



Sturgis Public Schools

COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

Building a Stronger Future for Every Student





SURVEY OVERVIEW

**STURGIS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
COMMUNITY INPUT**

SURVEY OVERVIEW

PURPOSE AND GOAL OF THE SURVEY

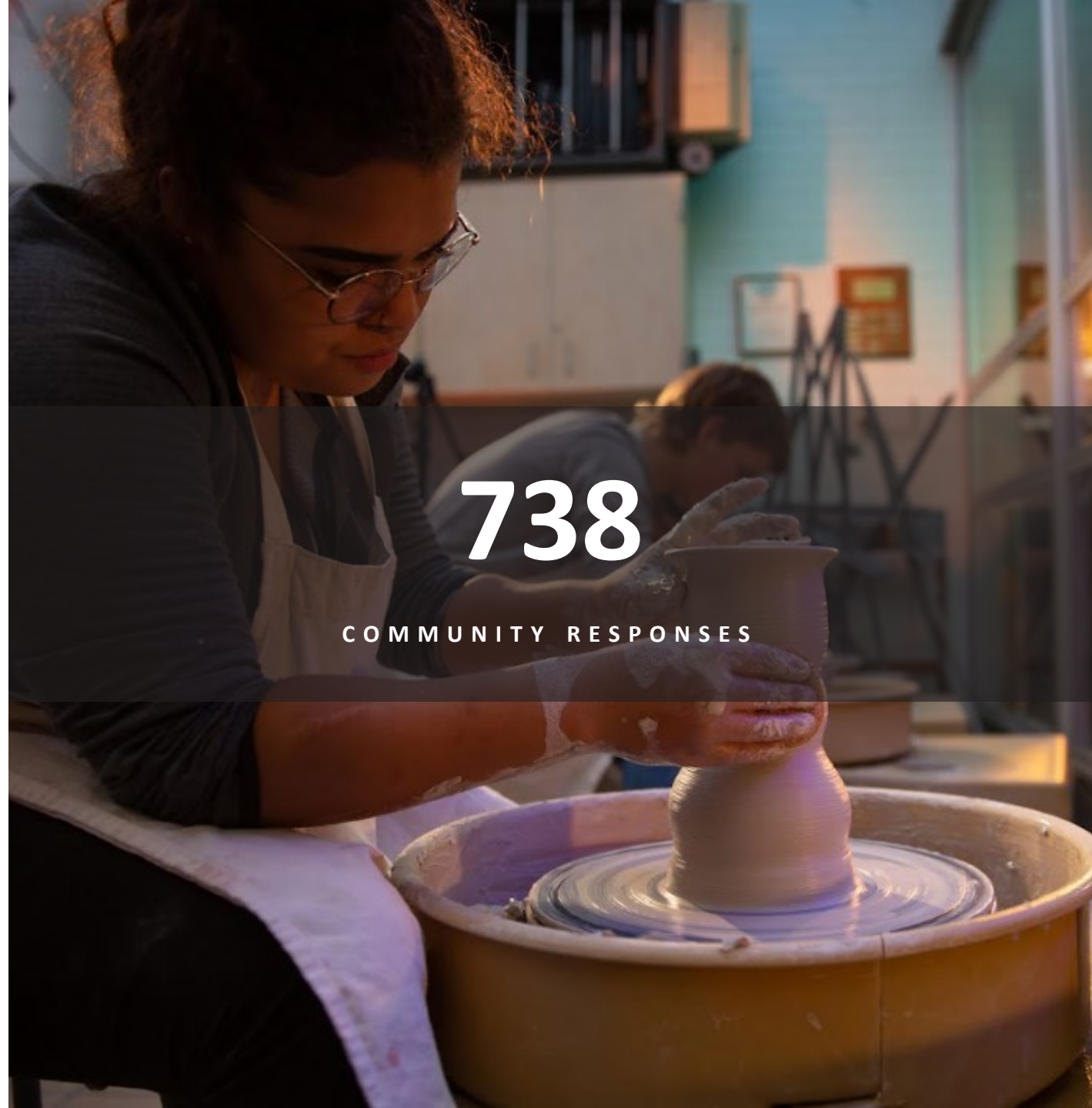
Following the May 2026 bond proposal, Sturgis Public Schools conducted a community survey to understand our communities' priorities, concerns, and expectations for the future of the district. The goal was to identify areas of common ground and build a clear foundation for future planning and potential investments.

TIMELINE AND PARTICIPATION

The survey was open August 11–31, 2026 and generated 738 responses. Respondents represented a broad cross-section of the Sturgis community, including residents, parents, staff, alumni, and other community members.

HOW RESULTS ARE PRESENTED

Results are presented question by question, with each survey item shown alongside its corresponding responses.



738

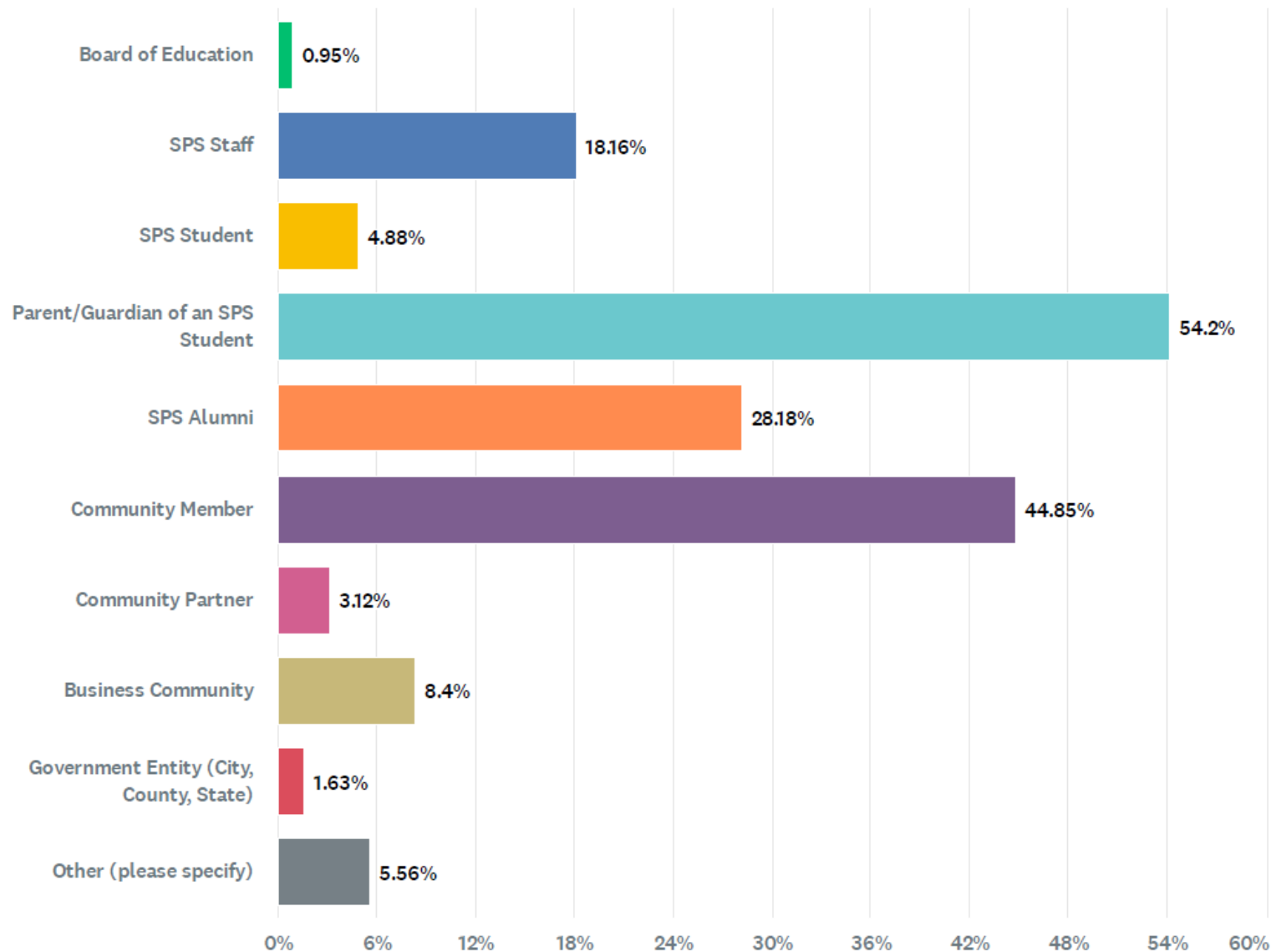
COMMUNITY RESPONSES



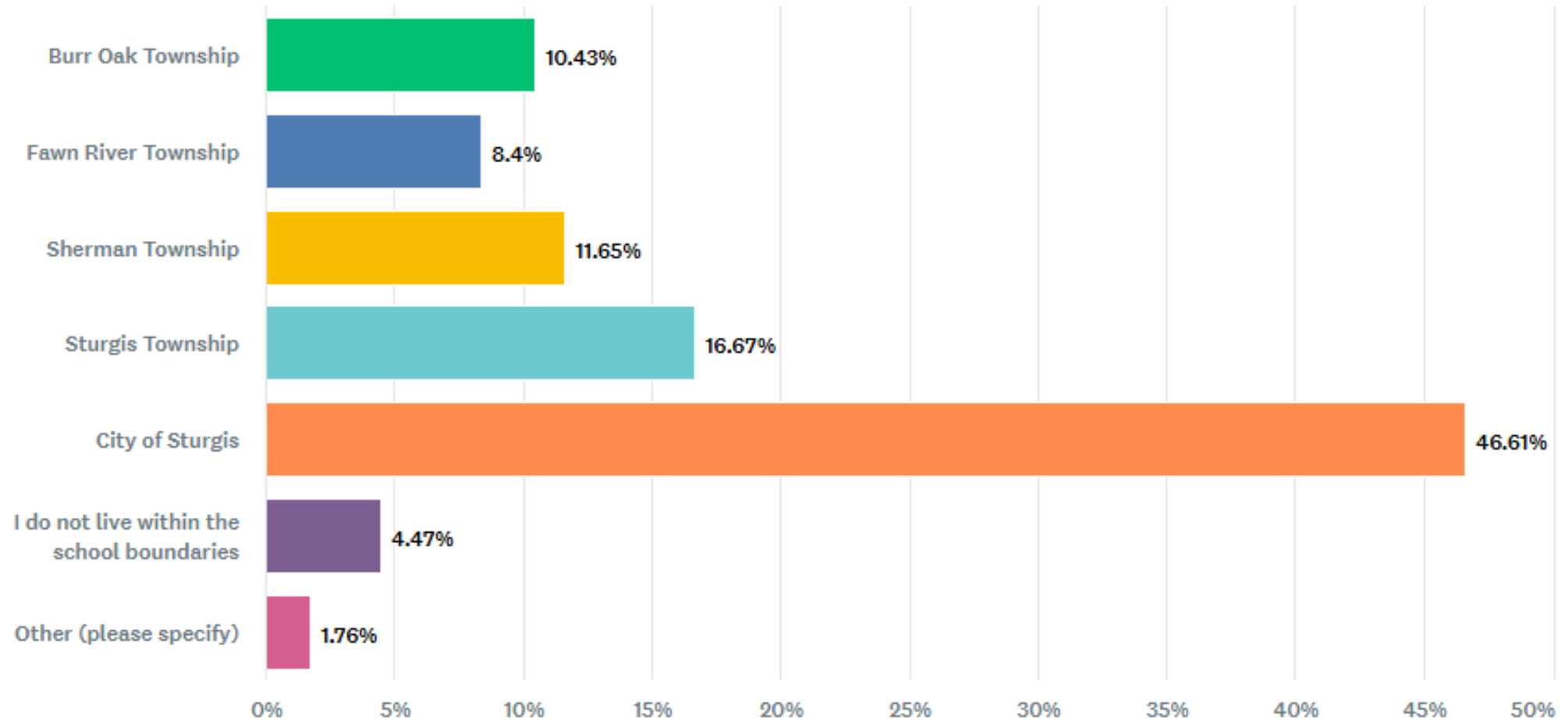
SURVEY RESPONDENTS

**STURGIS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
COMMUNITY INPUT**

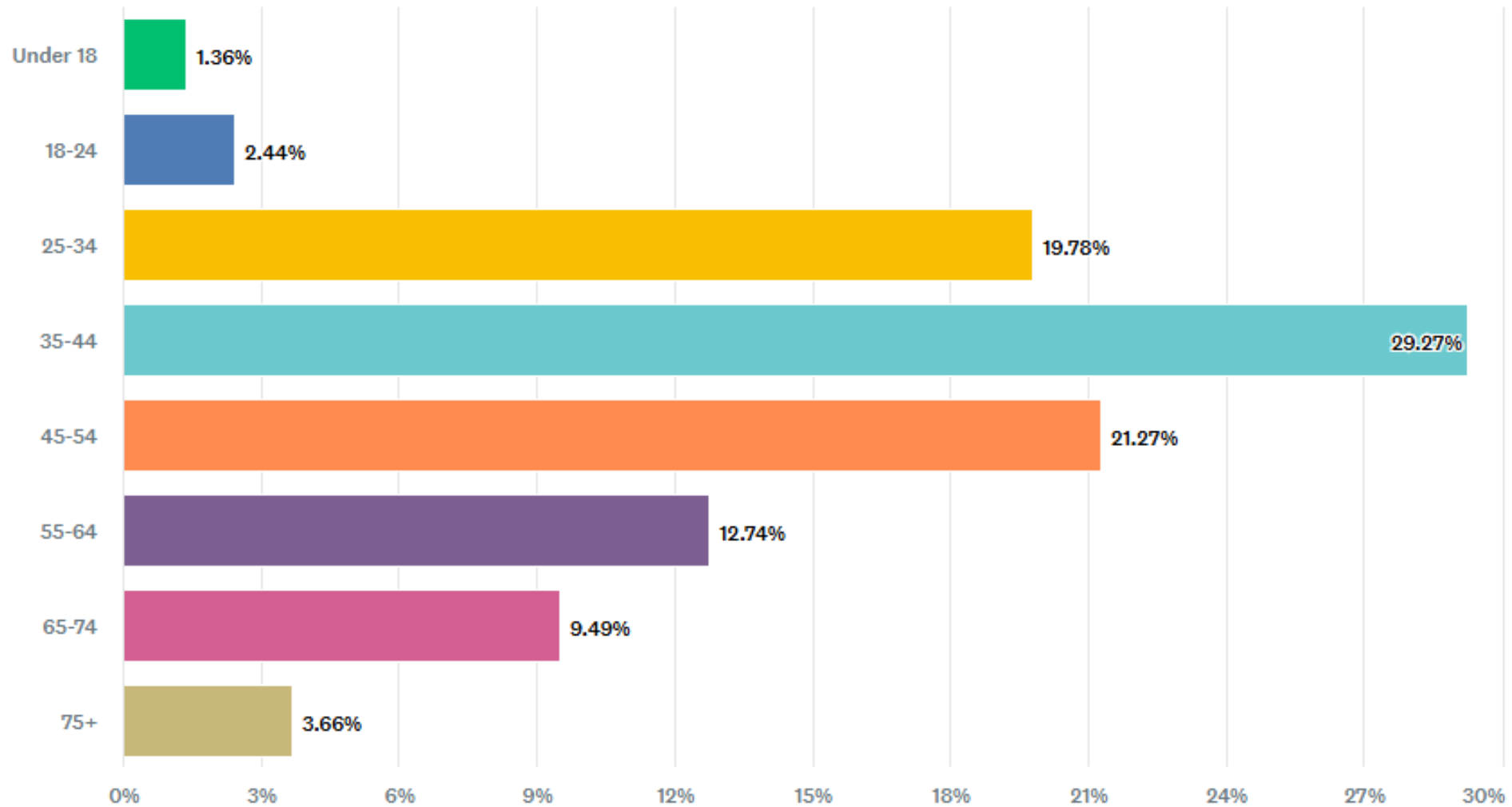
Q1: What is your connection to SPS? Check all that apply.



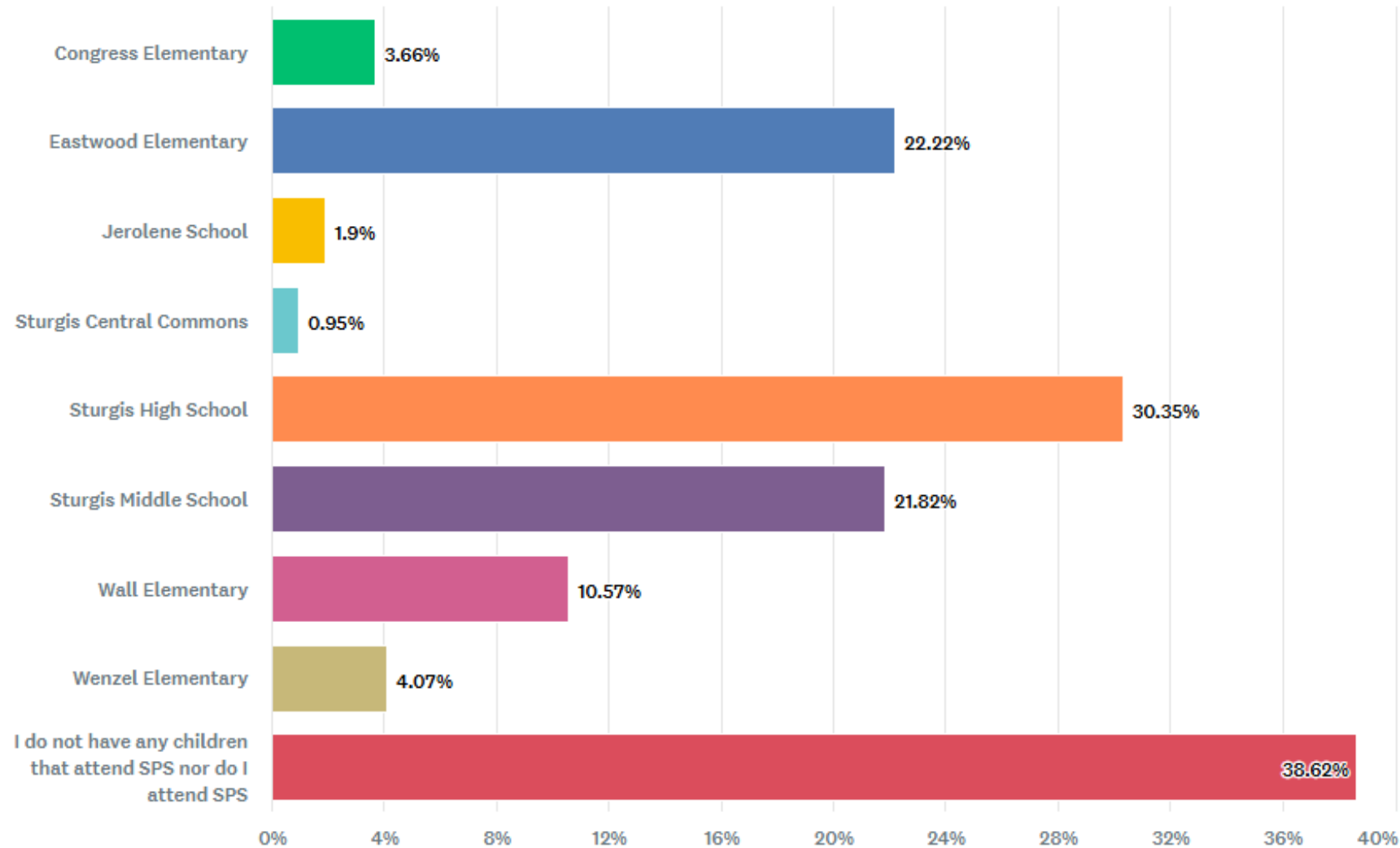
Q2: Which municipality do you reside in?



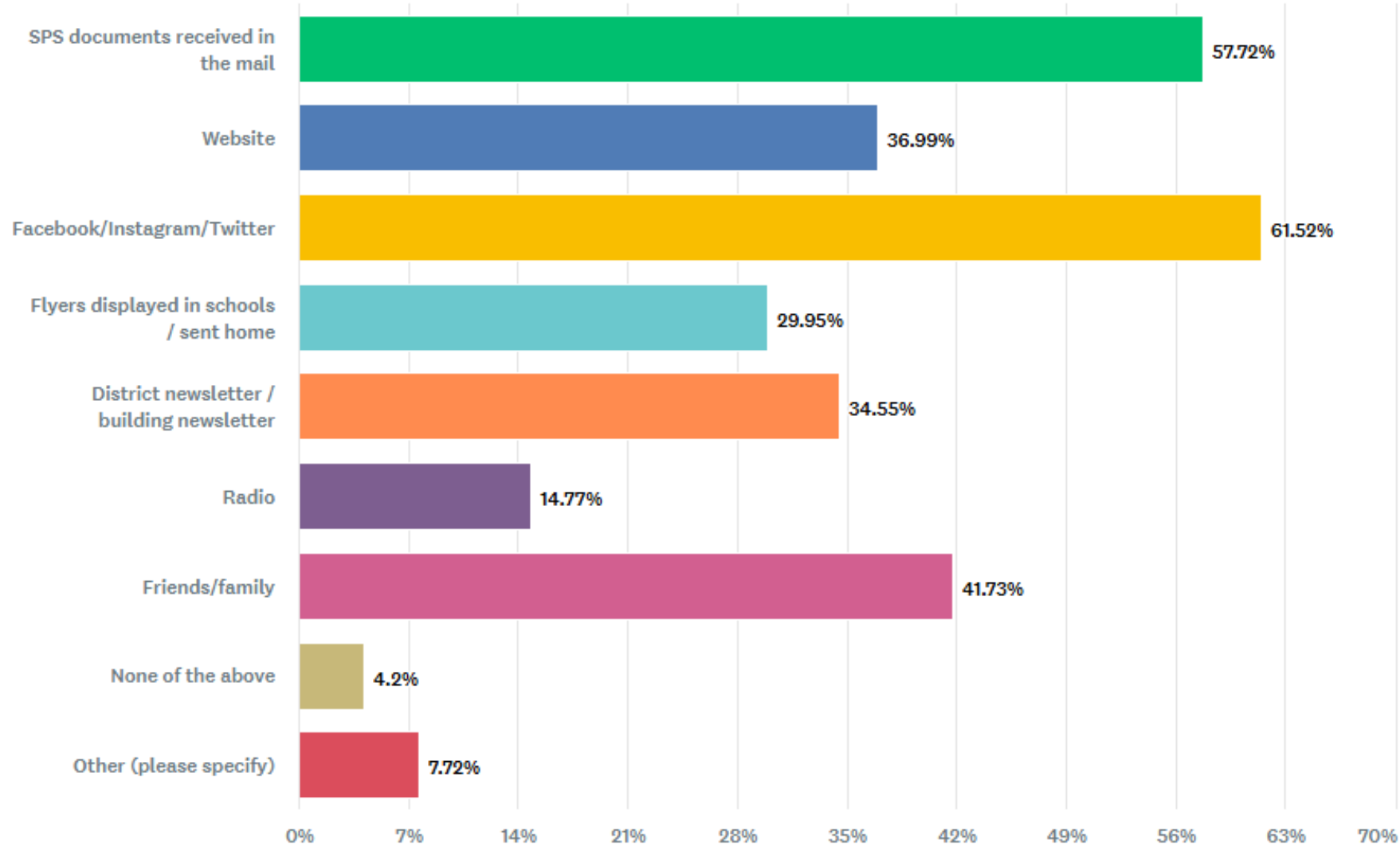
Q3: What age bracket are you in?



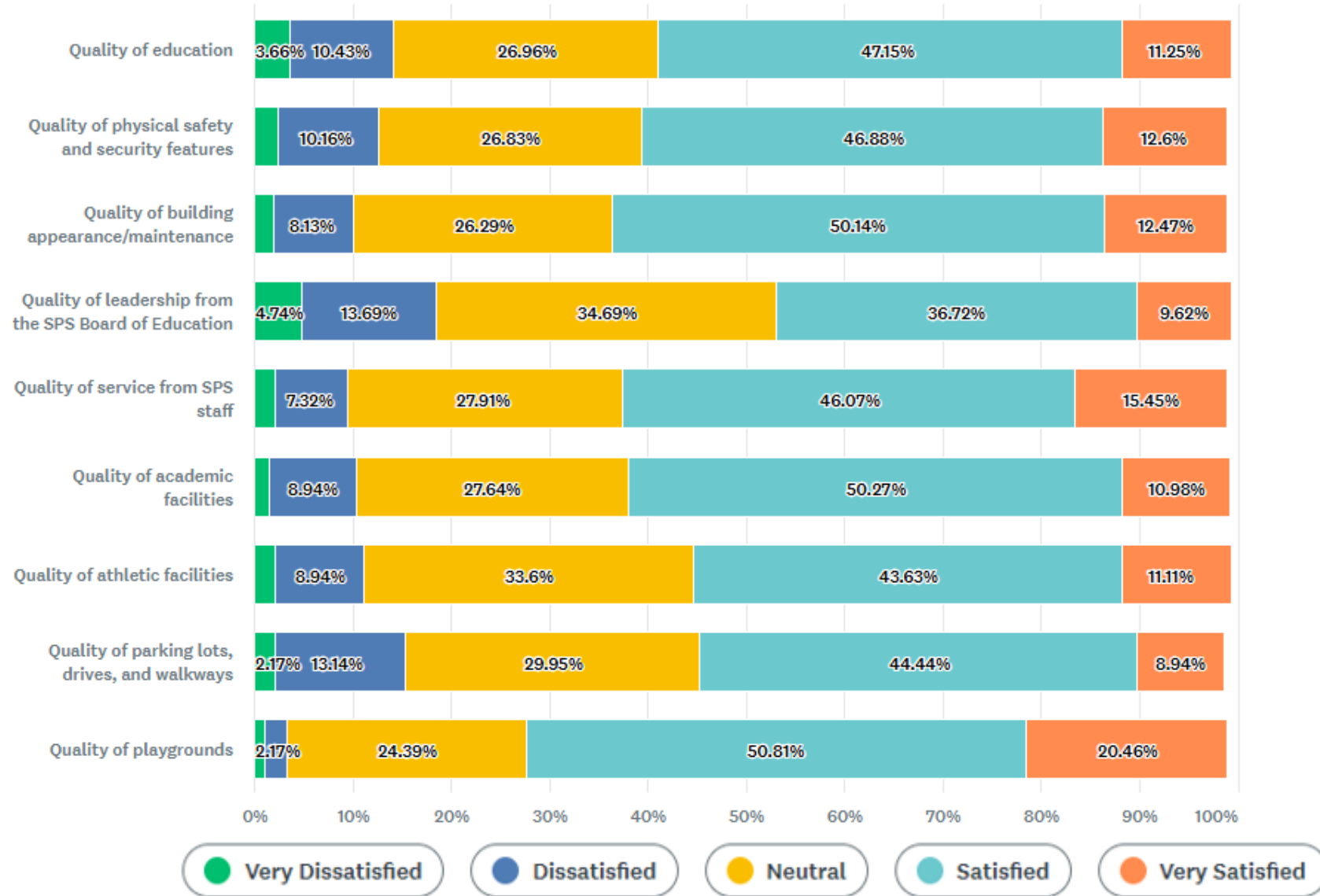
Q4: If you are the parent/guardian of an SPS student, or are an SPS student, select the school(s) that your child(ren) current attend(s) or that you currently attend. Check all that apply.



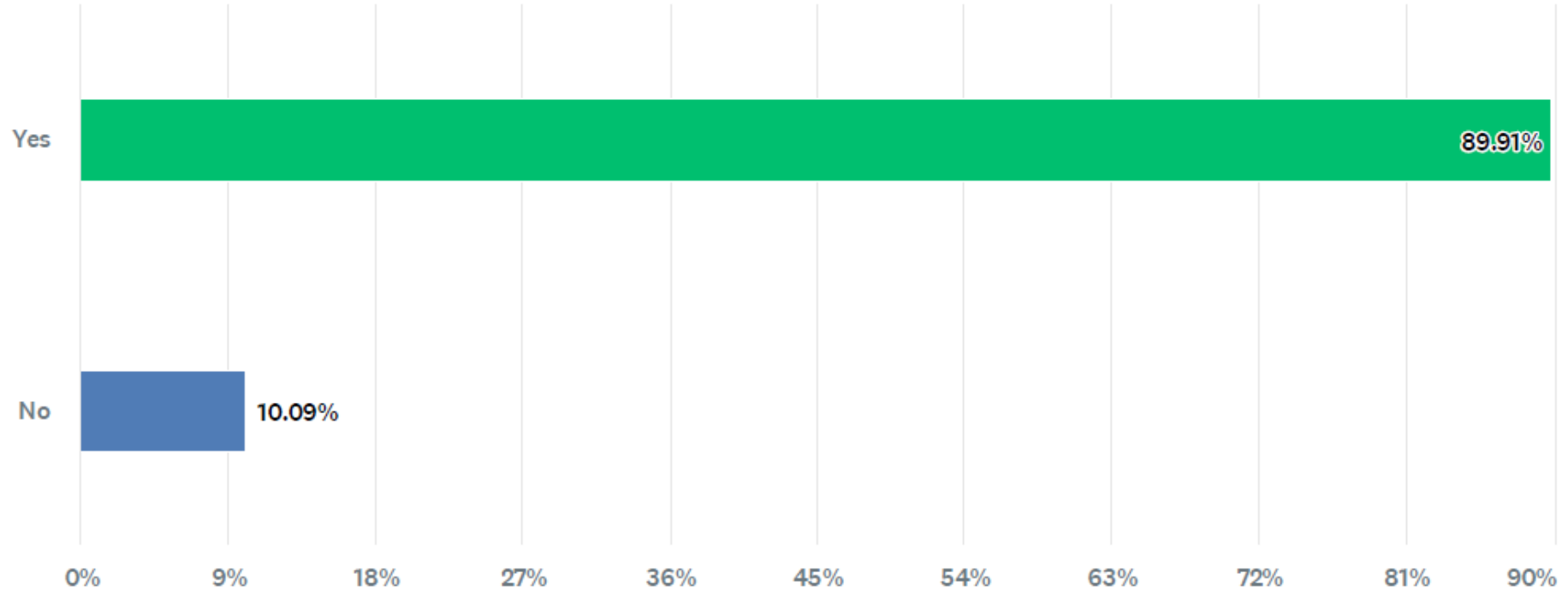
Q5: How do you and members of your household learn about SPS facilities and programs? Check all that apply.



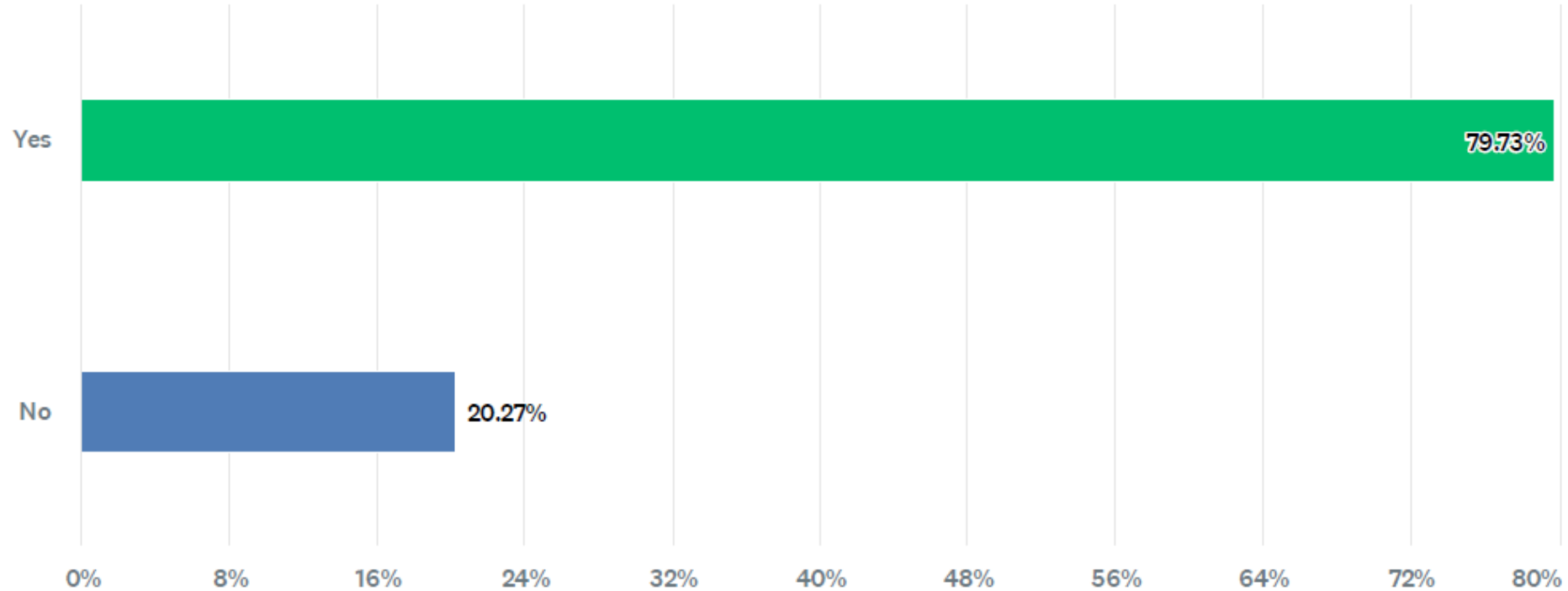
Q6: Please rate your level of satisfaction in the following areas:



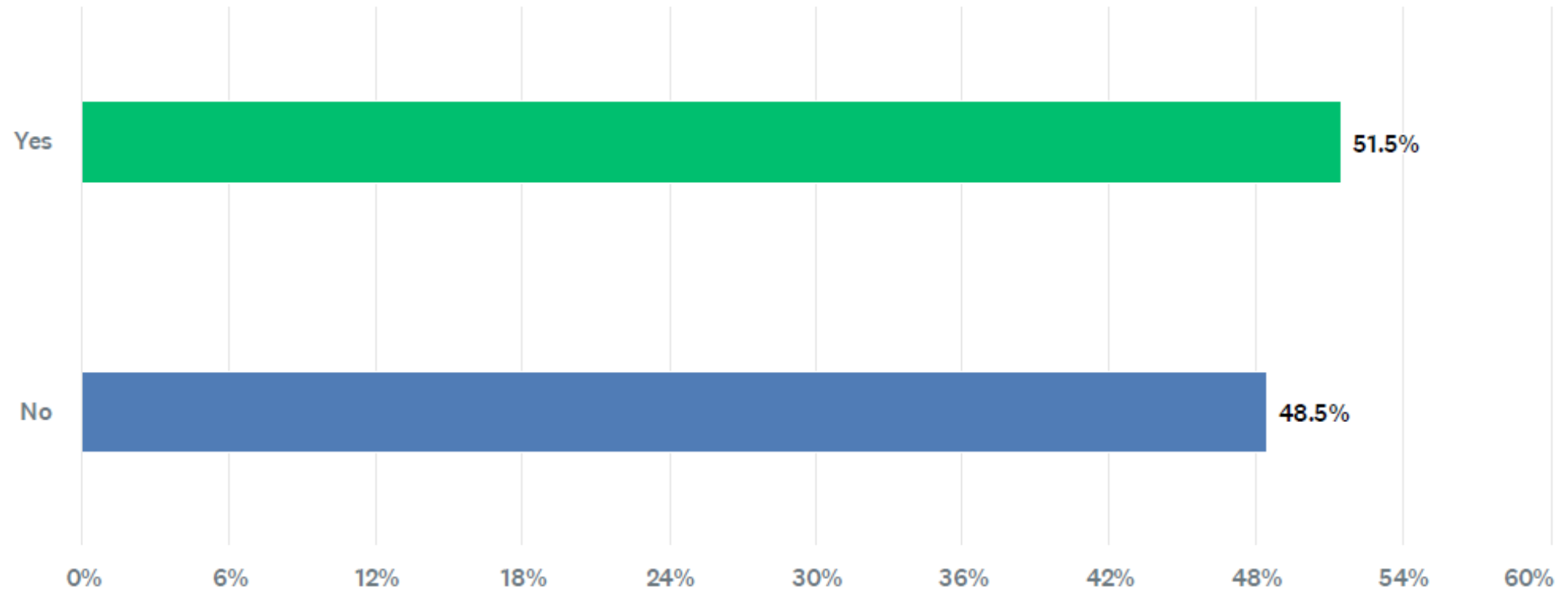
Q7: Are you a registered voter?



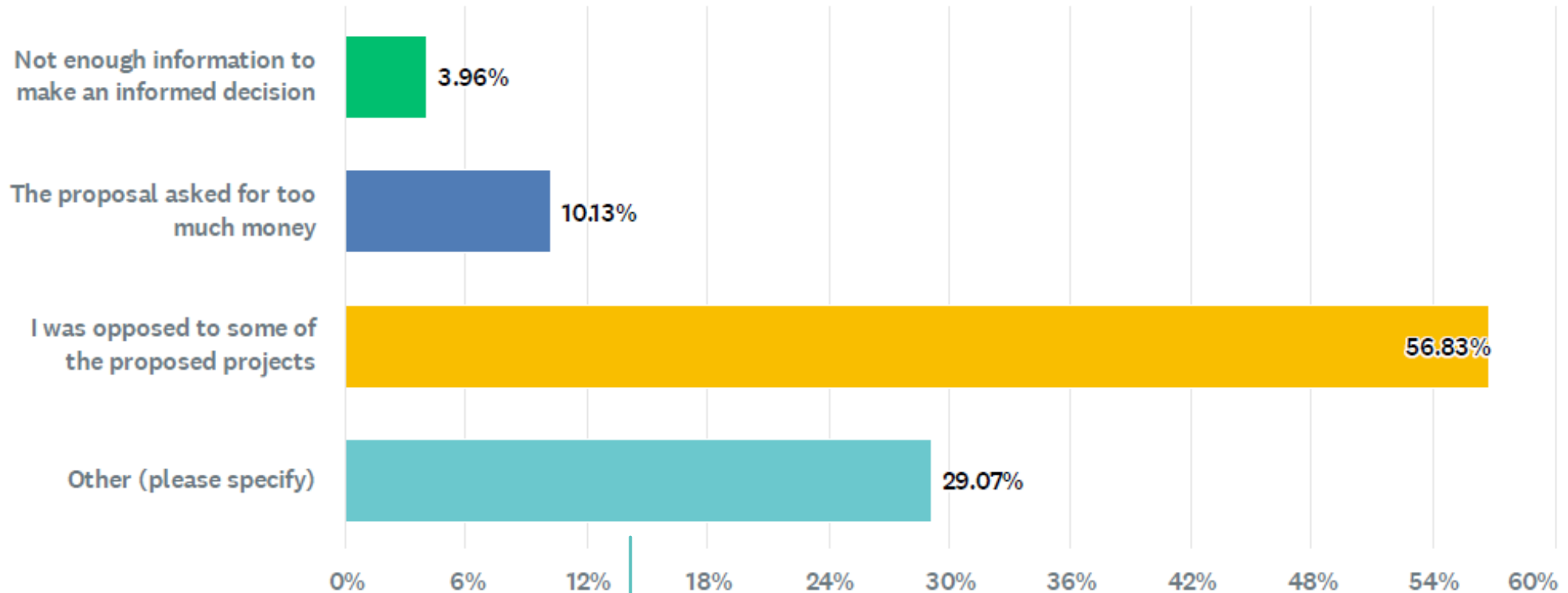
Q8: Did you vote in the May 2026 election?



Q9: Did you support the SPS May 2026 bond proposal?



Q10: If you voted no, please indicate the main reason why.

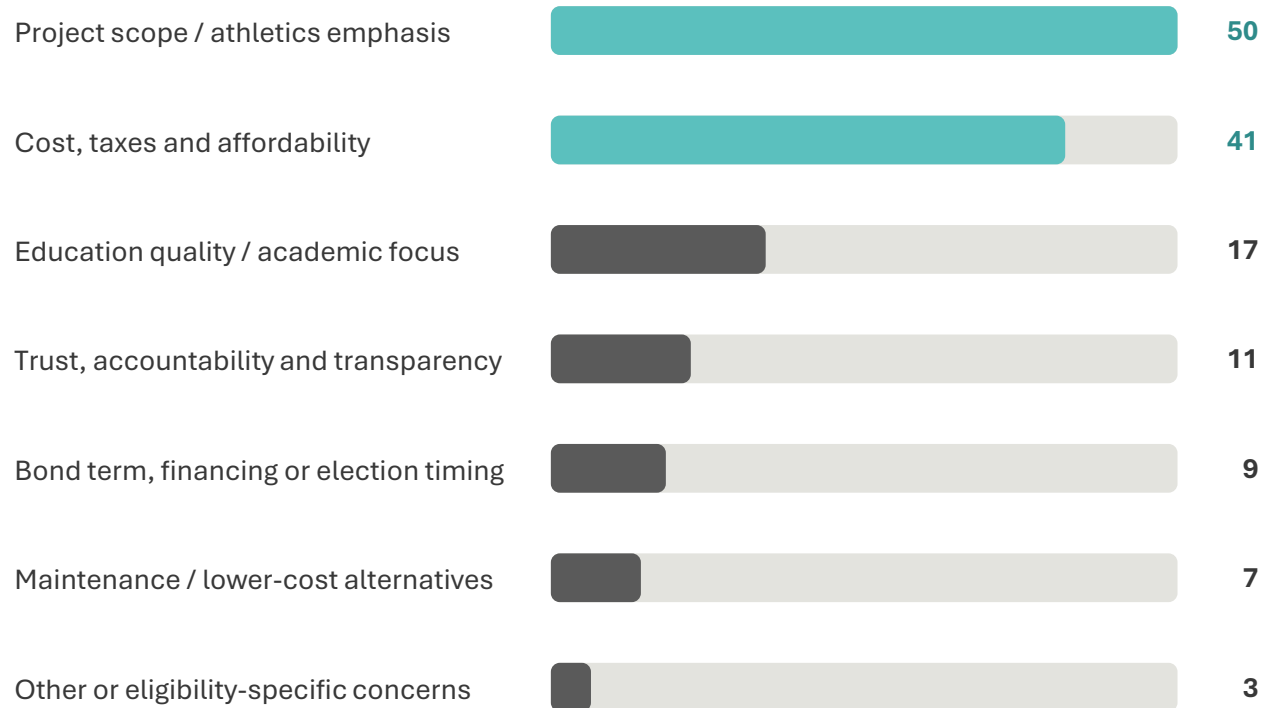


The **29%** who selected “Other” wrote in **66 comments**. The next two slides summarize what they said.

Inside the 66 "Other" comments

Summary of 66 open-ended comments. Many named more than one concern, so mentions total more than 66.

Most frequently cited reasons



EXECUTIVE TAKEAWAY

Opposition centered on both the size of the request and what the proposal prioritized.

● Scope and priorities

Athletic facilities, turf, pool/aquatic improvements and other perceived “wants” were cited more often than any other theme.

● Household impact

Respondents described the total request, existing taxes and the 30-year commitment as difficult to support amid affordability concerns.

● Confidence and alignment

Comments asked for clearer accounting, stronger maintenance planning, transparent decision-making and a more visible connection to academic outcomes.

What respondents actually said

In their own words

Project scope / athletics emphasis

Supporters and critics alike framed athletics upgrades as wants, not needs.

50

mentions of 66

“

I am a strong athletic supporter, but do not see the need for artificial turf.

Respondent 115166156483

“

I want to support the Board and the district. I think the artificial turf is going beyond the needs of the district.

Respondent 115165746683

“

Unfortunately, the bond was viewed as a sports upgrade. This didn't sit well... The athletic changes need to be scaled back and minimized.

Respondent 115164000543

Cost, taxes and affordability

Comments tied support to household budgets, tax burden and proposal size.

41

mentions of 66

“

Until property owners get meaningful tax relief I can't support spending so much money for unnecessary projects... to maintain, paint, make repairs I would agree to help pay for.

Respondent 115165374787

“

Since the economy isn't great I would only vote for absolute needs, not the wants that are on the list. I think if that's all that was in the new proposal it may have passed.

Respondent 115153094007

“

Our taxes are high, pay isn't the greatest especially when hours keep getting cut. We can't afford much more in taxes. I do see the need for track improvements. The roof needs fixed as it leaks.

Respondent 115162675129

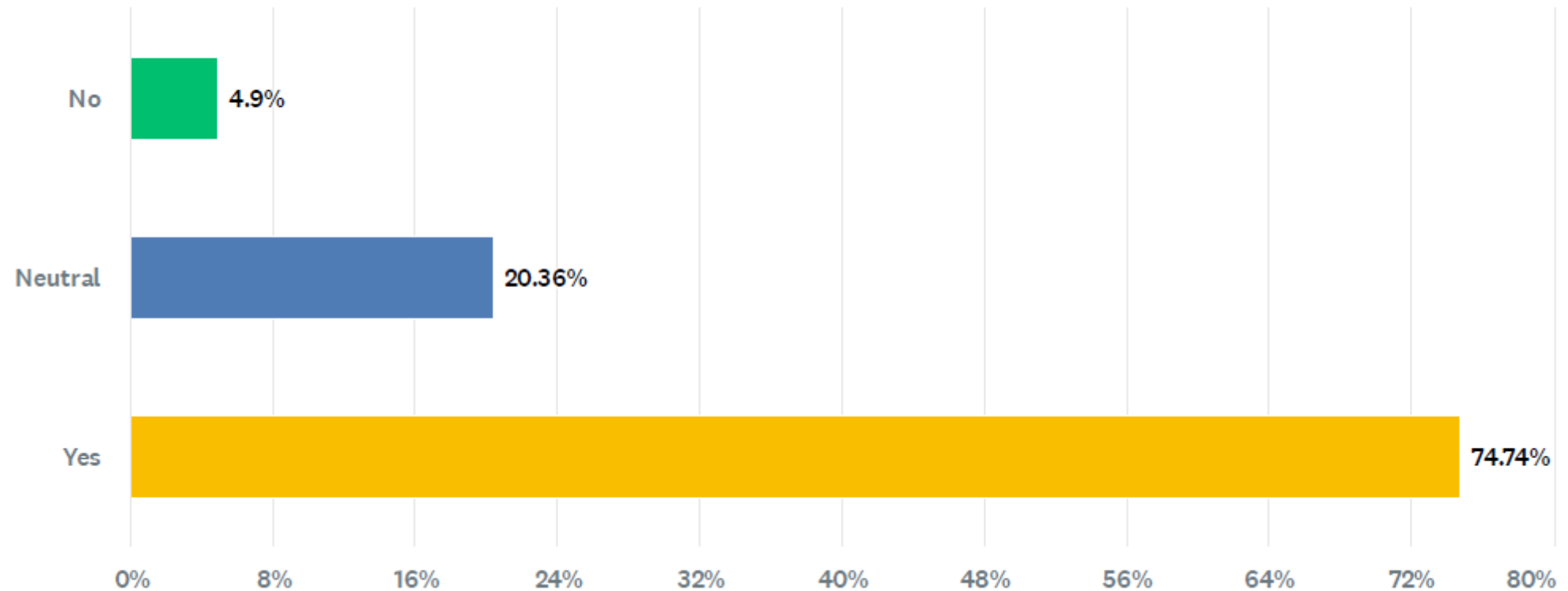


COMMUNITY PRIORITIES FOR FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS

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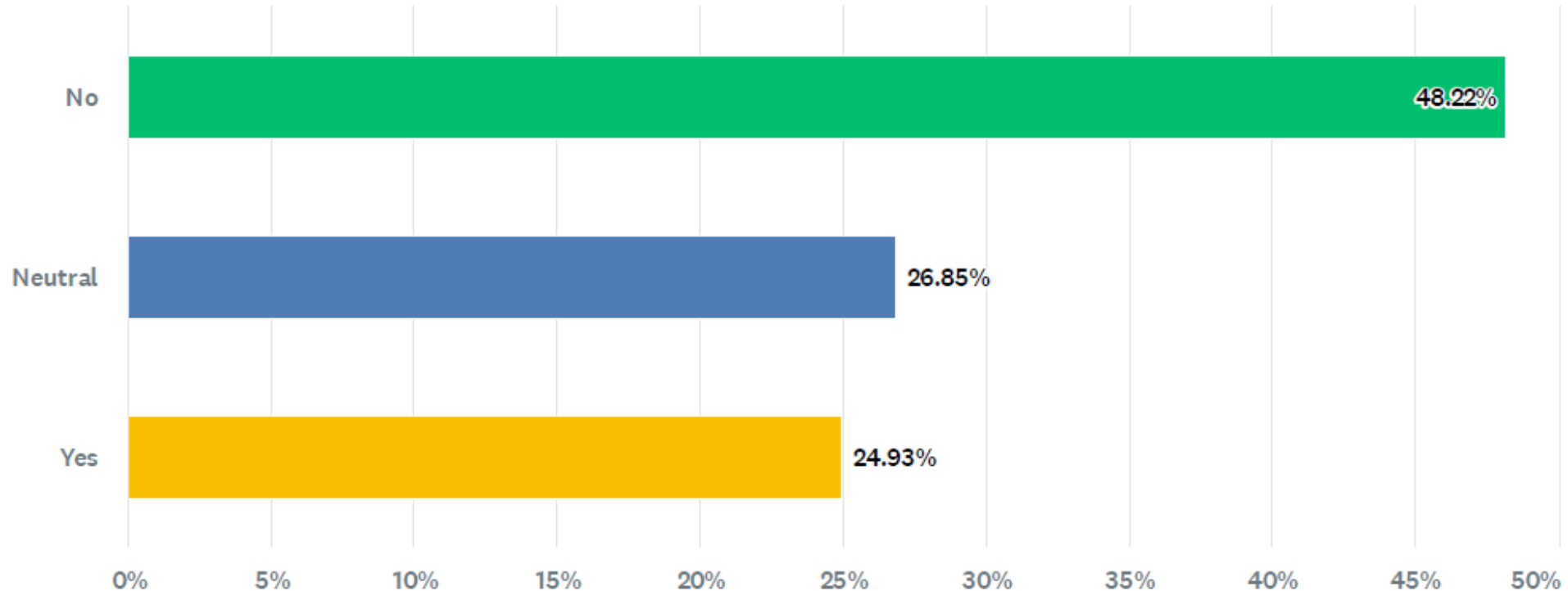
Q11: In the May 2026 bond proposal, there were several major components within the proposed bond scope. Please indicate whether or not you support each component.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Related Renovations



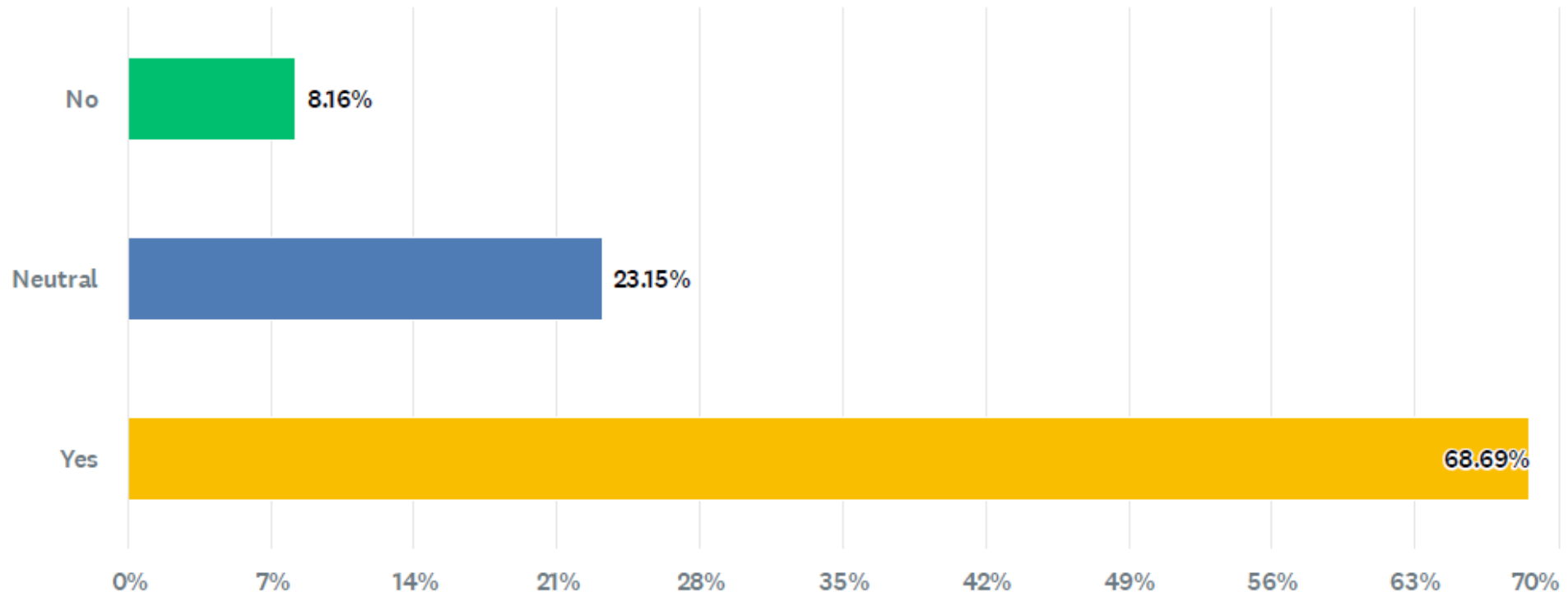
Q12: In the May 2026 bond proposal, there were several major components within the proposed bond scope. Please indicate whether or not you support each component.

Baseball and Softball Turf and Facility Improvements



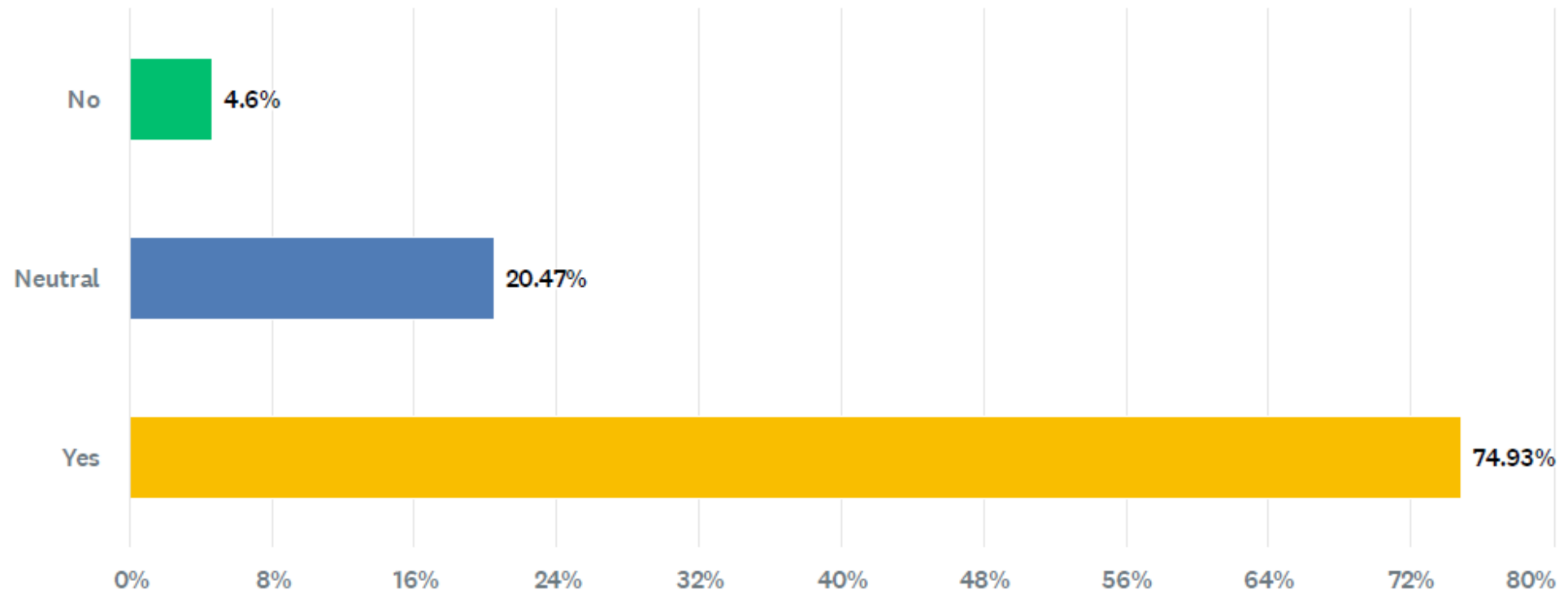
Q13: In the May 2026 bond proposal, there were several major components within the proposed bond scope. Please indicate whether or not you support each component.

Bathroom Renovations



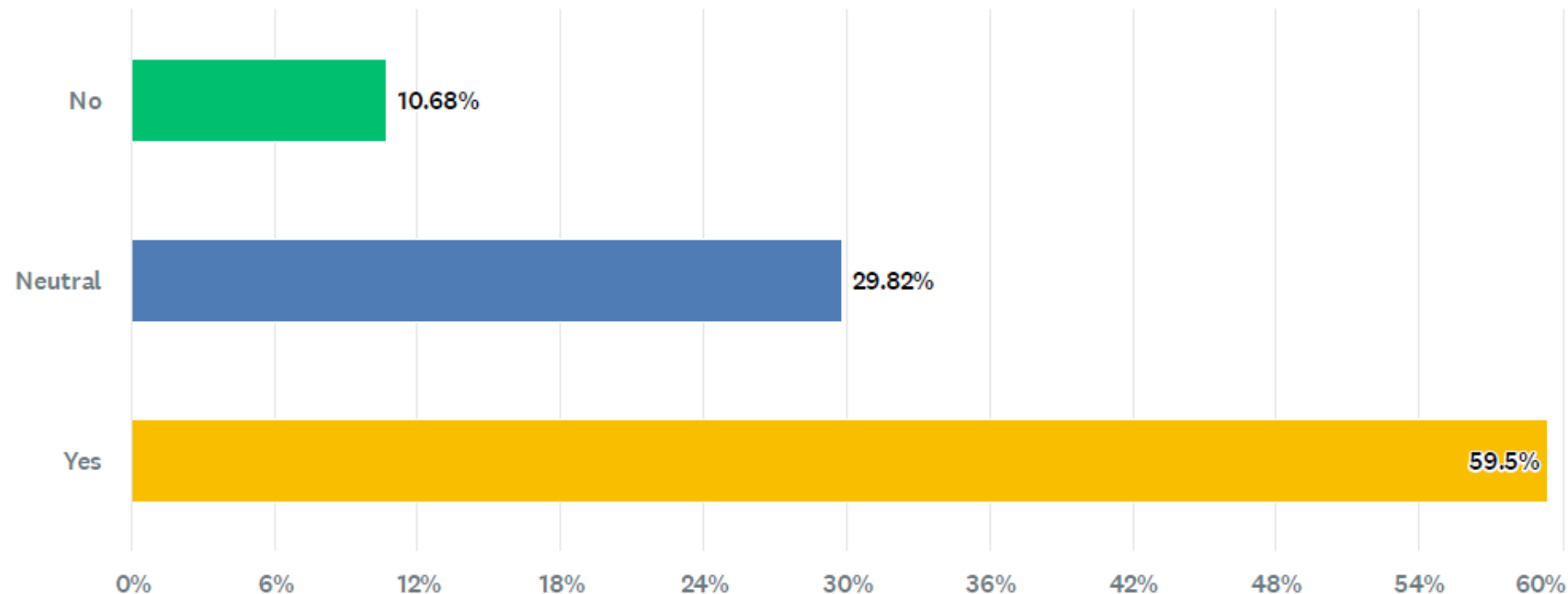
Q14: In the May 2026 bond proposal, there were several major components within the proposed bond scope. Please indicate whether or not you support each component.

Boiler Replacements



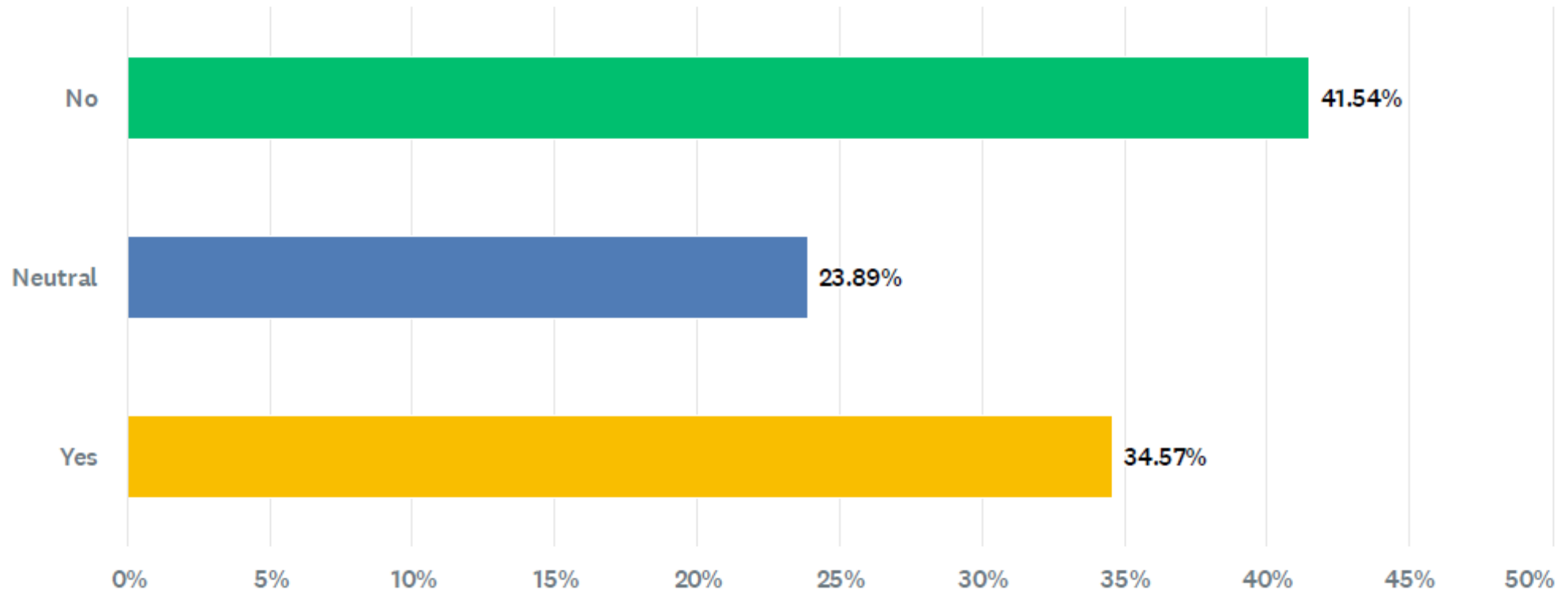
Q15: In the May 2026 bond proposal, there were several major components within the proposed bond scope. Please indicate whether or not you support each component.

Classroom Renovations



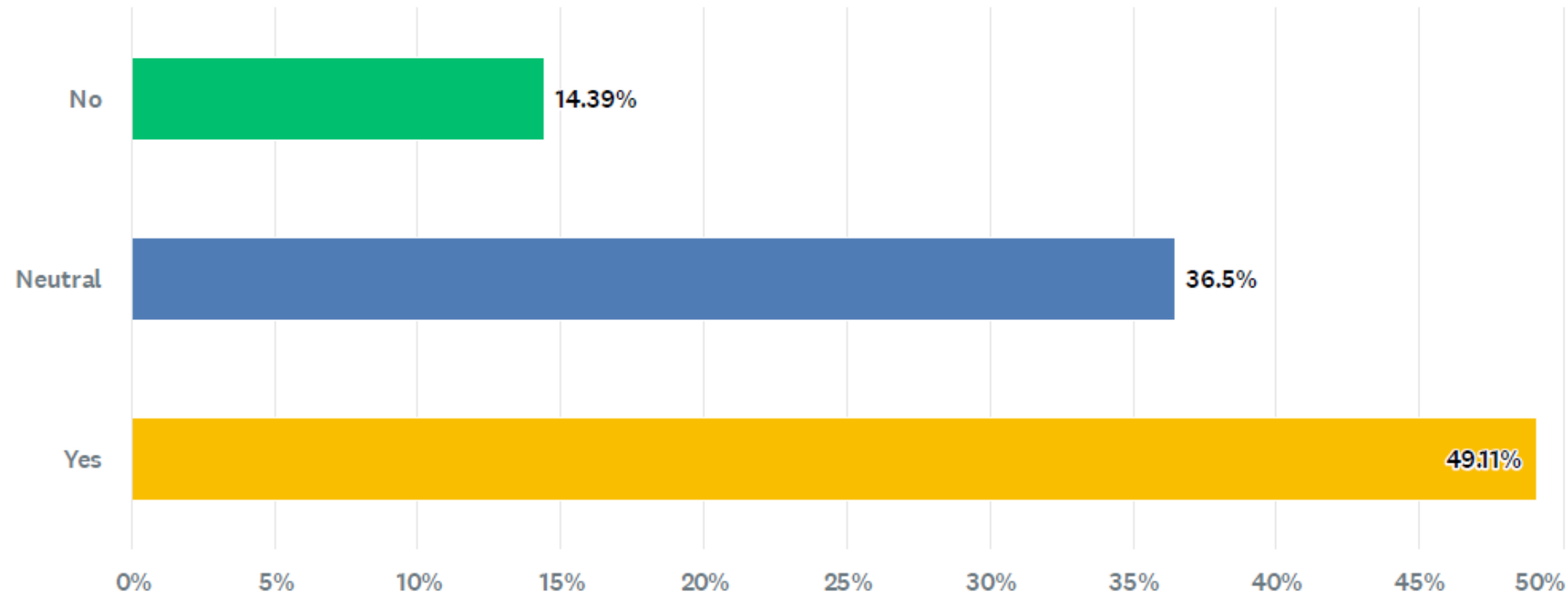
Q16: In the May 2026 bond proposal, there were several major components within the proposed bond scope. Please indicate whether or not you support each component.

Converting the Sturgis Community Pool into an Athletic Training Facility



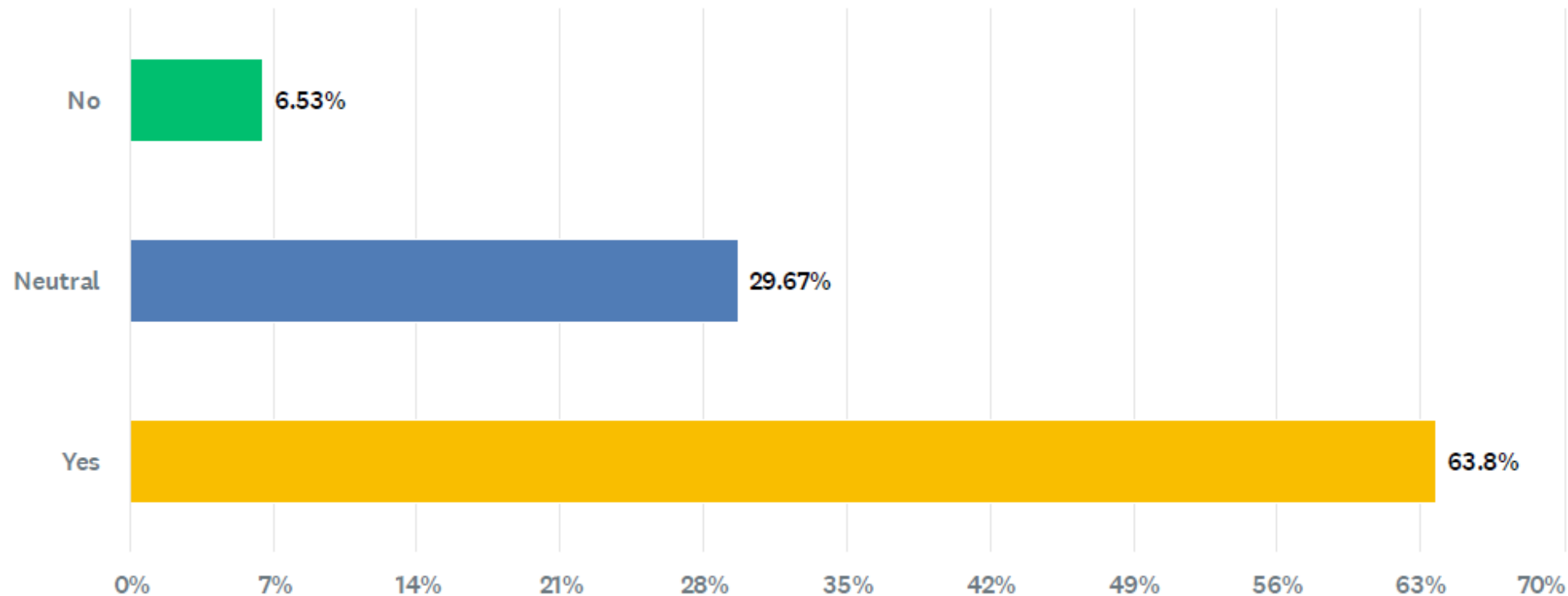
Q17: In the May 2026 bond proposal, there were several major components within the proposed bond scope. Please indicate whether or not you support each component.

Fabrication Lab Renovation & Expansion



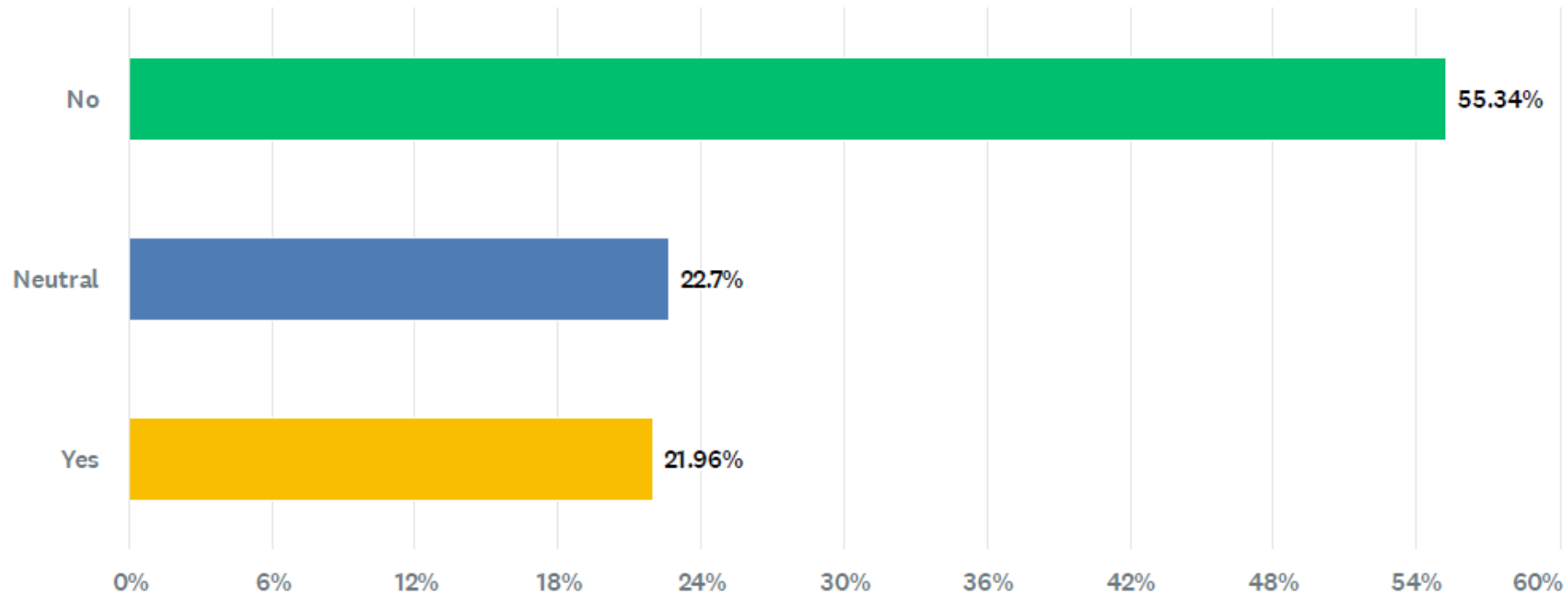
Q18: In the May 2026 bond proposal, there were several major components within the proposed bond scope. Please indicate whether or not you support each component.

Flat Roof Replacement



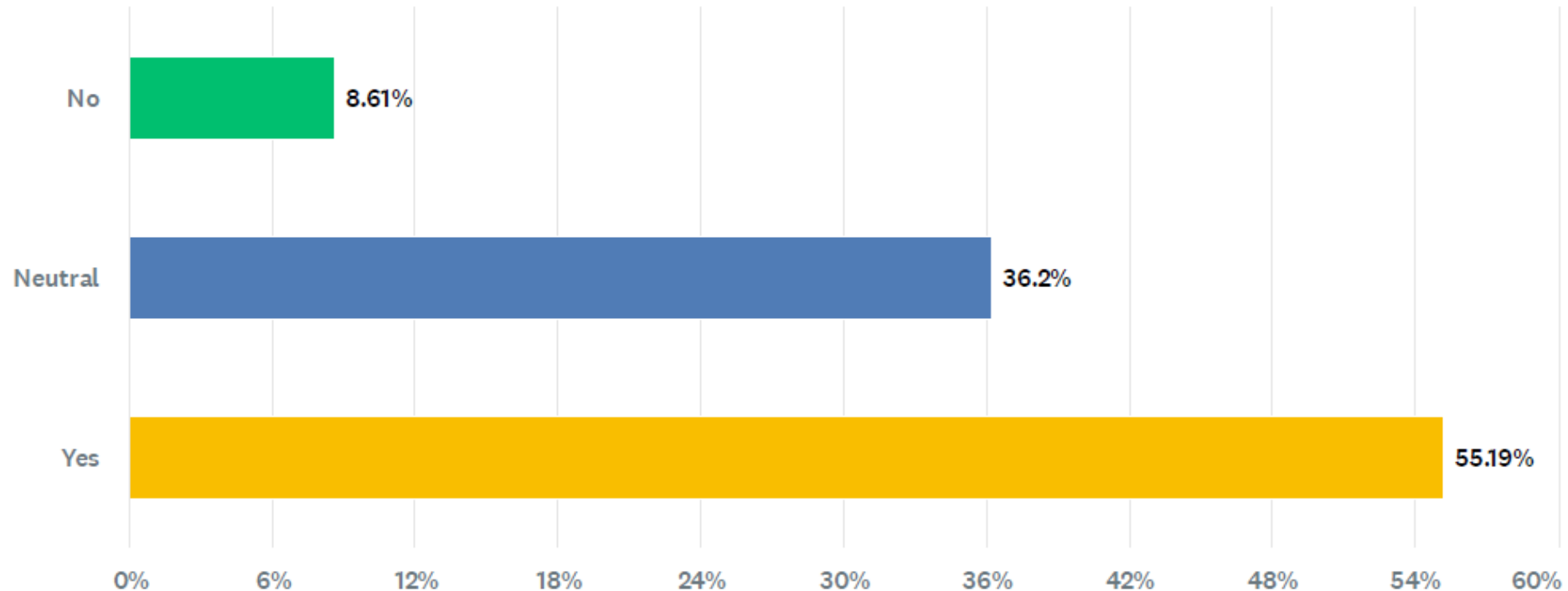
Q19: In the May 2026 bond proposal, there were several major components within the proposed bond scope. Please indicate whether or not you support each component.

Football Turf and Facility Improvements



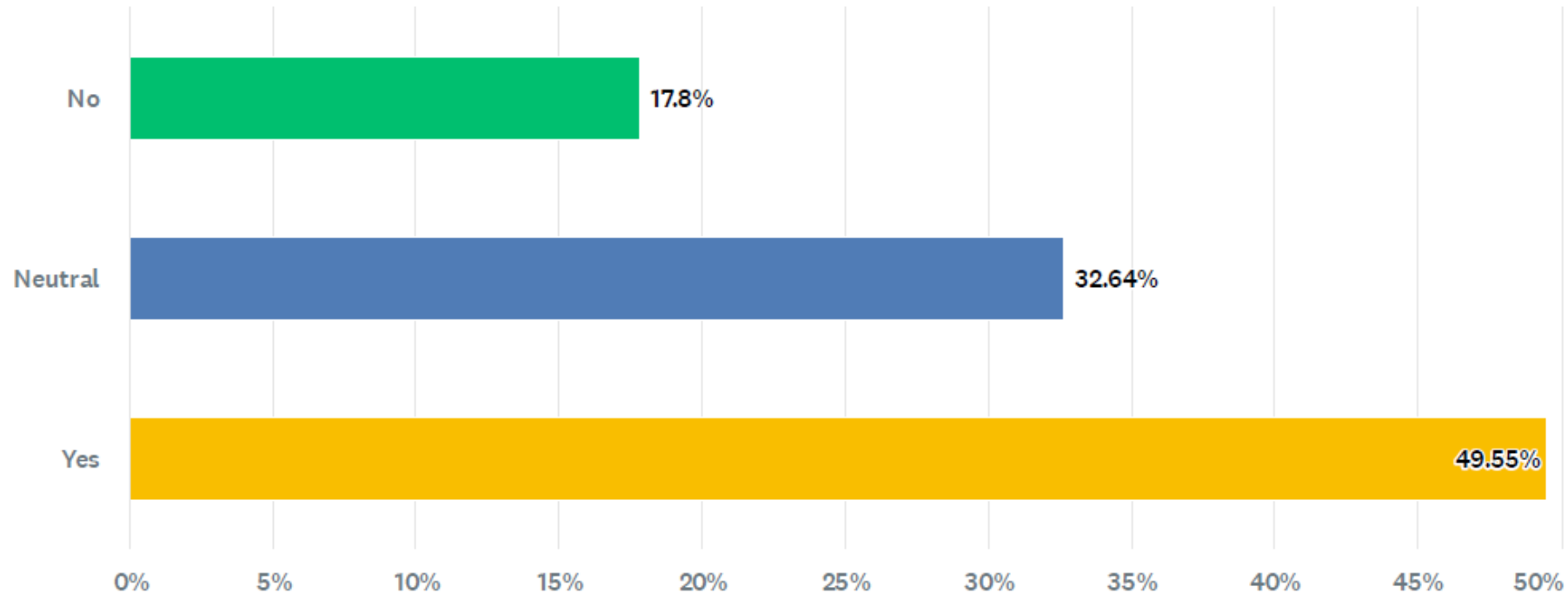
Q20: In the May 2026 bond proposal, there were several major components within the proposed bond scope. Please indicate whether or not you support each component.

Fuel Tank Replacement



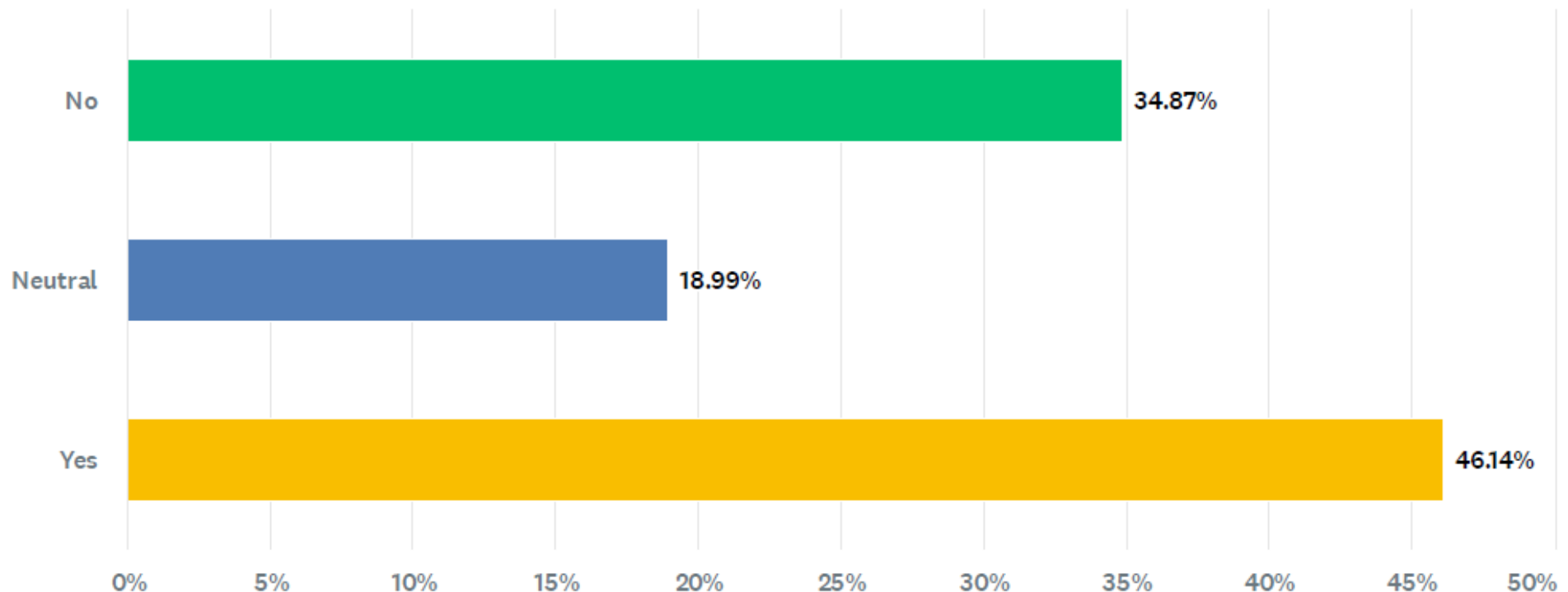
Q21: In the May 2026 bond proposal, there were several major components within the proposed bond scope. Please indicate whether or not you support each component.

Library Renovations



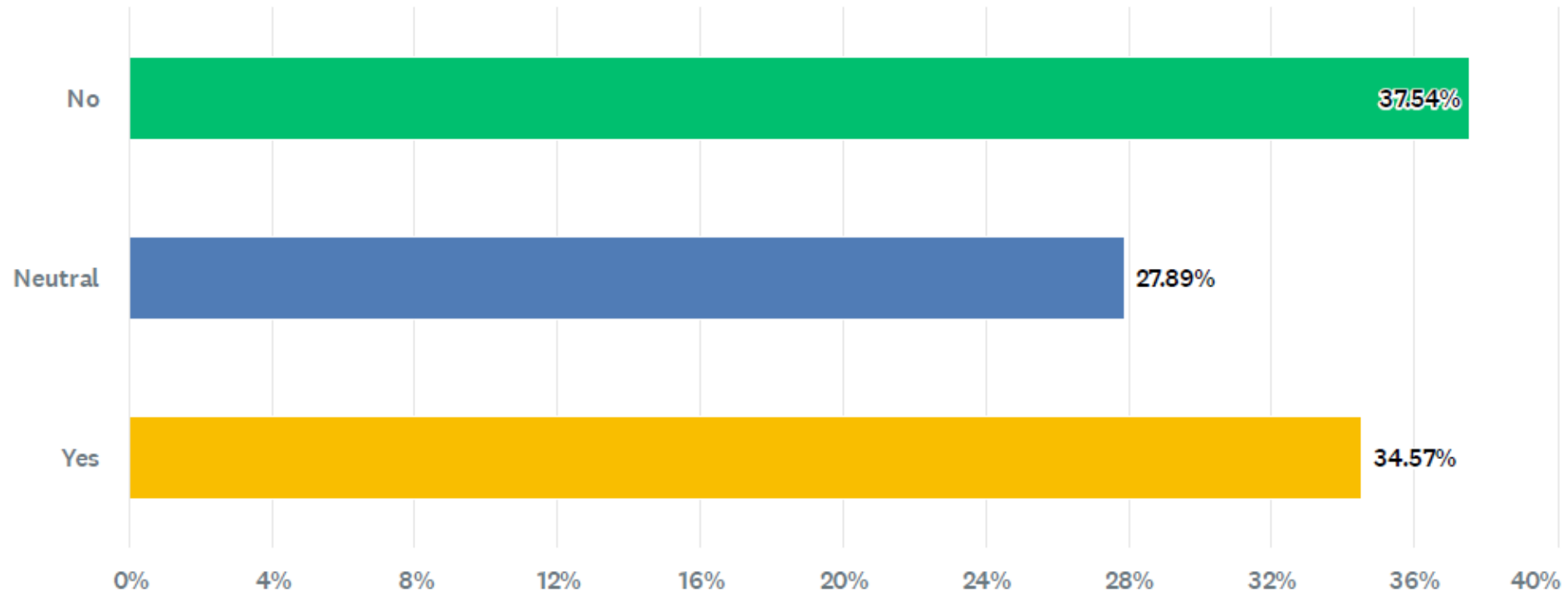
Q22: In the May 2026 bond proposal, there were several major components within the proposed bond scope. Please indicate whether or not you support each component.

New Aquatic Center



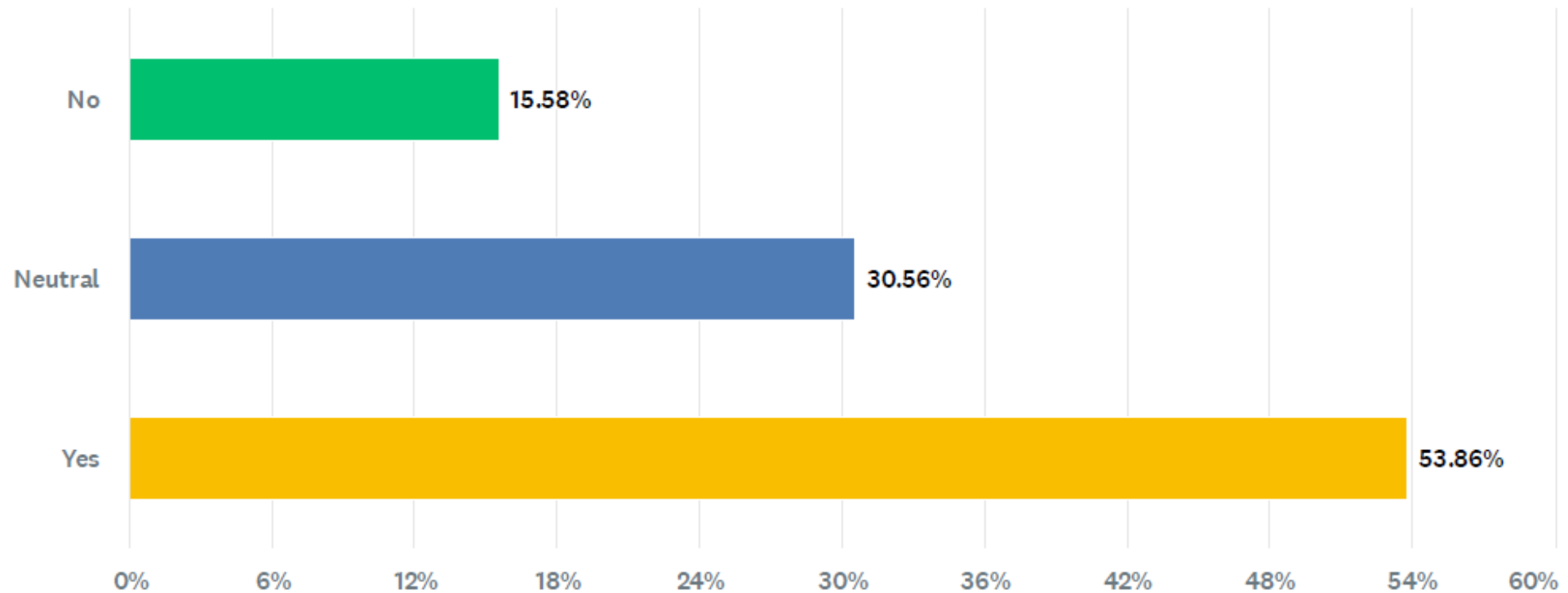
Q23: In the May 2026 bond proposal, there were several major components within the proposed bond scope. Please indicate whether or not you support each component.

New Track & Field Event Areas



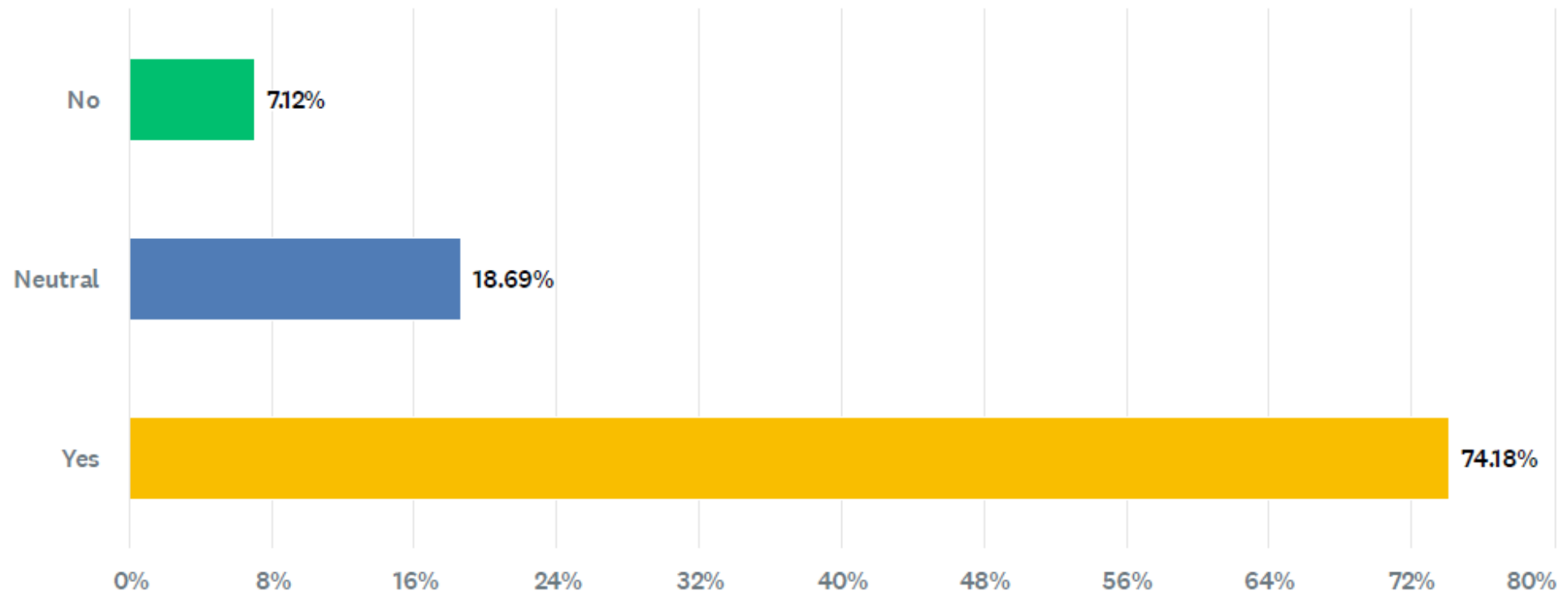
Q24: In the May 2026 bond proposal, there were several major components within the proposed bond scope. Please indicate whether or not you support each component.

Wall School Parking Lot & Driveway Redesign



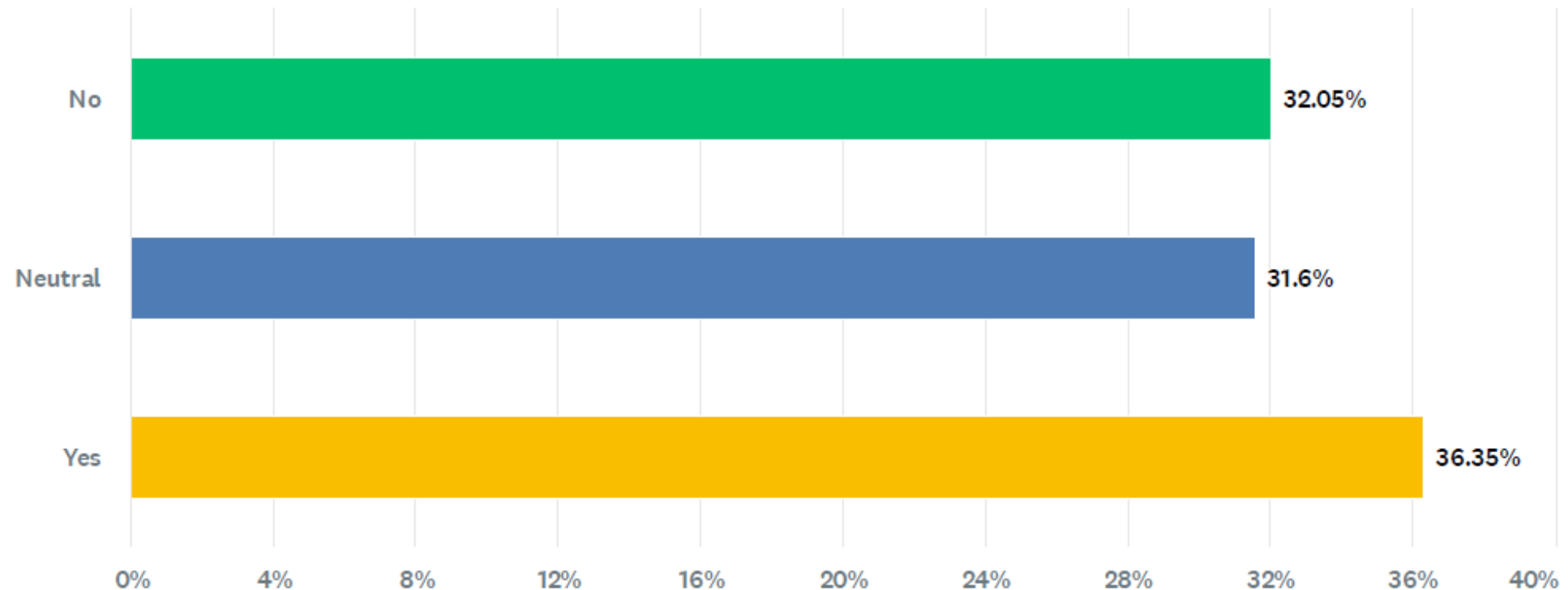
Q25: In the May 2026 bond proposal, there were several major components within the proposed bond scope. Please indicate whether or not you support each component.

Secure Entryway Installations



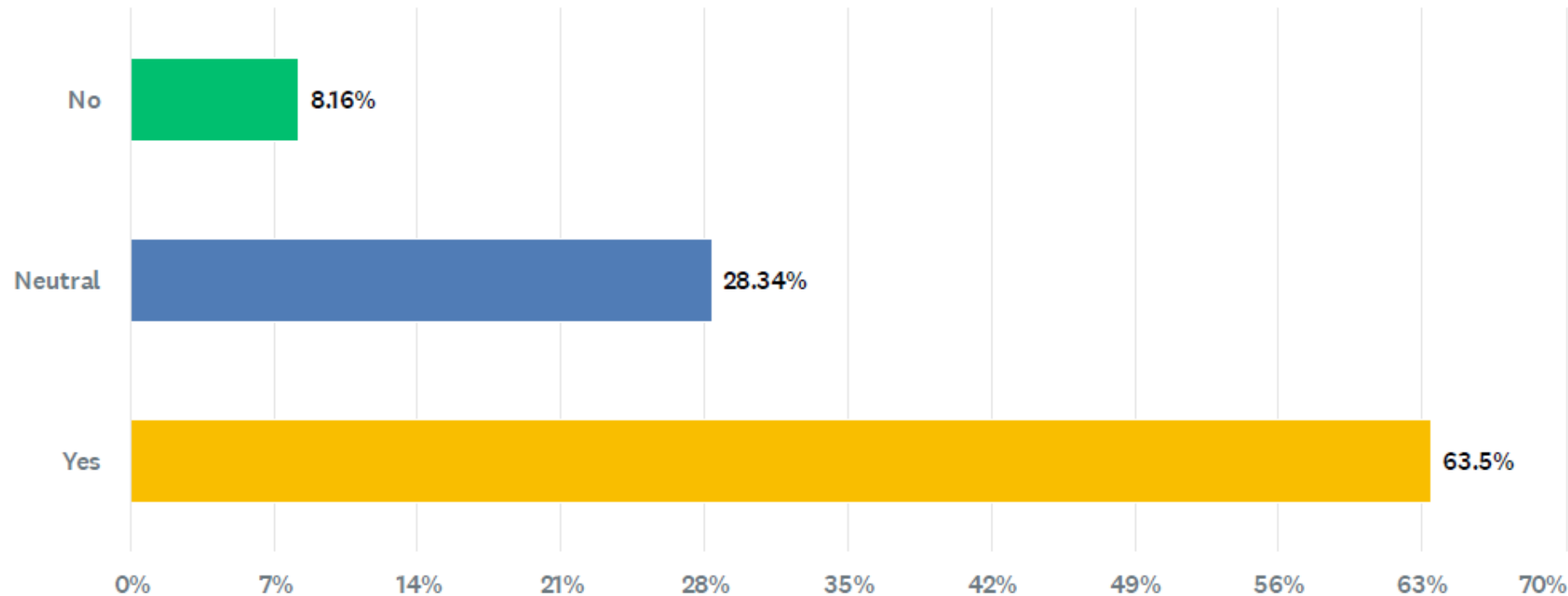
Q26: In the May 2026 bond proposal, there were several major components within the proposed bond scope. Please indicate whether or not you support each component.

Soccer Facility Improvements

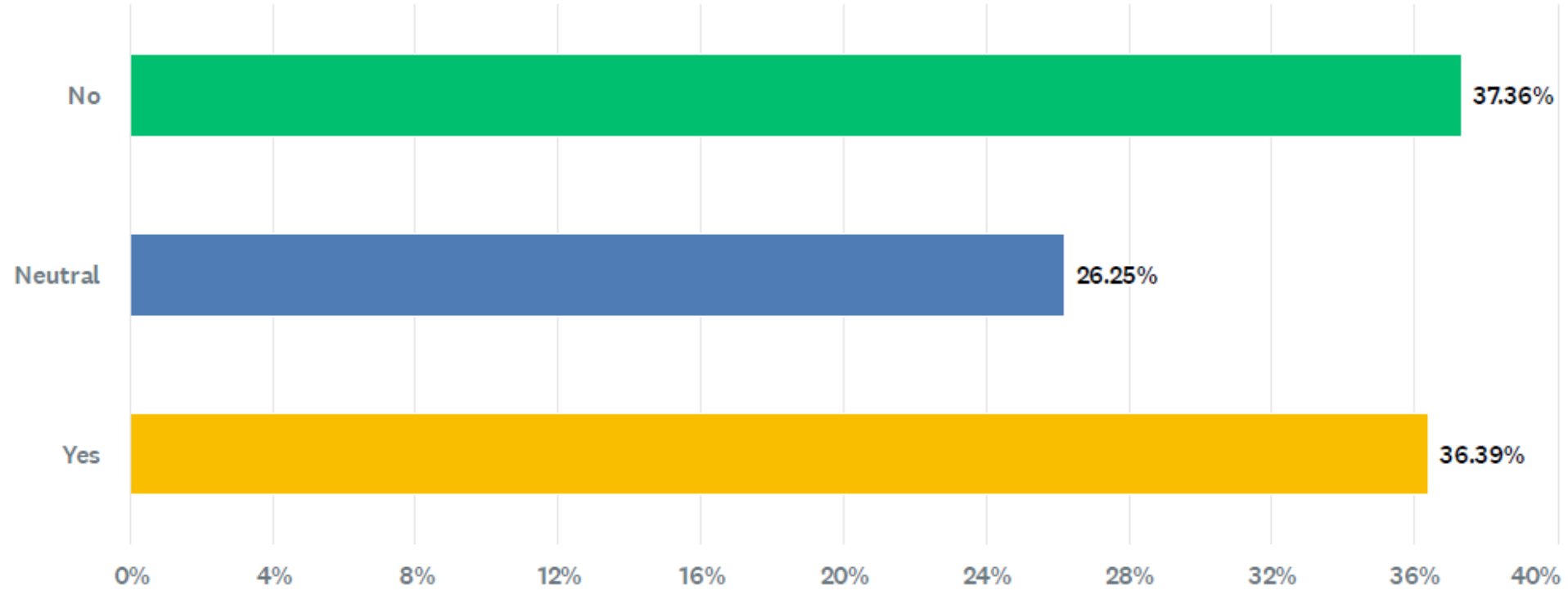


Q27: In the May 2026 bond proposal, there were several major components within the proposed bond scope. Please indicate whether or not you support each component.

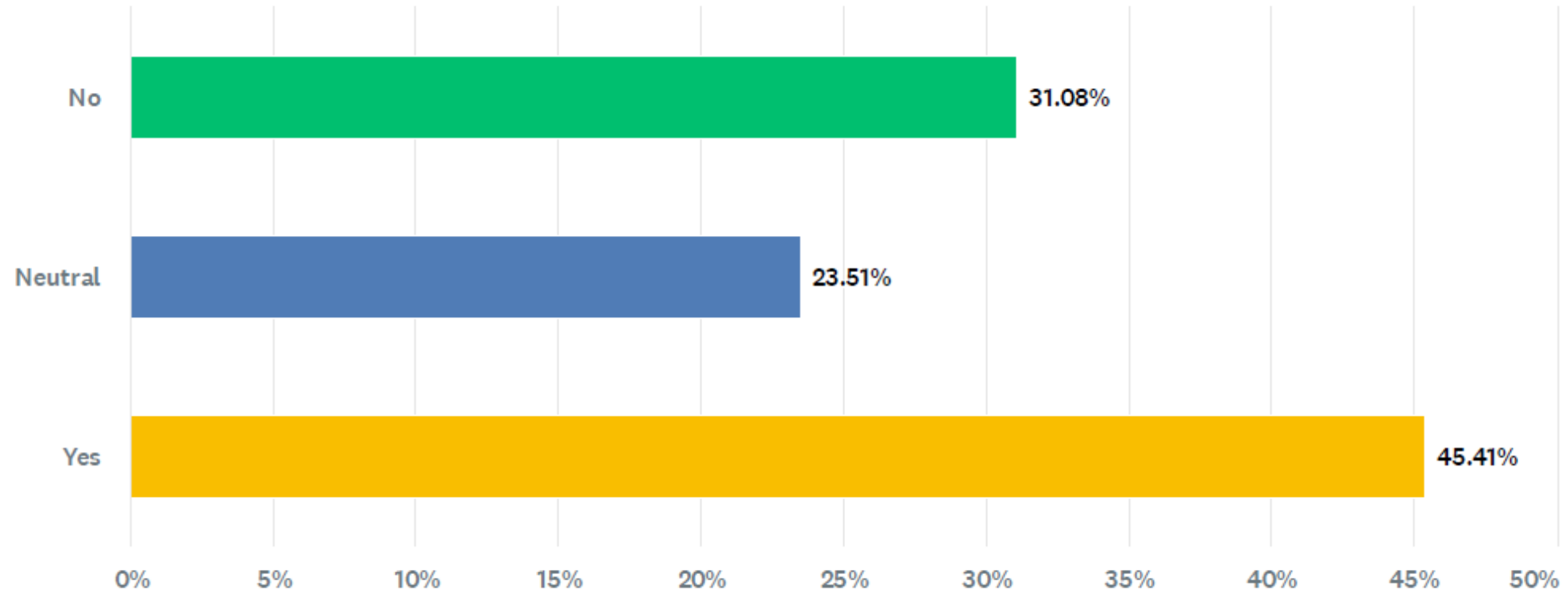
Thumbturn Classroom Lock Installation



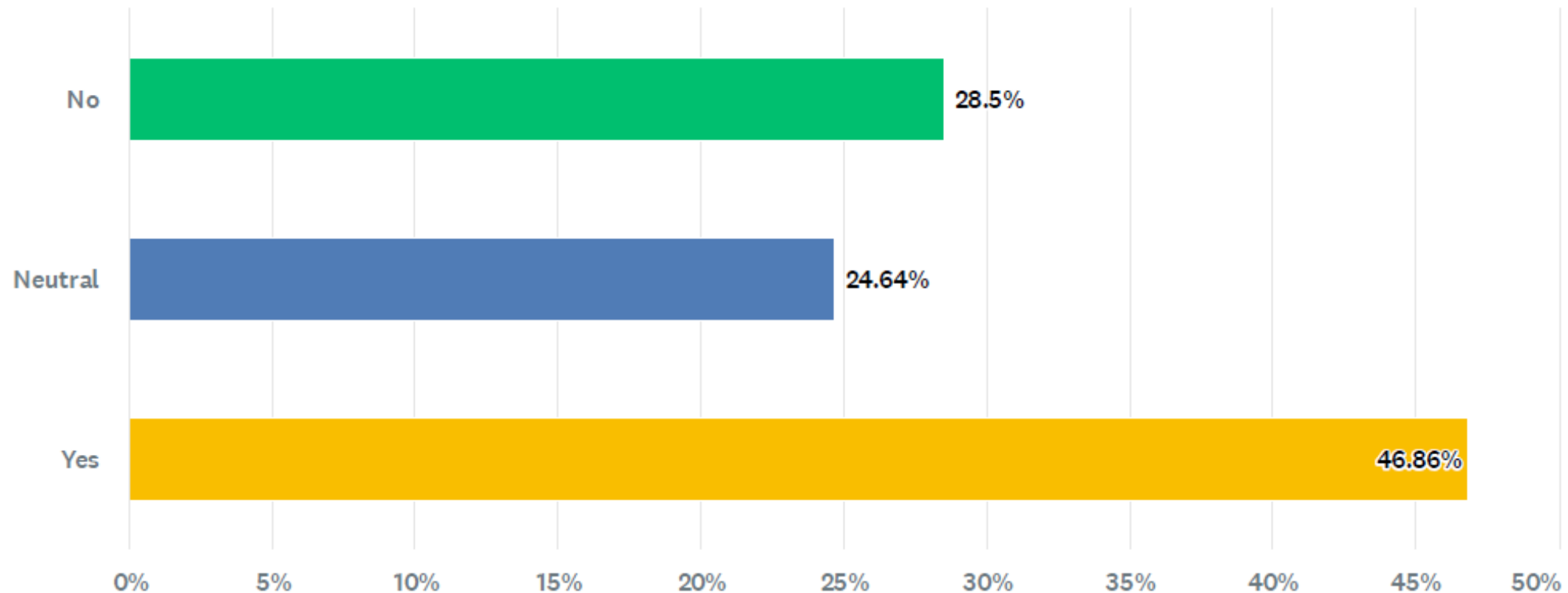
Q28: Instead of renovating Congress, Jerolene and Wenzel, which are all approximately 100 years old, do you support consolidating our PreK-5 buildings from 5 to 3 schools? If we were to consolidate, we would decommission Congress, Jerolene, and Wenzel and renovate Eastwood & Wall into PreK-5 schools and build a new elementary PreK-5 school. Eastwood, Wall, and the new elementary school would then house all PreK-5 students districtwide.



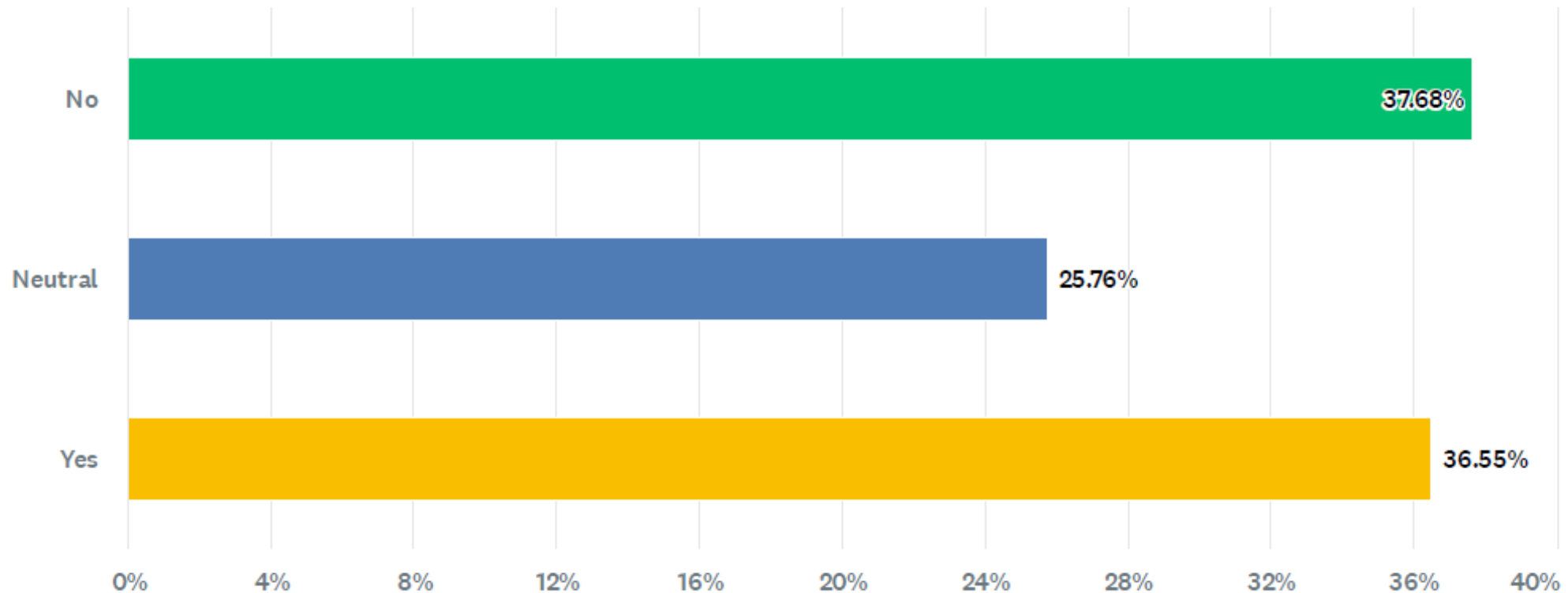
Q29: Instead of installing artificial turf in the football stadium, do you support making all of the previously proposed stadium improvements (e.g. building new home grandstands on the West side of the stadium) and re-grading the natural grass field with new irrigation, proper drainage, and re-seeding?



Q30: Instead of installing artificial turf at the baseball and softball fields, do you support making all of the previously proposed facility improvements (e.g. new fencing, dugouts and scoreboards) and re-grading the natural grass field with new irrigation, proper drainage, and re-seeding?



Q31: Instead of building a new Aquatic Center, do you support renovating the current Sturgis Community Pool? Renovations of the current facility, anticipated to cost approximately \$18 million, would bring the facility up to code and address safety, structural, lighting, ventilation, and mechanical issues.



SUMMARY & NEXT STEPS

WHAT WE HEARD

Respondents placed the highest priority on safety, accessibility, core building systems, and classrooms. Turf and other major athletic enhancements received divided support when compared to other categories.

NEXT STEPS

These results are provided to inform future planning discussions. Findings will be shared with stakeholders and reviewed at upcoming board meetings.

