

Welcome!

In-Person Attendees

- Please introduce yourself to others seated near you
- Sign-in

Virtual Attendees

- Please review the virtual welcome sheet and sign-in
<https://bit.ly/UniteCES5>



I Have A Question or Comment!



Complete a form:

Let's Talk at u-46.org/letstalk

Email to UniteU46@u-46.org

Ask during small group work time

SCHOOL DISTRICT U-46
Unite46
Moving Forward Together

I HAVE A QUESTION!

I would like to be contacted by a Unite U-46 representative who can respond to this question/comment:

Your question or comment may be directly related to the community engagement project or any other matter regarding the school district.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

UniteU46@u-46.org
UniteU46.com

Develop Recommendations

- **Best address school building and enrollment challenges**
 - **Perceptions and priorities**
 - **Plan implementation**
 - **Ongoing model for community collaboration and communication**
- 

- **Recommend how can we best support students through transition to middle school and preschool, new boundaries**
- **Prioritize building improvements**
- **Provide feedback on buildings that were recommended as candidates to be retired, rebuilt or repurposed.**
- **Recommend when building improvements should be made**
- **Determine funding availability and options**

Stay Informed!



Website: UniteU46.org

Social Media:

Like us on **Facebook** [SchoolDistrictU46](https://www.facebook.com/SchoolDistrictU46)

Follow us on **Twitter** [@sdu46](https://twitter.com/sdu46)

Online Customer Service Tool **Let's Talk** at u-46.org/letstalk

Email: UniteU46@u-46.org



Draft Board Presentation



The Process

The Process

Unite U-46 is a community-led initiative to:

- Learn, review and understand the challenges and opportunities facing U-46 schools and our school buildings.
- Use the information learned and work together as a community to develop recommendations that build upon these opportunities and overcome the challenges facing our schools.



Participants



Entire Community Encouraged To Participate

- Postcards
- Fliers
- Banners
- Bookmarks
- Facebook & Instagram
- Newspaper articles
- Website
- Email
- Text Messages
- Word of Mouth
- Communication provided in Spanish and English

Participants

- Four community chairs
- 15+ facilitating team members
- Feedback from more than 600 community members
- 2,000+ survey participants

Engaging The Community

Date	Topic
April 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome to Unite U-46• Overview of U-46 and Our Buildings
May 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How Our School Buildings Impact Student Success
May 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Whys Behind PreK and Middle School
September 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How School Building Improvements Are Funded• Options for Moving Forward
September - October	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Building Tour• Open Houses• Telephone and Electronic Surveys
November 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Refinement & Selection of Final Recommendations

Building Tour



Open Houses



Survey

- September and October
- Online
- Electronic
- More than 2,000 participants



What We Heard

Session #1 Feedback

Topic: Welcome to Unite U-46 and Overview of U-46 and Our Buildings

- **Surprised by:**
 - Age of U-46 buildings
 - U-46 strong financial standing and reserves
 - Need to retire, rebuild or renovate many district buildings
- **Provided feedback on what should be addressed through the process**



Session #2 Feedback

Topic: How Our School Buildings Impact Student Success



Session #2 Feedback

Topic: How Our School Buildings Impact Student Success

SCHOOL DISTRICT U-46



Session #3 Feedback

Topic: The Whys Behind PreK and Middle School

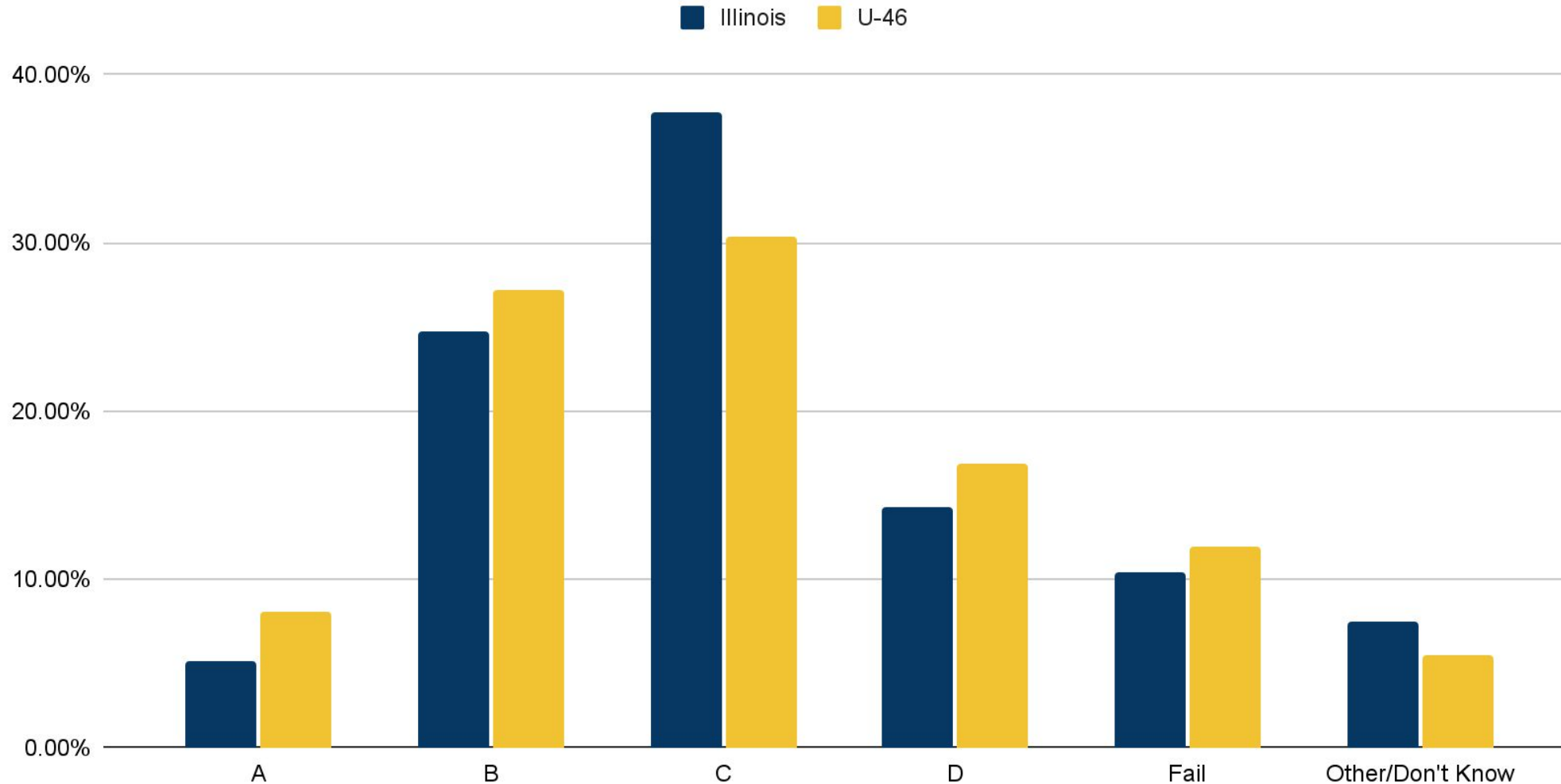


Session #4 Feedback

Topic: How School Building Improvements Are Funded Options for Moving Forward



Survey Feedback

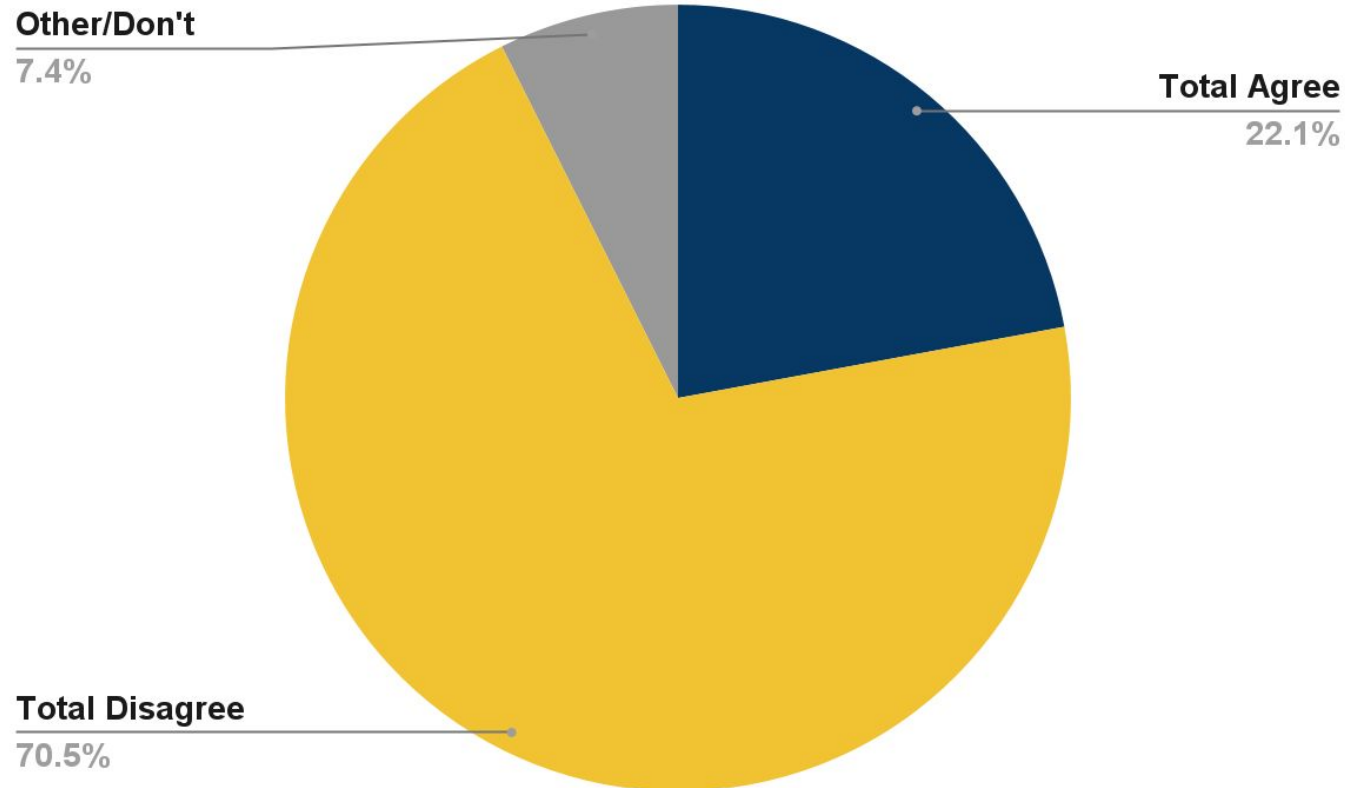


Survey Feedback

Question	Total agree	Total disagree
We need to take steps to improve the physical condition of our schools.	72.8%	19.4%
Improving the quality of our schools is the best thing we can do to protect the investment we've made in our home.	72.3%	23.5%
Supporting U-46 is the best thing we can do to protect our property values.	70.6%	24.6%

Survey Feedback

Our school facilities are fine just the way they are. Nothing needs to be done to improve them.



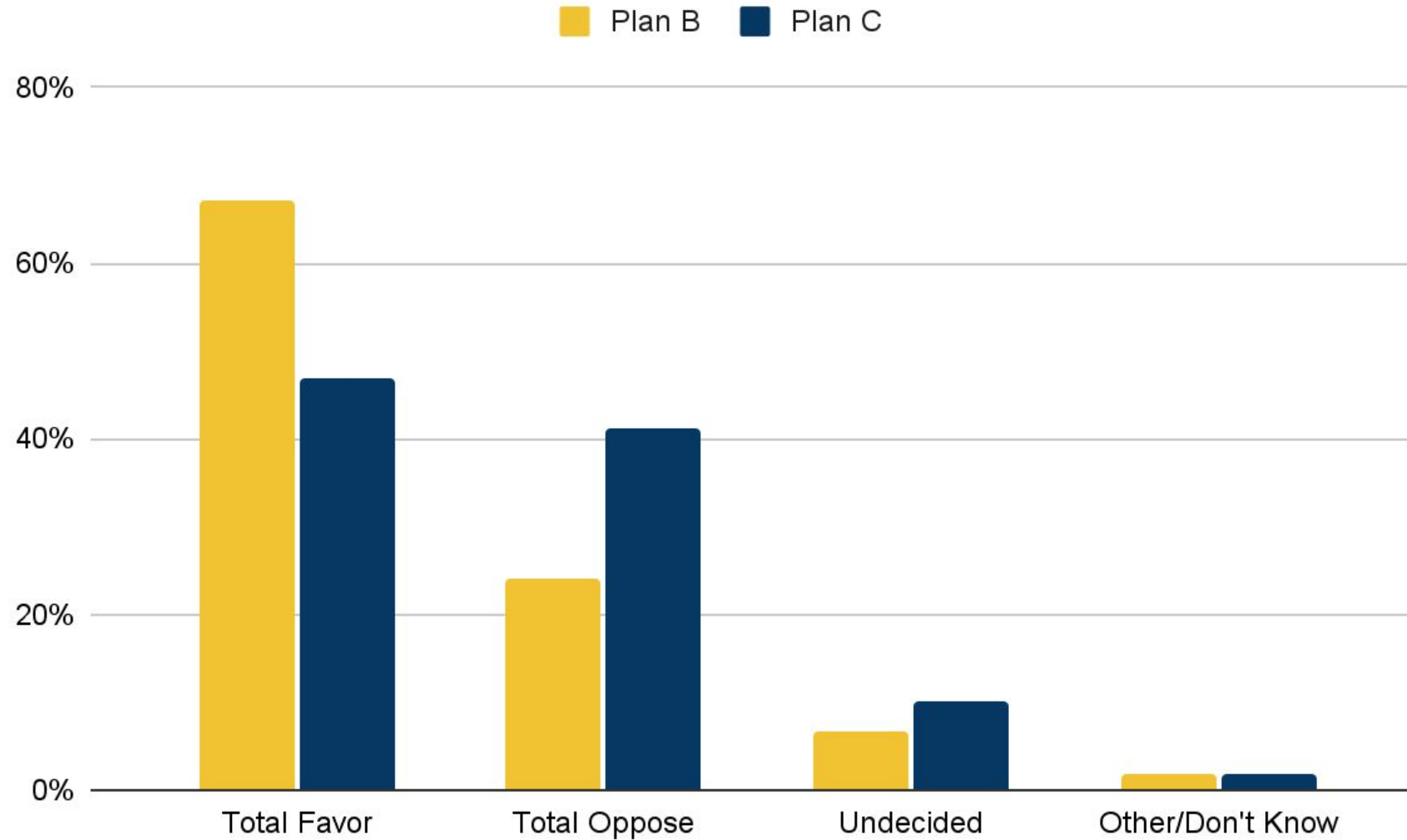
Survey Feedback

Question	High Priority
We need to take steps to improve the physical condition of our schools.	69.7%
For all schools, upgrade and renovate, where needed, building infrastructure — items like roofs, windows, electrical systems, plumbing and HVAC	56.8%
Improve accessibility for physically challenged students.	56.4%

Survey Feedback

Question	Strongly/Somewhat Agree
The schools in our community represent an approximately \$1.5 billion dollar investment. We must protect that investment by keeping them up-to-date and in good working condition.	84.2%
With declining enrollment, closing buildings that are old and expensive to operate makes good financial sense.	82.4%
It is important that schools throughout District U-46 are equitable in terms of physical condition and educational programs.	81.2%
Investing in improved school buildings now will benefit many future generations of students and homeowners.	80.2%

Survey Feedback





Unite U-46 Recommendations To Move Our Schools Forward

Our Charge

Recommendations rooted in the charge from the Board of Education to:

- **Learn about, review and understand**
 - Board Vision
 - Long-Term Facility Challenges
 - Facilities & Learning
 - Enrollment
 - Educational Facilities Master Plan
- **Work with the community to determine:**
 - How best to address long-term facility and enrollment challenges.
 - Current and accurate perceptions and priorities regarding the Educational Facility Master Plan.
 - Steps to be taken to implement the Educational Facility Master Plan.

Recommendations



- Community developed
- Student focused
- Cost-effective

Key Challenges

- Declining enrollment
- Aging buildings
- Changing needs of students





As U-46 Schools Move Forward

All U-46 Students Should

Have equitable access to programs and opportunities at school buildings districtwide.



All U-46 Students Should



Attend schools with similar class sizes, which can be achieved by balancing enrollment districtwide.

All U-46 Students Should

Be well-supported
by high-quality
teachers and staff
who are well-trained
and certified in their
areas of expertise.



All U-46 Students Should

Have their educational, social and emotional needs addressed as they transition to preschool, elementary, middle and high school levels and to new schools.



All U-46 Students Should

- **Have the opportunity to learn in schools that are:**
 - Safe and secure.
 - Accessible to all.
 - Proactively maintained and updated as needed.
 - Adaptable to changing technology.
 - Integrated with the outdoors and nature.
 - Updated to include collaborative, flexible spaces that encourage group and self-learning.
 - Replaced when they have reached a point where they are more expensive to repair or renovate than replace.

The U-46 Community Should



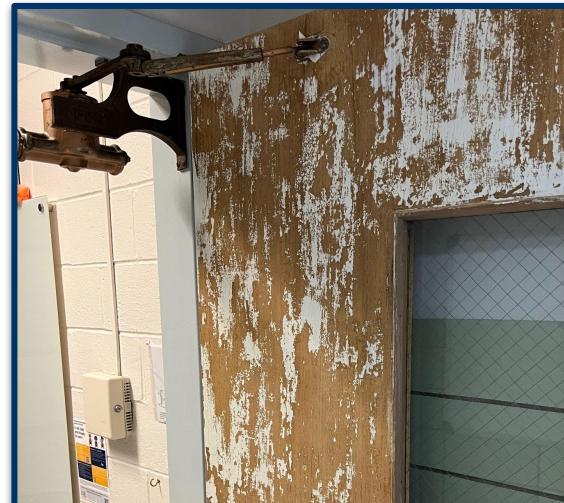
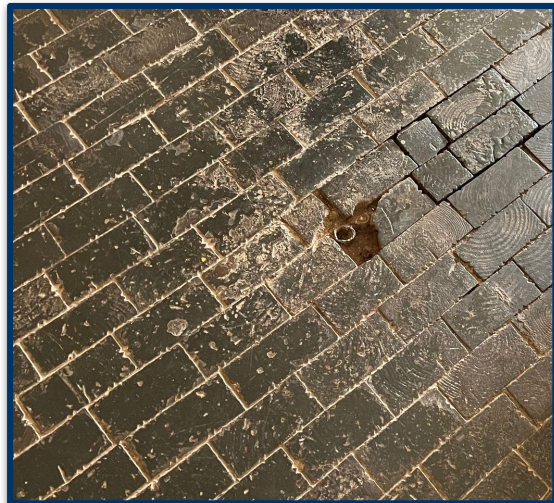
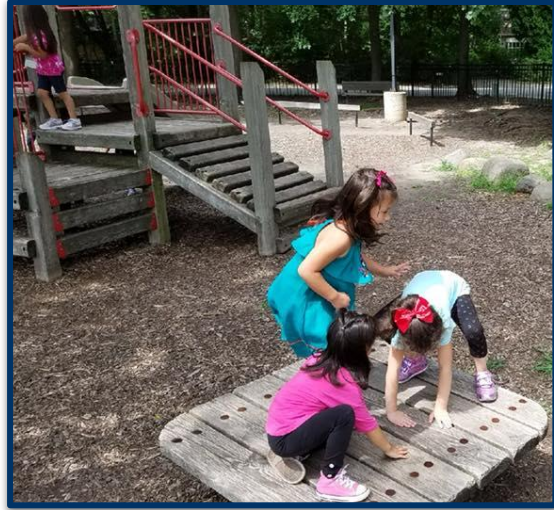
- **Continue to have the opportunity to learn and provide feedback about the future of U-46 schools through Unite U-46.**
- **Continue to be well-informed about District operations, facilities and finances.**
- **Be well-informed and actively involved in supporting students as these recommendations are implemented and schools are retired, renovated and rebuilt.**



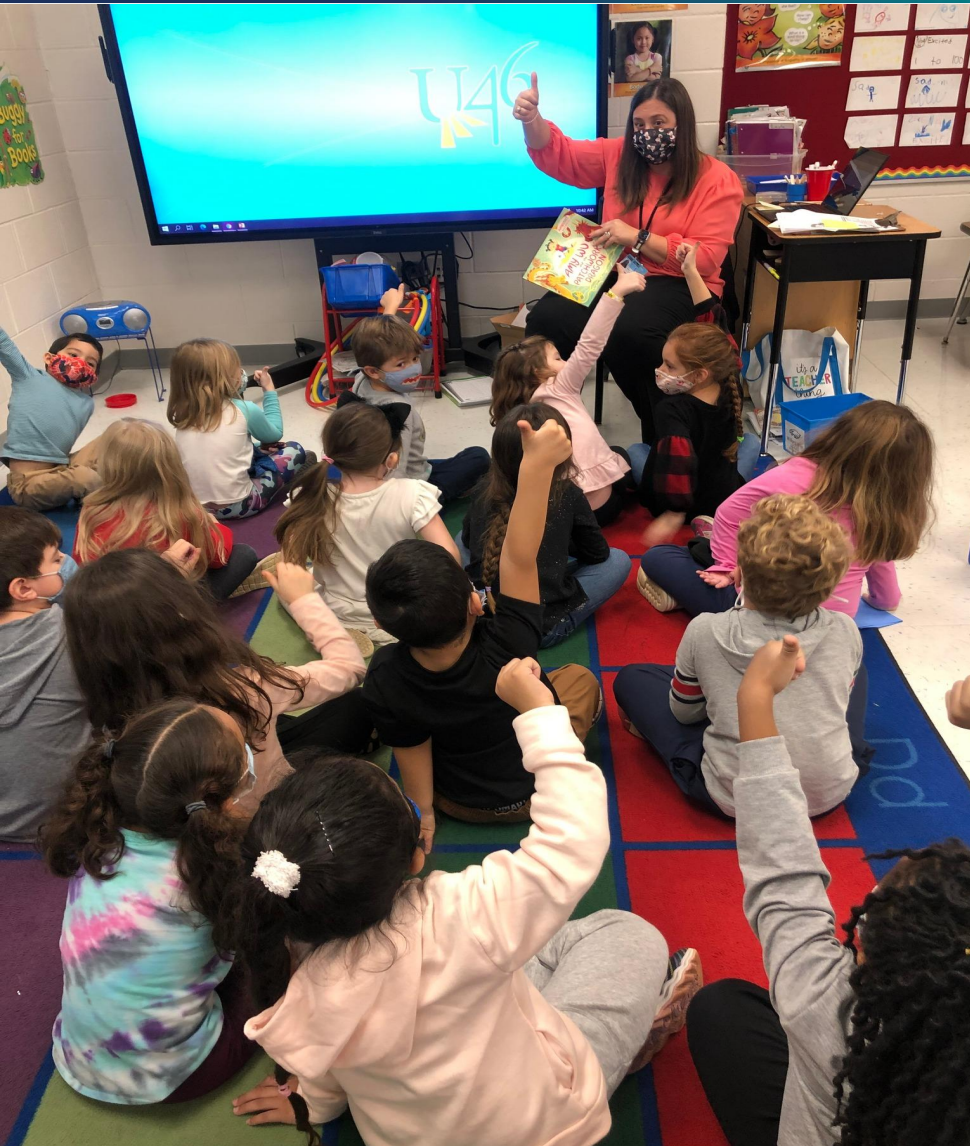
Goals To Accomplish Recommendations

Goals

**Increase
budget for
maintenance
and repair by
\$10 million
per year**



Goals



- **Balance enrollment at buildings throughout District**
- **Improve equitable access to programs at more buildings districtwide**

Goals

Update elementary school buildings to provide additional preschool opportunities



Goals

Implement a true
6th through 8th
grade middle
school model
districtwide.



Goals

Develop an initial timeline for the implementation of the Unite U-46 recommendations and thoroughly communicate this timeline with the community.





Achieving Our Goals

Retire Garfield Elementary

- Transition students to Channing and Huff Elementary Schools, which have room for more students.

In Progress





**Complete
transition of Hawk
Hollow
Elementary to a
middle school.**

Happening Now!

- **Rebuild 5 Elementary Schools**
 - Lowrie
 - McKinley
 - Glenbrook
 - Century Oaks
 - Parkwood
- **Update Washington Elementary**





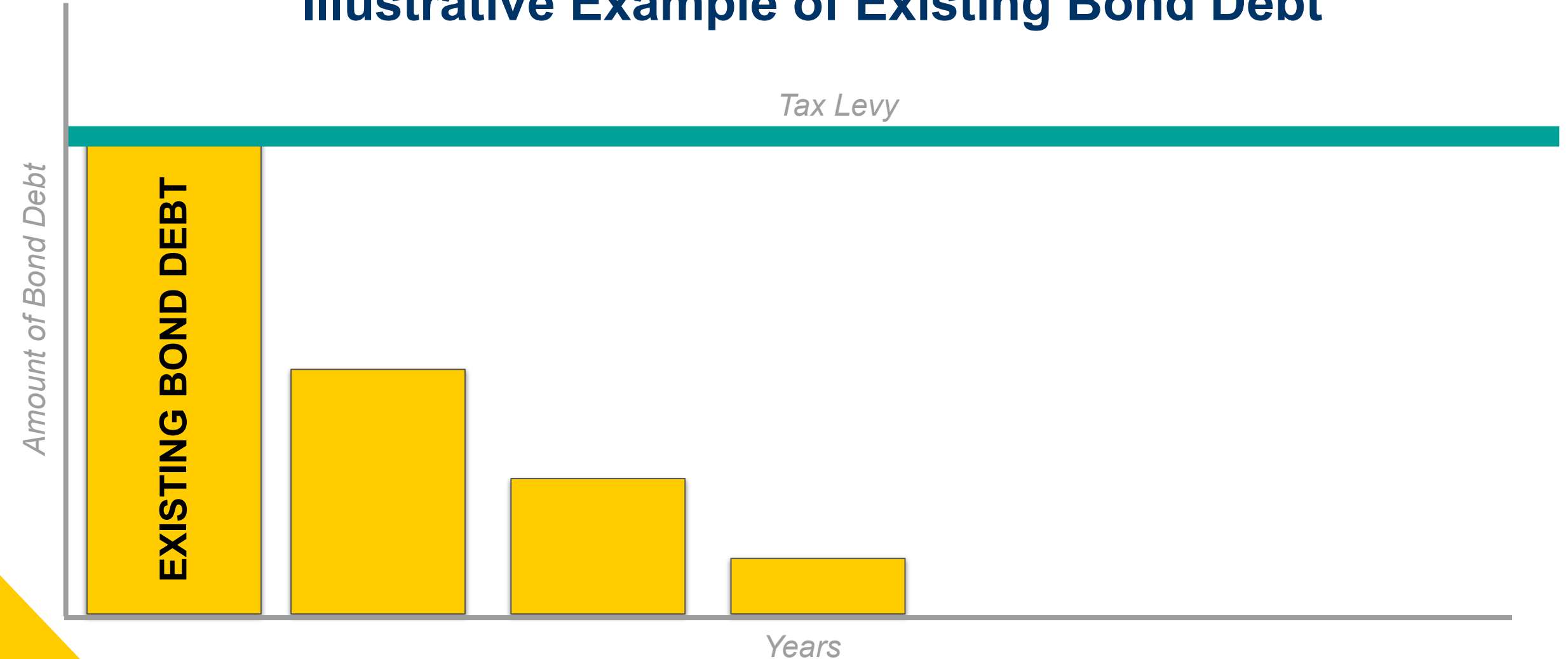
**Retire Hanover
Countryside Elementary
after
Glenbrook Elementary
updates are complete.**

Retire Illinois Park and More at 4 Early Childhood Centers

- Space will eventually no longer be needed with expanded preschool offerings throughout the District.



Illustrative Example of Existing Bond Debt



Example of New Bond Debt The District Can Issue Without Changing The Rate The Community Pays

Tax Levy

Amount of Bond Debt



Years

INVESTMENT \$310-380 MILLION

Zero Tax Rate Change For Residents

Combination of reserve and bond financing.

Requires a successful referendum in April 2023 to raise \$179M.



THANK YOU!



What's Next!

- Volunteer for next steps
- Board presentation Dec. 12

SCHOOL DISTRICT U-46



Small Group Work Activity

Select Recorder & Spokesperson

Recorder Responsibilities

- Complete the information on the group's worksheet

Facilitator Responsibilities

- Facilitate discussion
- Keep group focused and on task
- Report group's information



Small Group Worksheet

- Information on worksheet should reflect consensus/ general agreement of group members
- Monitor progress to complete the worksheet in allotted time
- Only group recorder's worksheet will be collected



Small Group Work Activities

■ Task #1: Did We Get It Right? - Help Us Cross The Finish Line!

- In tonight's presentation, you were presented with the recommendations developed from community suggestions at previous Unite U-46 community engagement sessions and the community survey. We realize there are very few things in life that can be labeled "perfect" and that is also true for any final solution to move our schools forward. Tonight, we have one question for you. Did we get it right? Does the plan presented fulfill the charge provided to us by the Board of Education?
 - Yes! This is a great plan that will move U-46 school forward.
 - Almost got it, but here are a couple of ideas to strengthen the recommendations:

■ Task #2: Trust and Transparency

- Throughout the Unite U-46 process, we have gained unique insight into the operation of our schools. As we move forward, how can our school district continue to increase trust and transparency and enhance open, honest communication?

Small Group Work Activity Reporting

Thank you!