



Okemos Public Schools

2022 Bond Proposal

Steering Committee Kick-Off

January 6, 2021

TowerPinkster
Architecture · Engineering · Interiors

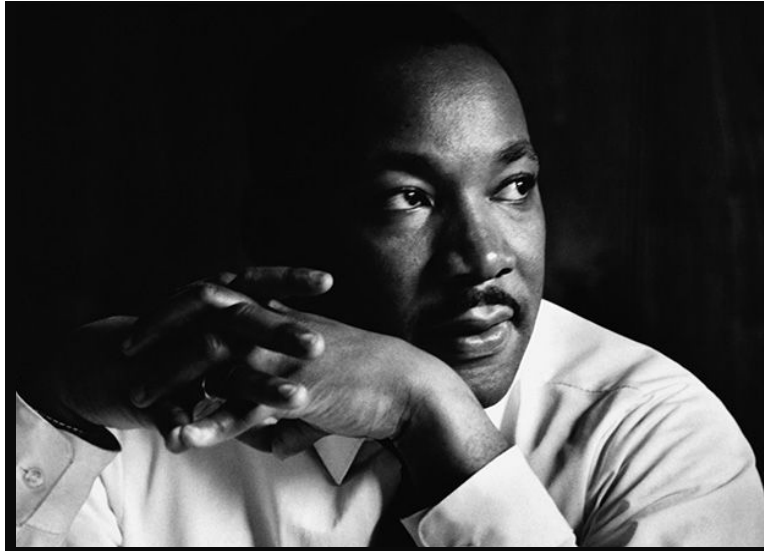
CHRISTMAN
BUILDING SINCE 1894



Agenda

- ❑ Thank You + Welcome
- ❑ Our Opportunity + Background
- ❑ Approach to Working Together
- ❑ Community Input
- ❑ Wrap Up + Next Meeting

Thank You



**“Life’s MOST persistent
and URGENT question is,
‘What are YOU
doing for OTHERS?’”
- Martin Luther King, Jr.**

Setting the Stage



Purpose of Committee
Introduction of Partners
30 Second Self-Introductions





Agenda

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Our Opportunity + Background



Board Recommendation 2018



Should enrollments continue to increase significantly over time, it is recommended that the district engage in a systematic, comprehensive, transparent and inclusive process that includes:

- Data collection – enrollment trends, neighborhood composition (children), other
- Review of research – educational programming and impacts
- Consider the following in the comprehensive analysis (not in priority order):
 - Grade level configurations
 - Build a new school - Powell Rd; Wardcliff property
 - Open Wardcliff
 - Repurpose Edgewood
 - Add additional classrooms to existing buildings
 - Make additional renovations to existing buildings
 - Other

Recommendation – continued

- Develop models: assigning neighborhoods; consider various grade level configurations
- Develop positives, challenges and associated costs
- Engage in community conversations: educate and seek feedback

Notes:

- This process (as described above) could take up to one year before a final Board decision.
- The bond proposal and building process could take up to 2 years.
- The district may not have to engage in this process if enrollments stabilize.

Strategic Plan 2020-2024



MISSION STATEMENT

Together...educating with excellence,
inspiring each learner for life.

VISION STATEMENTS

LEADING IN EDUCATIONAL EQUITY.

EDUCATING STUDENTS TO CARE AND POSITIVELY IMPACT THEIR COMMUNITY.

Through this vision Okemos Public Schools will strive to set a higher standard for schools throughout the state and nation.

VALUE STATEMENTS

In our pursuit of excellence, Okemos Public Schools values:

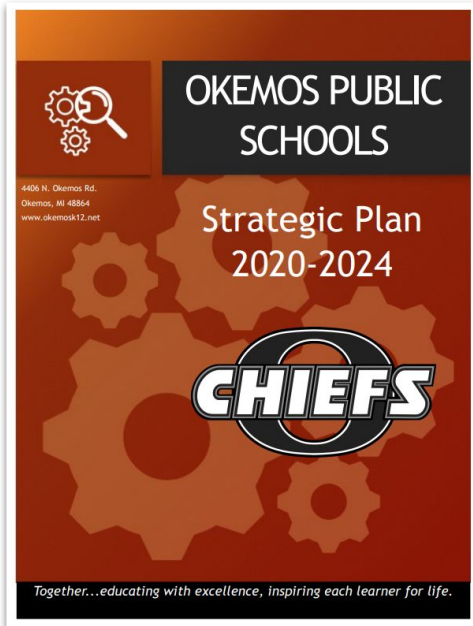
EQUITY - Understanding, acknowledging, and responding to the diverse needs and strengths of all individuals.

RELATIONSHIP - Engaging in intentional interactions to nurture respect, trust, and open communication among all.

CULTURE - Creating a safe and inclusive environment that encourages kindness, empathy, well-being, and individuality.

INTEGRITY - Maintaining exceptional ethical standards rooted in honesty and transparency.

INNOVATION - Inspiring creativity and change to adapt to an ever-changing world.

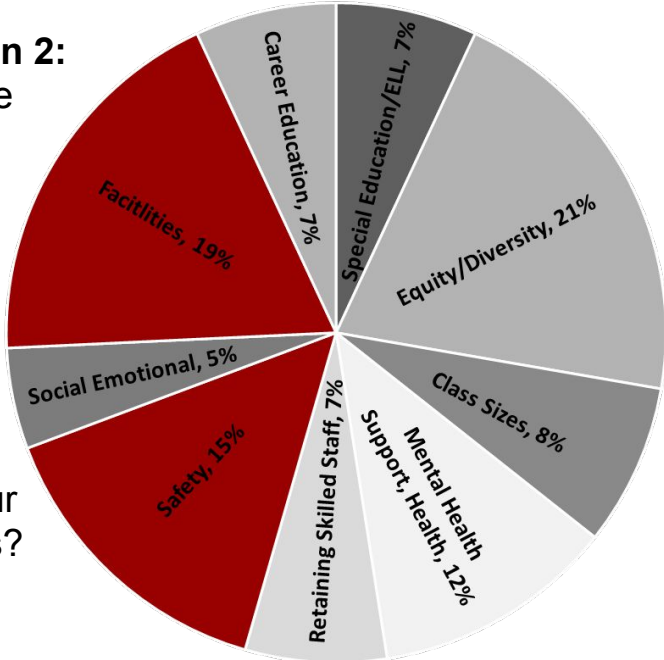


Strategic Plan Survey Results



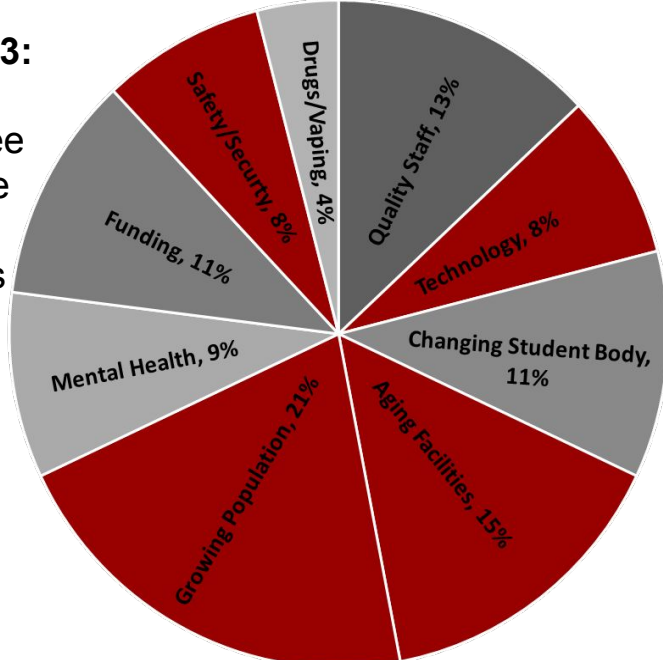
Question 2:

What are two (2) aspects of our district that we must address to better serve our students?

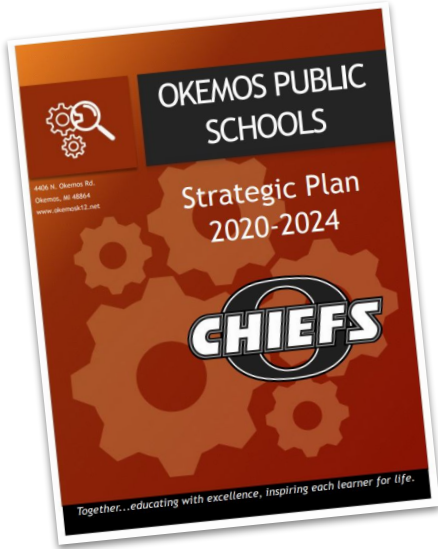


Question 3:

What are two or three (2-3) of the greatest challenges facing the Okemos Public Schools in the next 5 years?



Strategic Plan 2020-2024



PRIORITY 10: Provide high quality and equitable facilities and learning environments for students, staff and community.

Objectives	Potential Actions
10A. Provide safe, secure and well maintained learning environments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Evaluate condition and safety of current facilities, grounds, technology, resources •Develop a plan to update facilities, grounds, technology, etc. •Evaluate revenue sources for improvements
10B. Provide high quality learning environments to match future needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Evaluate condition and safety of current facilities and grounds •Develop a plan to update facilities and grounds •Evaluate revenue sources for facilities' improvements

PRIORITY 11: Provide efficient and effective use of facilities and grounds.

Objectives	Potential Actions
11A. Provide configurations that optimize learning and use of district resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Investigate school configuration models and enrollment trends and impact on facility capacity and use •Formulate recommendations for use of facilities and grounds •Develop additional revenue sources
11B. Explore and implement systems to increase responsible environmental actions and impact.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Investigate green initiatives •Utilize environmental lens in decision making •Implement systems that support reuse, repurposing and recycling

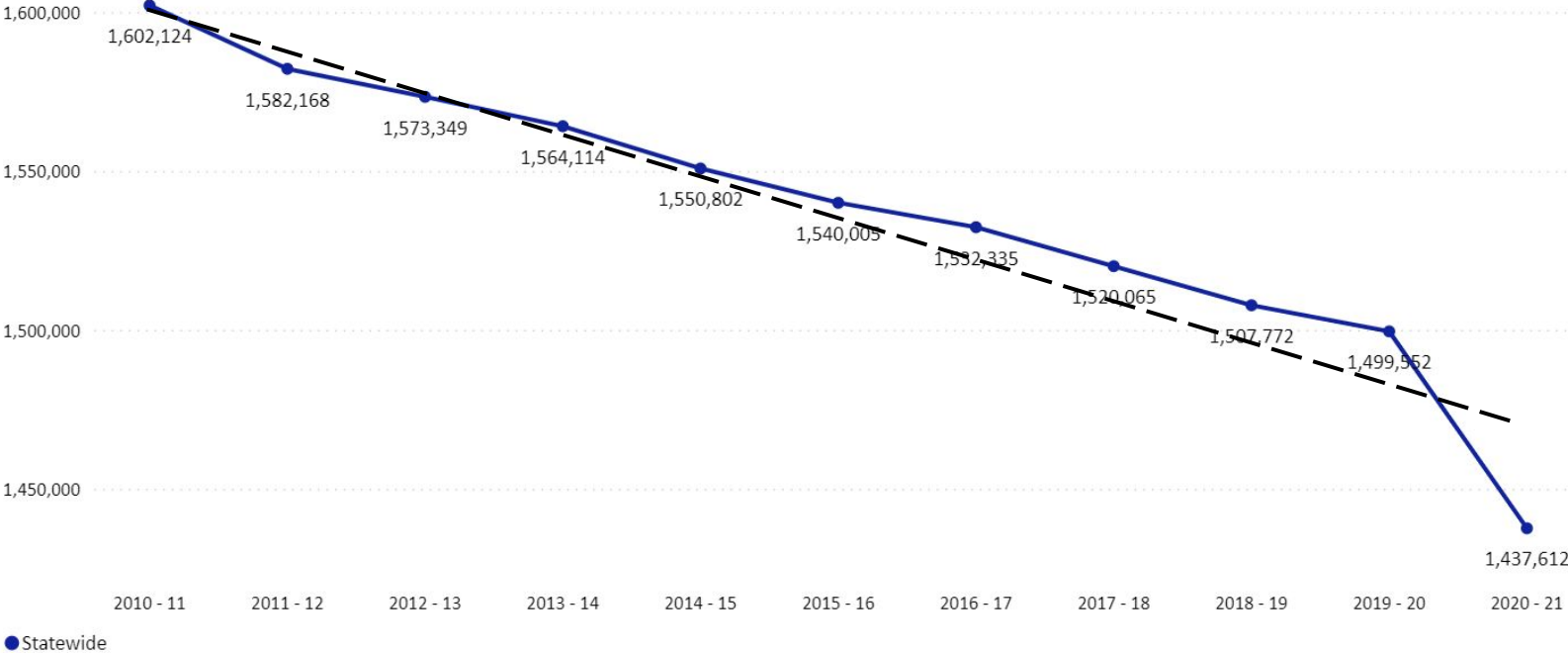
Enrollment Trends - Michigan



2020 - 21

Official Student Count All Grades | All Students/Staff

Snapshot Trend



Enrollment Trends - Our Region



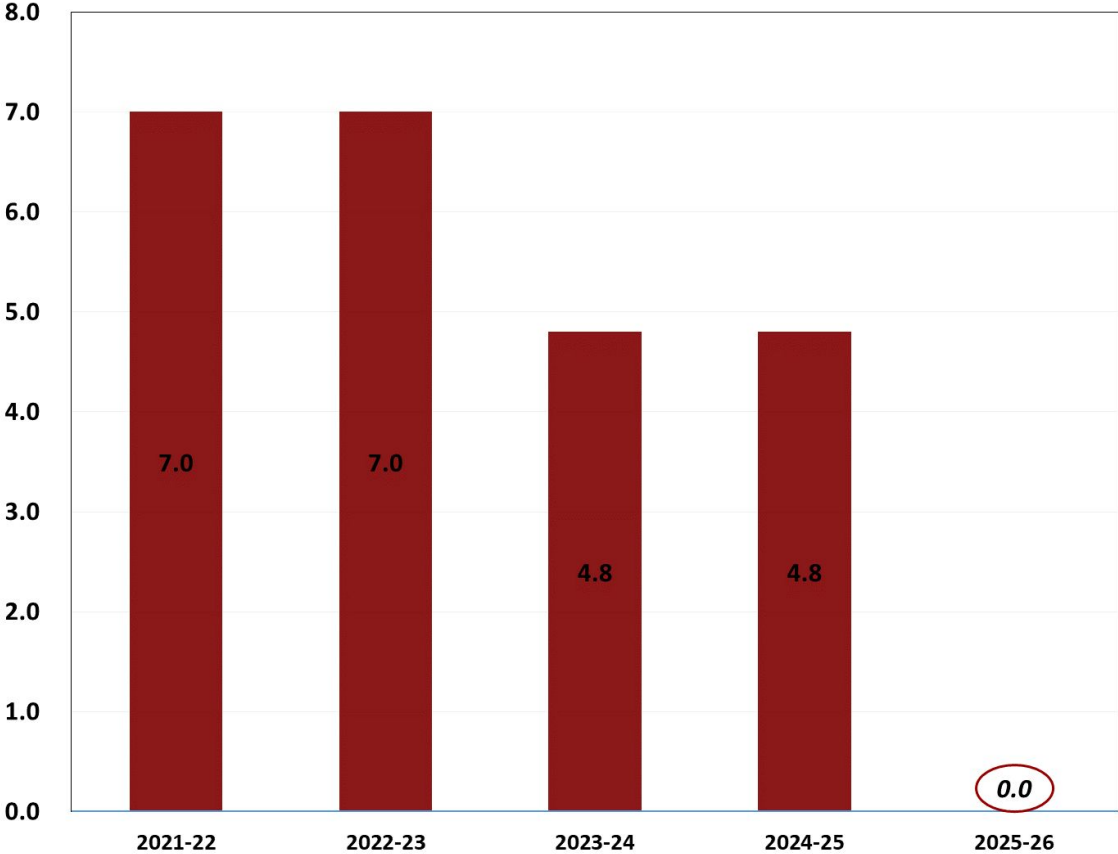
2020 - 21

Official Student Count All Grades | All Students/Staff

Snapshot **Trend**



Projected Millage to Repay Bonded Debt



Bond Funds Uses



Allowable

- New school buildings
- Additions to existing school buildings
- Remodeling existing school buildings
- Energy conservation improvements
- Asbestos abatement
- Land purchases
- Site development and improvements
- Athletic and PE facilities and improvements
- Playground development and improvements
- Refunding debt
- Direct bond program costs/professional fees
- School bus purchases
- Loose furnishings and equipment
- Technology hardware and initial operating system/customized applications
- Communication devices

Unallowable

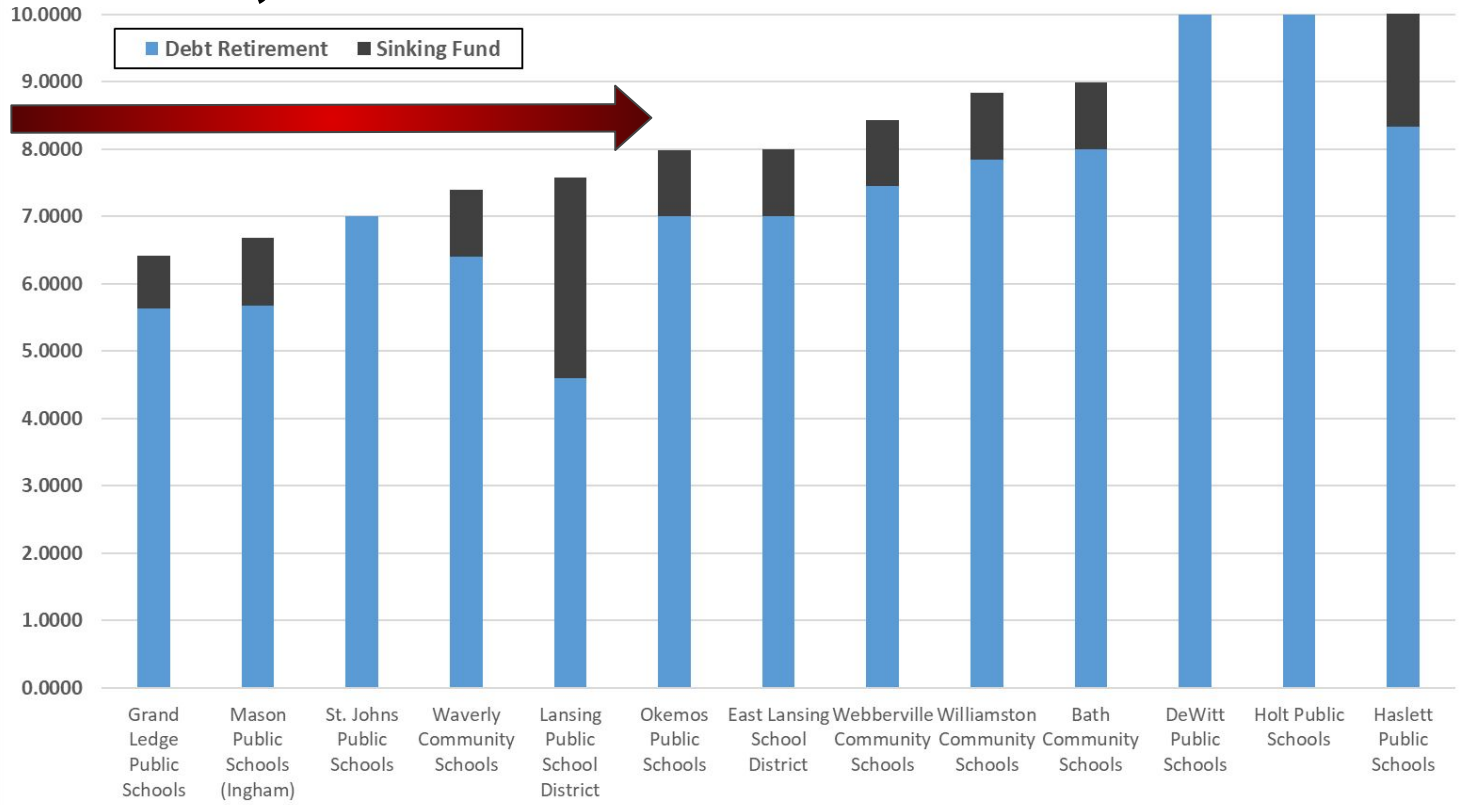
- Repairs, maintenance, or maintenance agreements
- Supplies, salaries, service contracts, lease payments, installment purchase contracts
- Automobiles, trucks, or vans
- Portable classrooms for temporary use
- Uniforms
- Textbooks
- Upgrades to computer operating system/application software
- Computer training, consulting, or maintenance contracts

Sinking Fund

- In May 2021 voters approved continuation for 10 years, generating \$1.4 Million/year
- Allowable Uses
 - Upkeep and repair of facilities
 - Site improvements
 - Energy savings projects
 - Student instructional technology
 - Security investments



Millage Rate Comparison (2020-2021)





Agenda

- ✓ Thank You + Welcome
- ✓ Our Opportunity + Background
- ☐ **Approach to Working Together**
- ☐ Community Input
- ☐ Wrap Up + Next Meeting

Approach to Working Together



Core Team:

Key administration staff that will spearhead efforts to improve and responsibly care for district facilities and grounds.

Steering Committee:

A group of parents, students, employees and community members that will provide valuable feedback to ensure all Okemos community voices are represented in the final bond scope.

Partners:

TowerPinkster + The Christman Company will facilitate community engagement sessions and provide design and construction expertise as we narrow bond scope.

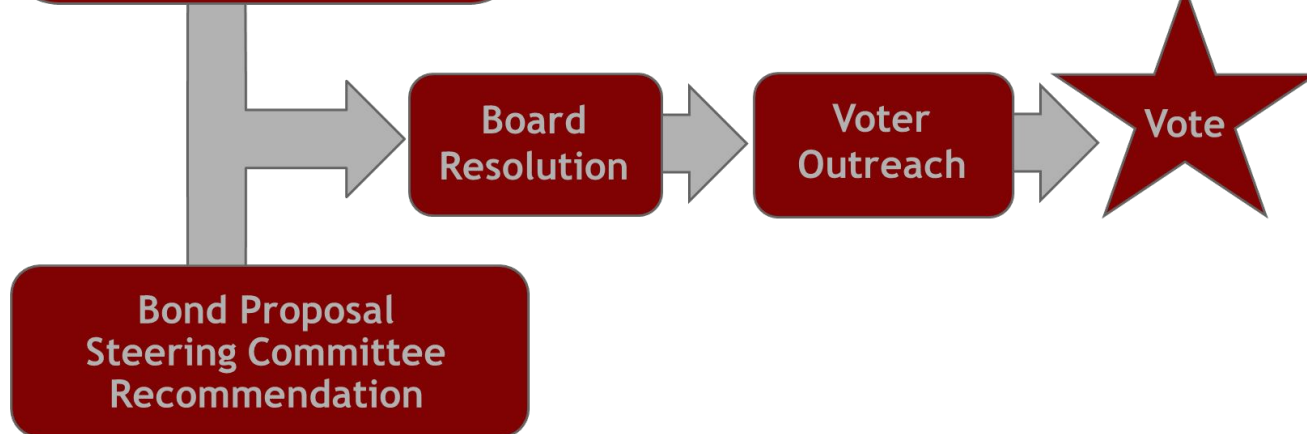
Approach to Working Together



Key Inputs:
Big Picture Vision
Community Forums
Community Survey
Facilities Needs Assessment
Enrollment Projections
Budget & Cost Constraints

Extensive, Inclusive & Open Process:

- Due Diligence with Key Inputs
- Steering Committee Work
- Monthly Board Updates
- Ongoing School Website Updates



Schedule At-a-Glance



January

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

February

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

March

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

April

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Steering Committee Meetings

Steering Committee Action

Community Forum/Survey

Community Forum/Survey -TBD

School Board Update/Action

Treasury Date/Election Date

May

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

June

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

July

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

August

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

September

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

October

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

November

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Norms + Working Agreements



1. Open and honest communication; speak your truth
2. Stay engaged
3. Allow yourself to experience “discomfort” – leads to positive growth
4. Seek to understand/assume good intentions
5. Be inclusive of all voices, different perspectives
6. Expect to be misunderstood
7. Expect and accept “non closure”
8. Practice “a level” of confidentiality

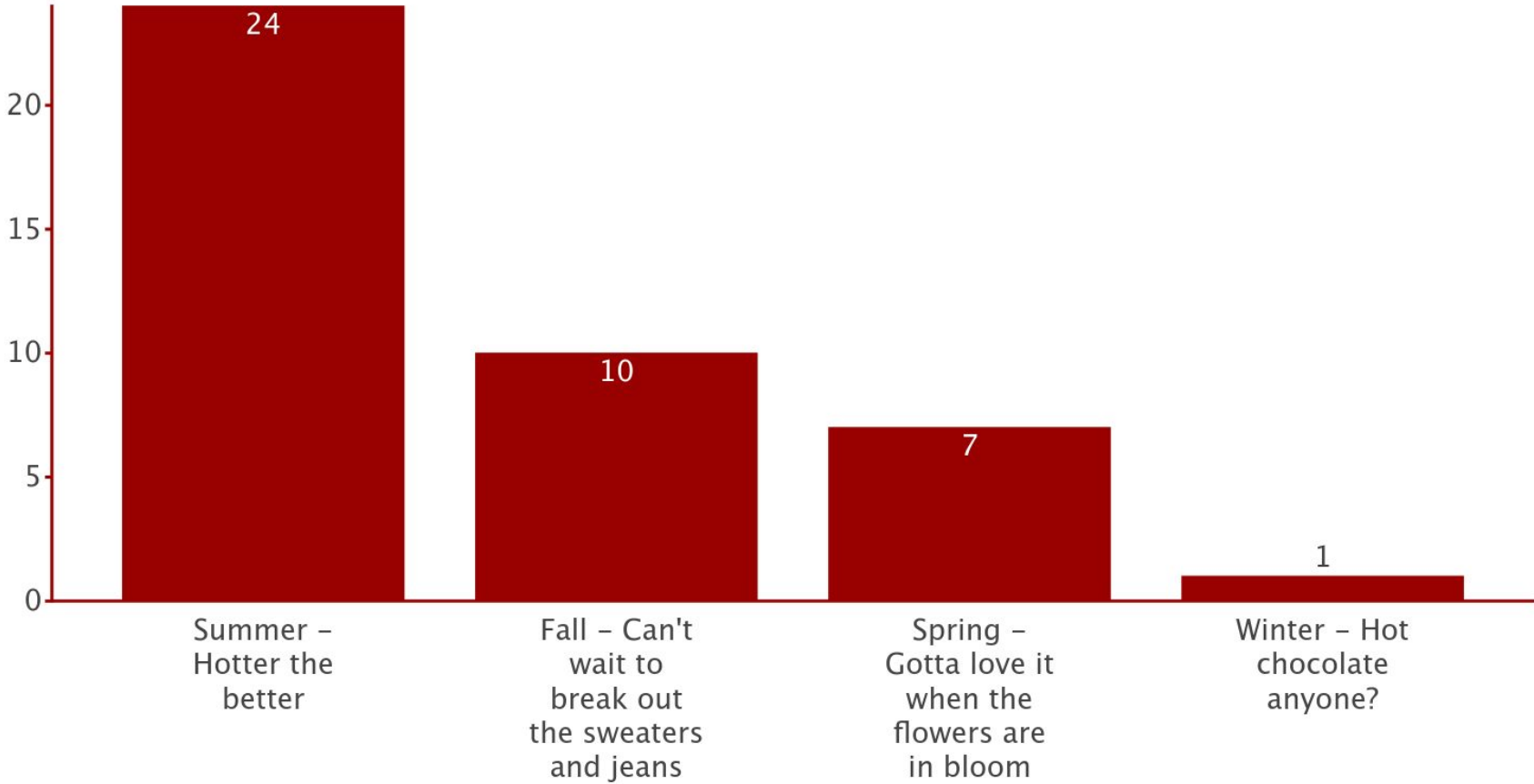
Survey Says?



1. Open Text Message App
2. Begin Message to: 22333
3. Text: CHRISTMANCO
(Use "All Caps")



What is your favorite season of the year?



Total Results: 42

Norms + Working Agreements





Agenda

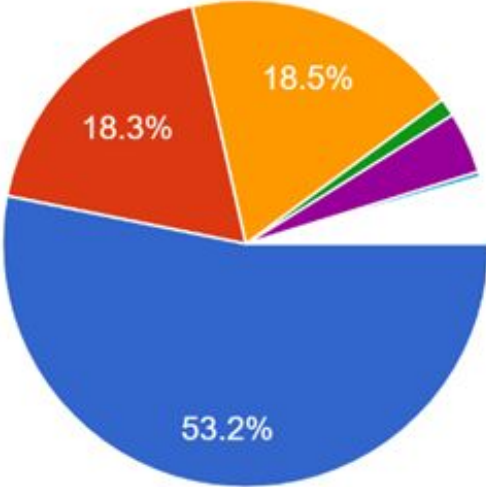
- ✓ Thank You + Welcome
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Facilities + Grounds Survey



How are you associated with Okemos Public Schools?

585 responses



- Parent / Guardian
- Okemos Public Schools Employee
- Student
- Alumni
- Community member (not classified as...)
- Parent and Alumni
- Parent/Alumni/Teacher
- I am all of these. Teacher, alum, paner

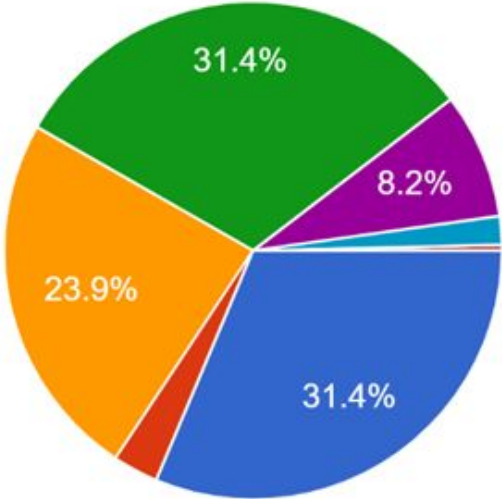
▲ 1/4 ▼

We received responses from a broad range of inputs who have connections to OPS

If a parent / guardian, how many students currently enrolled in Okemos PS?



539 responses

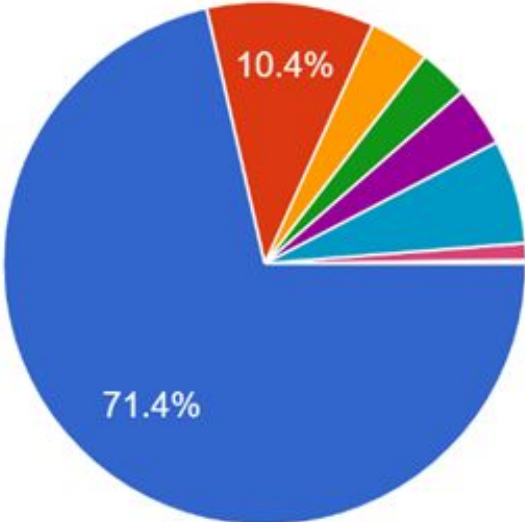


- Not a parent or guardian
- 0 - (incoming or future parent in the district)
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7

If an Okemos PS employee, please specify your number of years of employ within the district:



483 responses



- Not an OPS Employee
- 0-5 Years
- 6-10 Years
- 11-15 Years
- 16-20 Years
- 21-30 Years
- 31-40 Years
- 41 Years +

We received responses from 138 educators and staff

What one word or phrase describes the current state of facilities and grounds of the Okemos PS?



Response	Frequency
Aging/Dated/Old/Tired/Run-Down/Neglected/Worn/Unkempt	310
Adequate/Good/Decent/Average/Fine/Mediocre/Functional	151
Terrible/Disgusting/Embarrassing/Deteriorating/Crumbling	93
Great/Excellent/Better than Average	21
Overcrowded/Non-Functional	11

What one word or phrase should describe the future reality of the facilities and grounds of the Okemos PS?



Response	Frequency
Safe/Clean/Distinguished/Spacious/High Quality	315
Welcoming/Excellent/Refreshing/State of the Art/Beautiful	157
Consistent/Well Maintained	93
Innovative/Sustainable/Modern/Progressive	60

Rank the following priorities:



Highest Priorities:

Health, Safety, and Security

Place these values in the highest regard for students and staff

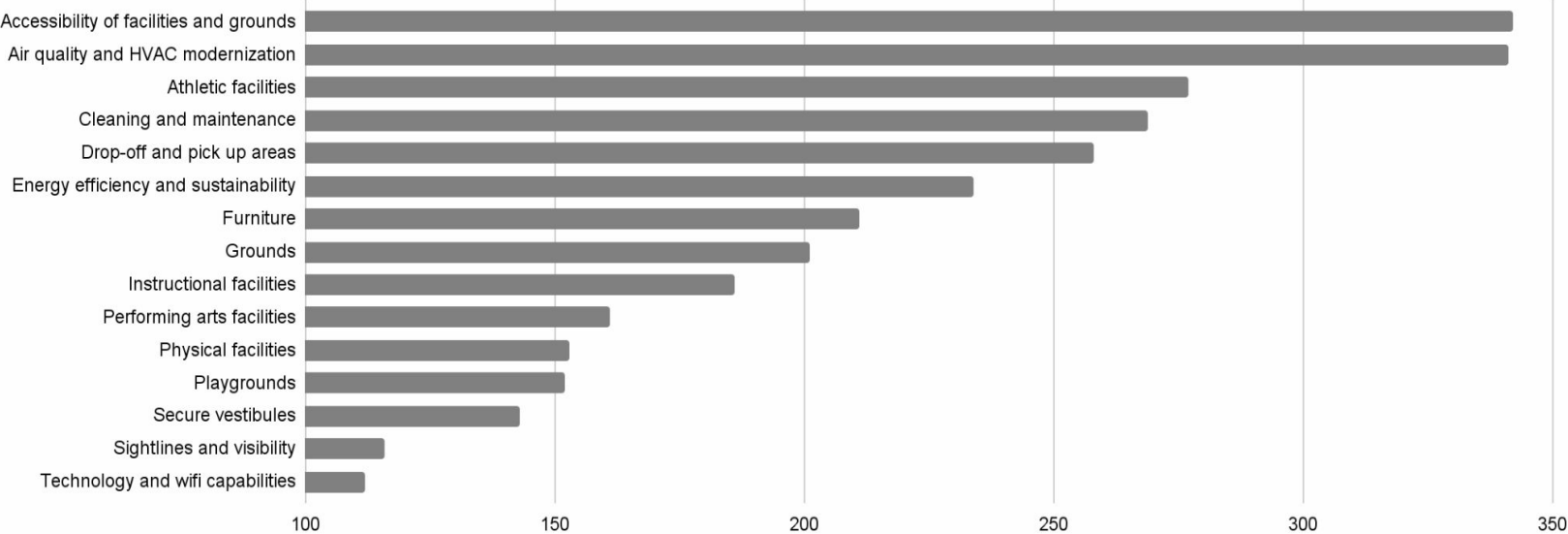
Innovative Teaching

Challenge and engage our student is in new ways

Appearance

Be buildings and sites that Okemos can be proud of

What areas of the current facilities are a cause for concern to you?

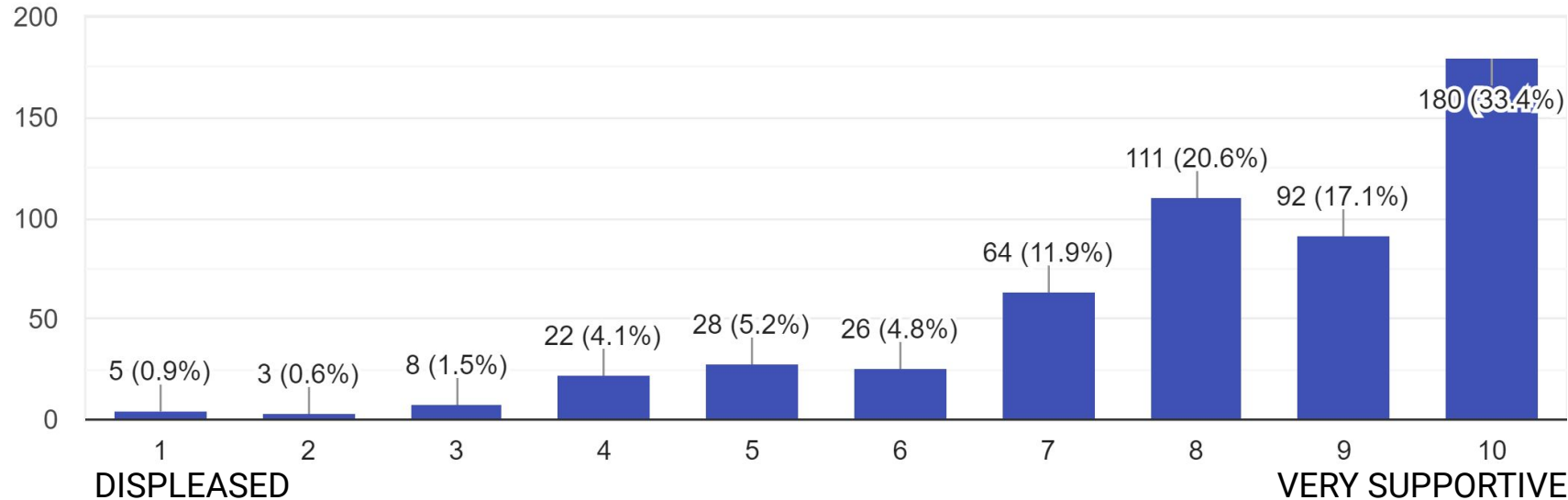


Updating grounds, physical facilities, drop off / pick-up areas, improving maintenance and cleaning, right-sizing educational spaces, and air quality were recognized as top concerns.

Grade Level Configuration Survey

Please rank your current opinion on the configuration of the current educational path from K-4 to 5-6 to 7-8 to high school in Okemos Public Schools.

539 responses



Grade Level Configuration Survey

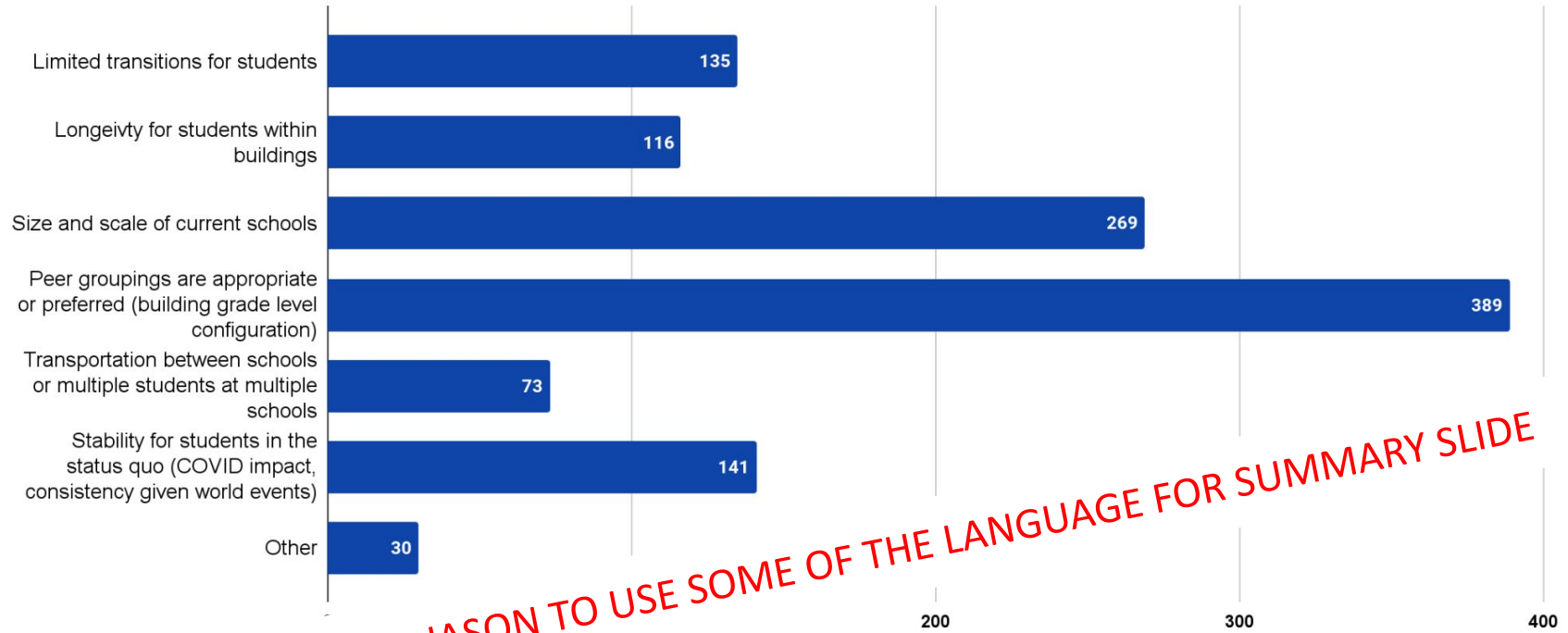
Top Benefits to the Current Grade Level Configuration Identified Include:

- Peer groupings are appropriate (building grade levels)
- Size and scale of current schools
- Stability with current configuration

Top Concerns with the Current Grade Level Configuration Identified Include:

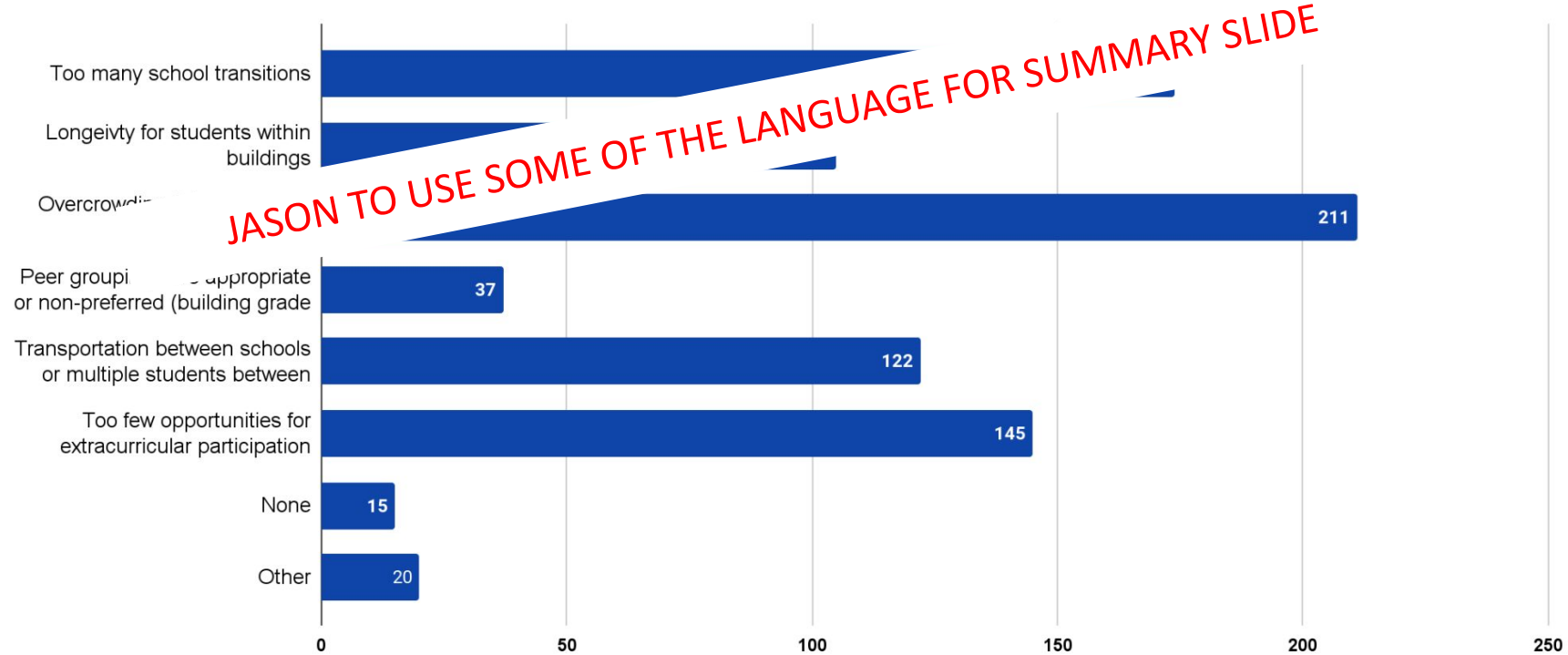
- Overcrowding (capacity concern)
- Too many transitions
- Too few extracurricular activity opportunities

What areas of benefits do you find of the current K-4 to 5-6 to 7-8 to High School model?



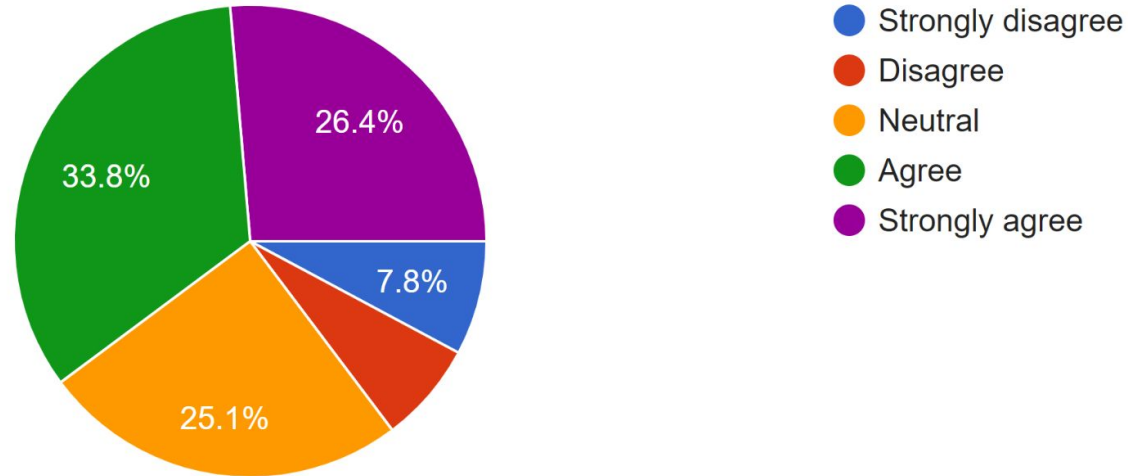
JASON TO USE SOME OF THE LANGUAGE FOR SUMMARY SLIDE

What areas of concerns do you have with the current K-4 to 5-6 to 7-8 to High School model?



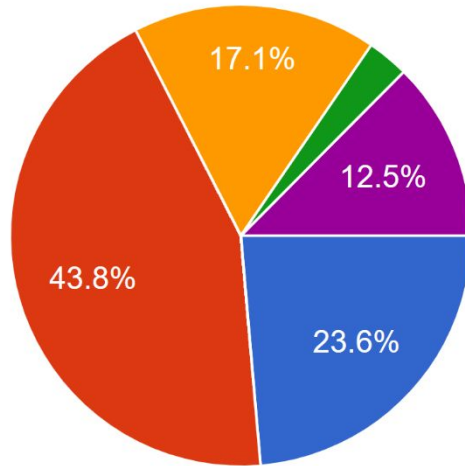
Agree or disagree with the following statement: Students and staff need consistency at school, especially during the next three to five years, so major configuration/grade level changes during that time should be limited.

550 responses



After consideration of your responses above, which of the current approaches should the district take when thinking about grade levels? My preference is the district....

550 responses



- Retain the current configuration/grade level model into the foreseeable future
- Retain the current configuration/grade model but allow flexibility to consider if change are appropriate in the long ter...
- Concerns with the configuration/current grade level model warrant a change s...
- Concerns with the current configuration/grade level warrant a change in the lo...
- Unsure or No Opinion

Configuration Plan

- Maintain the K-4, 5-6, 7-8, 9-12 configuration model
- Consider all district facilities and properties to implement that model (build, expand, renovate, repurpose, reopen)
- Address current overcrowding and future enrollment growth
- Allow flexibility should the district wish to pursue grade level reconfiguration in the future





Agenda

- ✓ Thank You + Welcome
- ✓ Our Opportunity + Background
- ✓ Approach to Working Together
- ✓ Community Input
- ☐ **Wrap Up + Next Meeting**

Wrap-up & Next Steps



Next Steps

Building Assessment

Listening Sessions

Next Meeting

Jan 26, 6-7:30pm

Questions + Close



Questions + Answers

For More Information

- www.okemosk12.net
- **John Hood**
Superintendent
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