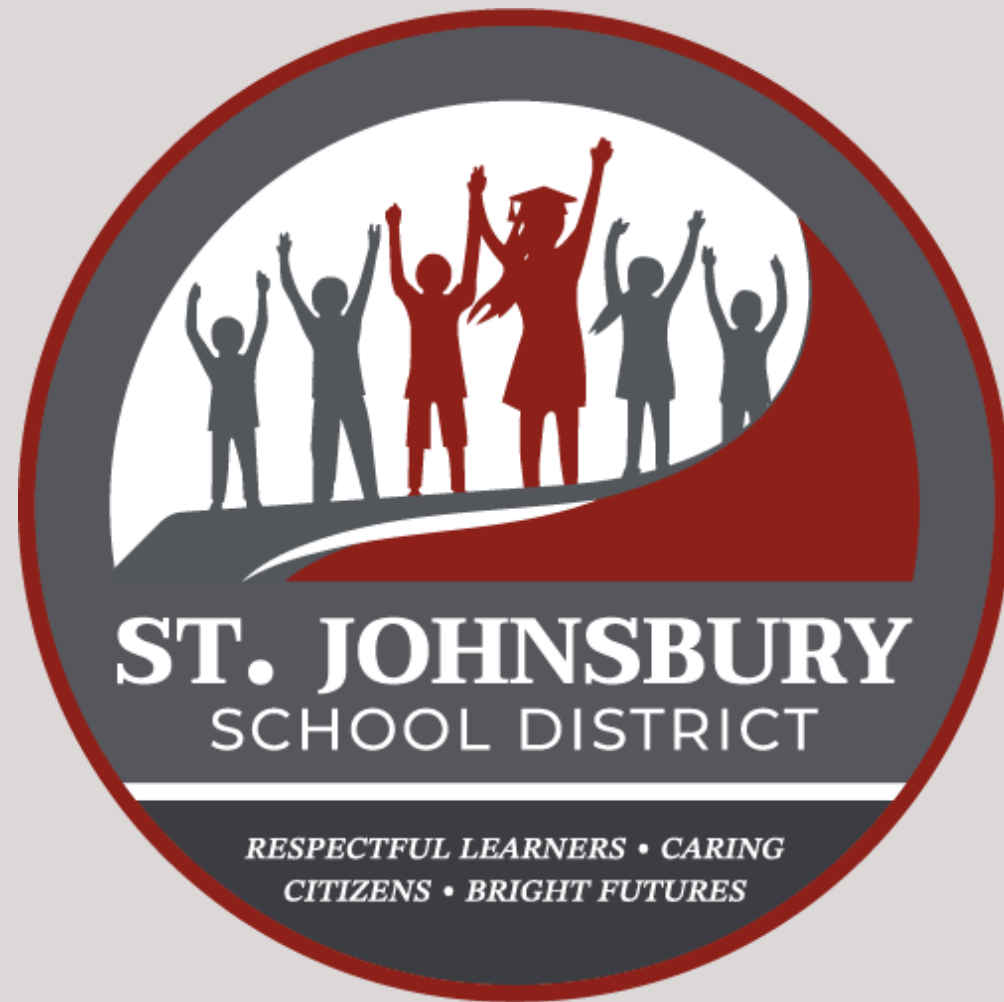




STAKEHOLDER SURVEY RESULTS

Karen E. Conroy

November 3, 2025

SURVEY OVERVIEW

PURPOSE:

Gather insights from all stakeholders to help shape priorities for the upcoming budget



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SURVEY DETAILS:

- Made available digitally through Google Forms
- Collected responses during October 2025
- Total Responses: 358

COMMUNITY OUTREACH:

- Shared through social media channels and internal and external school communications
- Advertisement in the Caledonian Record
- Flyers posted around town with QR code
- Discussed at numerous public meetings
- School and District website banner with link

STAKEHOLDERS:

- Students
- Staff
- St. Johnsbury Community

STUDENT SURVEY RESULTS

Key Summary Overview

208 individual responses

Students in Grades 4-8

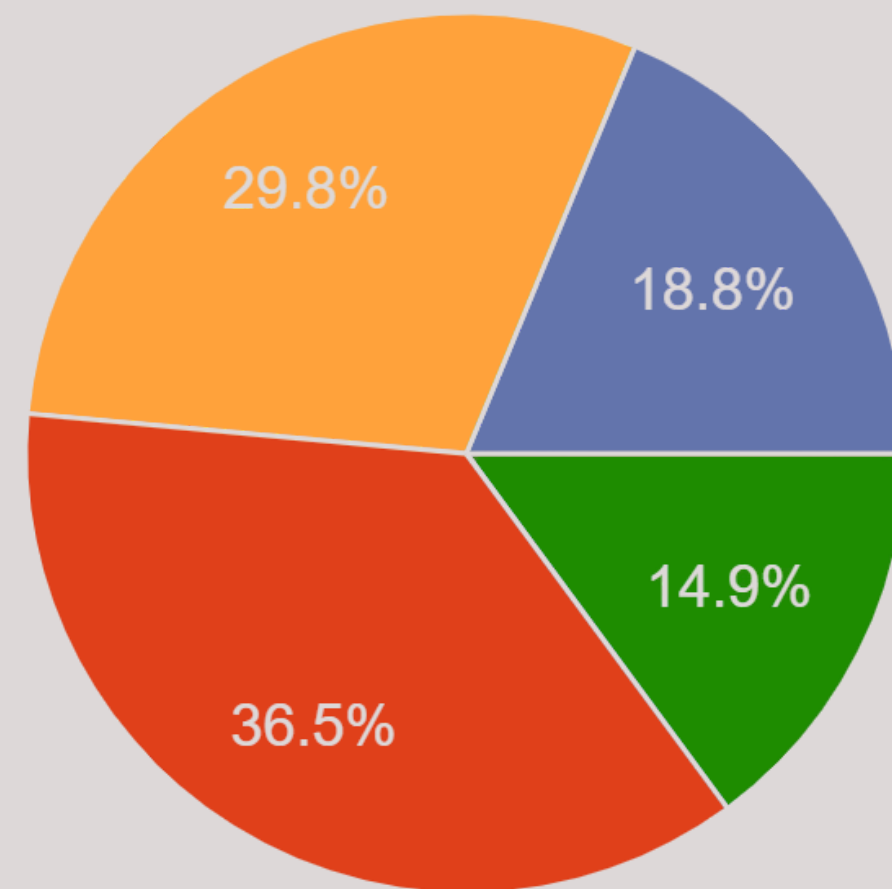
Five Questions:

- What grade are you in?
- How do you feel about school?
- Which of these are most important to you at school?
- If school could improve one thing for you, what would it be?
- What makes you feel excited to come to school?

STUDENT SURVEY RESULTS

2. How do you feel about school?

208 responses



- I love it
- It's pretty good, but could be better
- It's okay, but not always fun or interesting
- I don't feel excited most days

Most students report generally positive feelings about school but indicate room for improvement in engagement, enjoyment, and variety in daily learning experiences.



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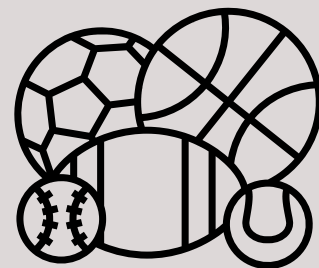
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STUDENT SURVEY RESULTS

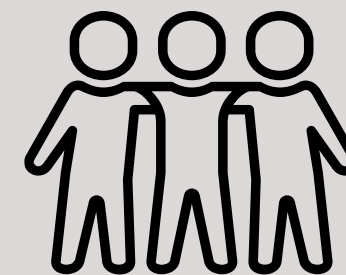
3. Which of these are most important to you at school? (Choose up to 3)



Having fun
& engaging
classes
(59.6%)



Access to
sports, music,
art, and other
activities
(57.2%)



More
unstructured
time with
friends
(43.8%)

“Learning new things with my friends.”



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STUDENT SURVEY RESULTS

4. If school could improve one thing for you, what would it be?

More fun and
engaging lessons

Better support for
mental and
physical health

More hands-on or
outdoor learning
opportunities

Help with
organization and
schoolwork

Improved school
spaces

“More chances to move and feel good during the day.”

STUDENT SURVEY RESULTS

5. What makes you feel excited to come to school? (201 responses)

Top Themes	Feedback Examples
• Friends and social connections • Enjoyable classes and teachers who make learning fun • Sports, music, and activities • Feeling successful and recognized for effort • Special events and opportunities to learn something new	<i>“Seeing my friends.”</i> <i>“P.E. and learning new things.”</i> <i>“Fun activities and good teachers.”</i>

STUDENT SURVEY RESULTS

5. What makes you feel excited to come to school? (201 responses)

“Seeing all my friends during unstructured time and UARTS, especially the ones that aren't in my classes.”

“I feel like I can be myself here, and I'm very thankful for that.”

“When I have fun classes like tech or P.E, it makes me feel like I actually know what I'm doing when I am having fun!”

STUDENT SURVEY RESULTS

Summary Insights

Across all grades, students value relationships, engaging learning experiences, and access to activities.

Their top suggestions focus on making school more fun, healthy, and active, and ensuring that they feel both supported and connected in their learning environment.

STAFF SURVEY RESULTS

Key Summary Overview

69 individual responses

Open September 24th - October 10th

Seven questions aimed to identify:

- **Investment Priorities**
- **Student and Staff Needs**
- **Cost Savings Initiatives**
- **Essential Resources**
- **Communication Preferences**
- **Transparency**
- **Additional Comments/ Suggestions**



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STAFF SURVEY RESULTS

“Which of the following areas do you believe should be strengthened or expanded in the FY27 budget?”

Staffing support
(teachers
paraprofessionals,
specialists)
(62.3%)

Increase student
behavior support
(50.7%)

Student mental
health services
(37.7%)



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STAFF SURVEY RESULTS

“What additional resources, programs, or supports would most positively impact student learning and staff effectiveness?”

**Certified behavioral
and mental health
staff**

**Time for collaboration
and planning**

**Access to updated
curriculum and
instructional materials**

**Smaller class sizes
and additional
interventionists**

**Professional
development**

**Expand alternative
program**

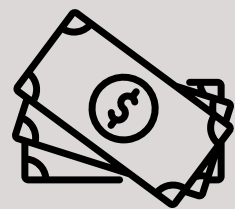


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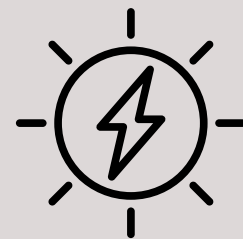
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STAFF SURVEY RESULTS

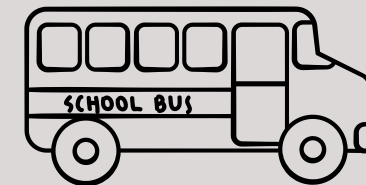
“What cost-saving measures do you believe could continue to explore without significantly impacting student learning or staff morale? (Select up to two)”



**Exploring
grants and
alternative
funding
(64.2%)**



**Utilizing
energy-
efficient
upgrades
(46.3%)**



**Reviewing and
optimizing
student
transportation
(44.8%)**

STAFF SURVEY RESULTS

***“Which resources or services are absolutely essential to maintaining a high-quality educational experience for our students?”
(Select up to three)***

- ***Adequate support staff (75.4%)***
- ***Small class sizes (68.1%)***
- ***Social emotional and mental health supports (60.9%)***



STAFF SURVEY RESULTS

“Do you have any additional comments or suggestions regarding the FY27 budget or areas that need particular attention?” (25 responses)

Top Themes

- Appreciation for transparency and communication during budget development
- Concerns about maintaining morale amid limited resources
- Emphasis on balancing fiscal responsibility with student needs
- Interest in continuing efficiency efforts without cutting key supports

Feedback Examples

“Thank you for including staff in this process.”

“Continue to focus on classroom supports first.”

“Budget decisions should prioritize student and staff well-being.”

COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

Key Summary Overview

81 individual responses

Open October 3rd - October 24th

Six questions aimed to identify:

- **Current parents**
- **Current values**
- **Ideas on how to improve**
- **Thoughts regarding the budget**
- **Understanding of Act 73**
- **Best times to meet**

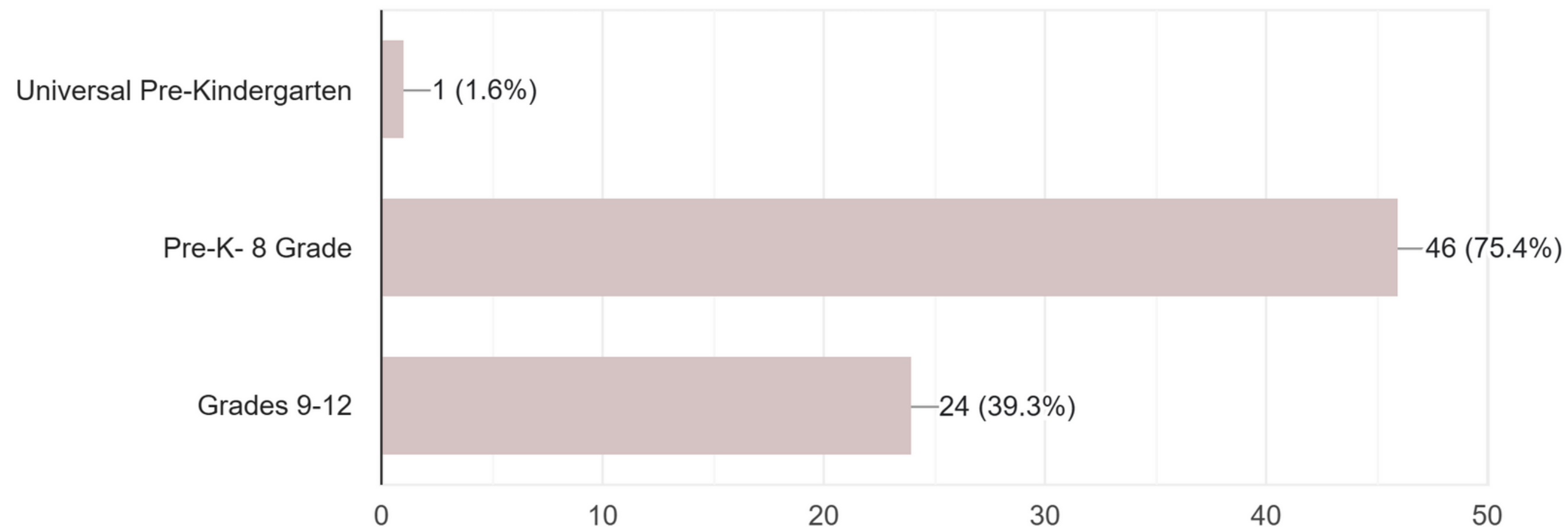


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COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

“Do you have a student(s) currently enrolled in the St. Johnsbury School District?” (61 responses)



COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

“What do you value or appreciate most about the educational experience of your children or the children that you know as St. Johnsbury residents?” (74 responses)

Top Themes

- **Dedicated, caring teachers and staff** who know their students well
- **Safe, welcoming environment** where children feel supported
- **Individualized attention** and efforts to meet diverse learning needs
- **Inclusive community and culture** that values relationships and belonging
- **Opportunities for enrichment and growth** through programs like CatCH, arts, and athletics
- **Strong preparation for post-graduation success** (college, career, and life skills)

Feedback Examples

“Teachers take time with each student.”

“The community feel and support for kids.”

“Inclusive environment and focus on growth.”

COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

“What ideas or feedback do you have to increase equity, access, and academic achievement and to ensure that all students' needs are met?” (71 responses)

Theme	Feedback Examples
• Address disruptive behaviors to maintain safe and effective classrooms • Increase academic rigor and challenge for advanced and middle-performing students • Provide more support for struggling learners and those with special needs • Enhance mental health and counseling services • Strengthen consistency across classrooms and grade levels • Encourage teacher collaboration and communication with families	<i>“Get major behaviors out of the classroom so others can learn.”</i> <i>“Provide advanced opportunities for students who are ready to move ahead.”</i> <i>“Ensure equity across programs and grade levels.”</i>

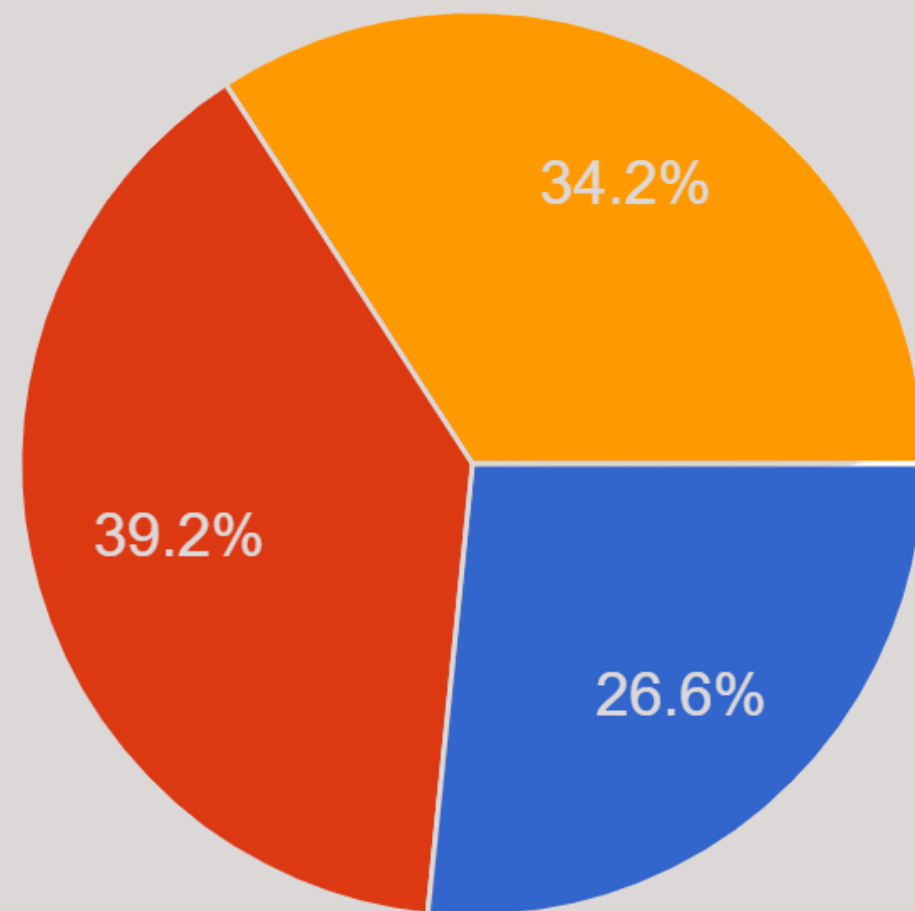
COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

“What other thoughts do you have about the St. Johnsbury School District’s budget that you would like to share?” (59 responses)

Theme	Feedback Examples
• General support for maintaining current programs and staff • Concerns about property taxes and rising costs • Desire for fiscal responsibility and transparency in how funds are spent • Suggestions for regional collaboration or consolidation to reduce costs • Emphasis on investing in student support services, mental health, and enrichment • Appreciation for community involvement and open communication during the budget process	<i>“Keep investing in teachers and student services.”</i> <i>“Be careful with spending; taxes are already high.”</i> <i>“Would love to see more community invited into the school.”</i>

COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

“Do you feel you have a good understanding of how legislative changes like Act 73 may impact property taxes?” (79 responses)

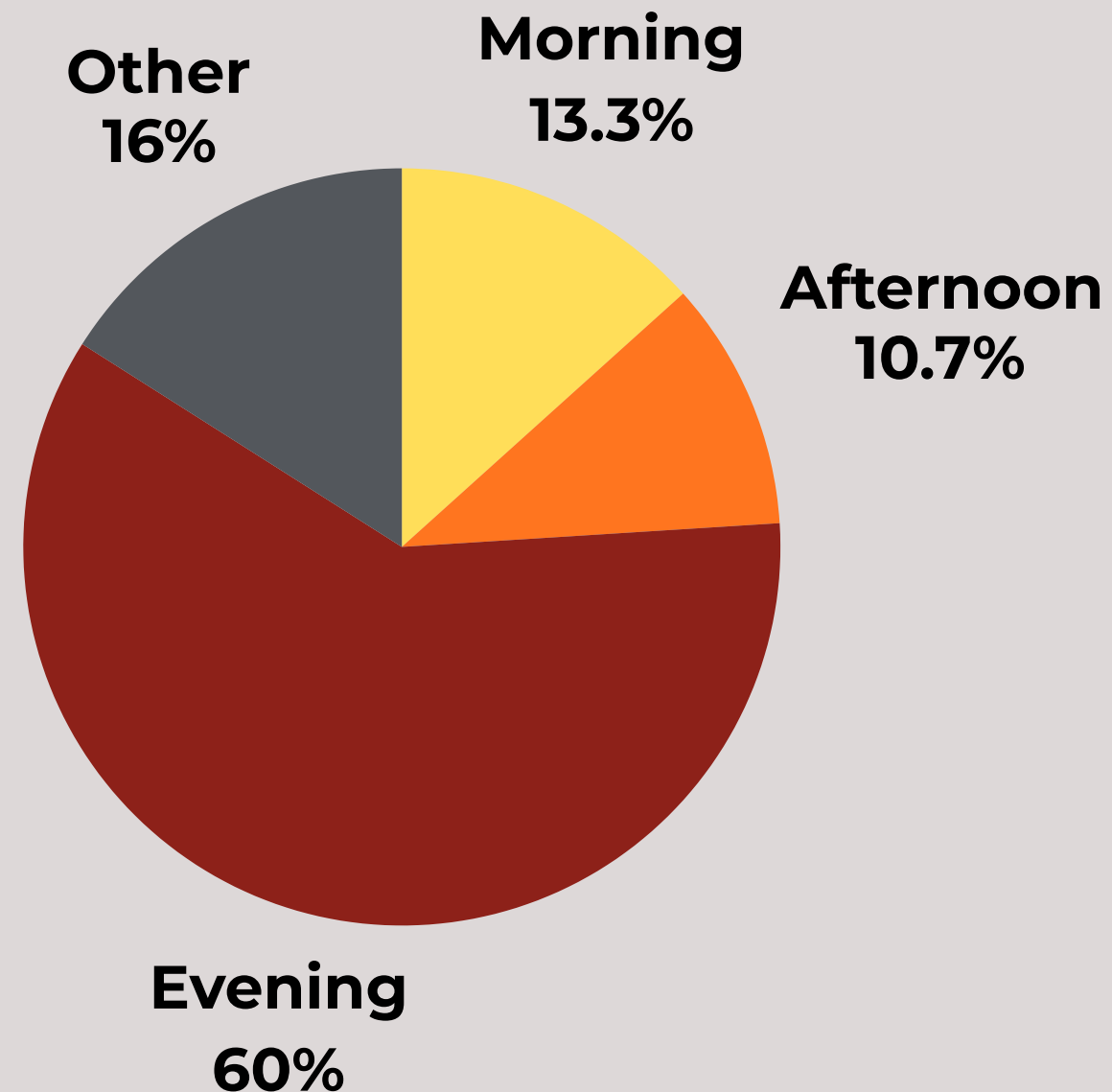


- Yes
- No
- Maybe

**About 40% of
respondents do not have
a good understanding of
how Act 73 may impact
property taxes**

COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS

“We aim to connect with our community frequently. What time of day would be most convenient for you to attend our future community forums?” (75 responses)



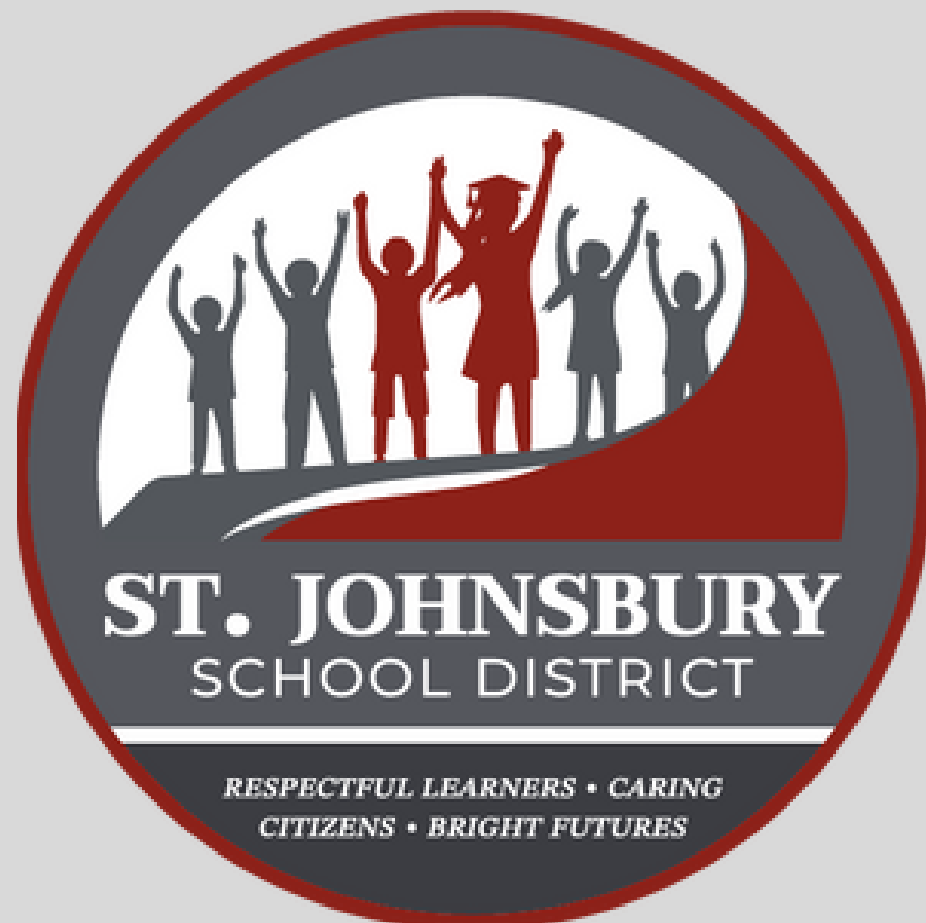
60% of respondents prefer evening hours for future community forums

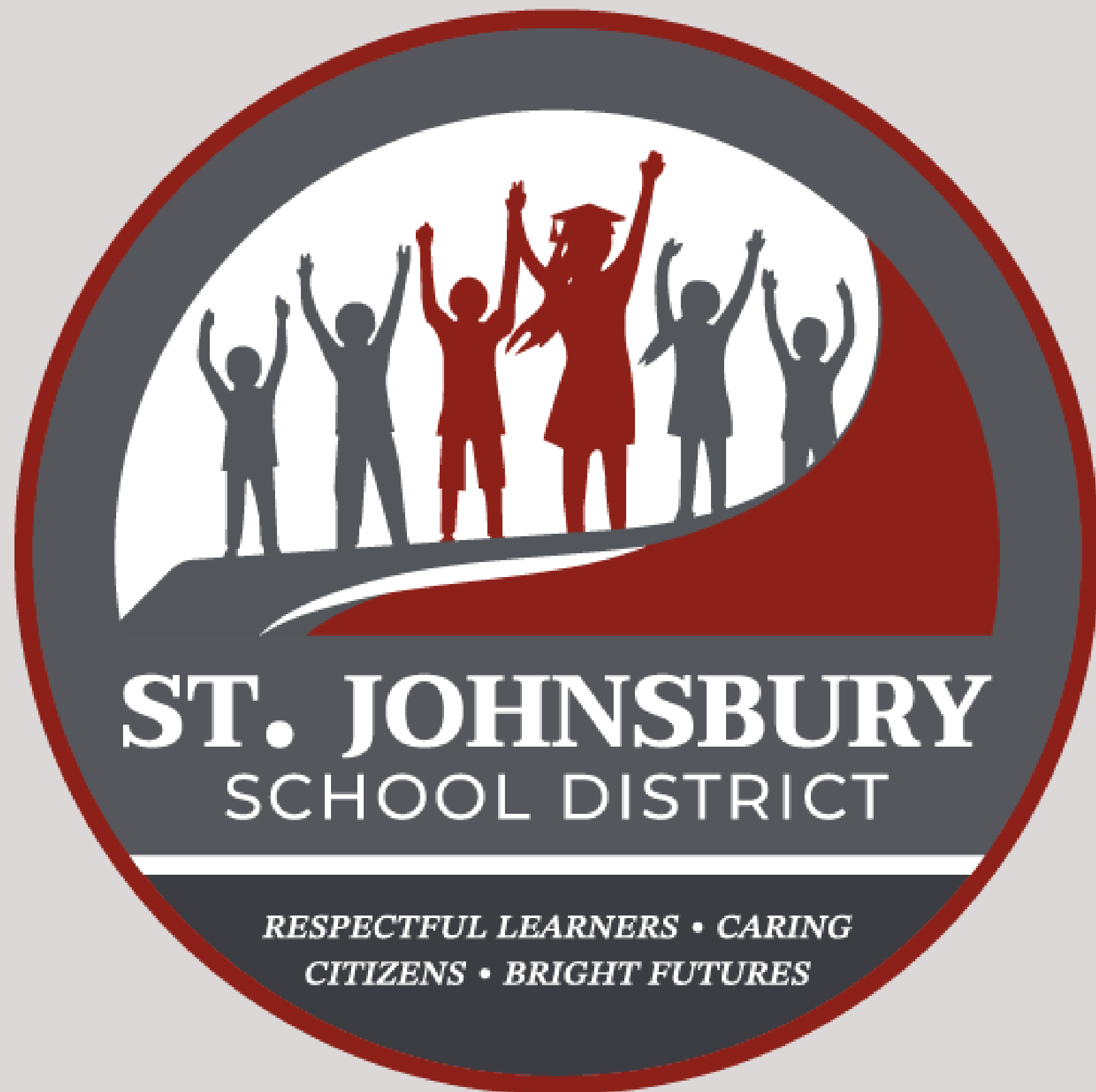
UPCOMING BUDGET DEVELOPMENT MEETINGS

**Join us for upcoming budget
development meetings:**

- **November 10, 2025 - 8:15 AM:**
Finance Committee Meeting
- **December 4, 2025 - 4:30 PM:**
Finance Committee Meeting
- **December 8, 2025 - 8:15 AM:**
Finance Committee Meeting
- **December 8, 2025 - 6:00 PM:**
School Board Meeting

Meeting agendas and
minutes can be found on
our website at
www.stjsd.org





***Thanks to
all who
contributed
to our
surveys.***

***Your feedback is greatly
appreciated!***