

# Survey Basics

- This survey involved 400 completed telephone interviews with registered voters in the Indian Prairie School District.
- All interviews were completed between July 23 and July 26, 2005.
- The overall margin of error for the results of this survey is +/- 4.5%.

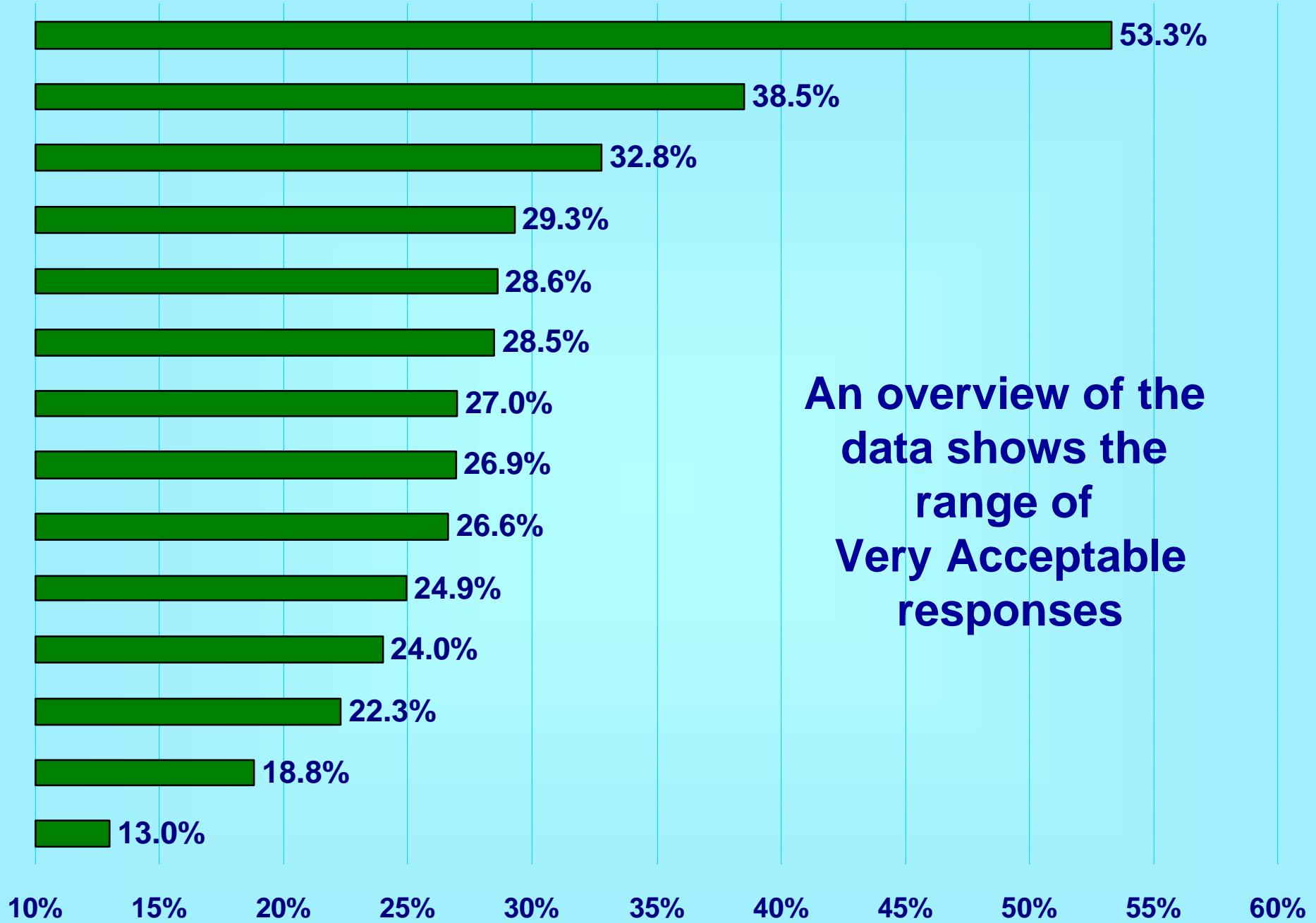
# Priorities

“Because there will be more students in the district’s schools than the buildings were designed to accommodate the Indian Prairie School District needs to create additional classroom space. There are a number of ways the district can create the space it needs.

“To get your reaction to some of these options, I am going to read a list of some of the options the district has available. For each, tell me if you believe the option is very acceptable, somewhat acceptable, somewhat unacceptable or very unacceptable.”

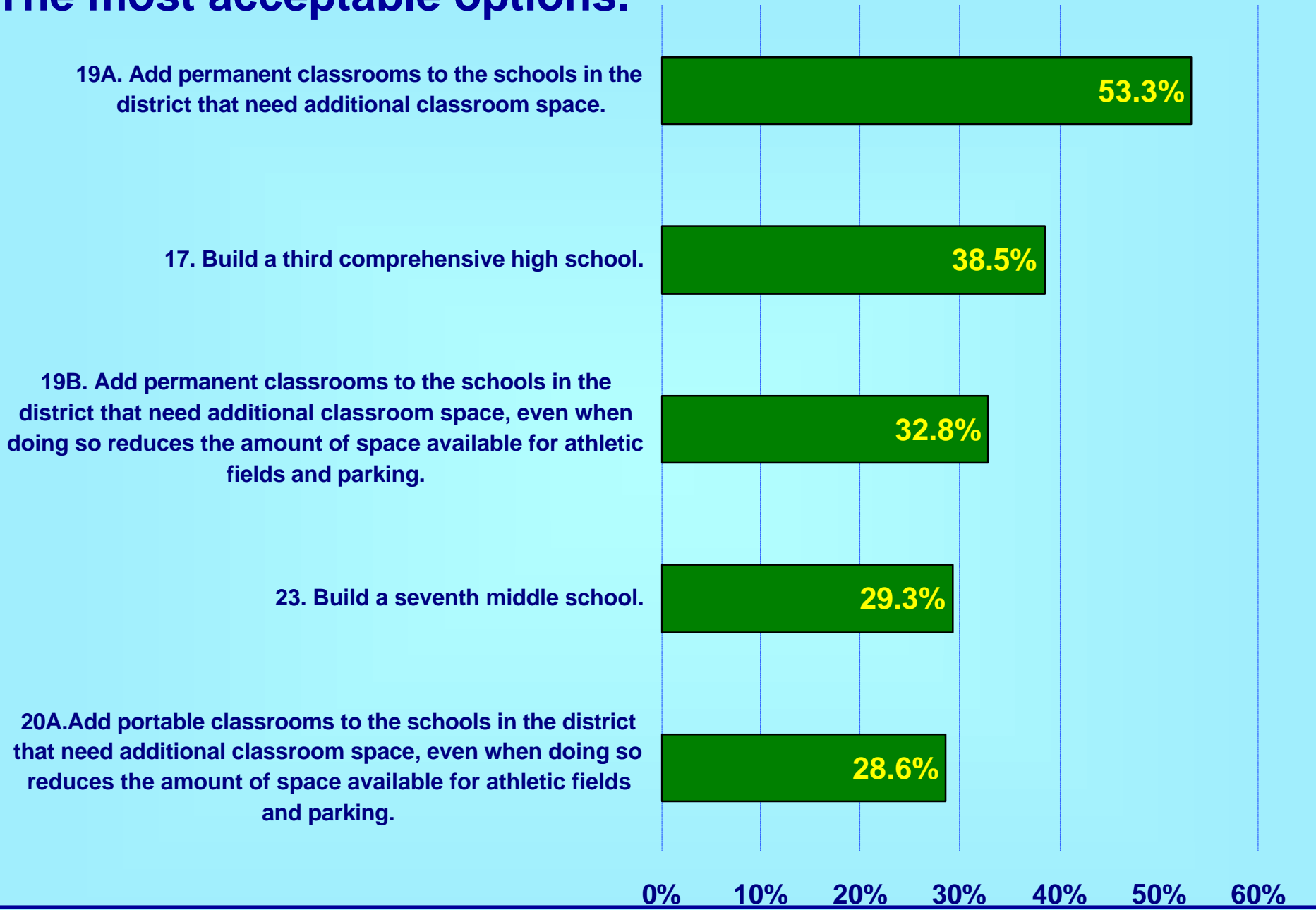
# A Simple Ranking

- Rank each method of providing additional space by the percentage who found the option very acceptable.
- Construction options are most acceptable.
- Split shifts and changing grade configurations are least acceptable.

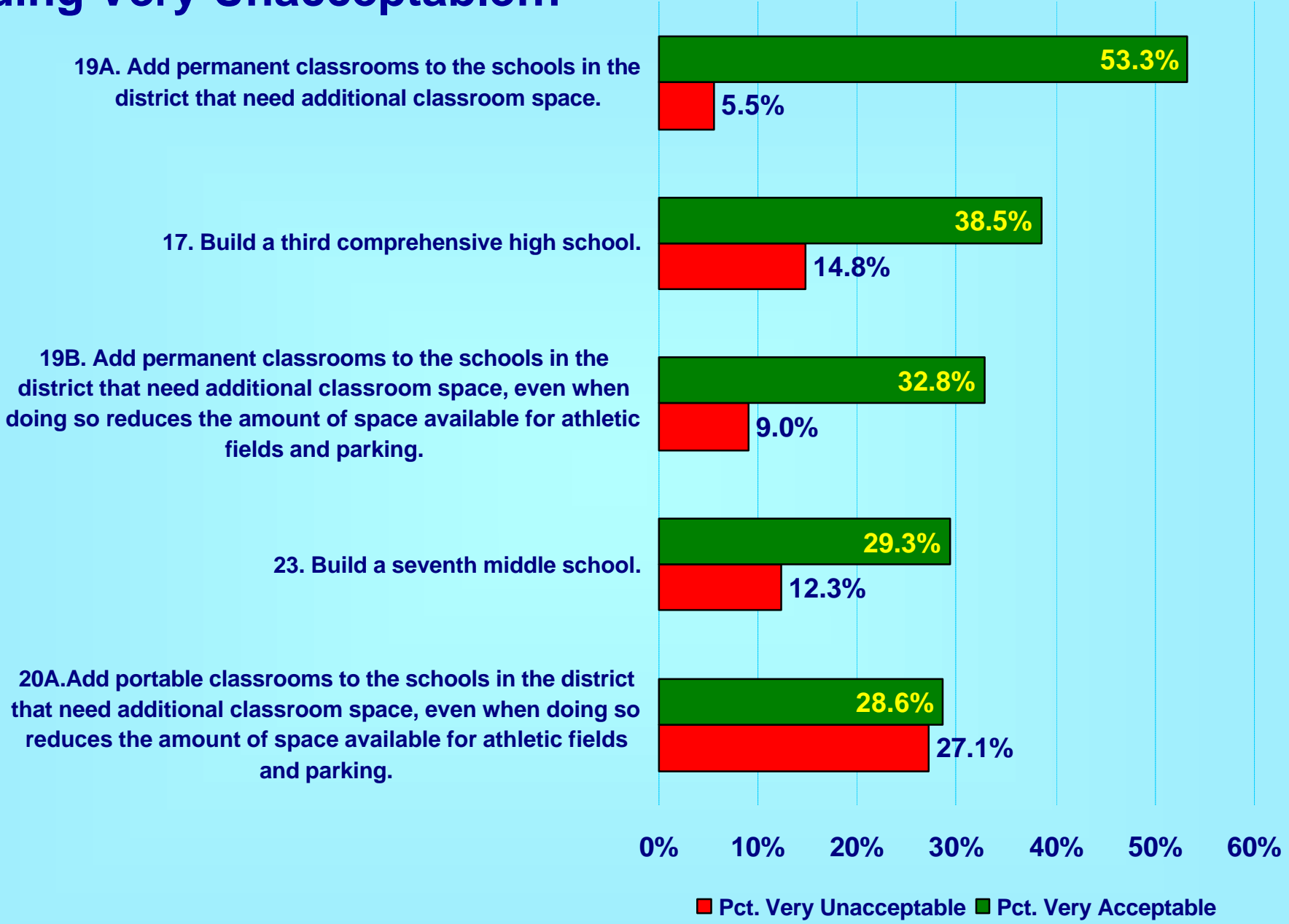


**An overview of the data shows the range of Very Acceptable responses**

# The most acceptable options.



# Adding Very Unacceptable...



# The “middle group”

25. Build a small high school where some students in 11th and 12th grades would be able to concentrate on accelerated high school classes and begin college level course work.

28.5%

18. Adopt a year-round school calendar.

27.0%

21B. Change the attendance boundaries for individual schools as often as needed to avoid overcrowding.

26.9%

21A. Change the attendance boundaries for individual schools.

26.6%

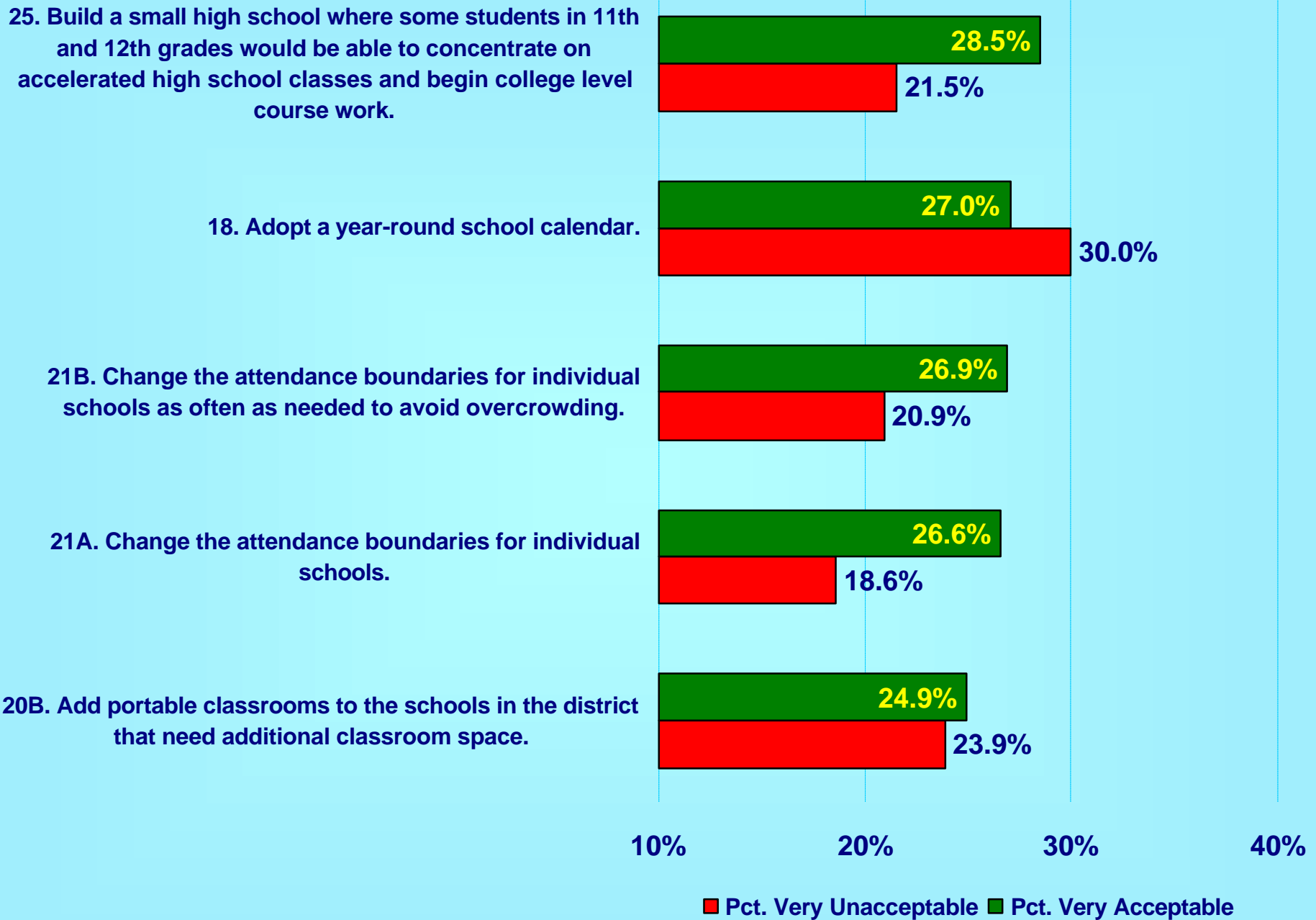
20B. Add portable classrooms to the schools in the district that need additional classroom space.

24.9%

10%

20%

30%



# The least acceptable options.

26. Build a magnet school which will allow students to concentrate in a specific discipline or area of study.

24.0%

27. Build additional high school grade level centers similar to the Freshman Centers the district has created.

22.3%

24. Instead of the current seven hour high school day, operate the high schools on split shifts where half of the students attend classes for five hours in the morning and the other half attend classes for five hours in the afternoon.

18.8%

22. Change the grade levels assigned to elementary, middle and high schools.

13.0%

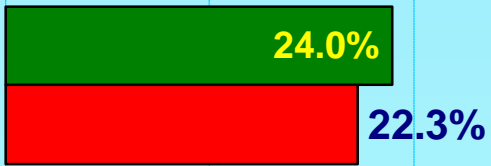
10%

20%

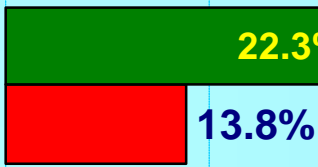
30%

# Some with high levels of very unacceptable.

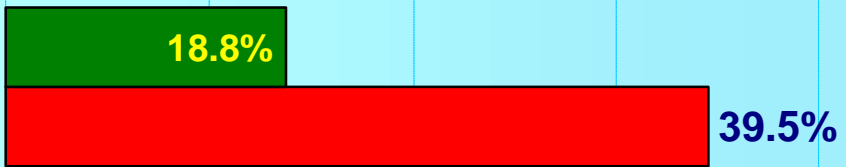
26. Build a magnet school which will allow students to concentrate in a specific discipline or area of study.



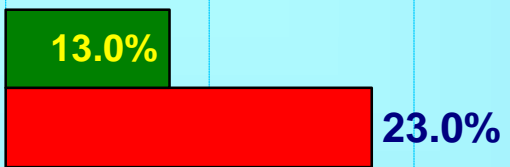
27. Build additional high school grade level centers similar to the Freshman Centers the district has created.



24. Instead of the current seven hour high school day, operate the high schools on split shifts where half of the students attend classes for five hours in the morning and the other half attend classes for five hours in the afternoon.



22. Change the grade levels assigned to elementary, middle and high schools.

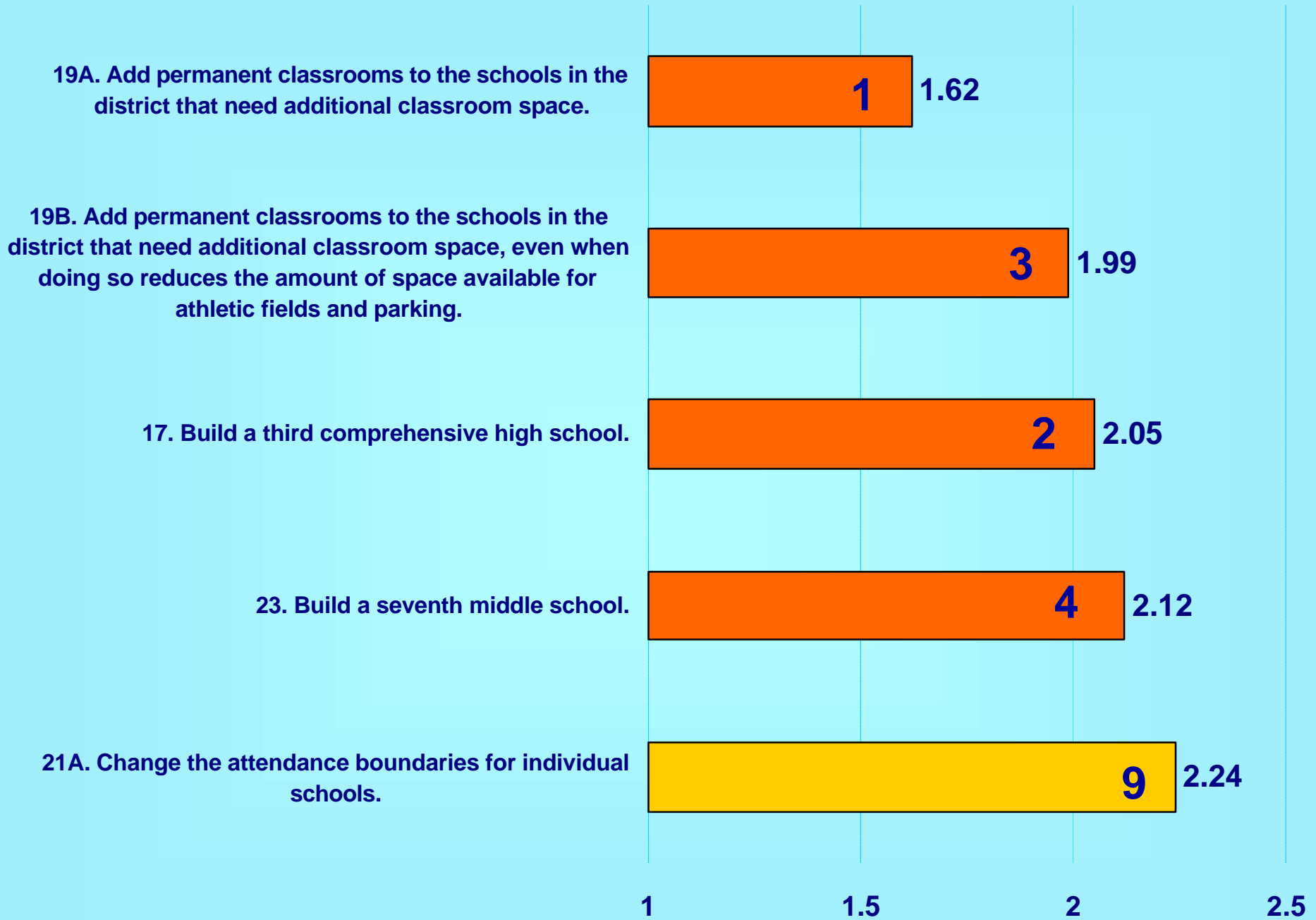


5% 15% 25% 35% 45%

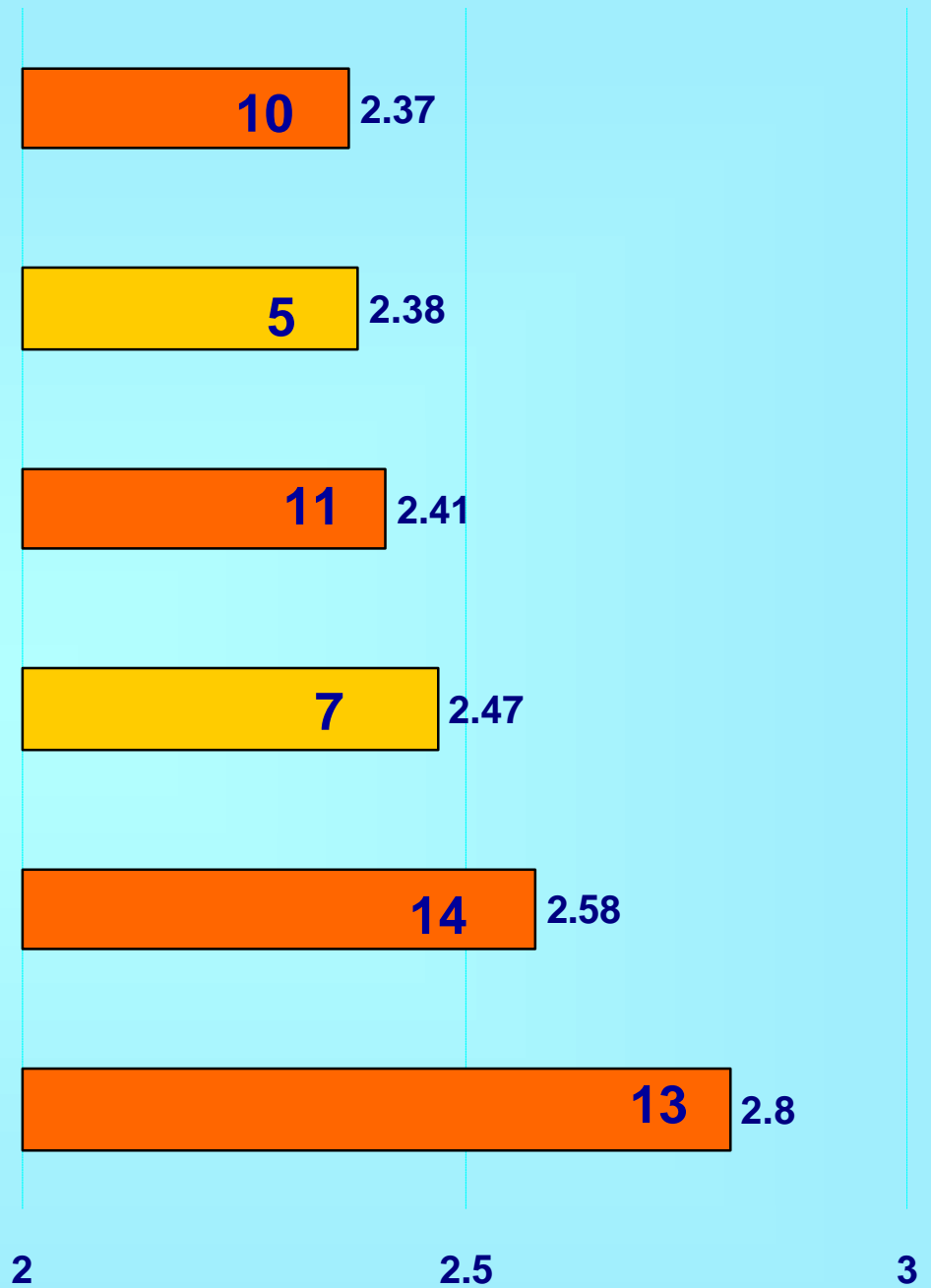
■ Pct. Very Unacceptable ■ Pct. Very Acceptable

# Use a Mean Based Scale

- The responses are all assigned a numerical value:
  - Very acceptable = 1
  - Very unacceptable = 4
- Eliminate the responses of those with no opinion
- Calculate a mean response and rank

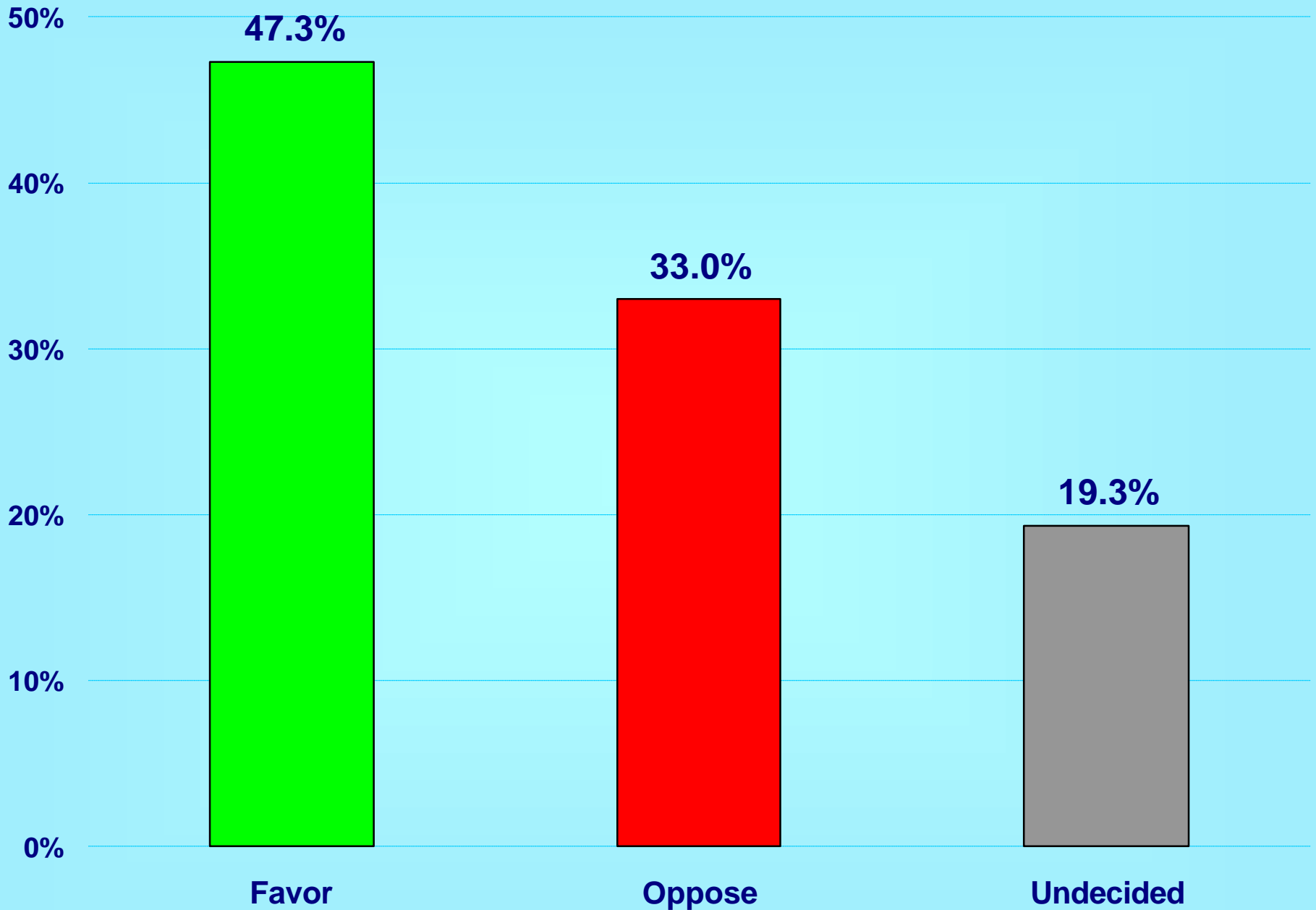


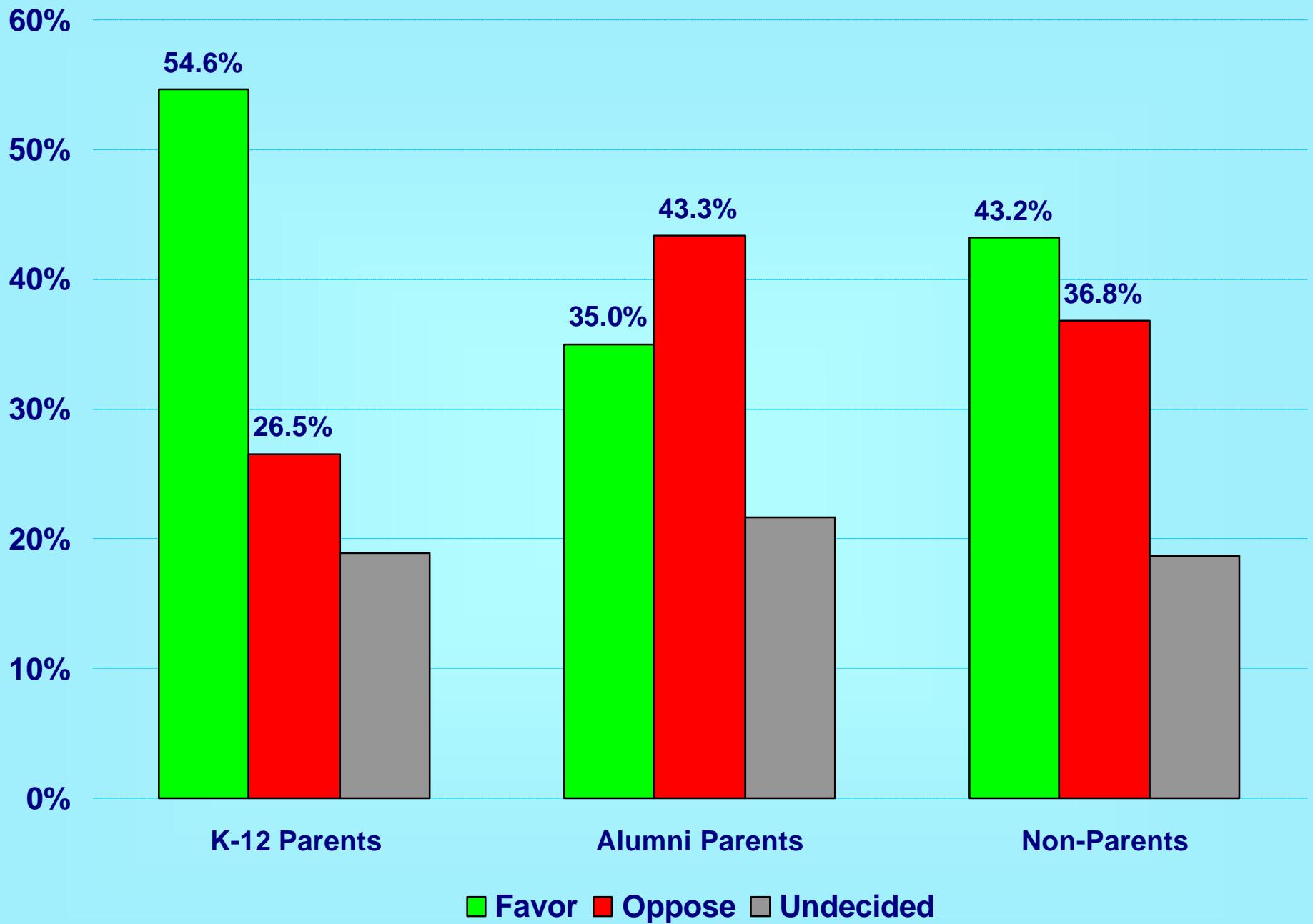
24. Instead of the current seven hour high school day, operate the high schools on split shifts where half of the students attend classes for five hours in the morning and the other half attend classes for five hours in the afternoon.



# A Tax Increase?

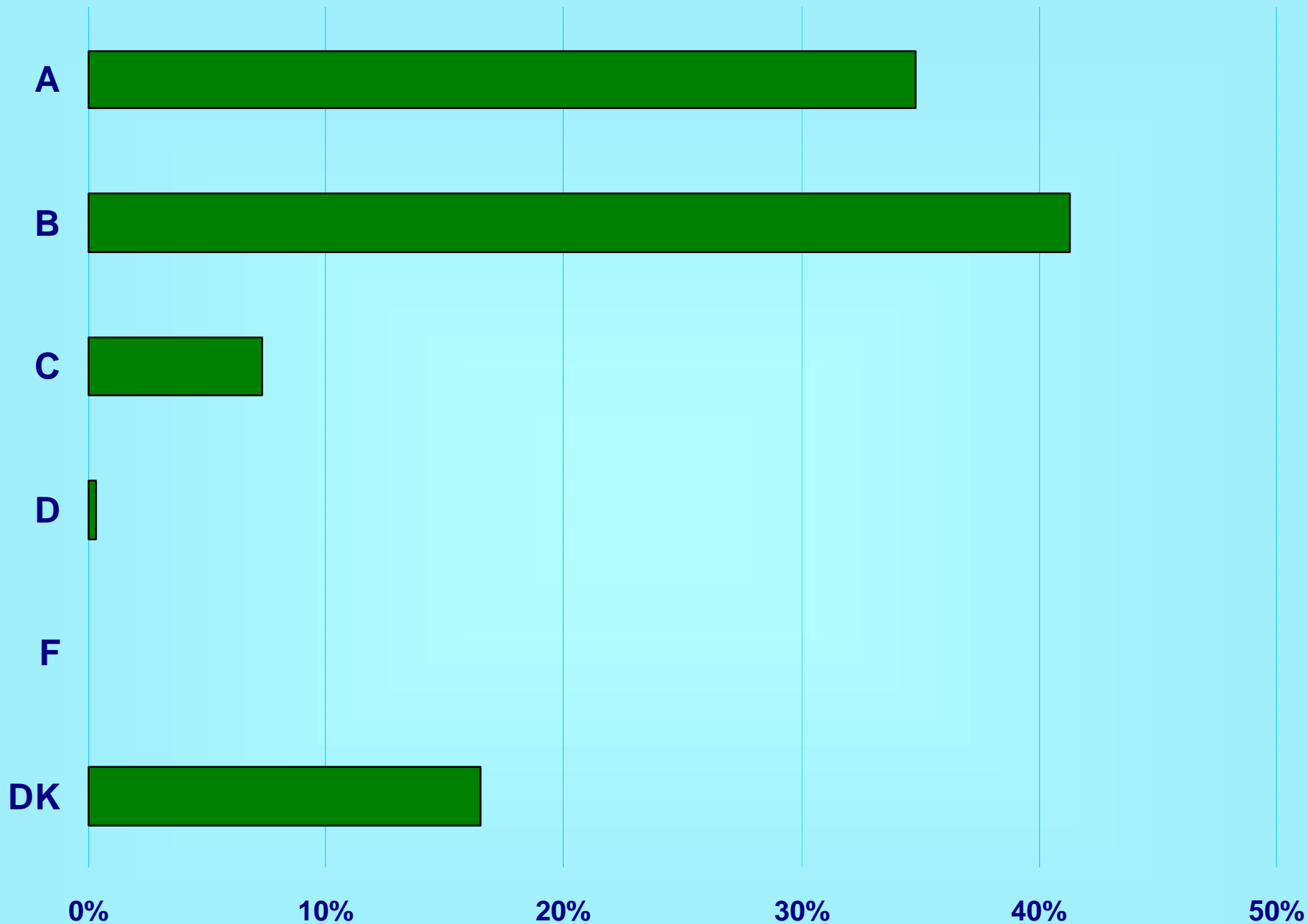
“There is a cost associated with most of the ways the district can create additional classroom space. If the district asked local voters to approve a property tax increase to raise the funds needed to create the classroom space the district needs, would you favor or oppose such a proposal?”

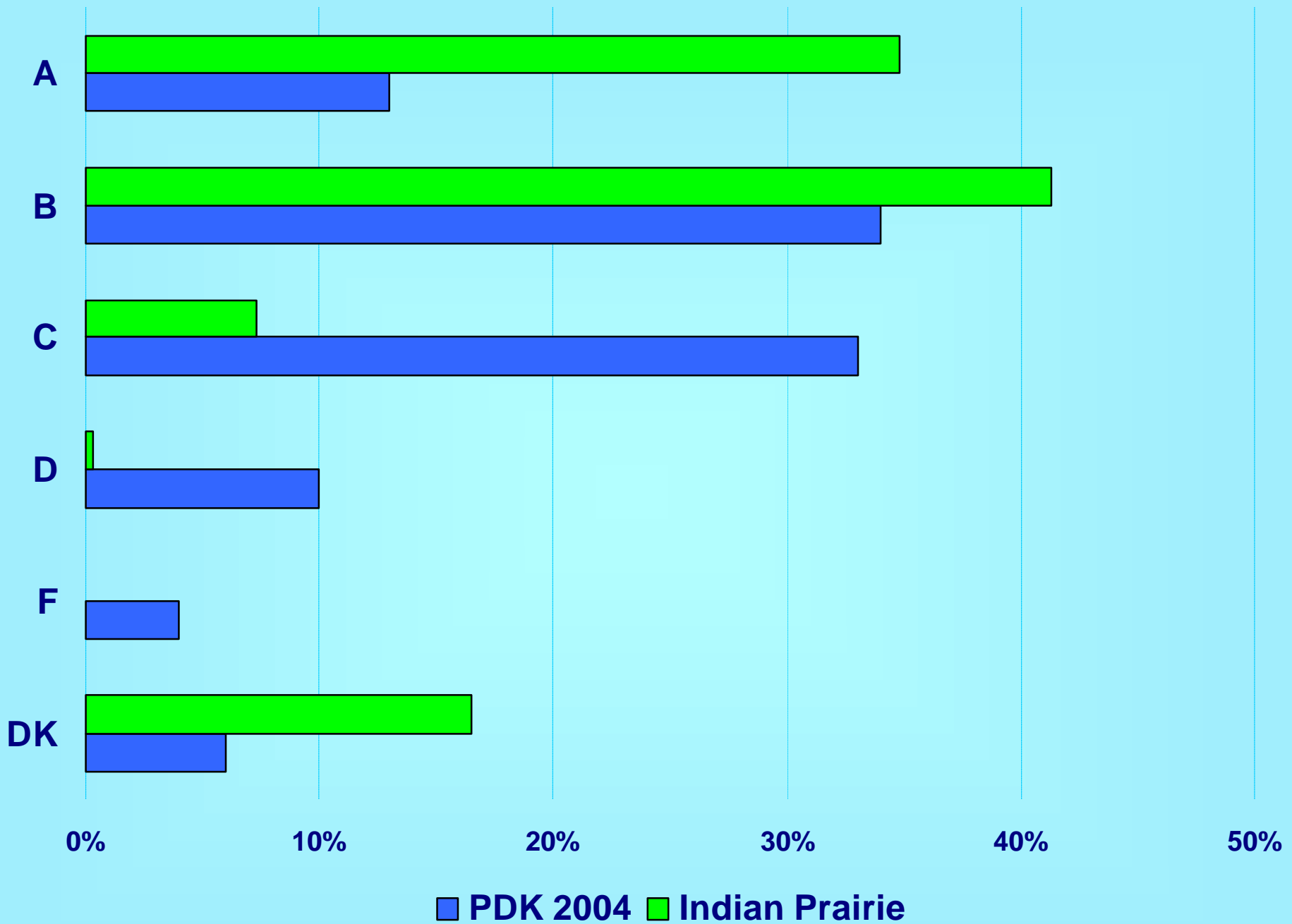




# Evaluate the District

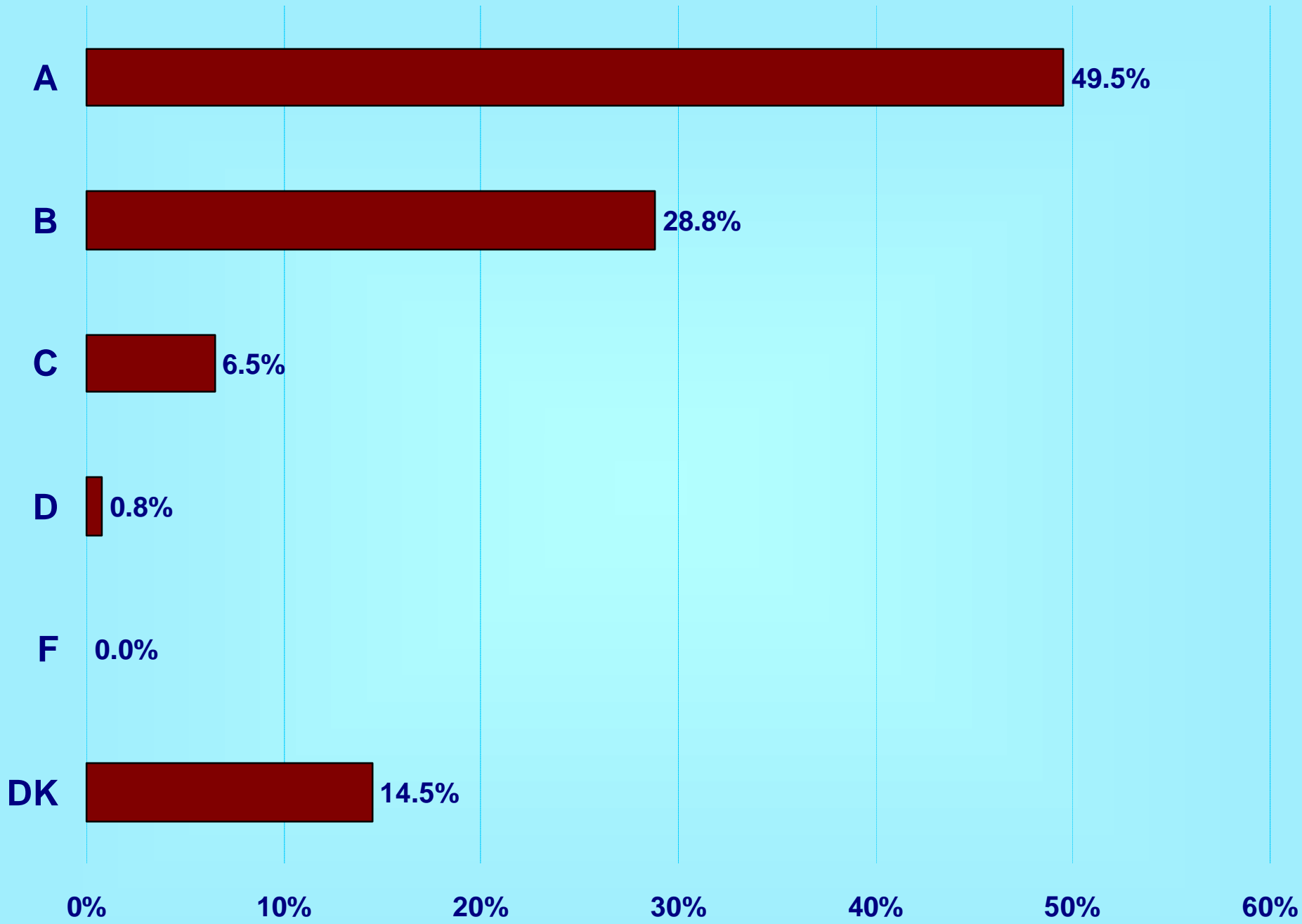
“Students are often given the grades of A, B, C, D, and F to denote the quality of their work. Suppose the public schools in your community were graded in the same way. What grade would you give the public schools in the Indian Prairie School District?”





# Evaluate Facilities

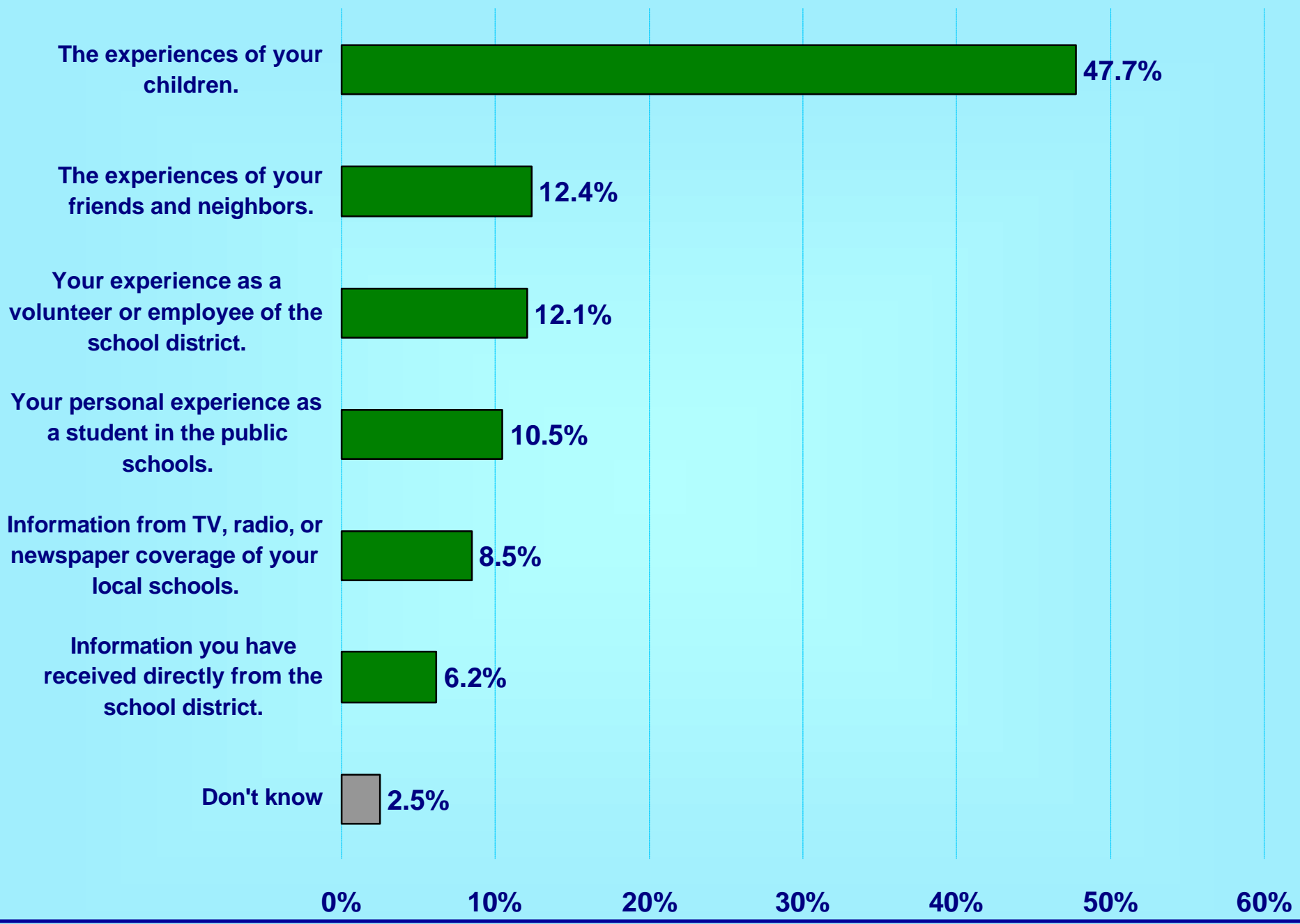
“What grade would you give to the school facilities that serve your neighborhood in the Indian Prairie School District?”



# Basis for the Grade

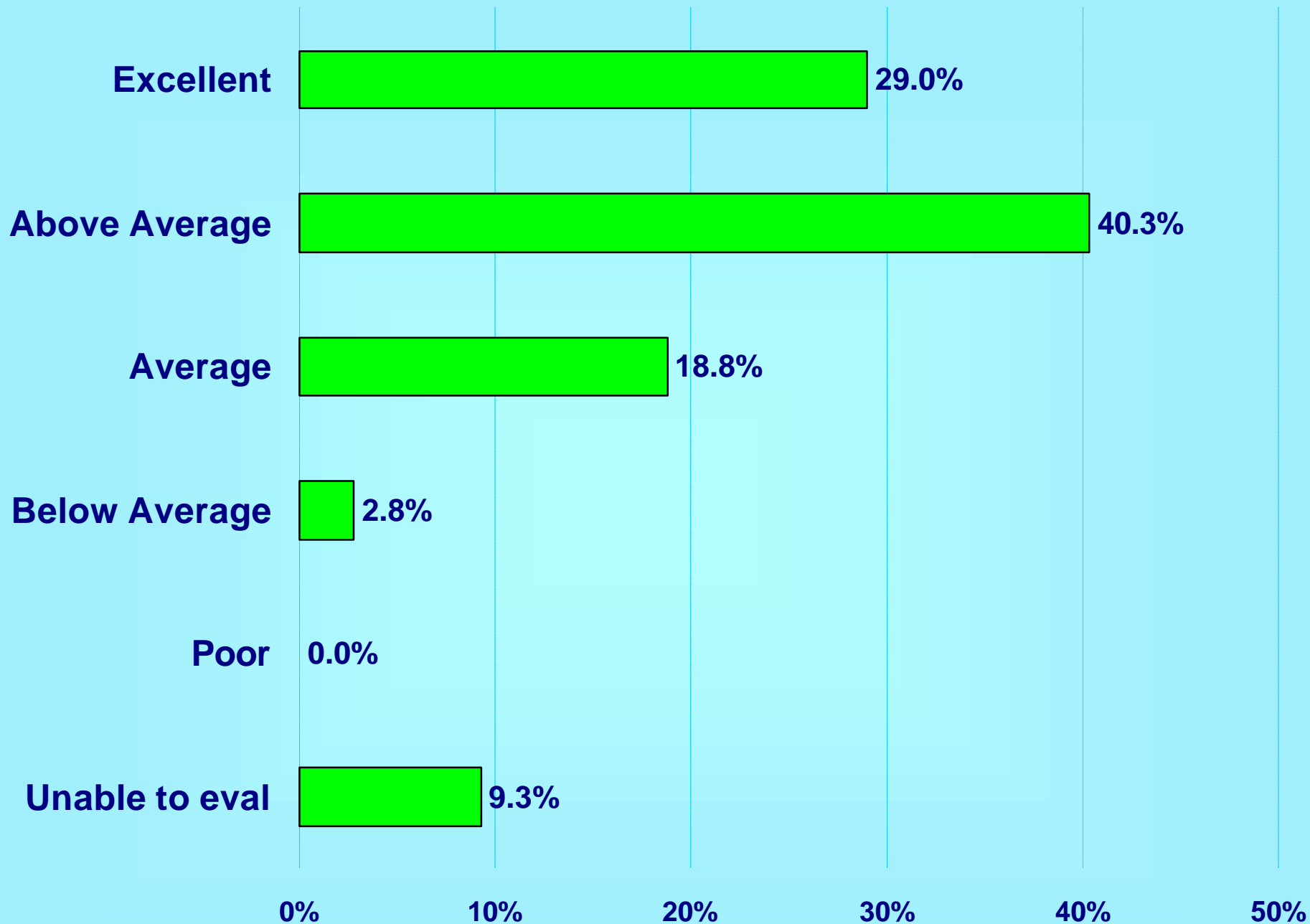
**“Is the grade you just gave based mainly on:**

- 1) your personal experience as a student in the public schools;
- 2) the experiences of your children:
- 3) your experience as a volunteer or employee of the school district;
- 4) the experiences of your friends and neighbors;
- 5) information you have received directly from the school district  
or
- 6) information from TV, radio, or newspaper coverage of your local schools?”



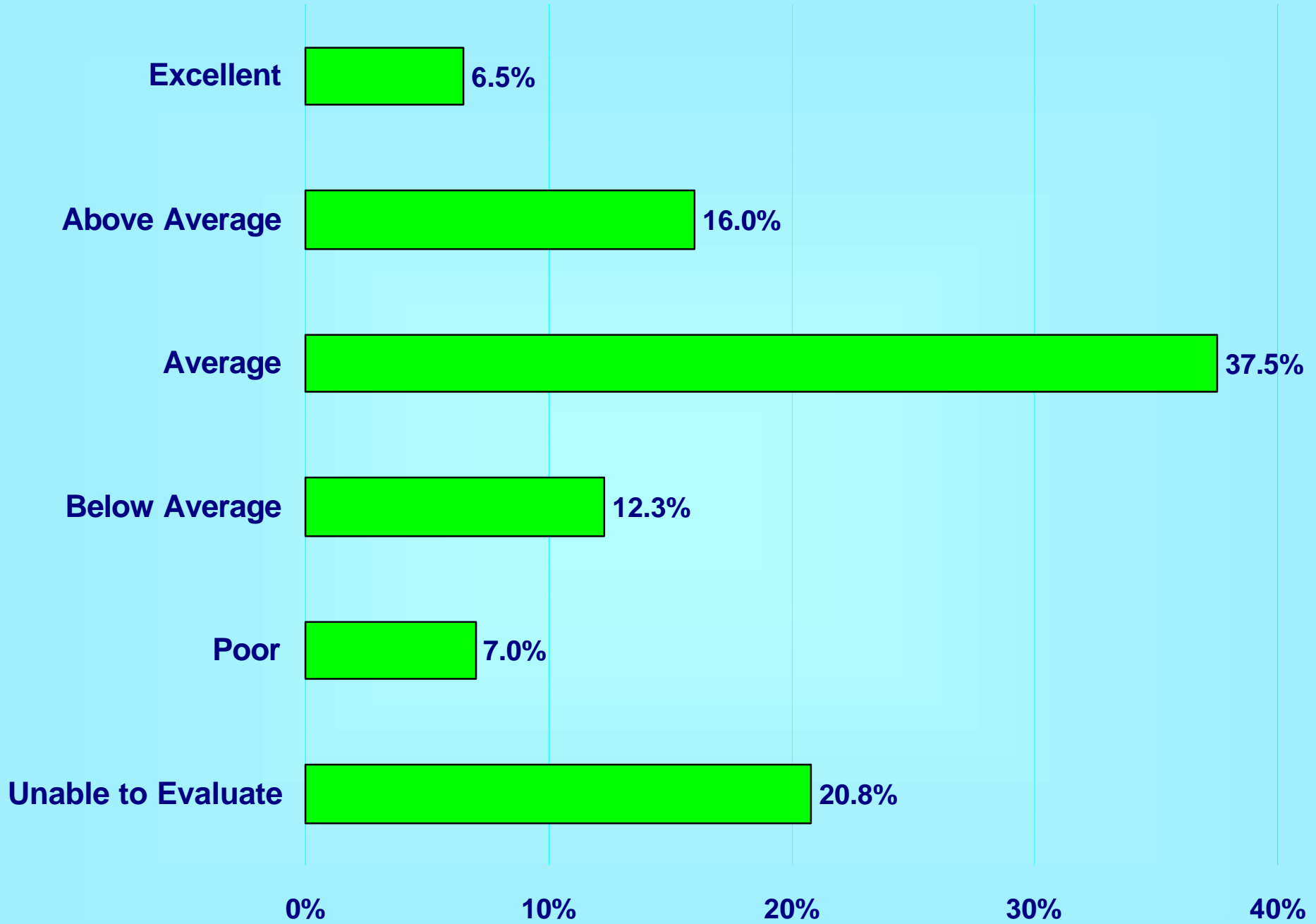
# Serving Students

Please tell me if you believe the district has done an excellent, above average, average, below average or poor job:  
**serving the educational needs of the students in your neighborhood.**



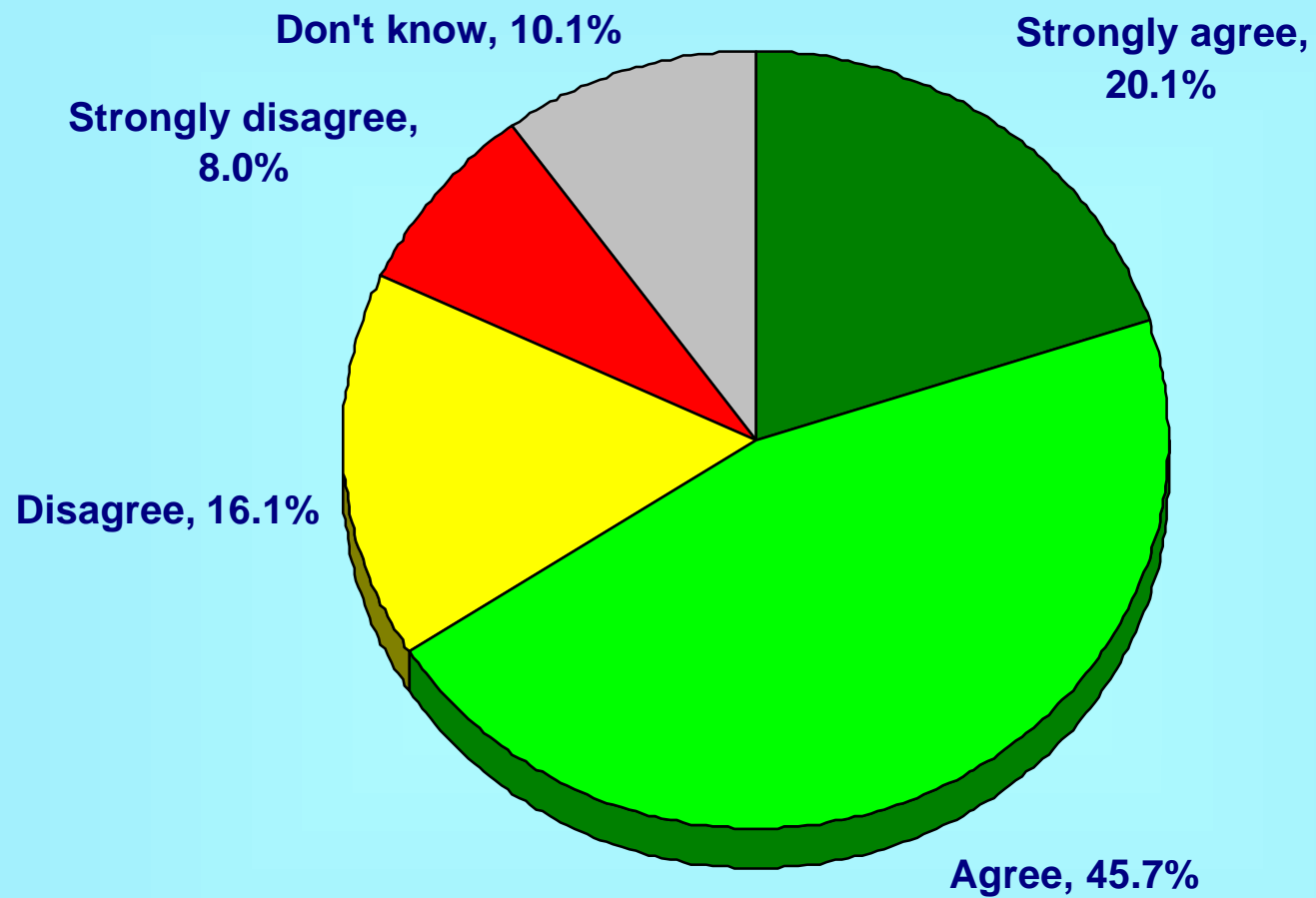
# Financial Management

**Consider the financial management of the school district.** Would you rate the financial management as excellent, above average, average, below average or poor?



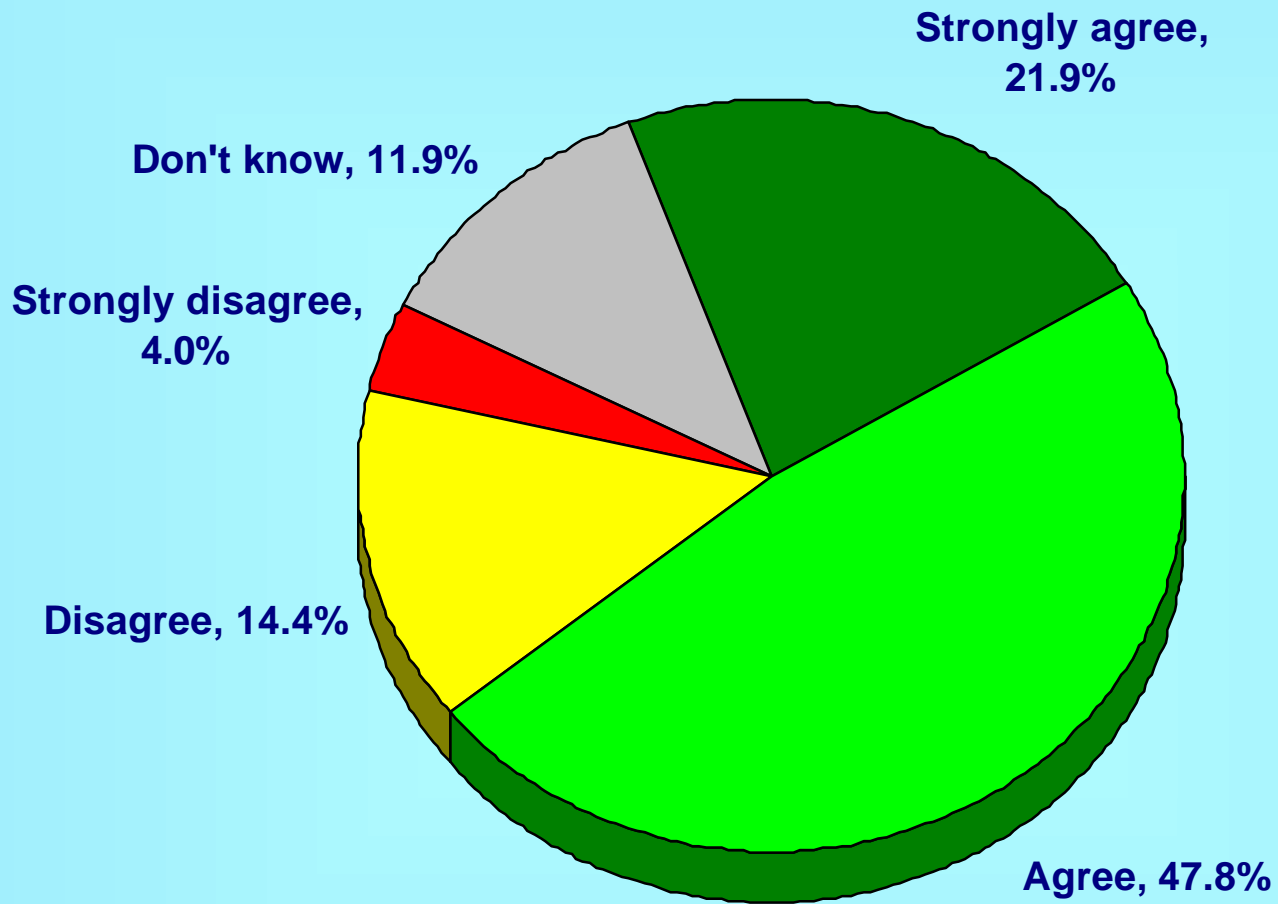
# Decision Making

Please tell me whether you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree with the statement: **I have confidence in the school district's decision making process.**



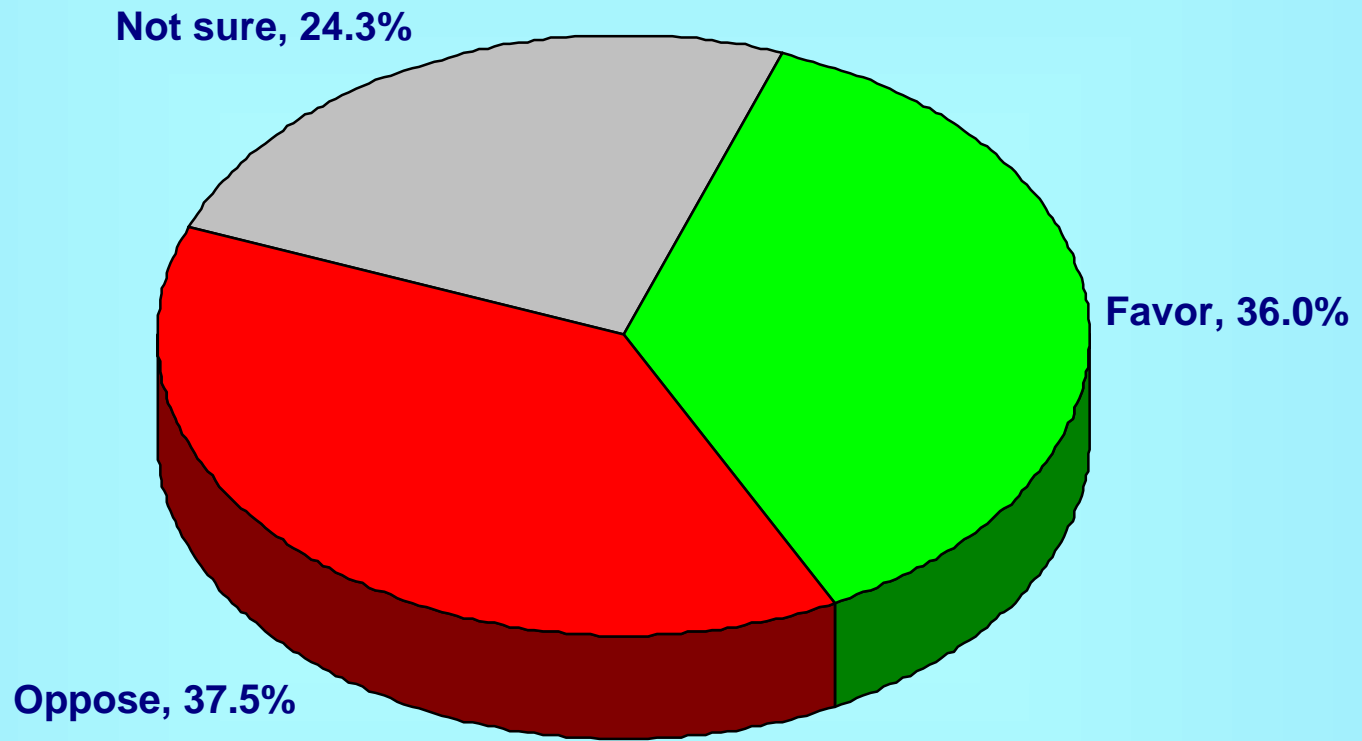
# Advisory Committees

Please tell me whether you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree with the statement: **When the school district appoints a Citizens Advisory Committee, I have confidence in the recommendations such committees make to the district.**



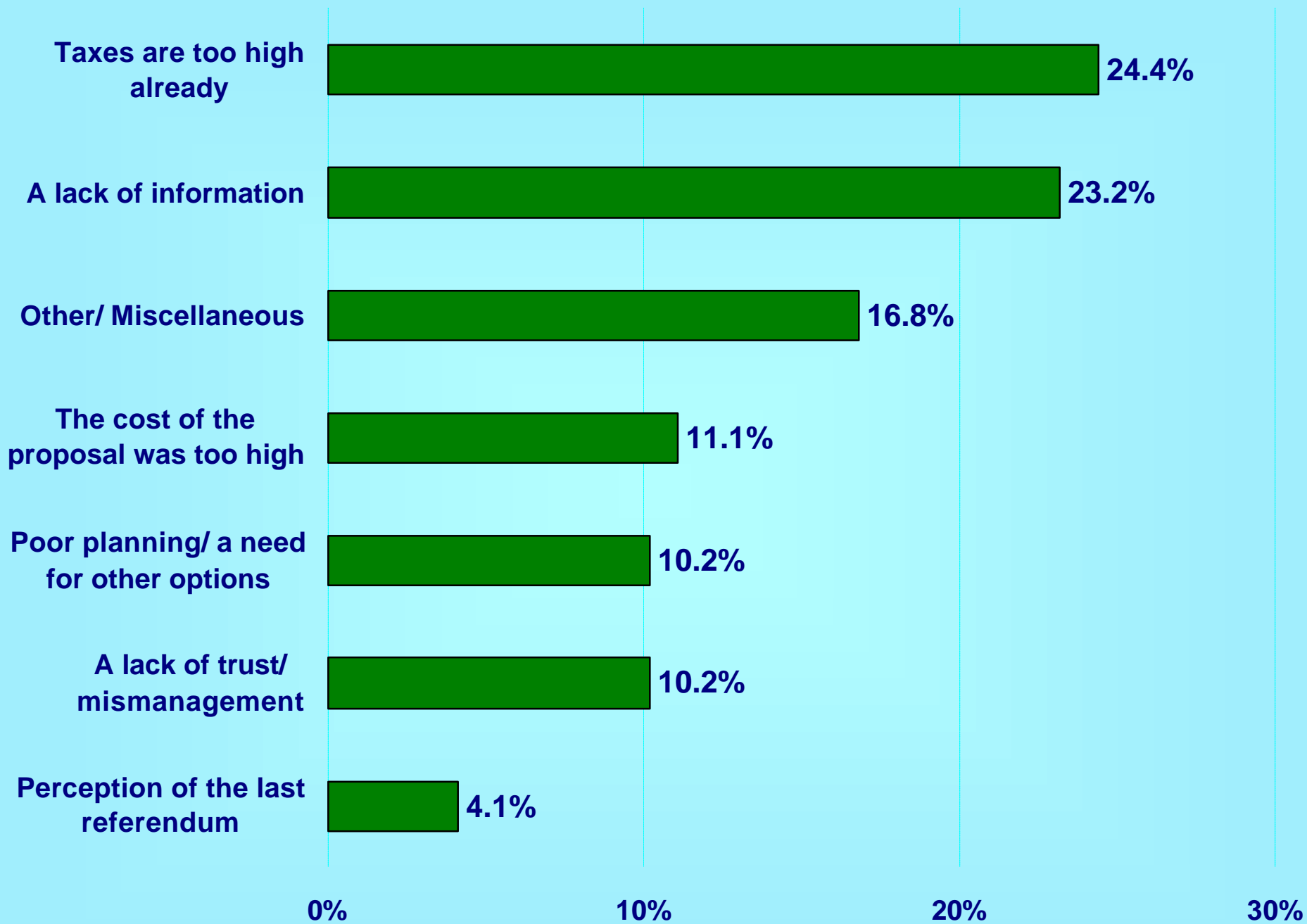
# The April Election

In April, the Indian Prairie School District asked voters to approve a school bond referendum. **Did you favor or oppose the district's proposal?**



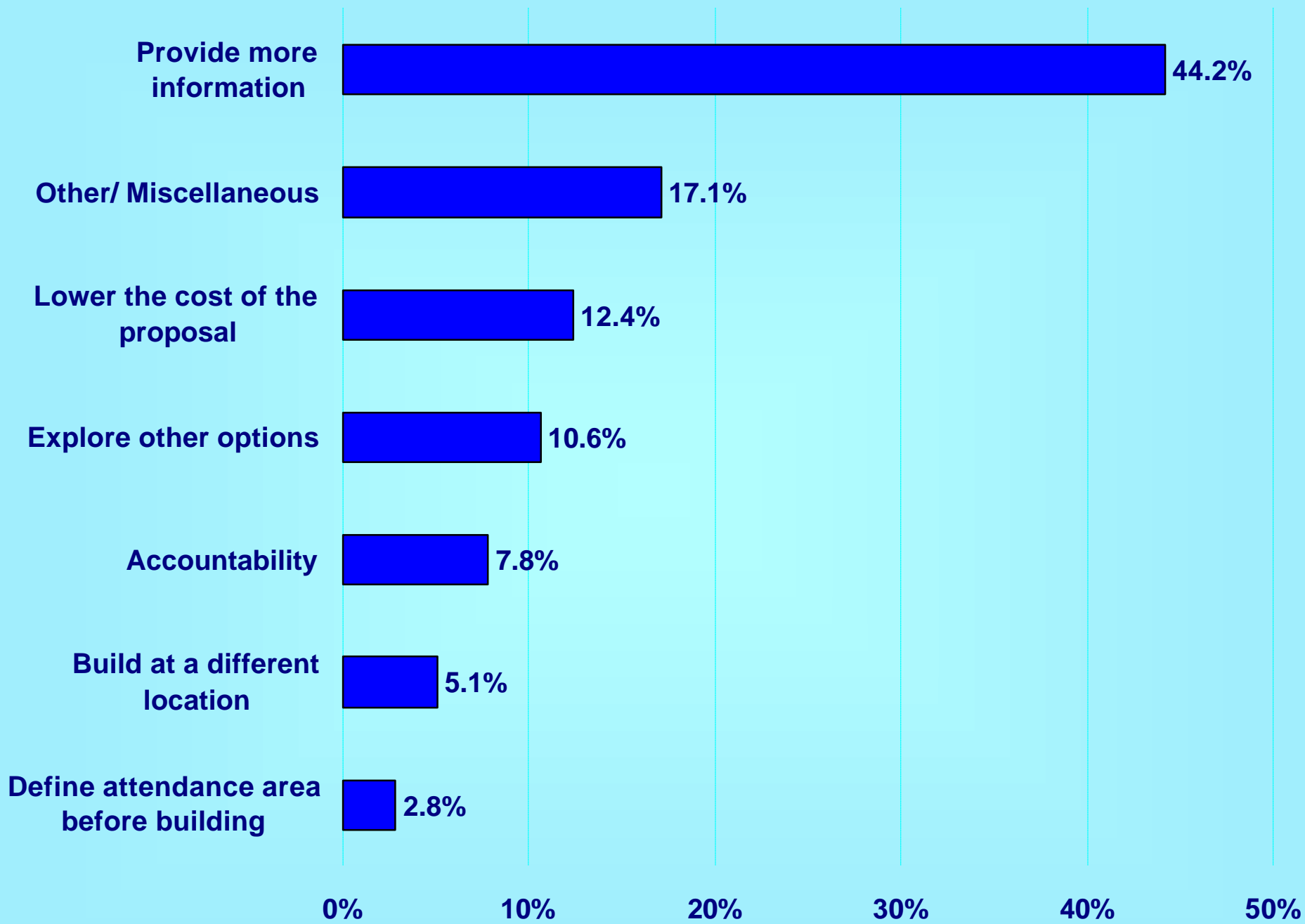
# Why did it Fail?

**What do you believe was the most important reason the school bond referendum failed to win support from local voters?**



# Change?

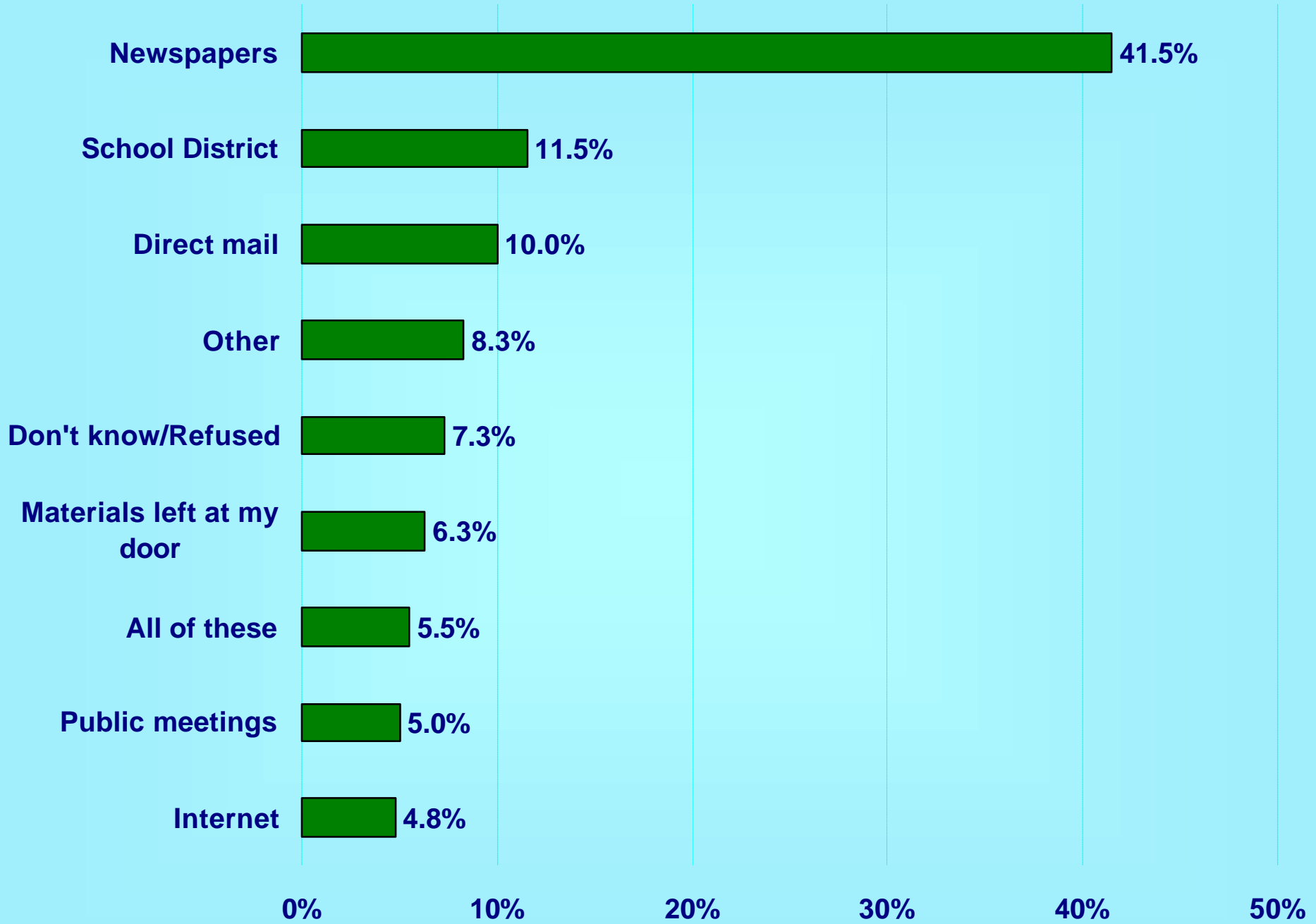
**Is there one thing that the district could change about its bond referendum that you believe would cause more voters to support it?**



# Source of Election Information

---

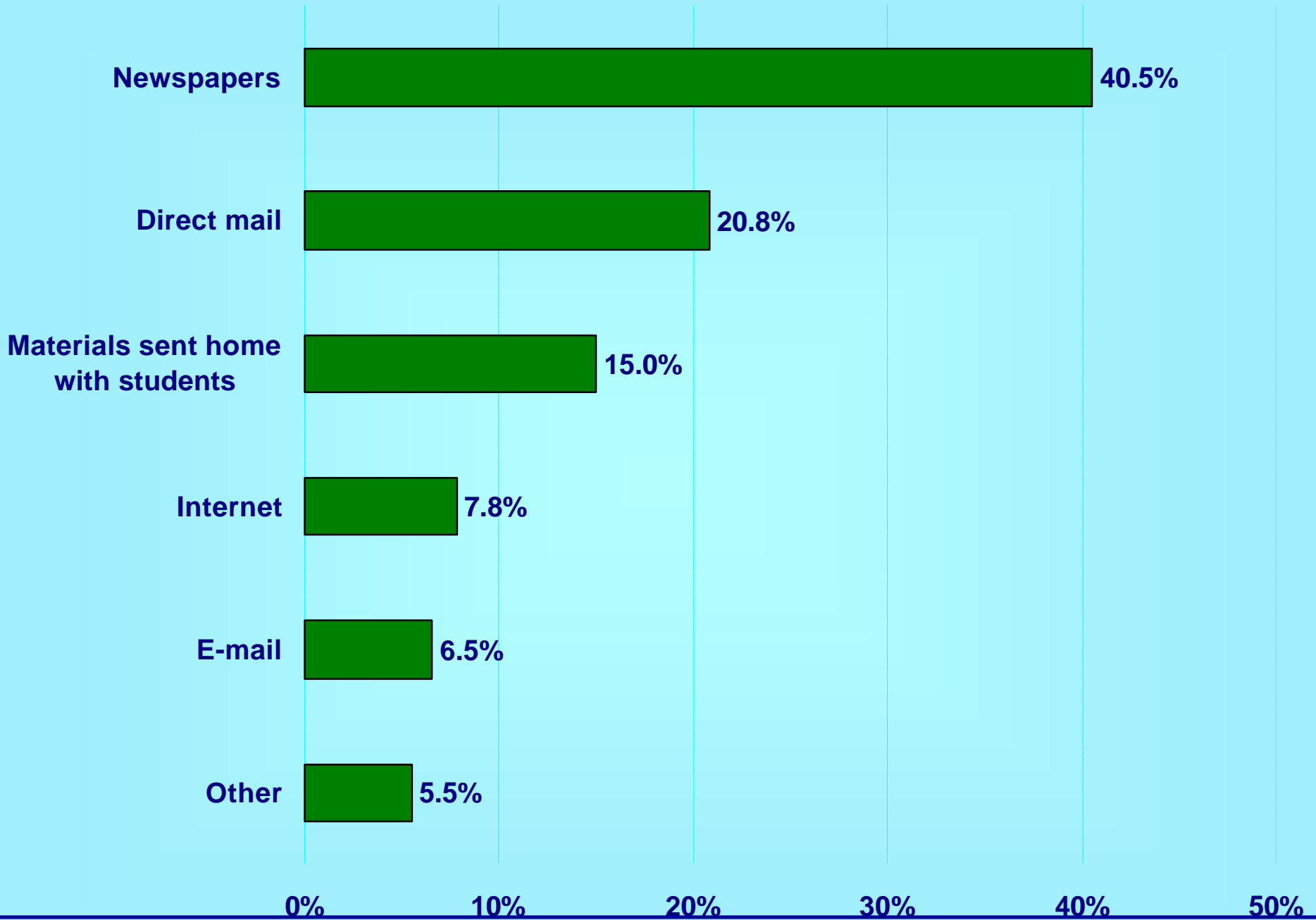
**Which of the following was your primary source of information about the district's bond referendum during the April election?**



# Source of District Information

---

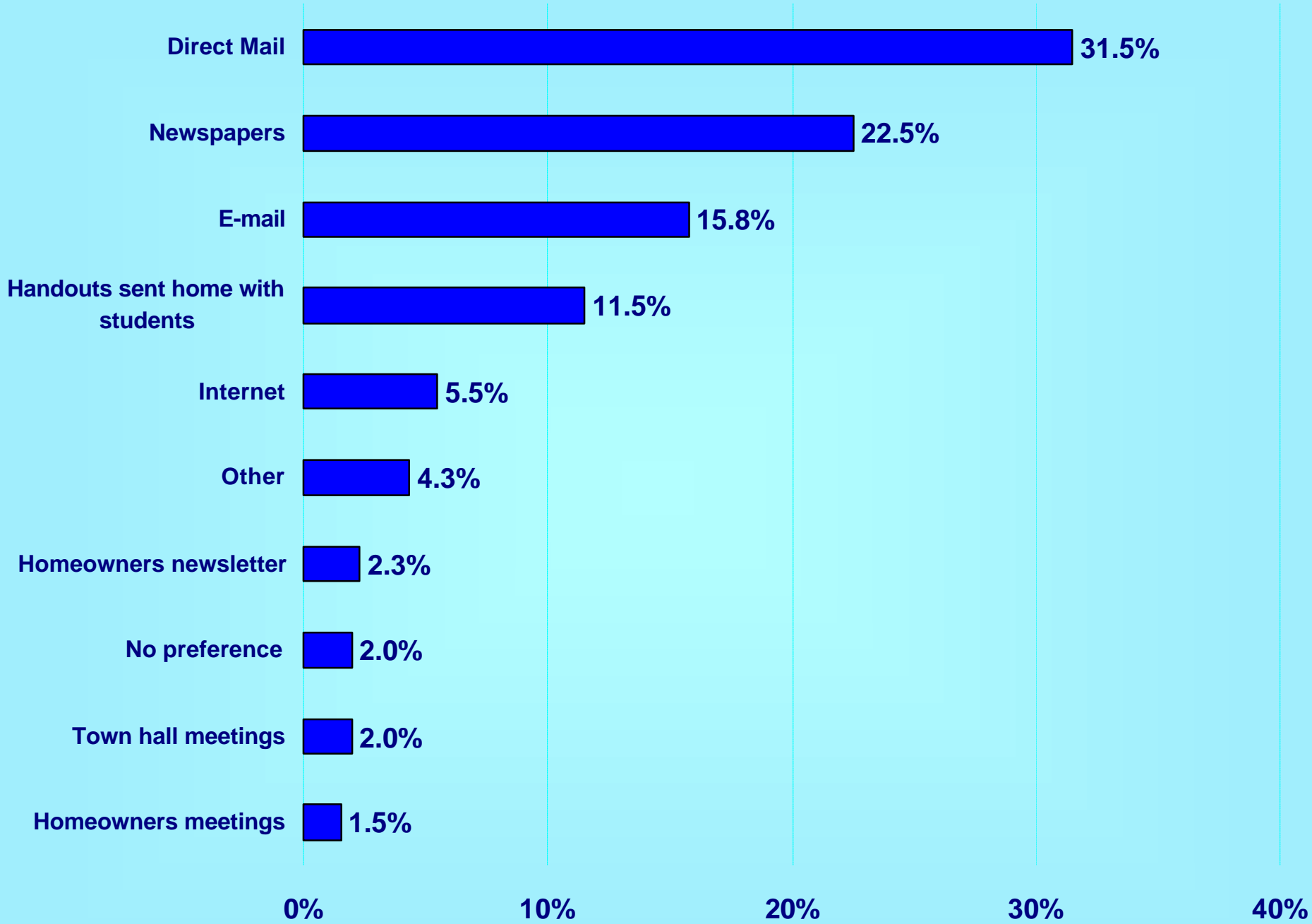
**How do you currently receive  
information about the Indian Prairie  
School District?**

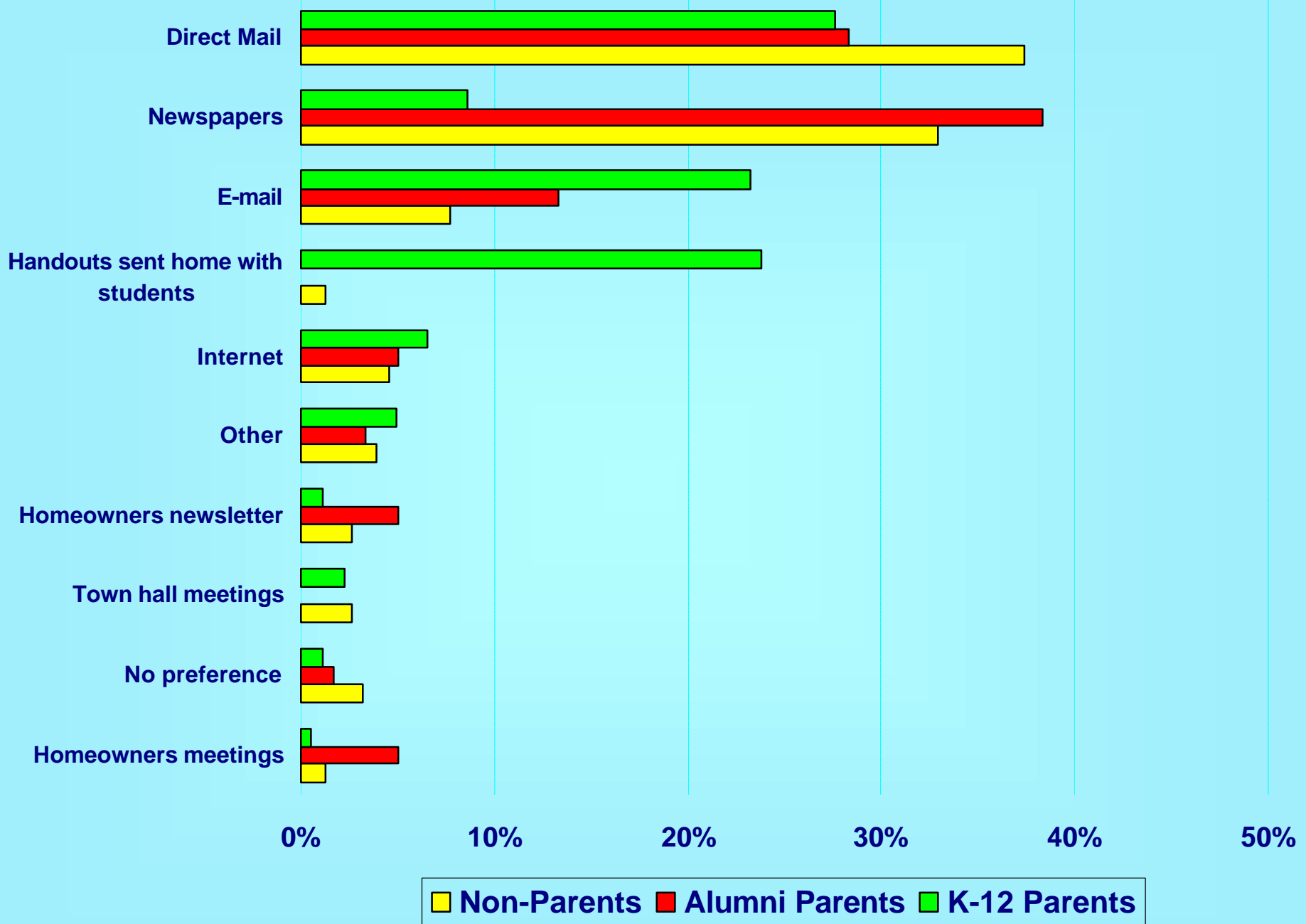


# Preferred Method of Communication

---

**What is the most effective way for the district to communicate with you in the future?**





# Observations

- Voters prefer building permanent classrooms or a new high or middle school as an option to creating additional classroom space. They consider changing grade configurations or adopting split shifts as the least acceptable ways to create additional space.
- They have a very positive attitude towards the district. They give very high marks to the district in general, to its facilities and to its ability to serve the community.
- Voters felt that a lack of information was a major factor in the defeat of the April referendum and overwhelmingly suggested that a key to winning voter approval was an effort to provide more information to voters. The idea that taxes were too high was much more of a concern for those who did not vote in April than for those who did.
- The largest group of voters relies on newspapers for information about the district. Overall, they would prefer to receive information via direct mail. There are significant differences, however, in the ways parents and non-parents prefer to receive information in the future.