

Boscobel Area School District

Community Survey Results

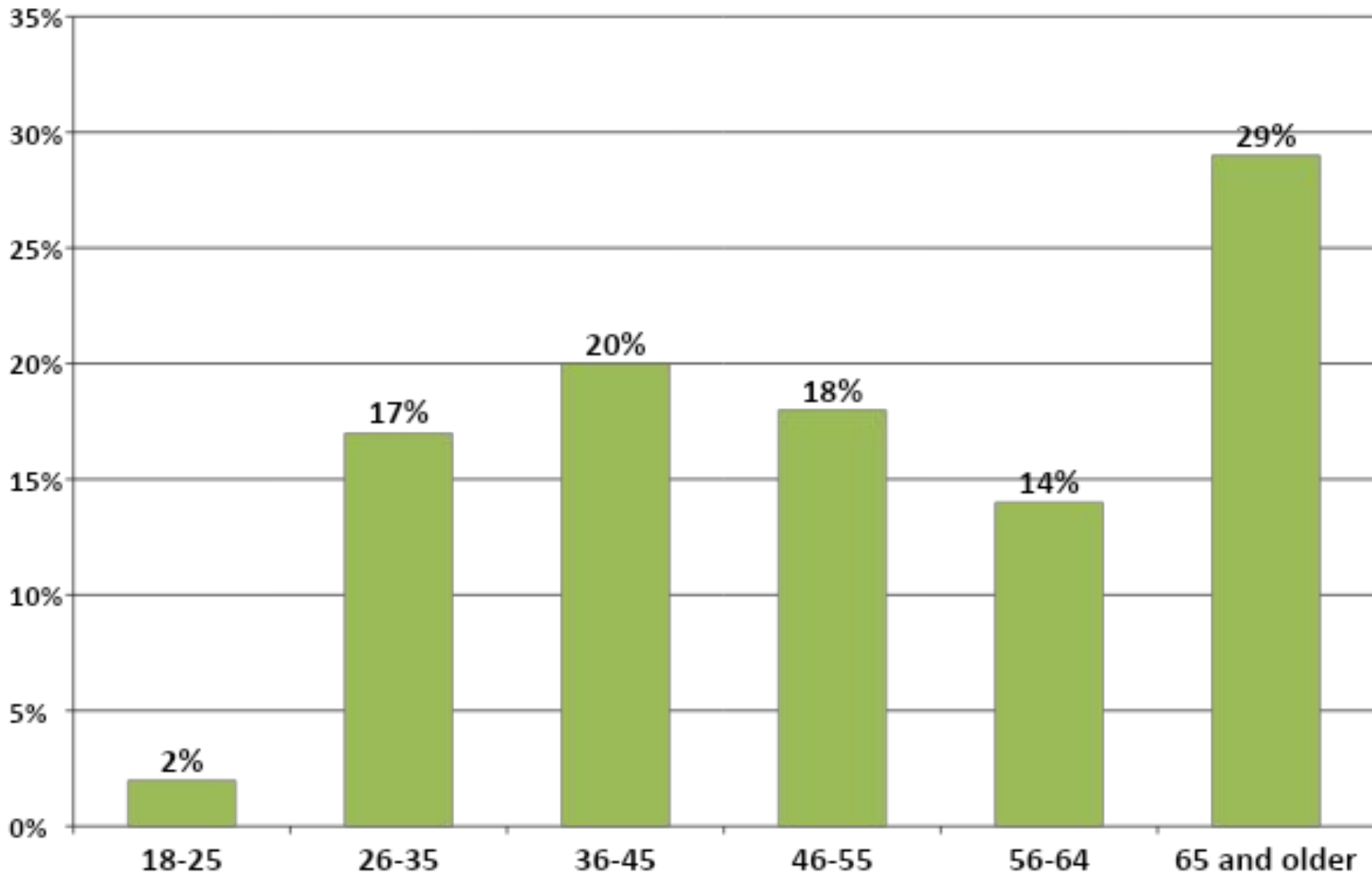
Spring 2019

Survey Summary

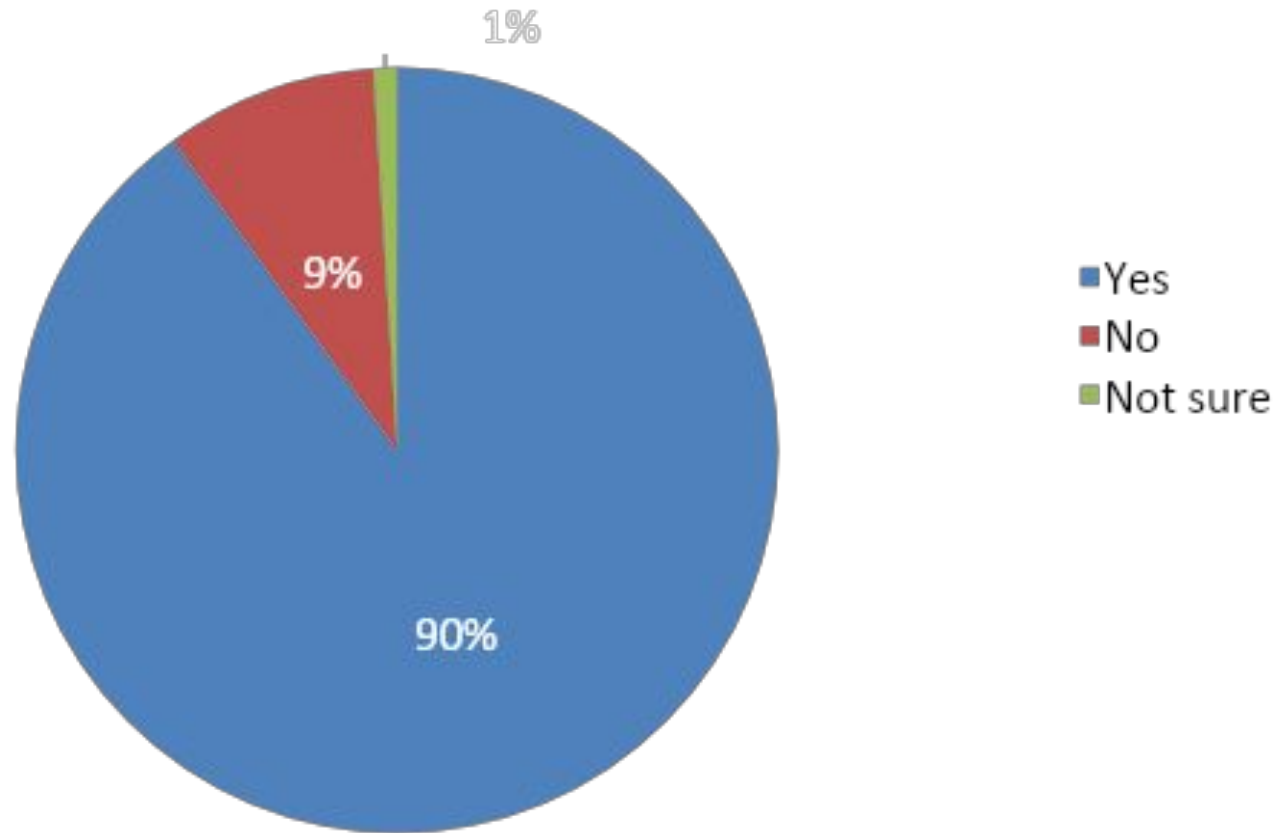
- The survey was conducted in May of 2019.
- Residents within the District were mailed a paper survey. Each survey included a unique survey access code for those who preferred to take the survey online.
- Total responses = 441 (184 paper)
- Participation rate = 17%
- Margin of error = +/- 4.7%

Respondent Information

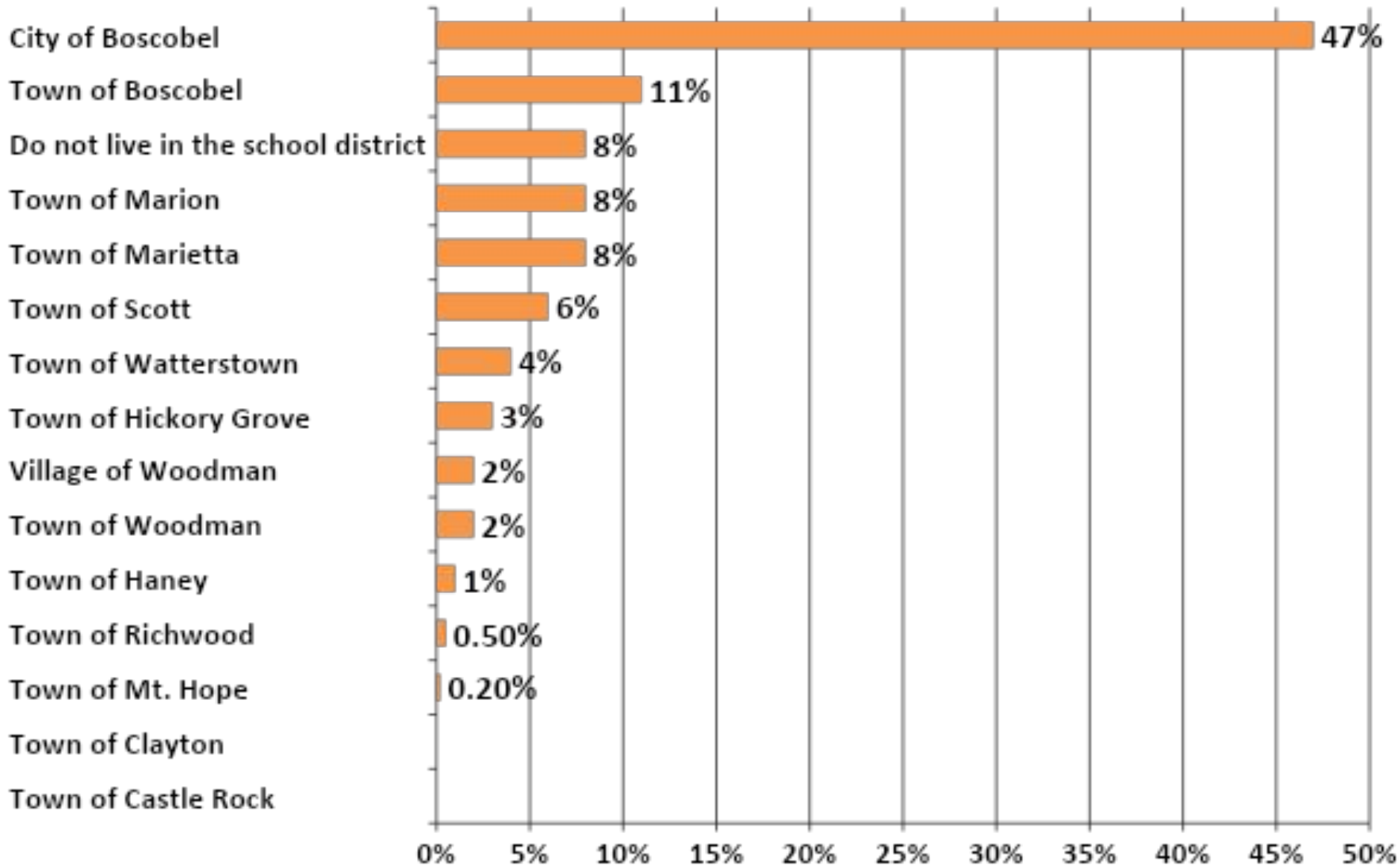
What is your age?



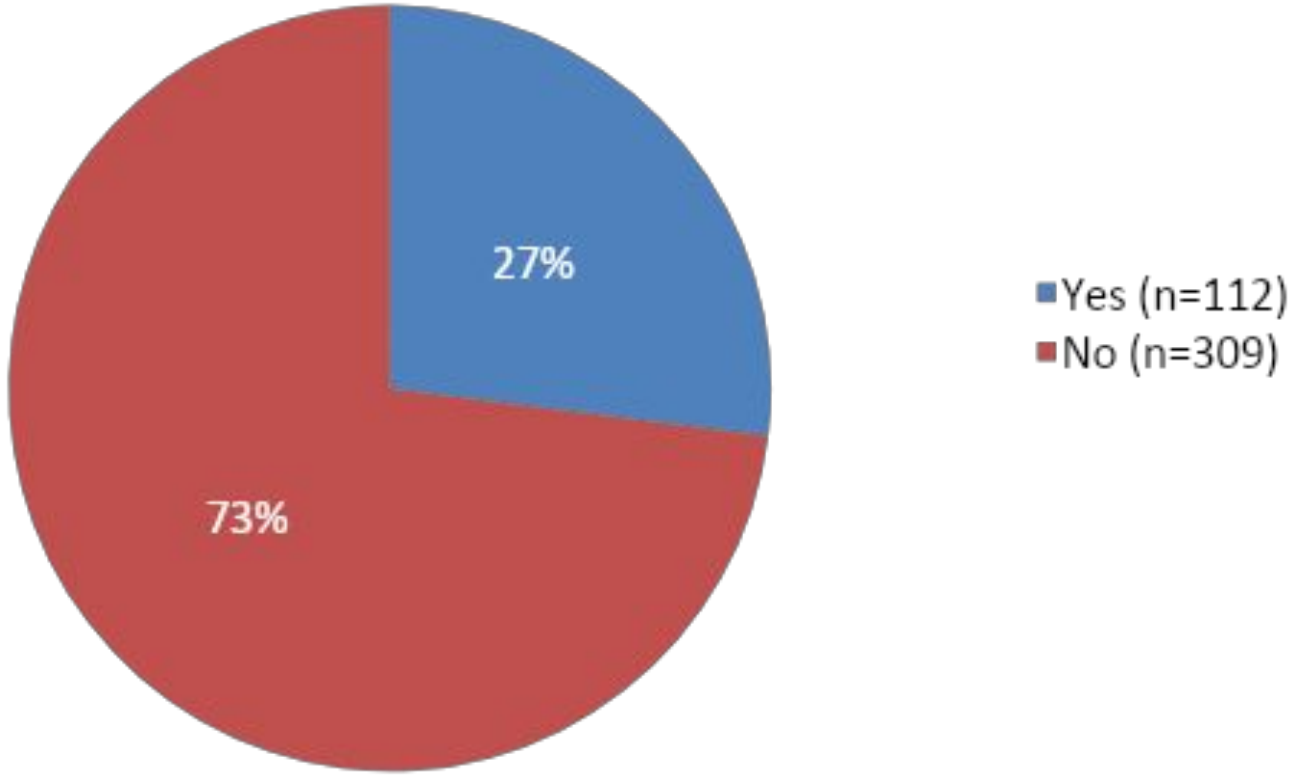
Do you live in the Boscobel Area School District?



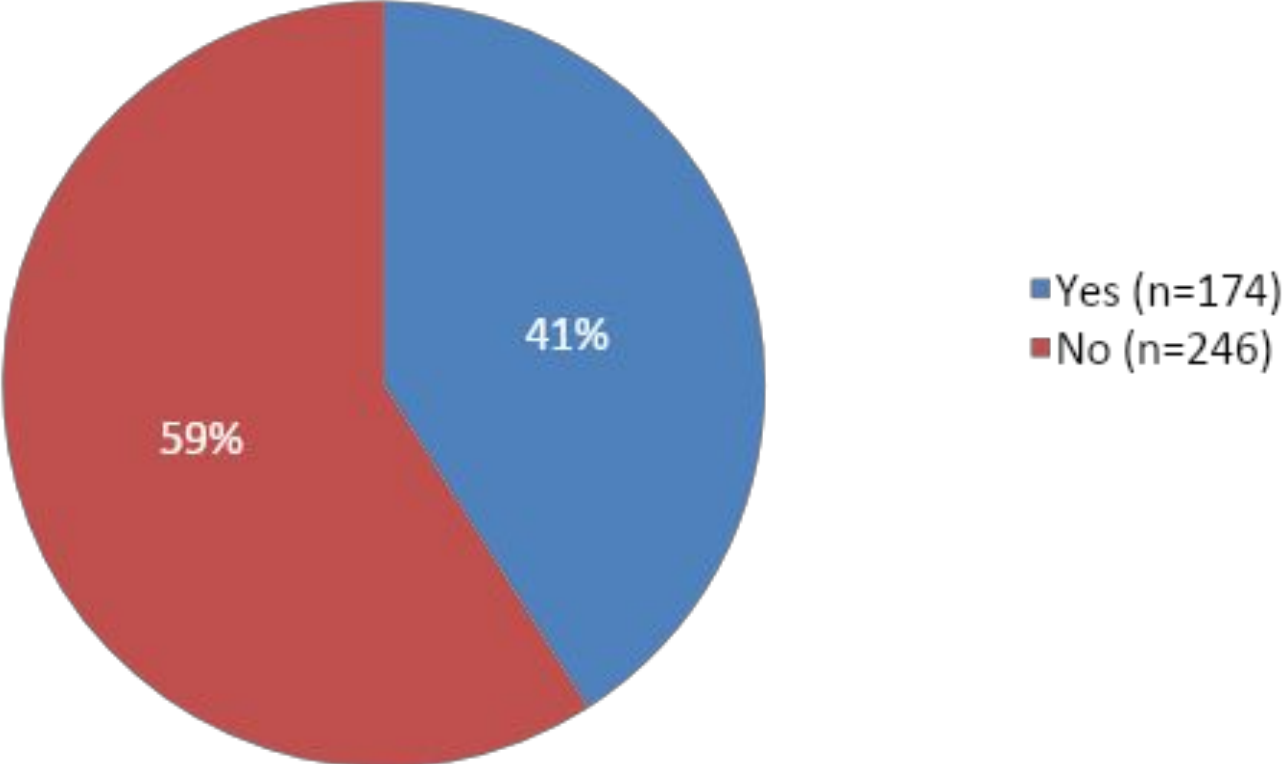
In which city or township do you reside?



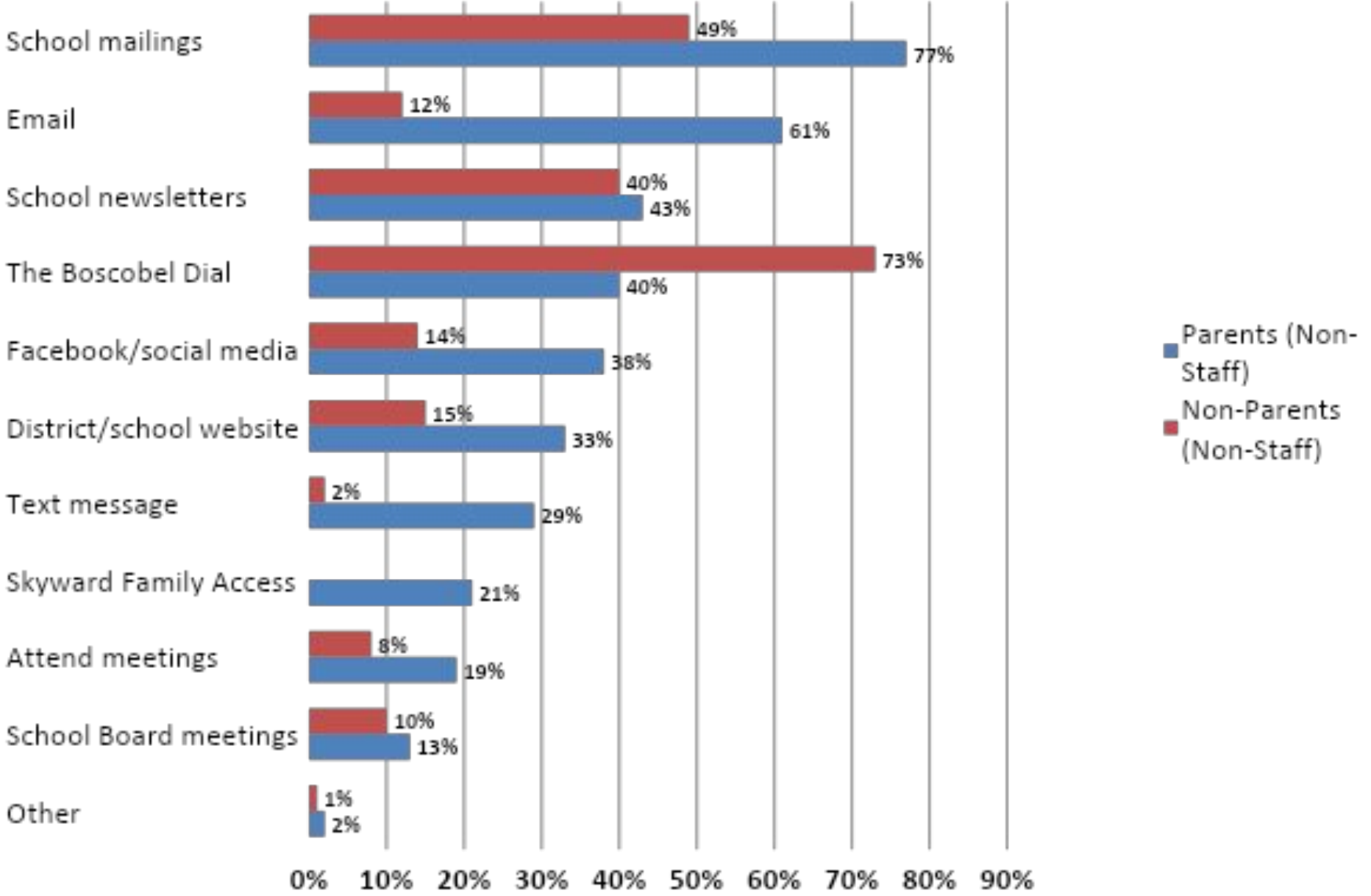
Are you an employee of the Boscobel Area School District?



Do you have children attending our schools?



How would you like to receive information regarding the Boscobel Area School District?



Overall Satisfaction

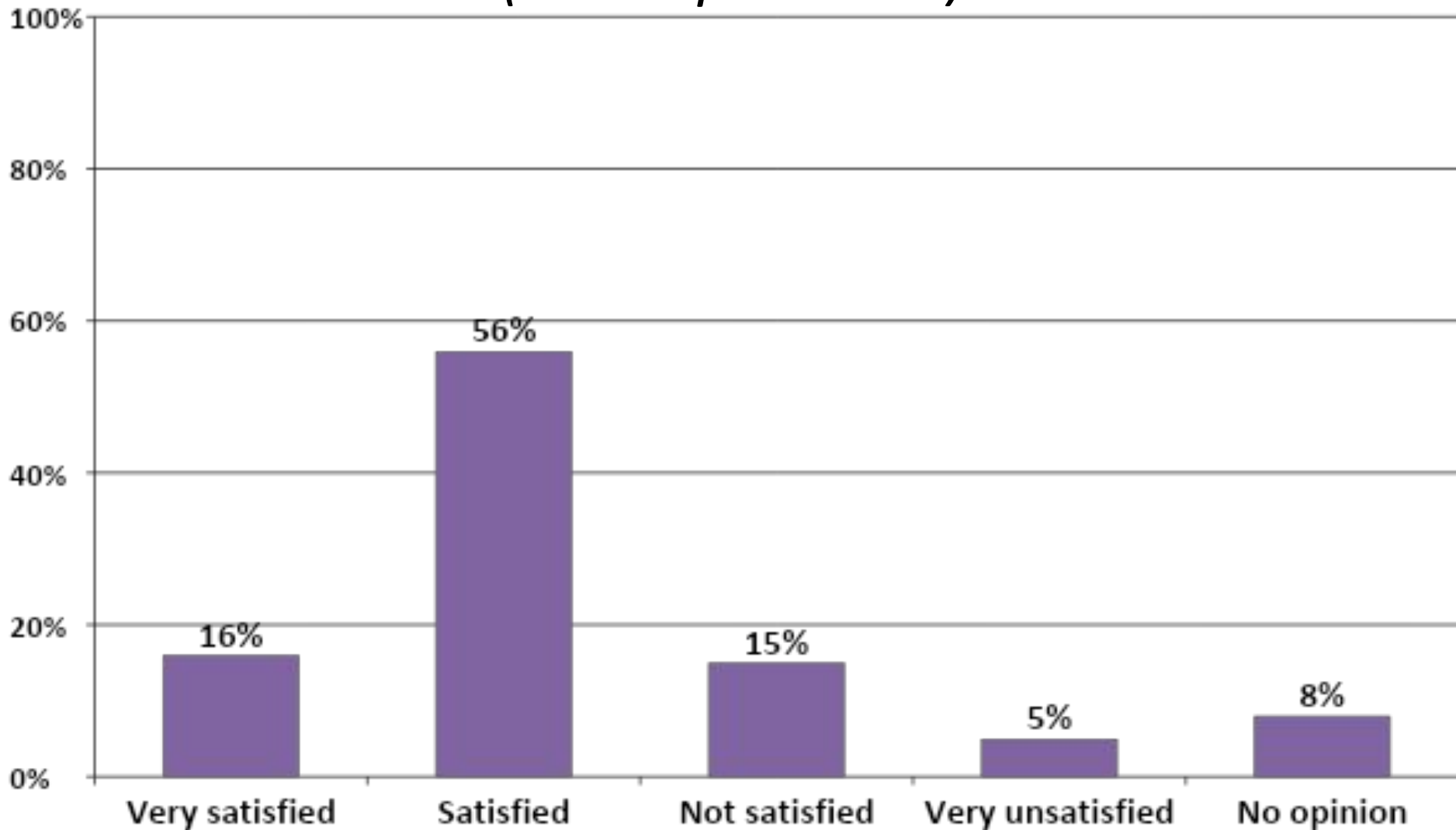
How well are we doing in each of the following areas?

Excellent (5), Above average (4), Average (3), Below average (2), Poor (1)

| Item | Staff | Parents (Non-Staff) | Non-Parents (Non-Staff) |
|--|-------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| Delivering a high-quality educational experience | 3.72 | 3.46 | 3.33 |
| Building pride in our community | 3.51 | 3.41 | 3.29 |
| Preparing students for life after high school | 3.67 | 3.40 | 3.07 |
| Keeping the public informed | 3.60 | 3.19 | 2.99 |

Overall, how satisfied are you with the Boscobel Area School District?

(All Respondents)



Planning Background and Facility Needs

In 2016, Boscobel voters approved an operational referendum that has allowed the District to:

- Maintain current programs and services
- Improve student access to technology
- Improve services to better prepare our students for college and careers
- Increase the fund balance, eliminating the need to short-term borrow and pay interest
- Pay off a \$360,000 unfunded liability
- Establish a fund to help pay for annual building maintenance expenses

While taxes initially increased, they are now dropping as a result of increased state aid. In fact, the District's tax mill rate, which is used to calculate local property taxes, decreased from \$11.41 to \$10.27 last year. In addition, unlike many other school districts in the state, the Boscobel Area School District is debt-free. The School Board believes this is a good time to reconsider addressing our facility needs, given the District's healthier financial situation.

Facility Needs

The District currently operates four buildings to serve approximately 825 students. Each of these schools is in need of a significant investment. However, before we start spending money to fix up the older schools, we want to ensure any investment makes good long-term financial sense. **The District has identified the following issues:**

School Security

The safety of our students and staff is a top priority. Updates are needed to reconfigure school entrances to better monitor and control visitor access. As a result of our current elementary school configuration, students must travel between schools throughout the day, which creates supervision and additional safety concerns.

Aging Building Systems

While the schools have been well maintained, many of the major building systems (heating, electrical, plumbing etc.) have exceeded their useful life, resulting in inefficiencies and ongoing costly repairs.

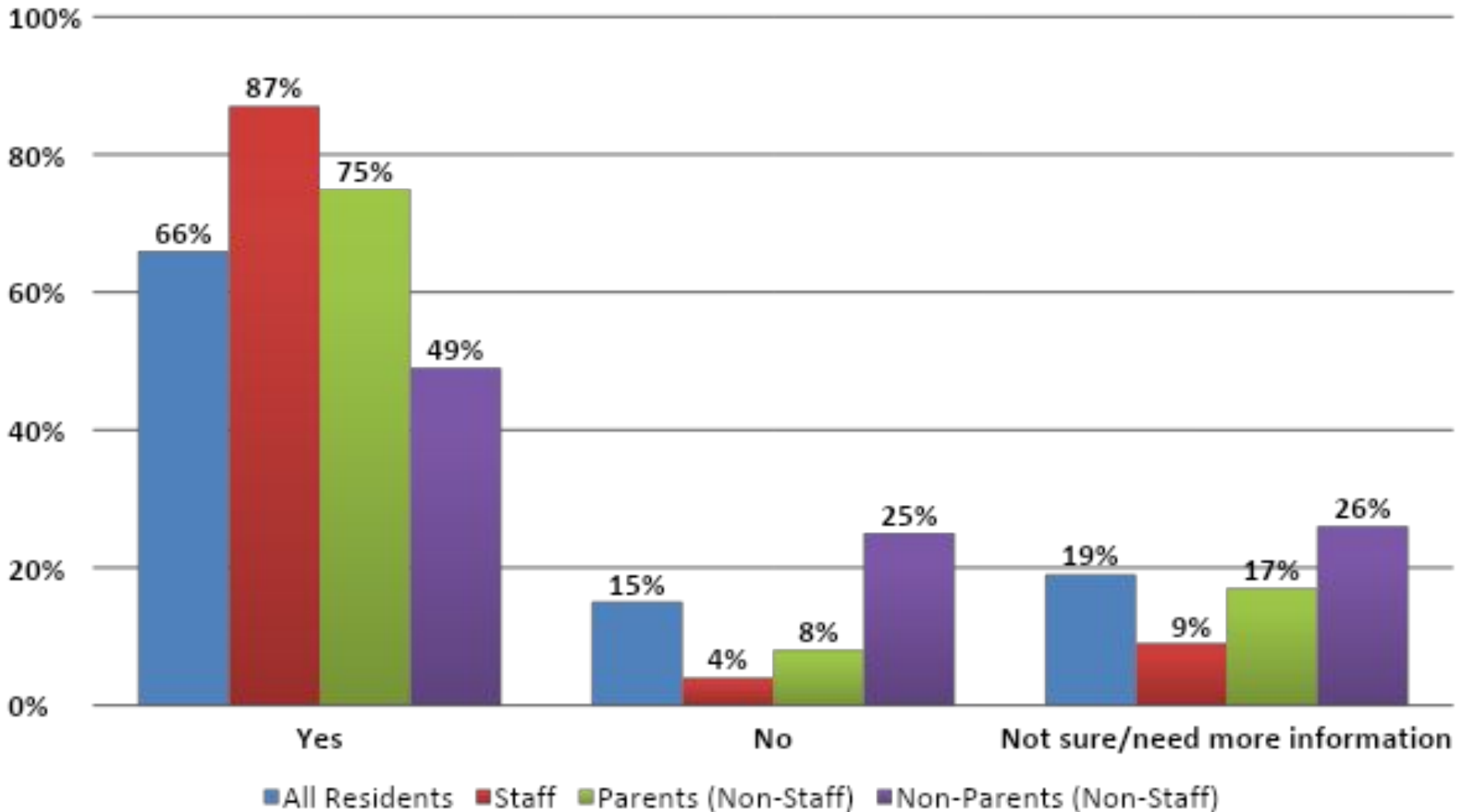
Educational Inadequacies

Many of the classrooms have not been updated since their original construction. Today's classrooms require greater flexibility for both large and small group instruction and student collaboration, as well as greater electrical capacity to meet technology demands. Improvements and expansion are also needed in some of the academic support areas such as the kitchen, cafeteria, library media center and science labs.

If the public chooses to address these facility needs, the primary way to obtain funding is through a capital referendum.

Would you support the District developing a plan and exploring a referendum to update our facilities?

(Boscobel Area School District Residents Only)



Elementary Schools

The District could consider closing one or more of the elementary buildings. Although this would require an initial investment to add space, the District would realize an ongoing annual savings as a result of having fewer buildings to maintain, heat, clean, and operate. This could also makes it easier to share staff and reduce duplication of resources.

Elementary Rock School

- Built in 1898
- Currently serves 121 students in early childhood and 4- & 5-year-old kindergarten
- Many building components have exceeded their service/useful lifespan
- Does not meet handicap-accessibility requirements
- Each day, students must walk to the Main School for lunch, art, physical education, library and music, which creates safety concerns and reduces instructional time



Elementary Annex Building

- Built in 1945
- Currently serves 55 students in 6th grade and provides space for the District office staff on the third floor
- Each day, students must walk to the Main School for lunch, art, physical education, library and music, which creates safety concerns and reduces instructional time
- Many building components have exceeded their service/useful lifespan
- Does not meet handicap-accessibility requirements



Elementary Main School

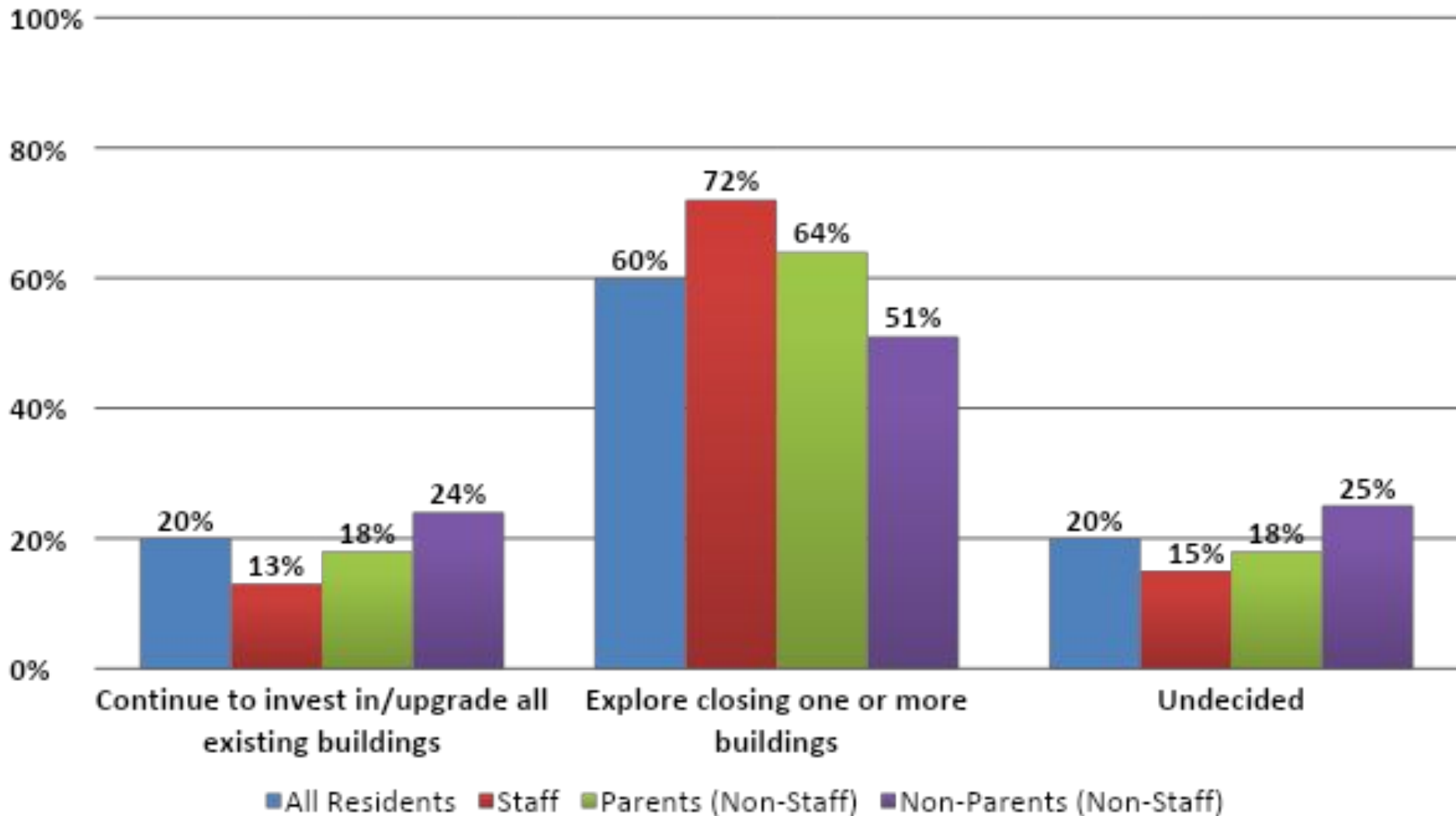
- Built in 1984
- Currently serves 275 students 1st through 5th grade
- Many building components have exceeded their service/useful lifespan
- Parking lot design and traffic flow creates student safety concerns



We are at a crossroads and need to make a decision if and how to make any investment in our schools. One path would have us continue to invest in all of the existing elementary buildings; the other would close one or more of our buildings, requiring the District to add space at another site.

What advice would you give the District?

(Boscobel Area School District Residents Only)



Boscobel Middle/High School

Boscobel Middle/High School

- Built in 1954
- Currently serving students in 7th through 12th grade
- Many building components have exceeded their service/useful lifespan
- The school's layout and core spaces do not meet current educational, capacity and community needs



In addition to addressing the needs at the elementary buildings, the following projects could be funded through a capital referendum.

How likely would you be to support a plan that provides funding to...

Very likely (3), Somewhat likely (2), Not likely (1)

| Item | All Residents | Staff Residents | Parent Residents (Non-Staff) | Non-Parent Residents (Non-Staff) |
|--|---------------|-----------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| enhance school safety and security? | 2.53 | 2.78 | 2.66 | 2.32 |
| update building systems? | 2.46 | 2.84 | 2.60 | 2.19 |
| renovate classrooms and update restrooms? | 2.43 | 2.80 | 2.56 | 2.17 |
| update the high school science and technical education classrooms? | 2.39 | 2.76 | 2.49 | 2.15 |
| update and expand the kitchen and cafeteria? | 2.23 | 2.59 | 2.33 | 1.98 |
| update the library media center? | 2.20 | 2.53 | 2.32 | 1.96 |
| update and expand the middle and high school gyms? | 2.24 | 2.59 | 2.41 | 1.94 |

Funding Support

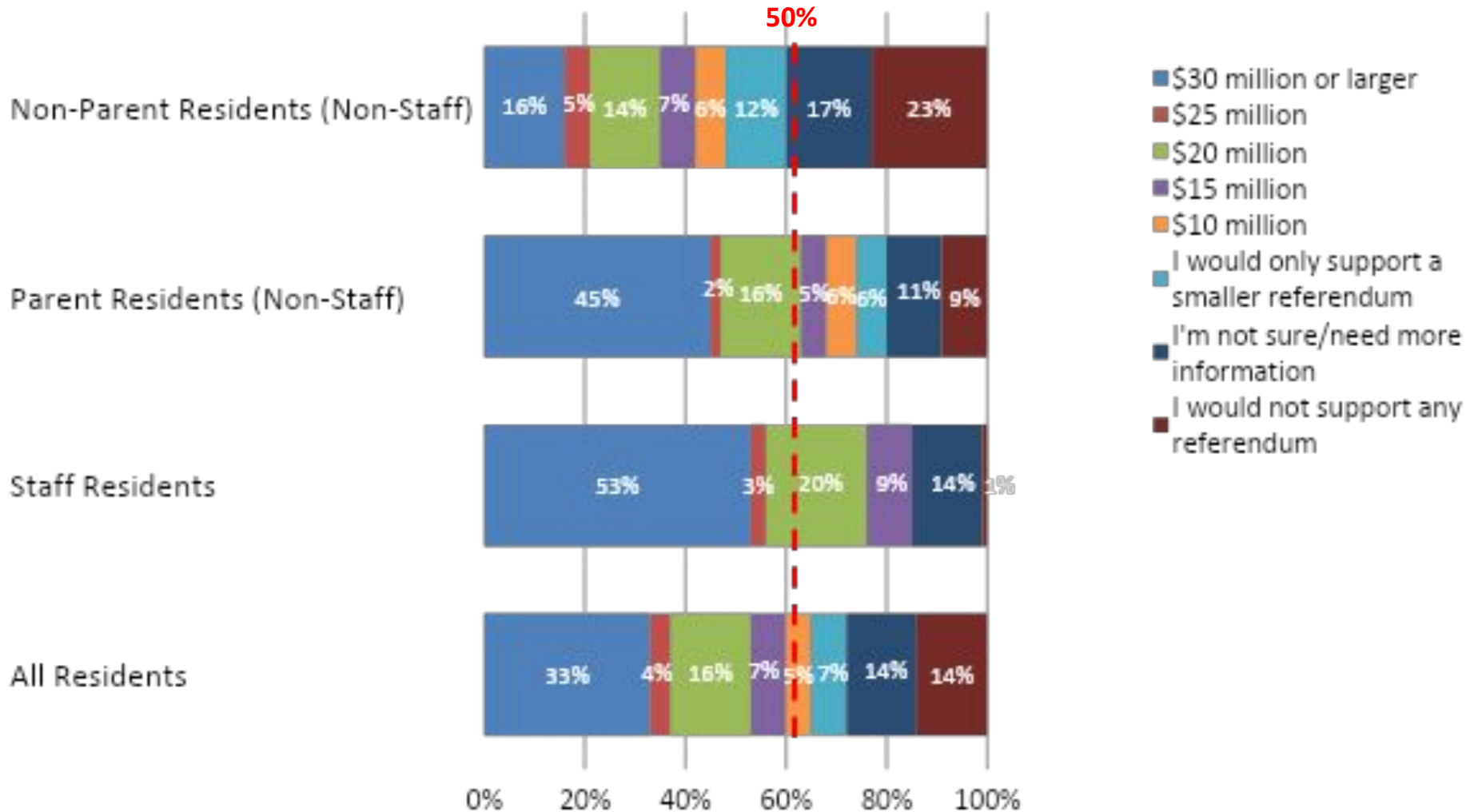
The cost of all the facility projects identified in this survey could exceed \$30 million. **We realize doing all of these projects at one time may not be feasible.** Therefore, we will establish a plan based on the priorities of the community and their willingness to financially support the projects.

The following table shows the estimated tax increase over the current level for various referendum amounts.

| Referendum amount | \$10 million | \$15 million | \$20 million | \$25million | \$30 million |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Estimated tax increase per \$100,000 of property value over the current level | \$133 per year <i>(\$11 per month)</i> | \$199 per year <i>(\$17 per month)</i> | \$265 per year <i>(\$22 per month)</i> | \$322 per year <i>(\$27 per month)</i> | \$387 per year <i>(\$32 per month)</i> |

How much of a tax impact would you support through a capital referendum, assuming the projects included were acceptable to you?

(Boscobel Area School District Residents Only)



Thank you!