already	3%
Cost Too High	21%	Find Other Sources of Funding	9%	Doesn't Benefit Me	5%	Repairs Already Made	3%
District Needs to Budget Better	18%	Not Necessary	8%	Political Curriculum	5%	Education Needs to Improve First	3%
Property Taxes	14%						

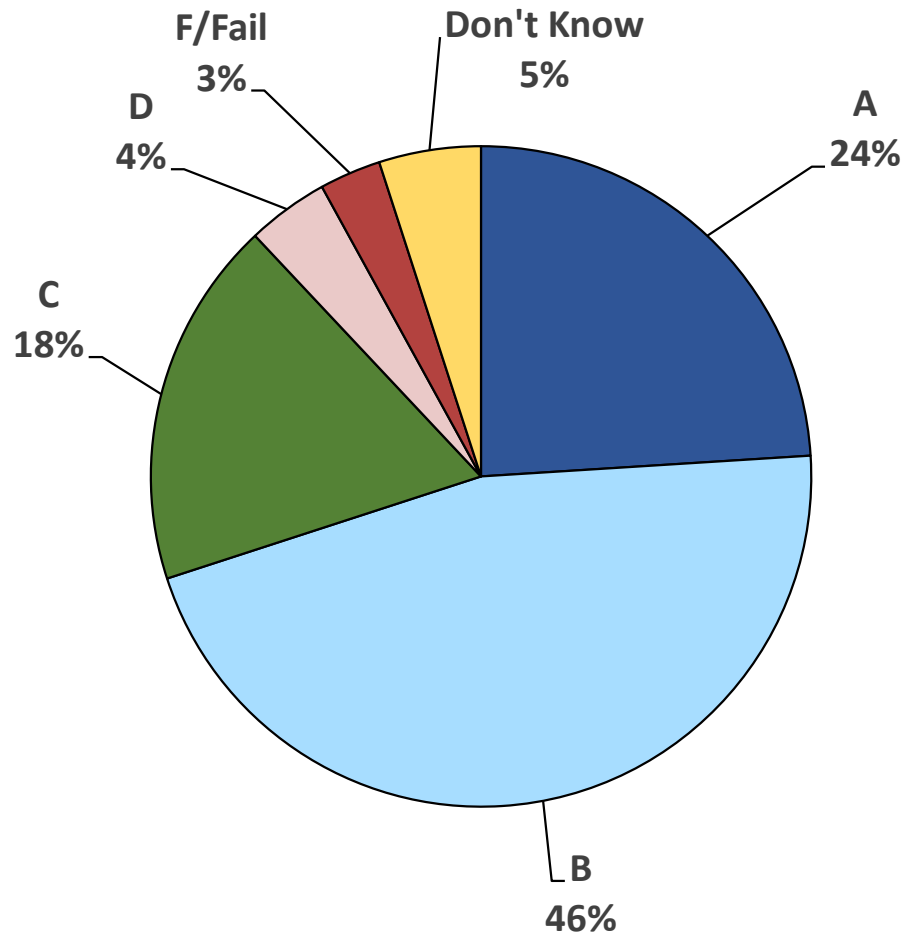
A quarter of voters are much less likely to vote for this proposal after learning about the tax increase.





The School District

Seven-in-ten voters give the school district an A or a B.



"Schools often use the letters A, B, C, D or F for Fail to grade students. Suppose you had the opportunity to grade the District 64 schools, what grade would you give them – A, B, C, D, or F for fail?"

Voters see District 64 as better than other school districts.



70%

Better

24%

About The Same

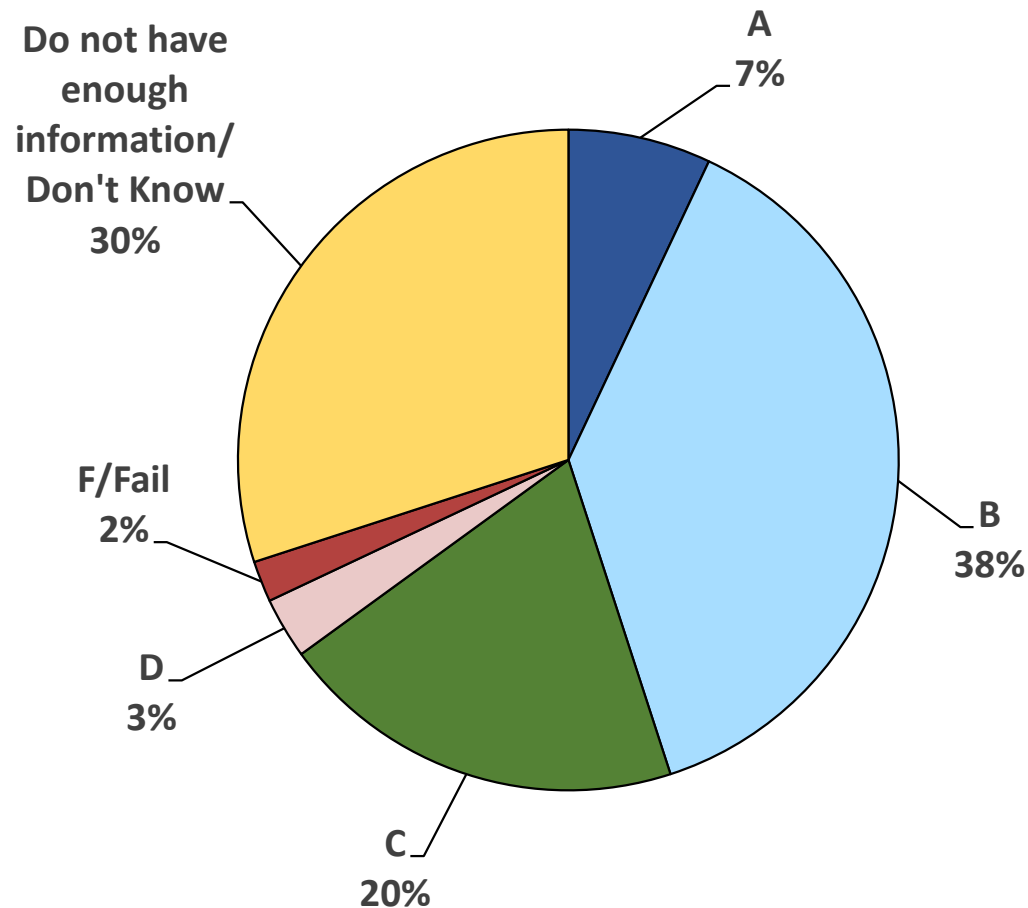
5%

Not As Good

1%

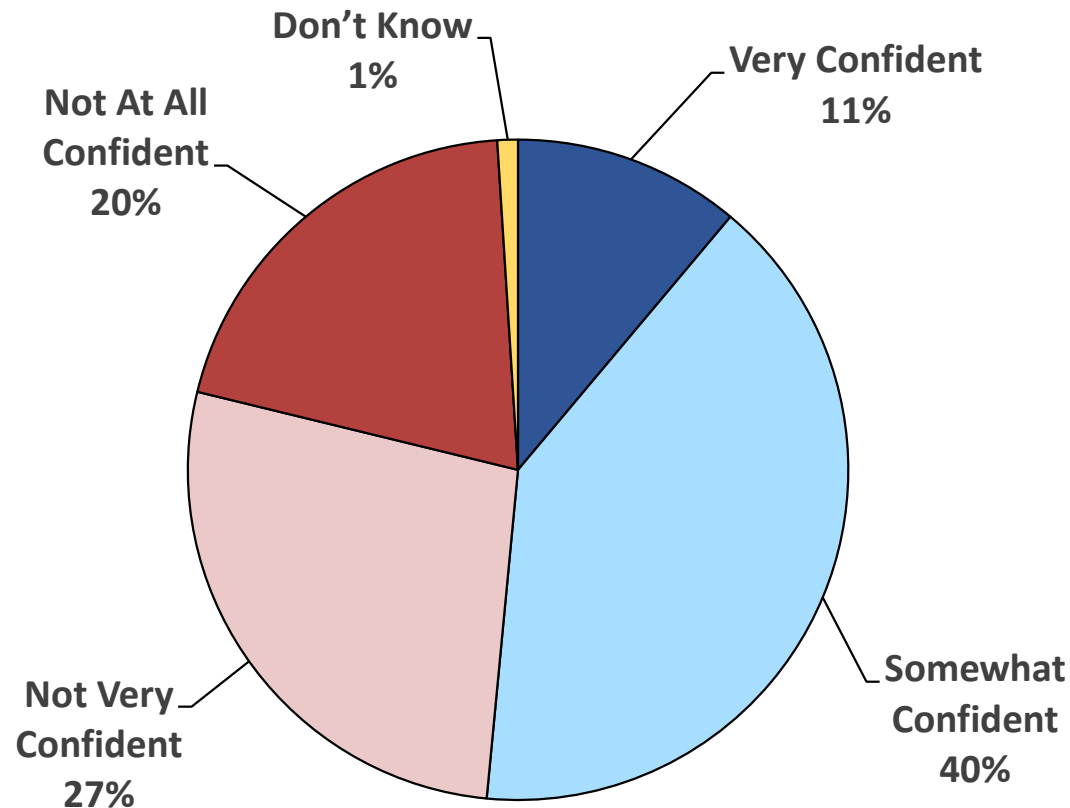
Don't Know/Refused

A plurality of voters give District 64's facilities a B, but 30% don't know.



Voters are divided on whether District 64 is managing money wisely.

Total Confident	51%
Total Not Confident	47%



"How confident would you say you are that District 64 is managing taxpayer money wisely? Would you say you are..."

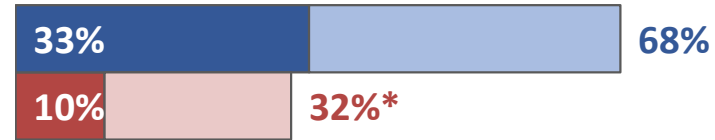


Funding Options

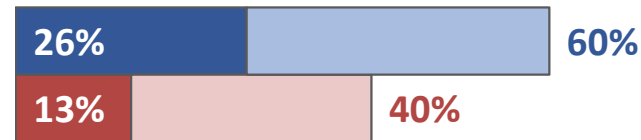
Basic safety and infrastructure upgrades are the most important funding options to voters.

Ranked by % *Extremely Important*

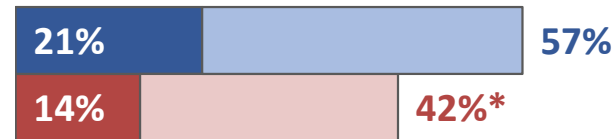
Health, safety, and security upgrades, including updating fire alarms, performing asbestos abatement, replacing outdated interior and ancillary doors, improving fencing and railings, and enhancing air quality.



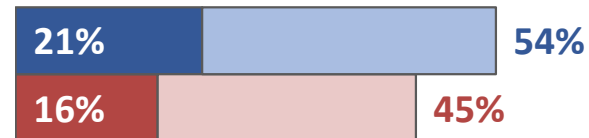
Updating inefficient plumbing, electrical, and HVAC systems and other critical infrastructure.



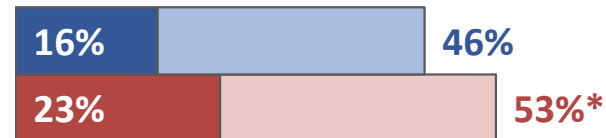
Addressing Americans with Disabilities Act accessibility code issues and other accessibility needs in the schools.



Updating classrooms, science labs, and career and technical education spaces, including replacing outdated, inefficient lighting, aging flooring, ceilings, casework, and furniture.



Constructing a new cafeteria and commons area at Lincoln Middle School to replace the current cafeteria, which does not have fire sprinklers and is located in the basement.



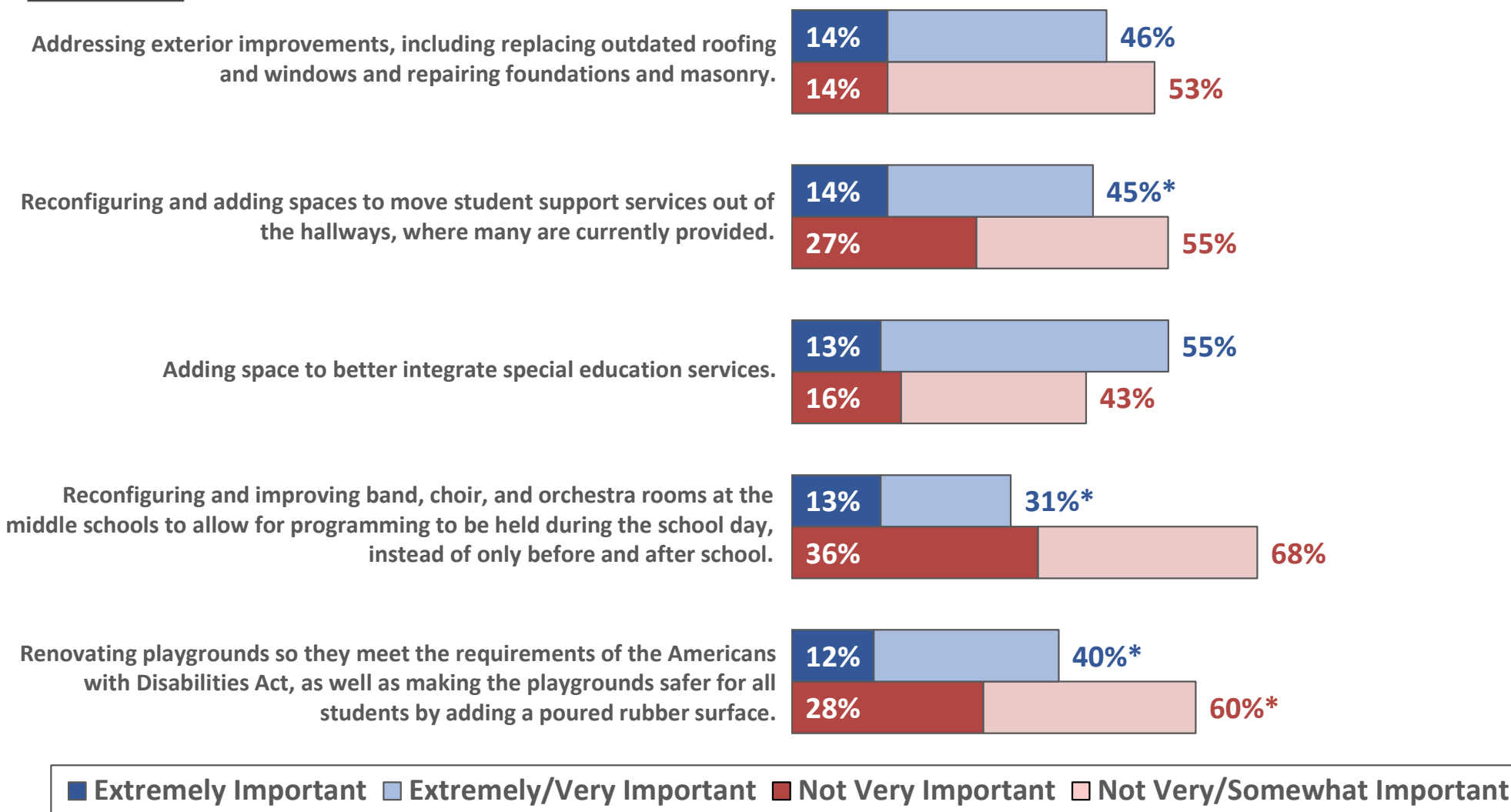
■ Extremely Important ■ Extremely/Very Important ■ Not Very Important ■ Not Very/Somewhat Important

*Denotes Rounding

"I am going to read you some specific items which could be funded by District 64 if they had additional funding from a bond referendum. Keeping in mind that it is difficult for everything to be equally important, please tell me how important each one of these is to you personally. Is it extremely important, very important, somewhat important, or not very important to ensure funding is dedicated to that purpose?"

These funding options are not as important to voters.

Ranked by % *Extremely Important*



*Denotes Rounding

"I am going to read you some specific items which could be funded by District 64 if they had additional funding from a bond referendum. Keeping in mind that it is difficult for everything to be equally important, please tell me how important each one of these is to you personally. Is it extremely important, very important, somewhat important, or not very important to ensure funding is dedicated to that purpose?"

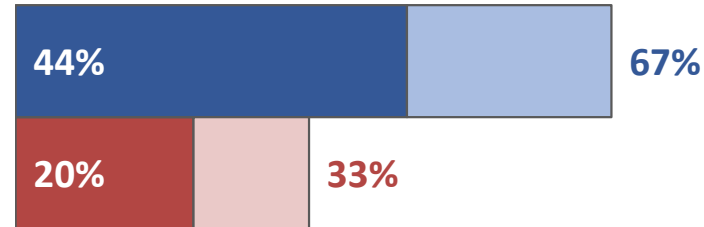


Message Testing

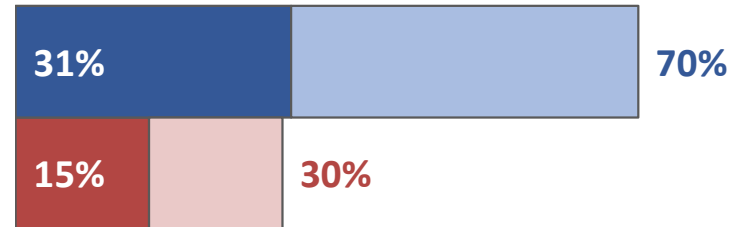
The need for additional learning spaces is the most convincing message for the proposal.

Ranked by % *Very Convincing*

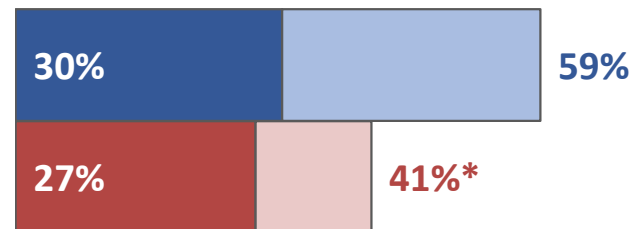
Instructional space is so limited at District 64's elementary schools that special education and English language learning programming are taking place in hallways. Reading and math interventionists, and other support professionals, are also using hallways when assisting students. These renovations and additions would provide actual classroom space for these important programs.



Emergency infrastructure repairs to outdated HVAC, plumbing, electrical and air quality equipment can be very expensive and also disruptive to our students and teachers. Updating this equipment will reduce these types of costly emergency repairs and also make our schools more energy efficient.



It has been 27 years since district voters approved a bond referendum for capital improvements and the longer we wait to address facility needs, the higher the cost will be due to construction inflation. This is the right time to vote to improve our schools.



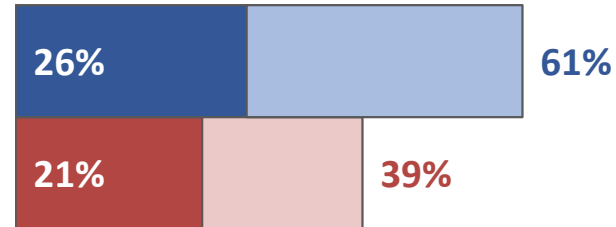
■ Very Convincing ■ Total Convincing ■ Not At All Convincing ■ Total Not Convincing

*Denotes Rounding

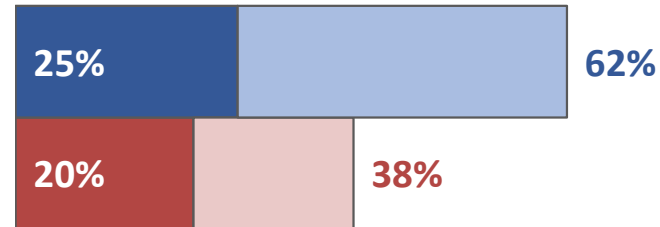
There is not a lot of intensity with these messages.

Ranked by % *Very Convincing*

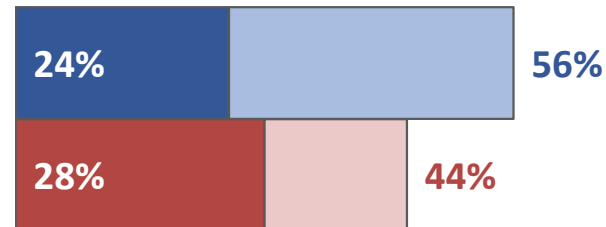
The proposed districtwide renovations and additions would ensure that every District 64 student and teacher has access to a safe and comfortable learning environment, enabling and promoting positive educational opportunities and experiences.



All District 64 schools would benefit, including Lincoln Middle School. This historic 96-year-old building would undergo major renovations to create healthier, safer, and more secure instructional spaces.



Current inefficiencies in our educational spaces are negatively impacting programming, student support, and the ability to attract and retain quality teachers. The proposed renovations and additions would create a better learning environment for our students and teachers.



■ Very Convincing ■ Total Convincing ■ Not At All Convincing ■ Total Not Convincing

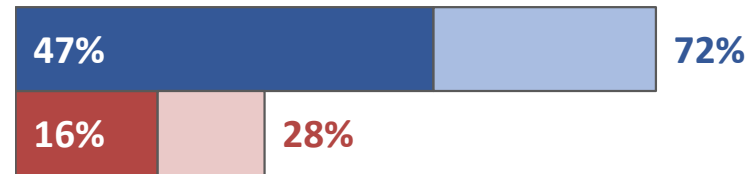
"I am going to read you some statements that people have made IN FAVOR OF increasing funding for District 64 in order to fund facility improvements and address operating needs. After I read each one, please tell me whether the statement is very convincing, somewhat convincing, not too convincing, or not at all convincing as a reason to increase funding."

Concerningly, there are four opposition messages stronger than the second best message in support.

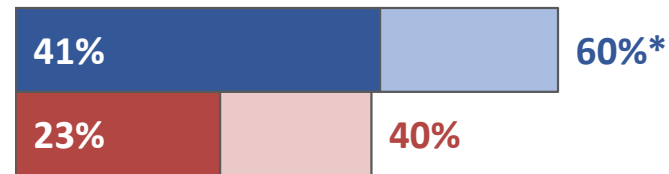
Ranked by % *Very Convincing*



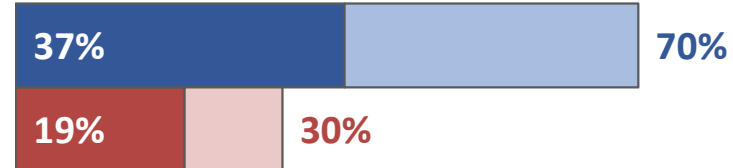
With the economy still struggling and prices still rising, we should not be raising taxes at this time.



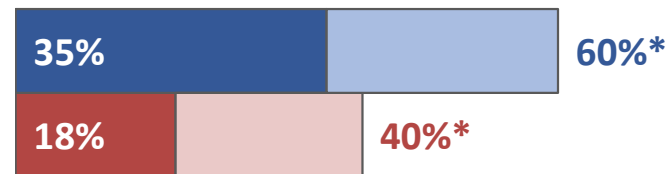
These are problems the school district should have already been dealing with instead of waiting this long and being forced to ask voters to increase funding for the district.



This is close to a one hundred million dollar proposal. It is just too expensive.



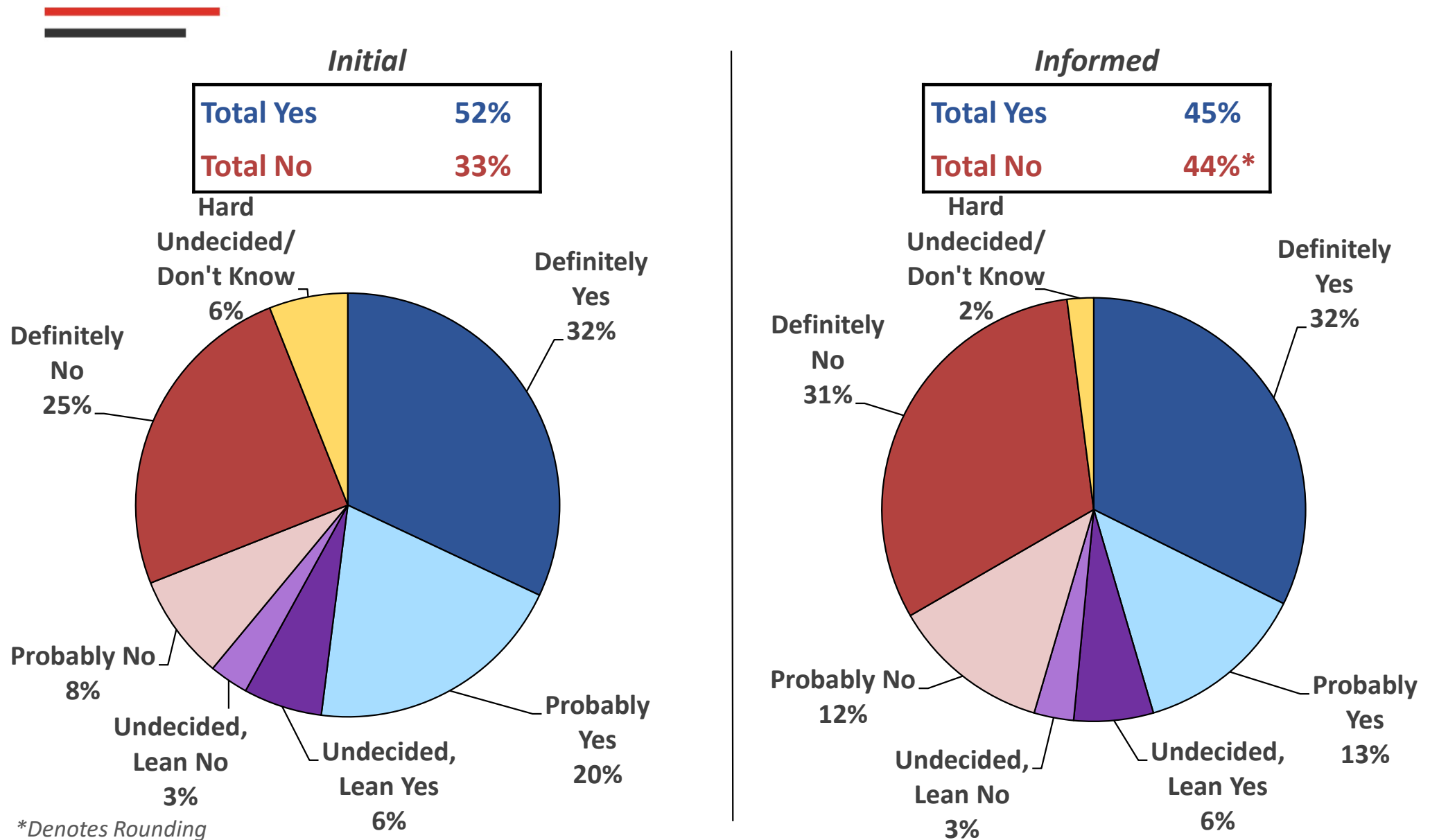
Maine High School District 207 and Park Ridge Park District recently passed bond referendums. It is just too soon to ask the voters to approve another referendum.



■ Very Convincing ■ Total Convincing ■ Not At All Convincing ■ Total Not Convincing

*Denotes Rounding

Support drops under 50% on the informed ballot.





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**For more information about this presentation or about
Public Opinion Strategies, please give us a call.**