



# Kiel School District

Community Survey Report

June 17, 2024

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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

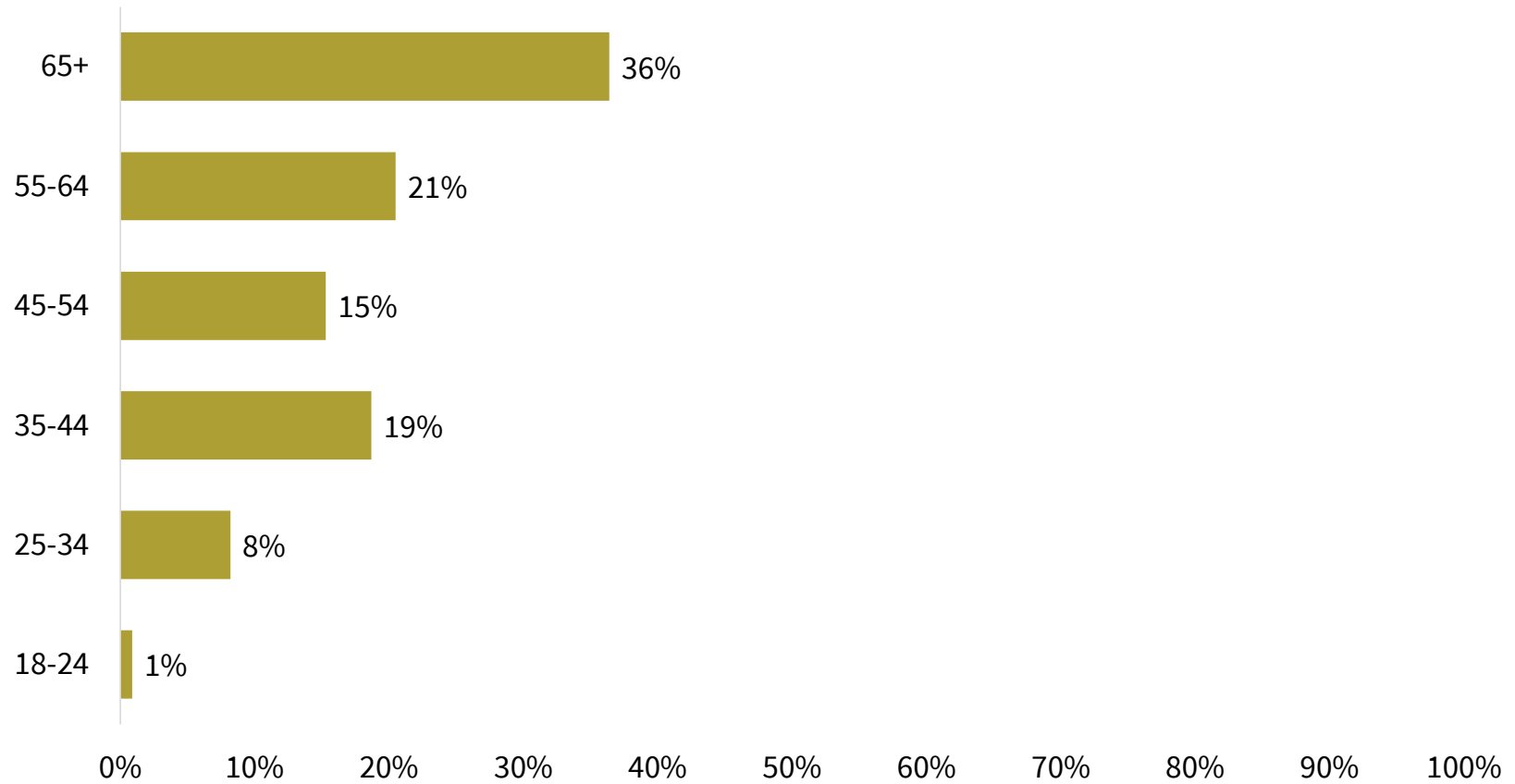


# Survey Information

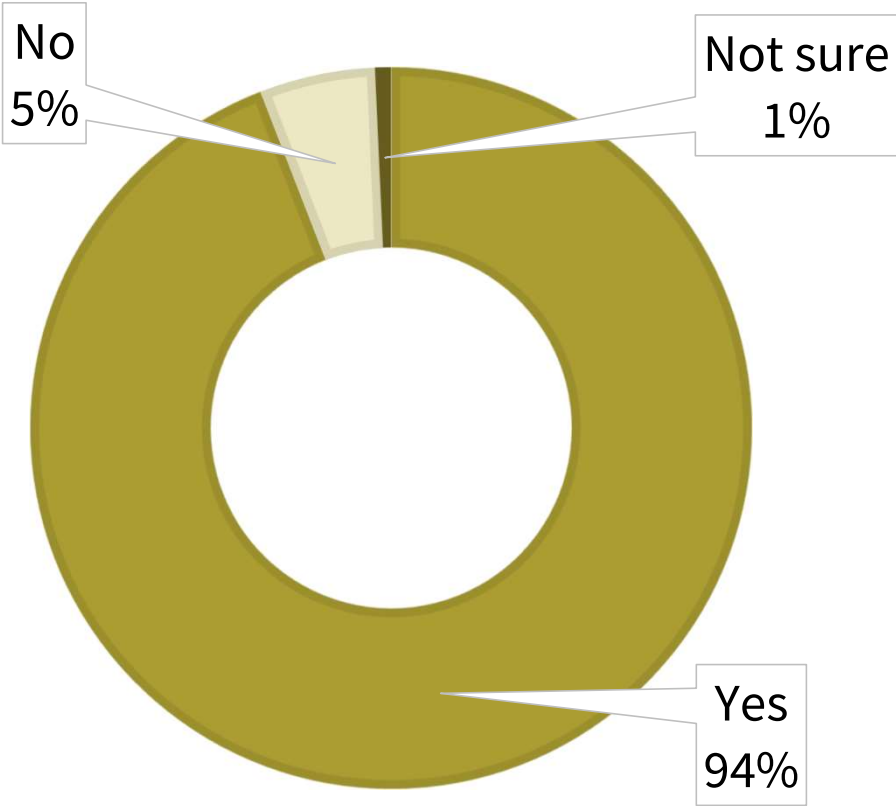
- **May 6, 2024** survey deadline
- **1,671** total respondents
- **39.6%** response rate
- **+/- 2.44%** statistical margin of error



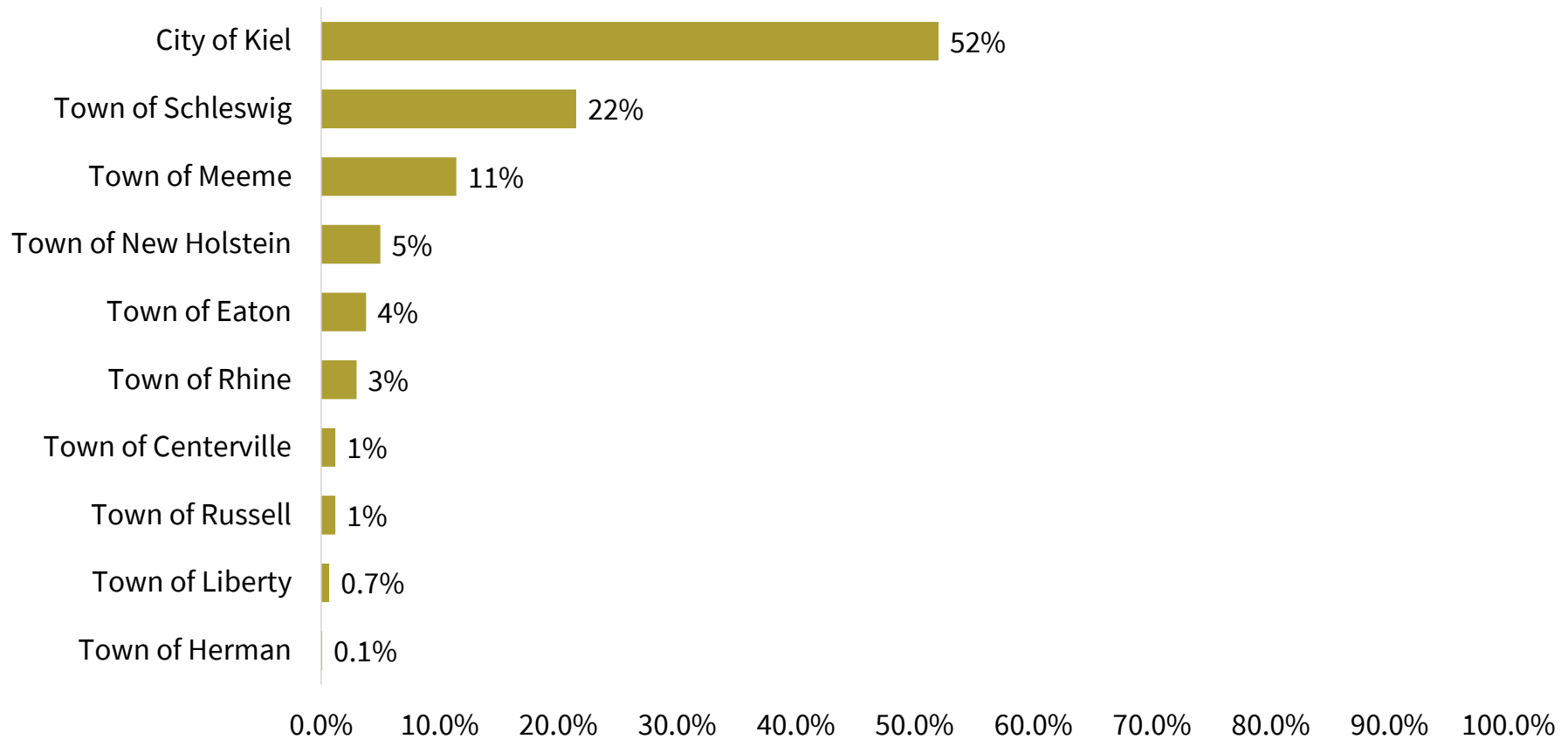
# What is your age?



# Is your primary residence in the District?

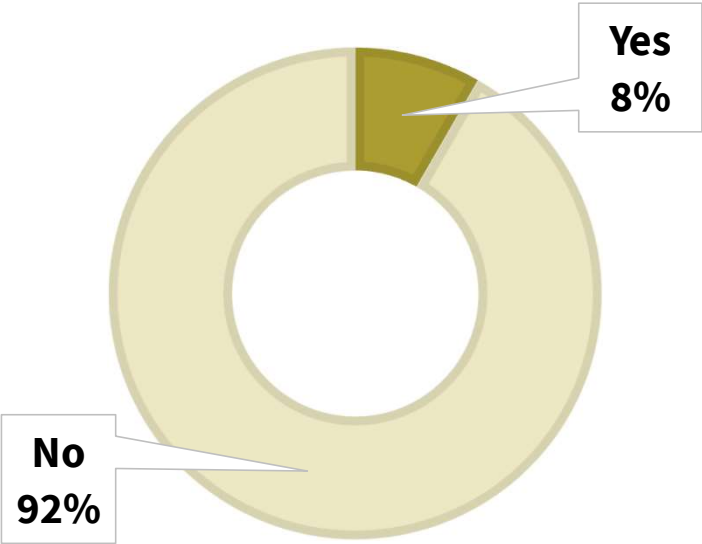


# In which municipality do you live?

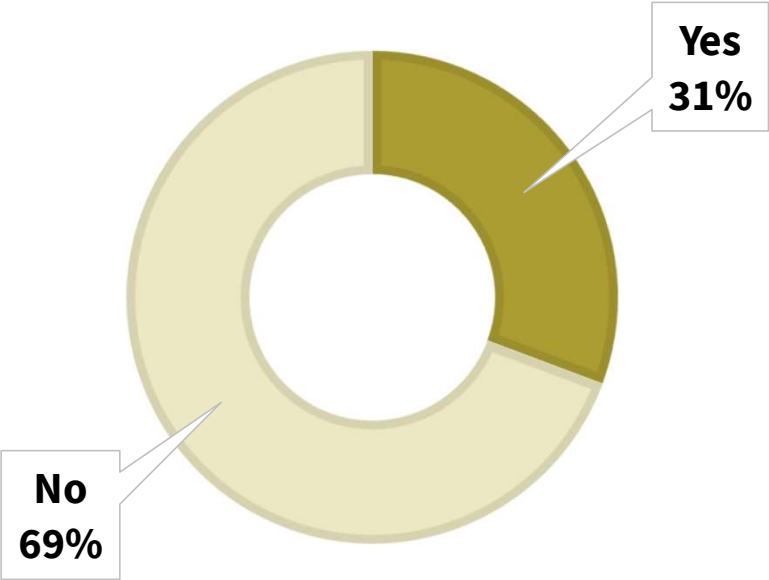


# Respondent Information

Are you an employee of the District?

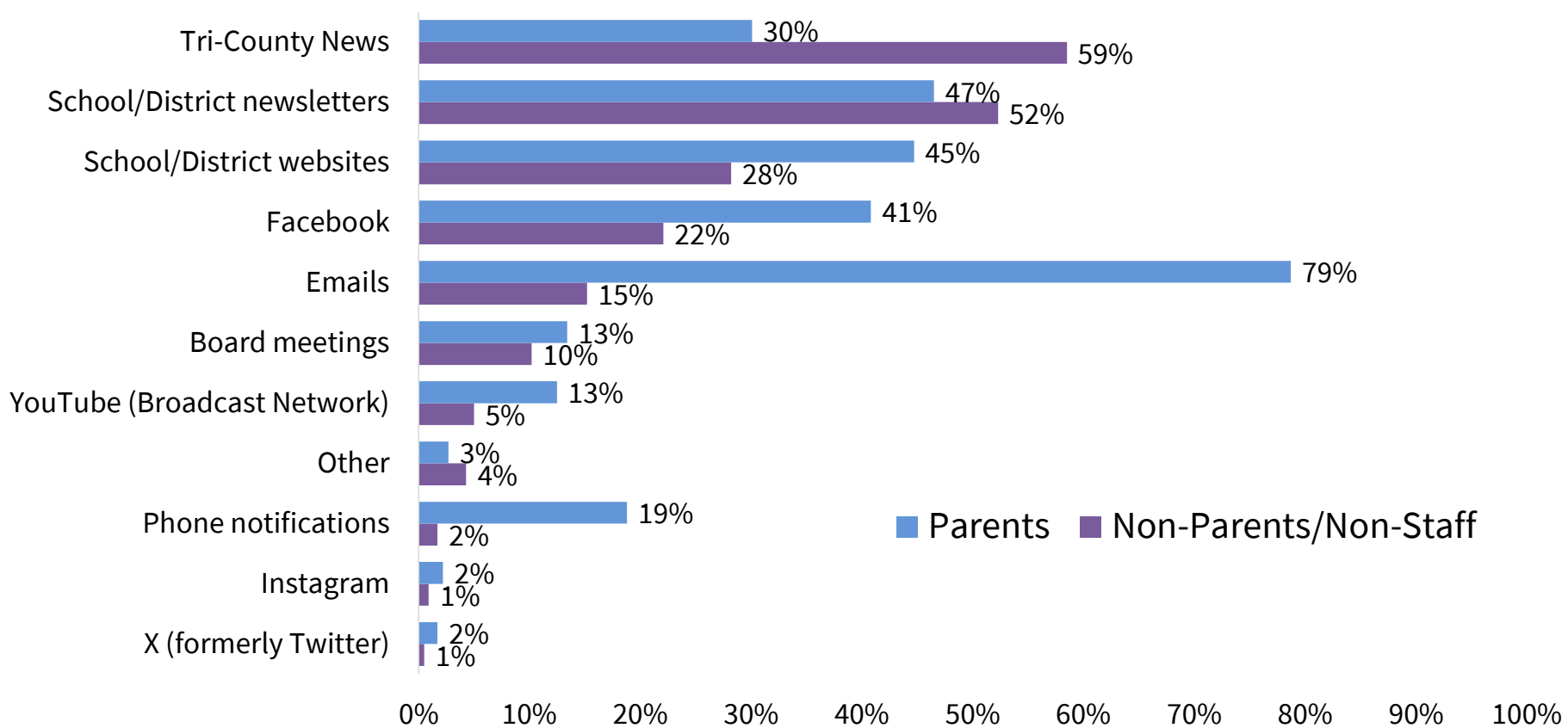


Do you have children attending a school in the District?





# How do you like to receive school/District information?



# Middle School Challenges

Based on the facility report, a significant investment will be needed at the middle school in the near future to address the following.

## **Aging Building Systems**

- Many mechanical system components (such as boilers, pumps, air handlers, rooftop units, etc.) are nearing the end of their useful life.
- The cast iron plumbing system is in poor condition, and some fixtures are original.
- Some roof sections are over 30 years old and need to be replaced.
- Interior finishes are worn (such as doors, cabinets, lockers, floors, and ceiling tiles).
- The foundation leaks.
- The building's exterior is in poor condition and requires annual tuckpointing.
- Concrete walls and ceilings in the lower level are cracking, and some contain asbestos and mold.
- The exterior metal doors are rusting and in poor condition.

## **Building and Site Safety**

- The main entrance needs to be reconfigured to better monitor/control visitor access.
- Pavement, sidewalks, and exterior stairs are cracked and crumbling.
- Areas of the building do not comply with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) codes.

## **Inadequate Classrooms and Support Areas**

- Most classrooms are too small based on current standards.
- The school lacks space for student collaboration, small-group instruction, and project-based learning.

To view the full report, visit [www.kiel.k12.wi.us/community/facility-assessment-master-planning.cfm](http://www.kiel.k12.wi.us/community/facility-assessment-master-planning.cfm) or visit the District Office.



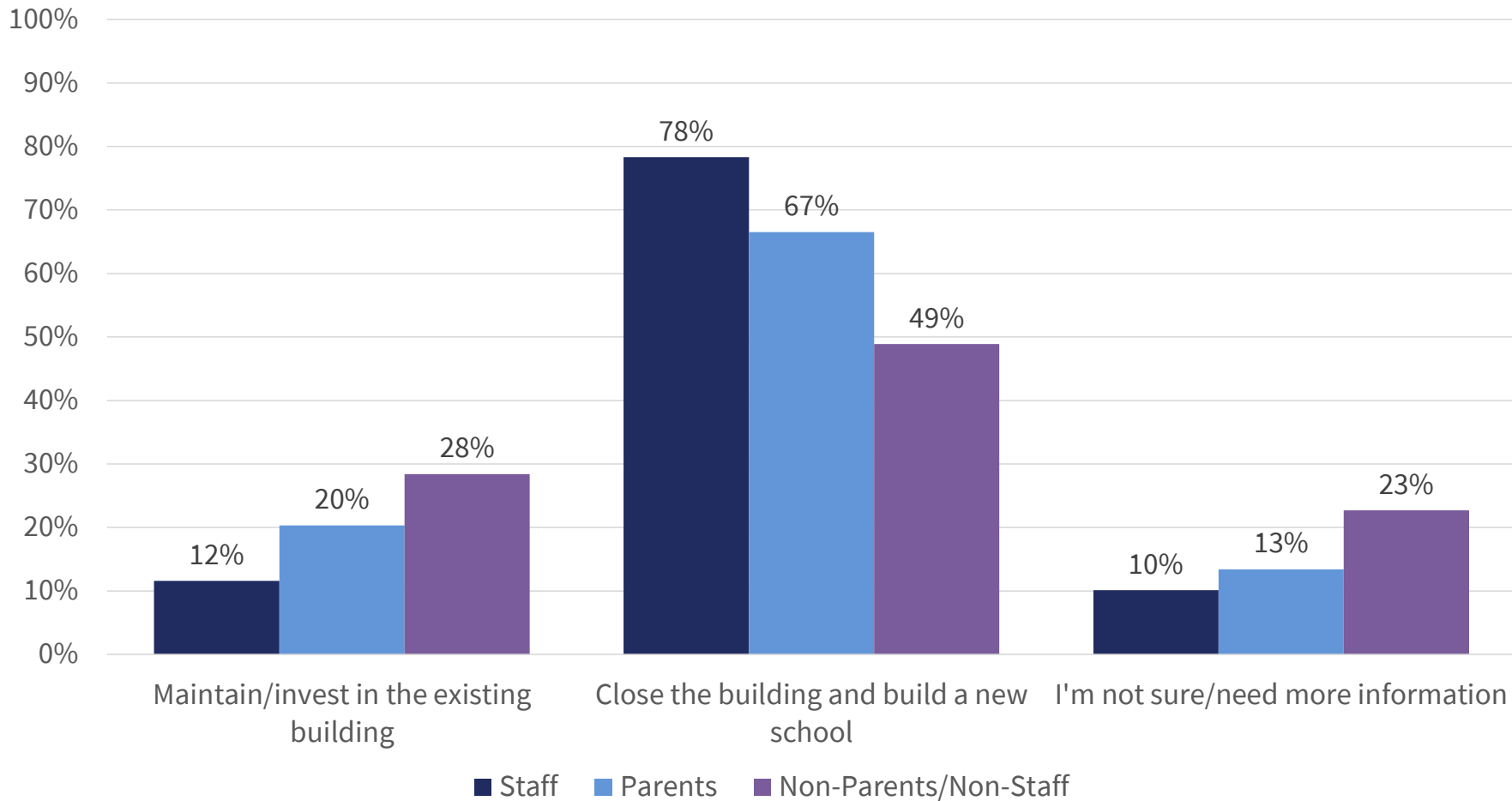
# Middle School Challenges

**The Board of Education and the community focus group do not believe putting more money into the middle school facility is a good use of tax dollars for several reasons:**

- Due to the building's age and significant needs, the District's insurance company has deemed the current middle school uninsurable.
- Remodeling options for the existing school are limited because of the layout and number of load-bearing walls.
- Renovations would need to be completed over multiple years while school is in session, which could negatively impact teaching and learning.
- It would take approximately one year longer to renovate versus building new and could have unforeseen expenses.



# What advice would you give the School Board regarding the middle school?



# New Middle School

In partnership with the architect and construction manager, the community focus group developed a conceptual design for the new middle school (serving 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade) that would include:

- ✓ Classrooms and labs for tech ed and Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) courses
- ✓ Flexible spaces for student collaboration
- ✓ A gym for students and community use
- ✓ Proper separation of pedestrians and vehicle/bus traffic and additional parking
- ✓ Energy-efficient systems and natural lighting

The community focus group identified two locations to build the new school.

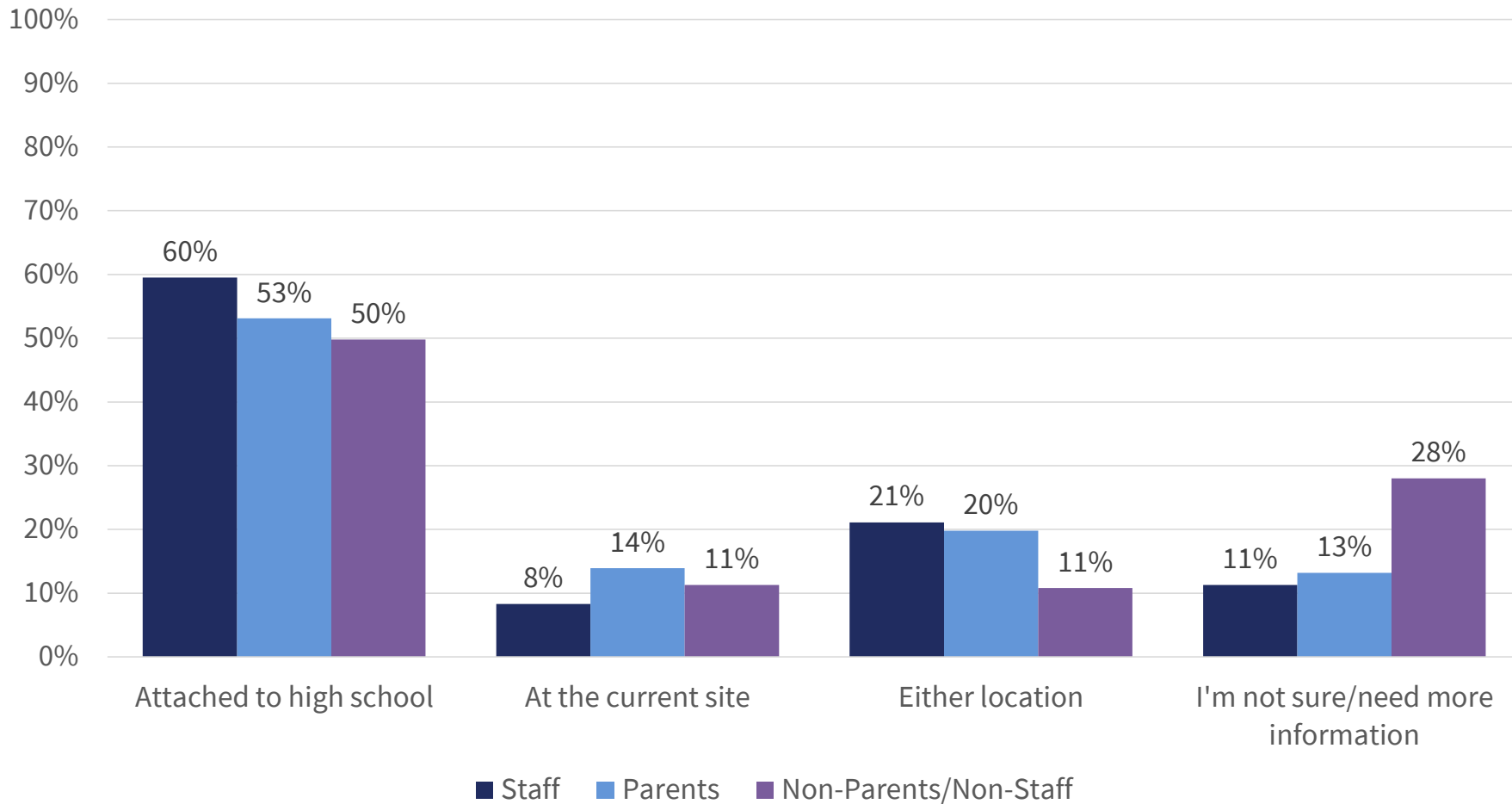
**Option 1: Attached to the high school**



**Option 2: At the current site**



# If the community supports building a new middle school, where should it be located?

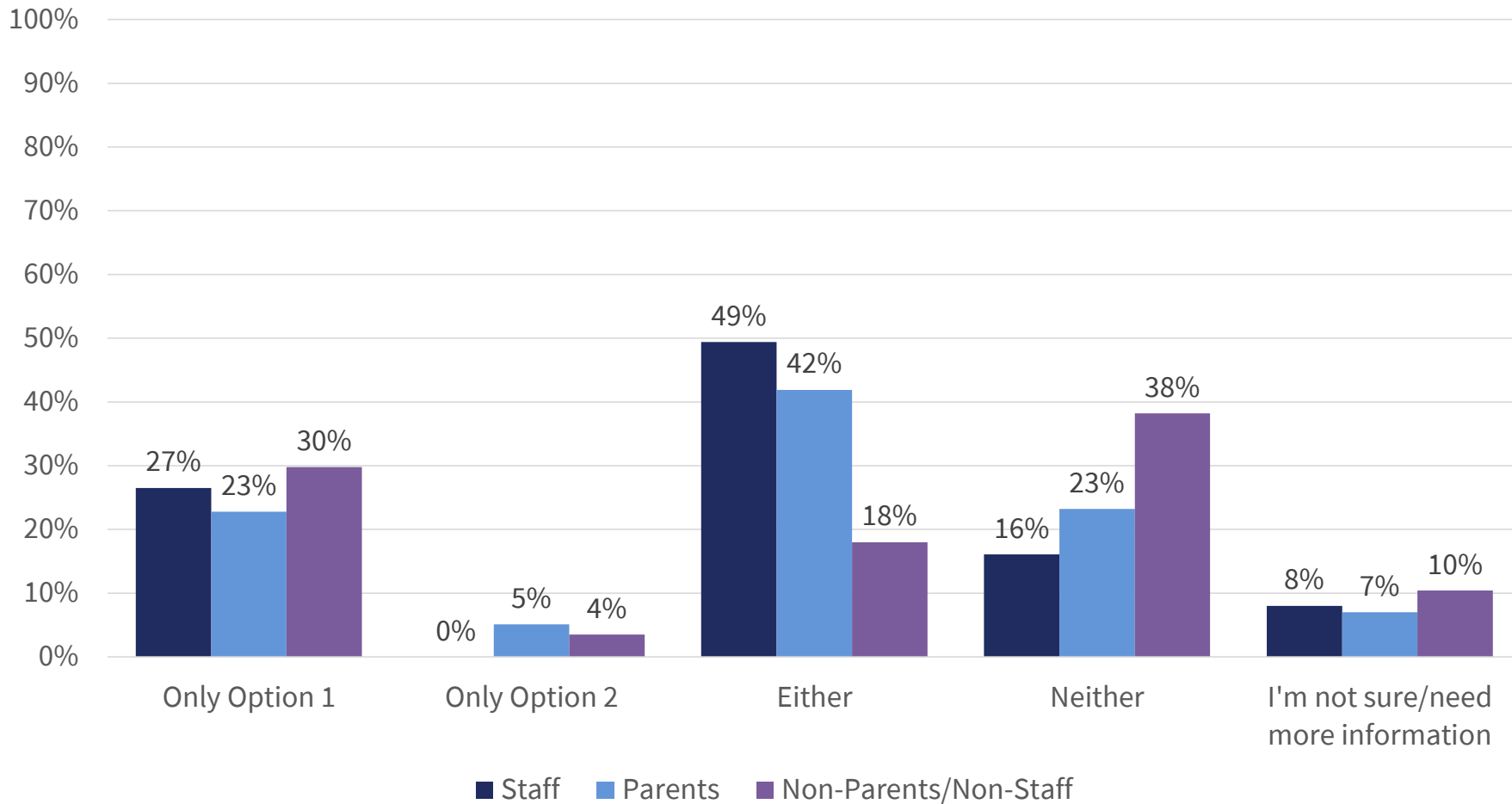


# Funding Support



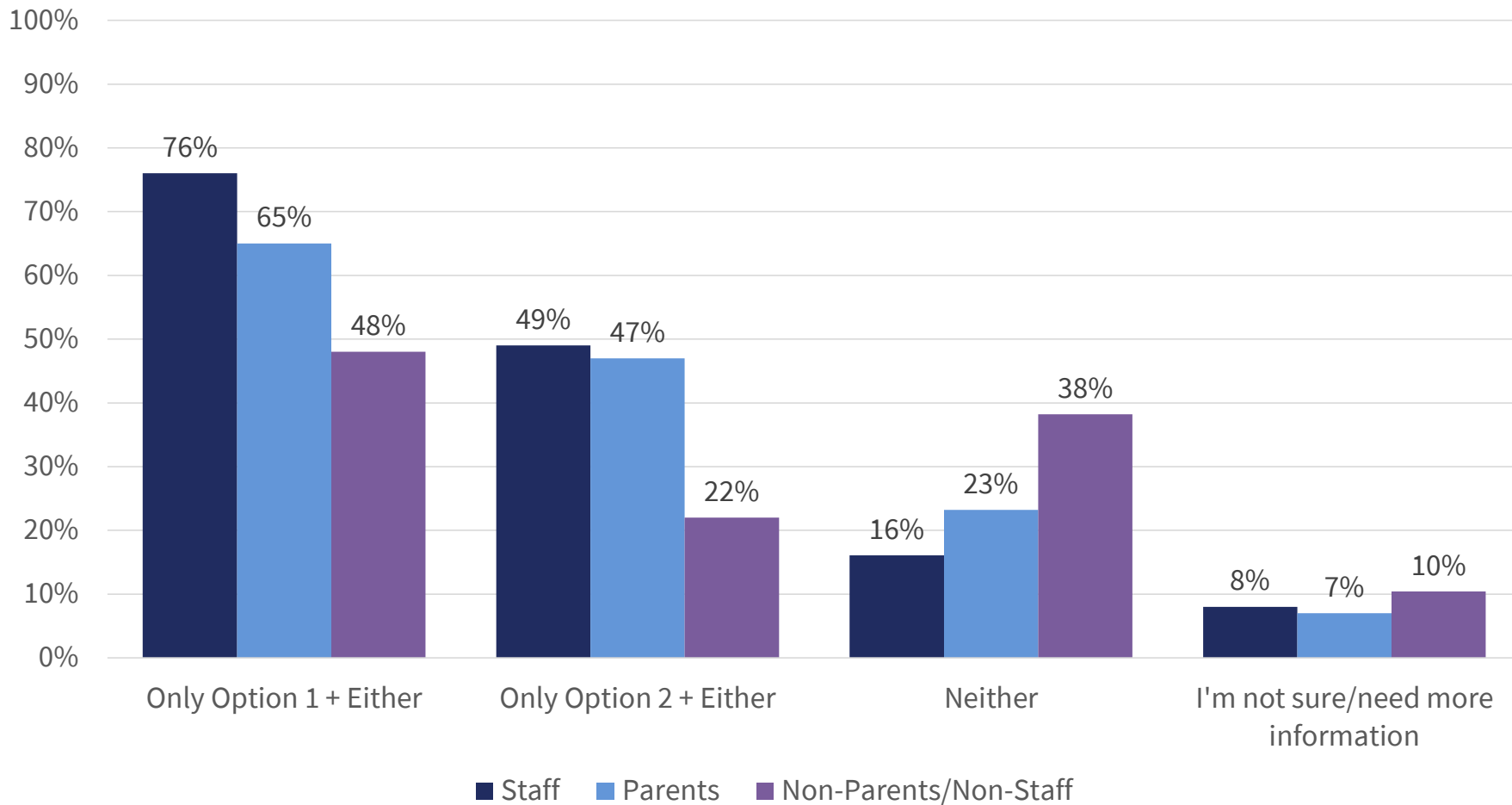
	<b>Option 1 New Middle School Attached to the High School</b>	<b>Option 2 New Middle School at the Current Site</b>
Total Cost	\$67.0 million	\$70.6 million
Estimated Tax Increase Per \$100,000 of Property Value	\$363 per year	\$385 per year

# Which option(s) would you support through a referendum? *(Residents)*

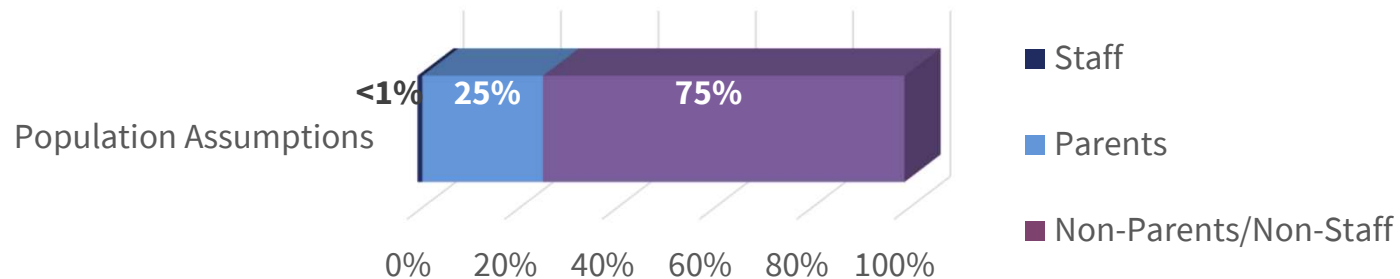




## Which option(s) would you support through a referendum? *(Residents)*



## Additional Analysis: Referendum Support



Weighted support for *Definitely yes and Probably yes*:

**Option 1:**  $0.25 (65\%) + 0.75 (48\%) = \underline{\underline{52.3\%}}$

**Option 2:**  $0.25 (47\%) + 0.75 (22\%) = \underline{\underline{28.3\%}}$



# What did we learn?

- A majority of respondents in the staff and parent subgroups support closing the existing school and building new. For non-parents/non-staff, a plurality supports this approach.
- A majority of all subgroups support building the new school attached to the high school over the alternative.
- The weighted support for Option 1 is over 50% (52.3%) but within the margin of error.
- There is enough support to consider taking Option 1 to referendum in November and let voters decide.



# SCHOOL PERCEPTIONS

*Measuring what matters*

262.644.4300 | [schoolperceptions.com](http://schoolperceptions.com)



# Appendix



# New Middle School

The focus group recommends Option 1. Building the middle school attached to the high school:

- Provides middle school students with access to advanced courses, career and tech ed classrooms, family and consumer science labs, and athletic facilities.
- Provides more gym space (a 3-court varsity gym as compared to a 2-court gym in Option 2). The larger gym could be used by the high school for tournament games and WIAA events.
- Maintains the existing middle school building for future sale or reuse. Option 2 would require demolishing the existing building to provide needed practice fields and green space.
- Has space for future building expansion if needed, while Option 2 does not.
- Has a lower total cost.

