

Engagement Summary

Kevin McGowan, Brighton Central School District
February 6, 2024

24-25 Budget Survey





PARTICIPATION

Breakdown of Participation




Which best describes your connection (s) to the district? (check all that apply)



208

Responses

%		Answer (Multi-select)
26%	(54)	Caregiver at CRPS
27%	(57)	Caregiver at FRES
21%	(43)	Caregiver at TCMS
29%	(61)	Caregiver at BHS
2%	(4)	Caregiver for a student attending a special education program outside of the 4 BCSD schools
4%	(9)	Caregiver at a private or parochial school
7%	(14)	K-12 staff member
3%	(7)	CRPS Staff member
3%	(7)	FRES staff member
5%	(10)	TCMS staff member
7%	(14)	BHS staff member
12%	(25)	Community member without children in

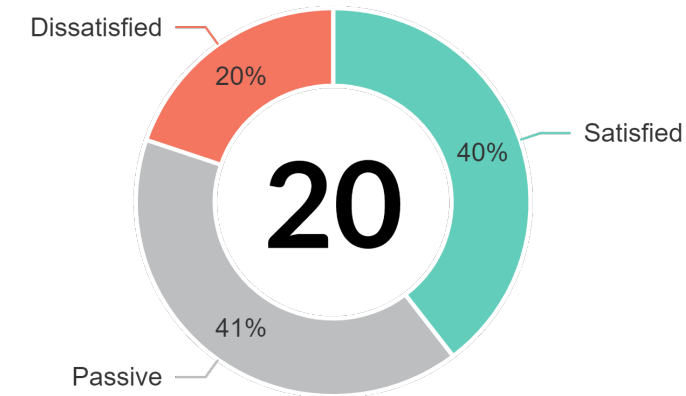


PARTICIPATION

Breakdown of Participation



How satisfied are you with the work of the district?



● Satisfied ● Passive ● Dissatisfied

$$\begin{array}{rcccl} 40\% & - & 20\% & = & 20 \\ \text{Satisfied} & & \text{Dissatisfied} & & \text{Satisfaction Score} \end{array}$$



PARTICIPATION

Breakdown of Participation




What additional activities has your family been engaged in?



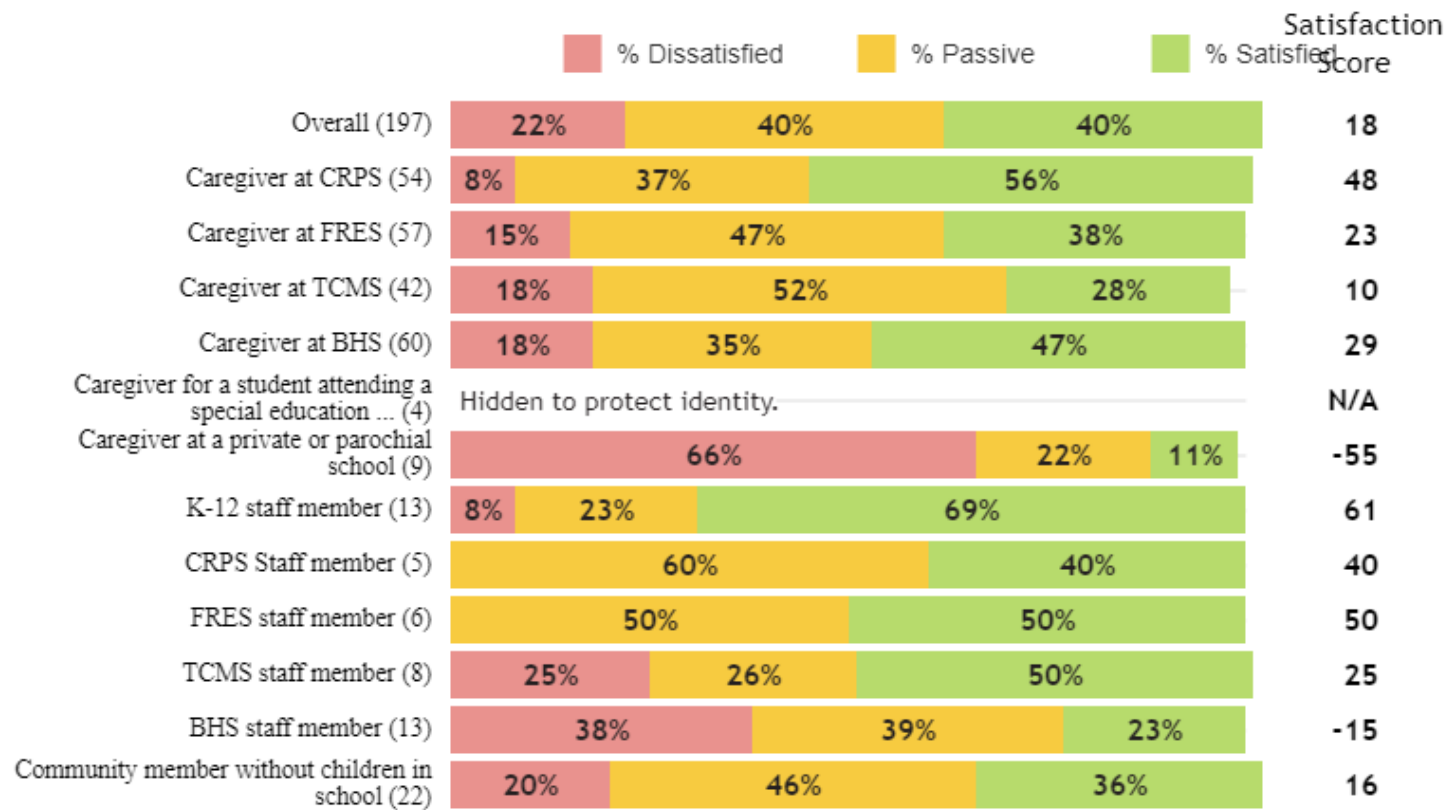
196

Responses

%		Answer (Multi-select)
39%	(76)	Arts
46%	(90)	Athletics
56%	(109)	Clubs and Activities
13%	(26)	No additional activities outside of classroom/academic activities
18%	(35)	Not applicable as I am solely a staff member or a community member without children in school

Demographic question: Which best describes your connection (s) to the district? (check all that apply)

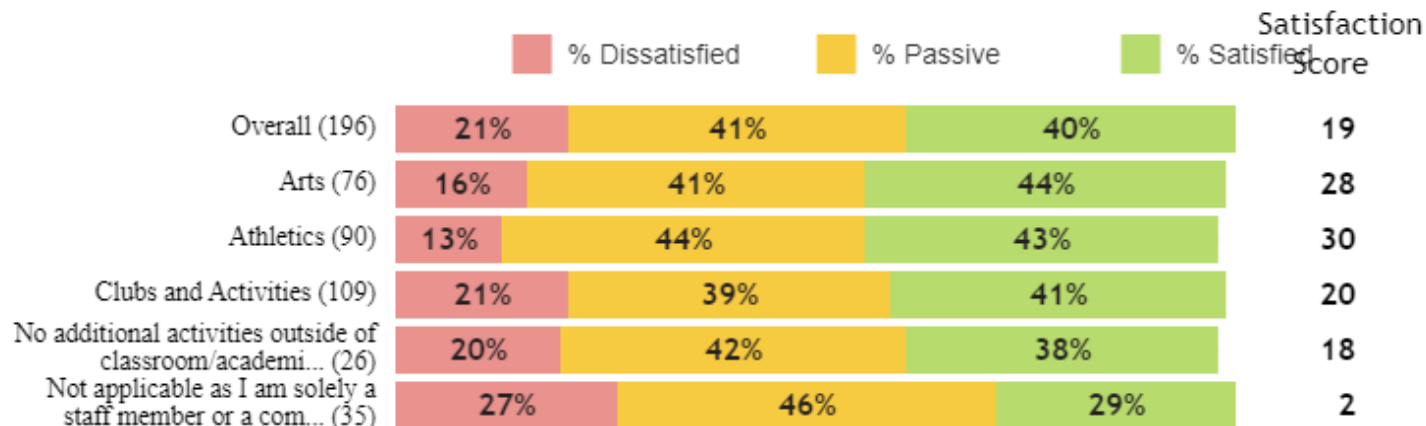
Satisfaction Score question: How satisfied are you with the work of the district?





Demographic question: What additional activities has your family been engaged in?

Satisfaction Score question: How satisfied are you with the work of the district?





Comment Box

Q4

What should we be prioritizing? Please share your ideas for what absolutely needs to be funded in the school budget.

Answered: 153
Not answered: 70

 KEYWORDS

 LIST





Side A

Academic Prioritization

Many respondents believe that the school budget should prioritize academic programs, including STEM, arts, language education, and accelerated learning programs. They argue that academic excellence should be the primary focus of the school, with some suggesting that more resources should be allocated to core subjects, teacher salaries, and academic support services.

Common ground

Student Support Services

Despite their differences, both sides agree on the importance of student support services. This includes mental health services, special education needs, and support for disabled students. They believe that these services are crucial for the wellbeing and success of all students, regardless of their academic or non-academic interests.

Side B

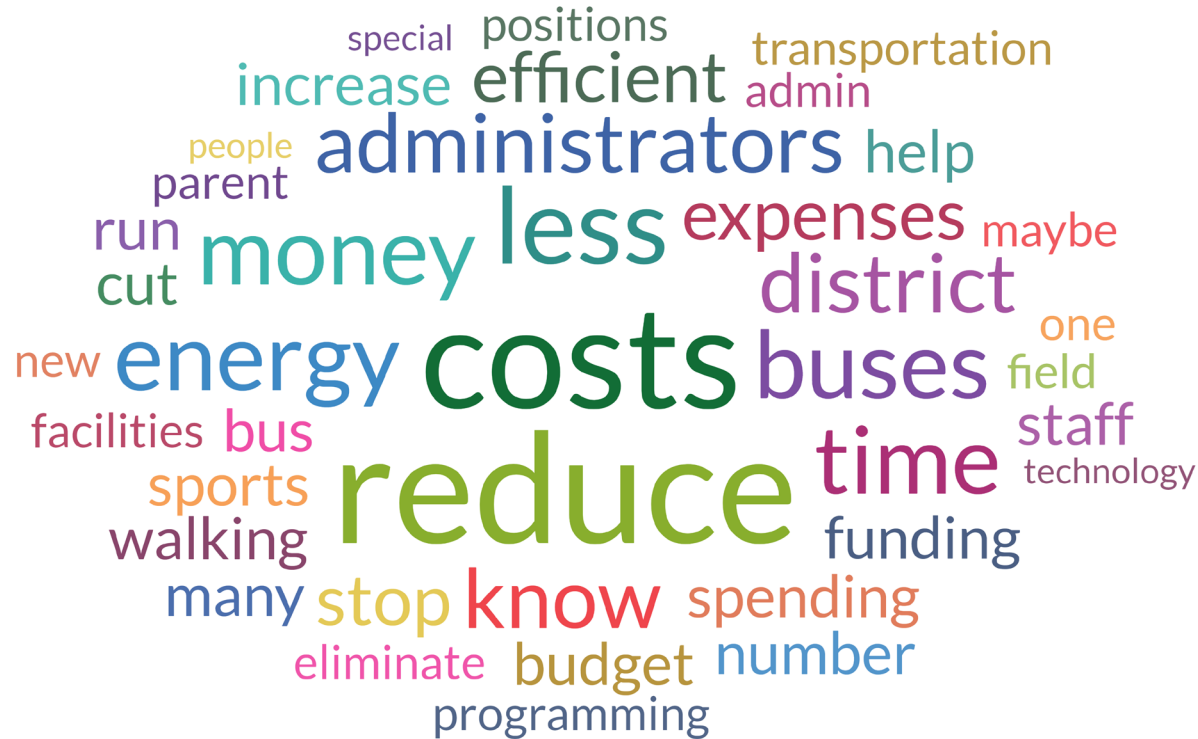
Non-Academic Prioritization

On the other hand, some respondents argue for a greater focus on non-academic areas such as mental health services, extracurricular activities, athletics, and facilities improvement. They believe that these areas are equally important for the overall development of students and should be adequately funded.

Top Five to Prioritize...



1. **Academic Excellence and Rigor:** This includes STEM education, accelerated math programs, academic assistance support, and interventions, among others.
2. **Mental Health Support:** This includes the need for mental health counselors and services for students.
3. **Teacher and Staff Support:** This includes competitive salaries, professional development, and ensuring a living wage for all staff.
4. **Special Education Needs:** This includes support for disabled students and personalized student growth.
5. **Arts and Extracurricular Activities:** This includes music, arts, athletics, clubs, and other extracurricular opportunities for students.



Top Five Efficiency Considerations...



1. **Reducing Administration Costs:** Many respondents suggested that the district could cut back on administrative roles and expenses to save money.
2. **Energy Efficiency:** Several responses suggested that the district could save money in the long run by investing in energy-efficient updates to facilities, such as solar panels or more efficient HVAC systems.
3. **Cutting Back on Extracurriculars:** Some respondents suggested that the district could save money by reducing funding for extracurricular activities, particularly sports.
4. **Streamlining Communication:** A few responses suggested that the district could save money by using technology more efficiently for communication, such as reducing paper mailings and centralizing communication platforms.
5. **Reevaluating Transportation:** Some respondents suggested that the district could save money by reevaluating transportation services, such as expanding walking distances, redrafting bus routes, or reducing busing options.

What suggestions do you have for the district in terms of how information is shared and gathered during the budget process?

 KEYWORDS

 LIST



Top Five Suggestions on Information Sharing...



1. **Communication Methods:** The text discusses various methods of communication such as email, social media, and physical mailers. It also mentions the use of platforms like ThoughtExchange and ParentSquare.
2. **Transparency and Clarity:** The respondents emphasize the need for transparency and clarity in sharing information about the budget. They suggest sharing detailed breakdowns, line item comparisons, and specific project costs.
3. **Community Engagement:** The text suggests various ways to engage the community such as surveys, forums, focus groups, and stakeholder meetings. It also mentions the need to reach out to residents without school-age children.
4. **Budget Information:** The text discusses the need for clear and comprehensive information about the budget. Suggestions include sharing slides from school board meetings, providing graphics to show how money is allocated, and posting more information on the website.
5. **Feedback and Suggestions:** The respondents provide various suggestions for improvement, such as holding more in-person forums, providing early information distribution, and offering educational opportunities to explain the budget process. They also express their opinions on the current methods of communication and information sharing.



Additional Thoughts or Considerations...



1. **School Start Times:** There is a call for later start times for BHS and TCMS to allow teenagers more sleep.
2. **School Programs:** There is a demand for a theatre program at FRES and more career-exposure seminars for high school students.
3. **School Budget and Taxes:** There are concerns about the high cost of certain programs, the constant increase in taxes, and the need for more thoughtful budget allocation.
4. **School Facilities:** There are suggestions for multi-use of existing spaces and the need for security measures to protect investments in new facilities.
5. **Student Needs and Development:** There is a call for a designated recess period for middle and high school students, more athletic activities for 6th graders, and prioritizing all students including those in the “middle”.



What are your thoughts?

What should we be considering?

What would you do next?