

Lincoln County School District Bond

November Survey



**PATINKIN
RESEARCH
STRATEGIES**



- **A survey of 400 likely voters in the Lincoln County School District was conducted by telephone using professional interviewers (n=325) and text to web (n=77). Telephone interviews were conducted via both landline and cell phone. Cell phone interviews represent 73% of the telephone portion of the sample.**
- **The sample was randomly selected from TargetSmart’s enhanced voterfile and quotas and weights were set based on gender, age, educational attainment, race, partisan modeling, and region to reflect a likely May, 2025 electorate.**
- **Interviews were conducted November 18-21, 2024.**
- **The overall credibility interval (the theoretical margin of error for a blended-methodology poll that relies partially on telephone-based probability sampling, and partially on non-probability based online panel sample) is +/-4.9%. The credibility interval for subgroups varies and is larger.**
- **Throughout this report we refer to “younger” and “older” voters. Younger voters are under age 50 and older voters are age 50 and up.**

District demographics:

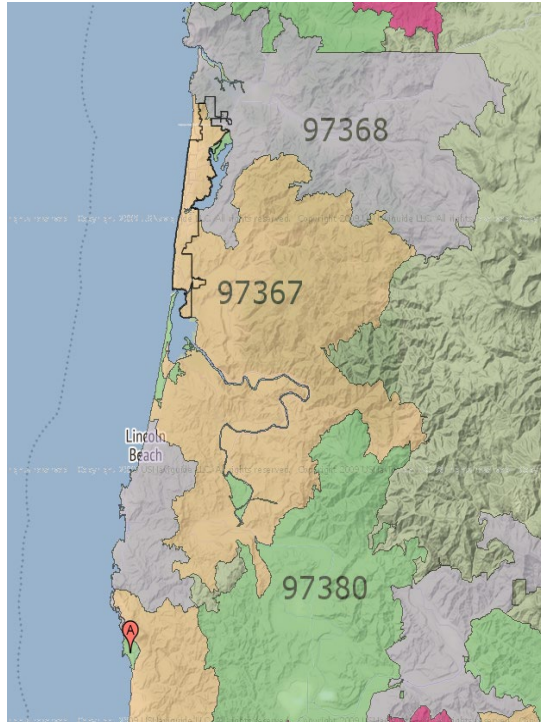


	All Registered Voters	Likely May 2025 Voters
Men	47%	48%
Women	53%	52%
Under age 50	36%	21%
Over age 50	64%	78%
Over age 70	30%	40%
Democrats (reg.)	34%	49%
Independents / NAV	44%	23%
Republicans (reg.)	22%	28%

Regions

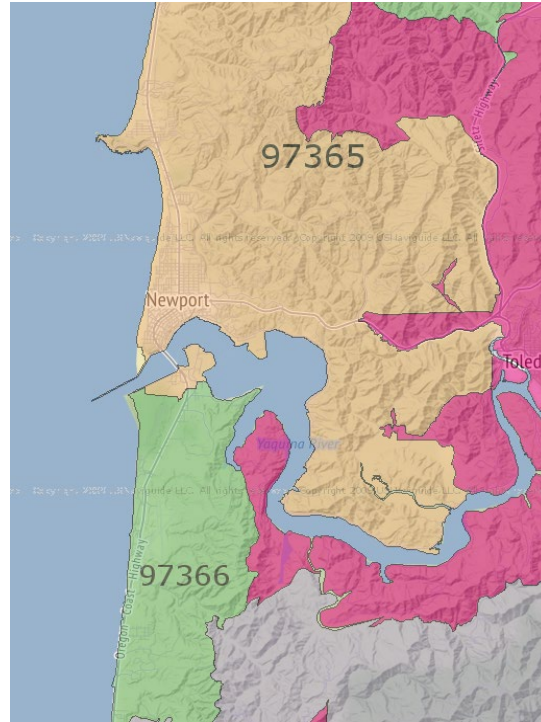


North



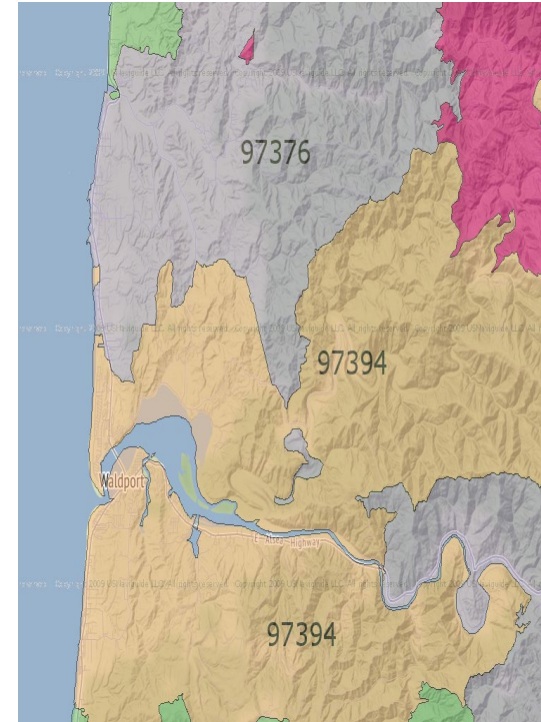
- 97367
- 97368
- 97364
- 97388
- 97341
- 97372

West



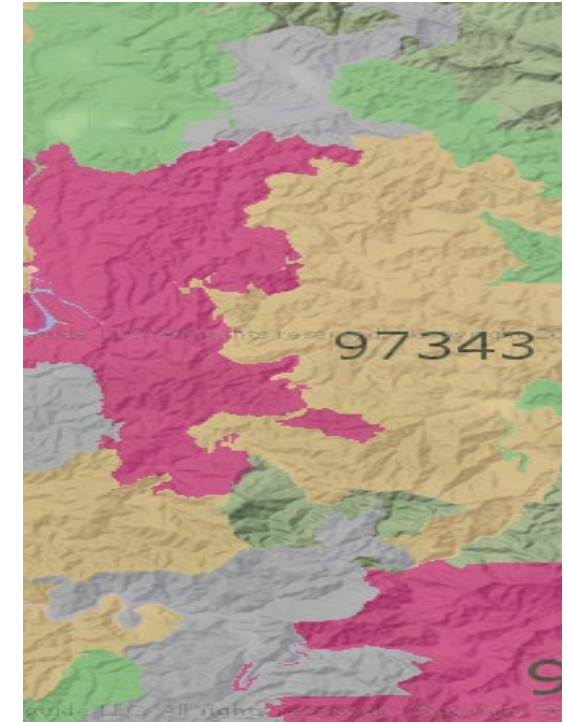
- 97366
- 97369
- 97366

South



- 97394
- 97498
- 97376

East



- 97380
- 97343
- 97391
- 97357
- 97390

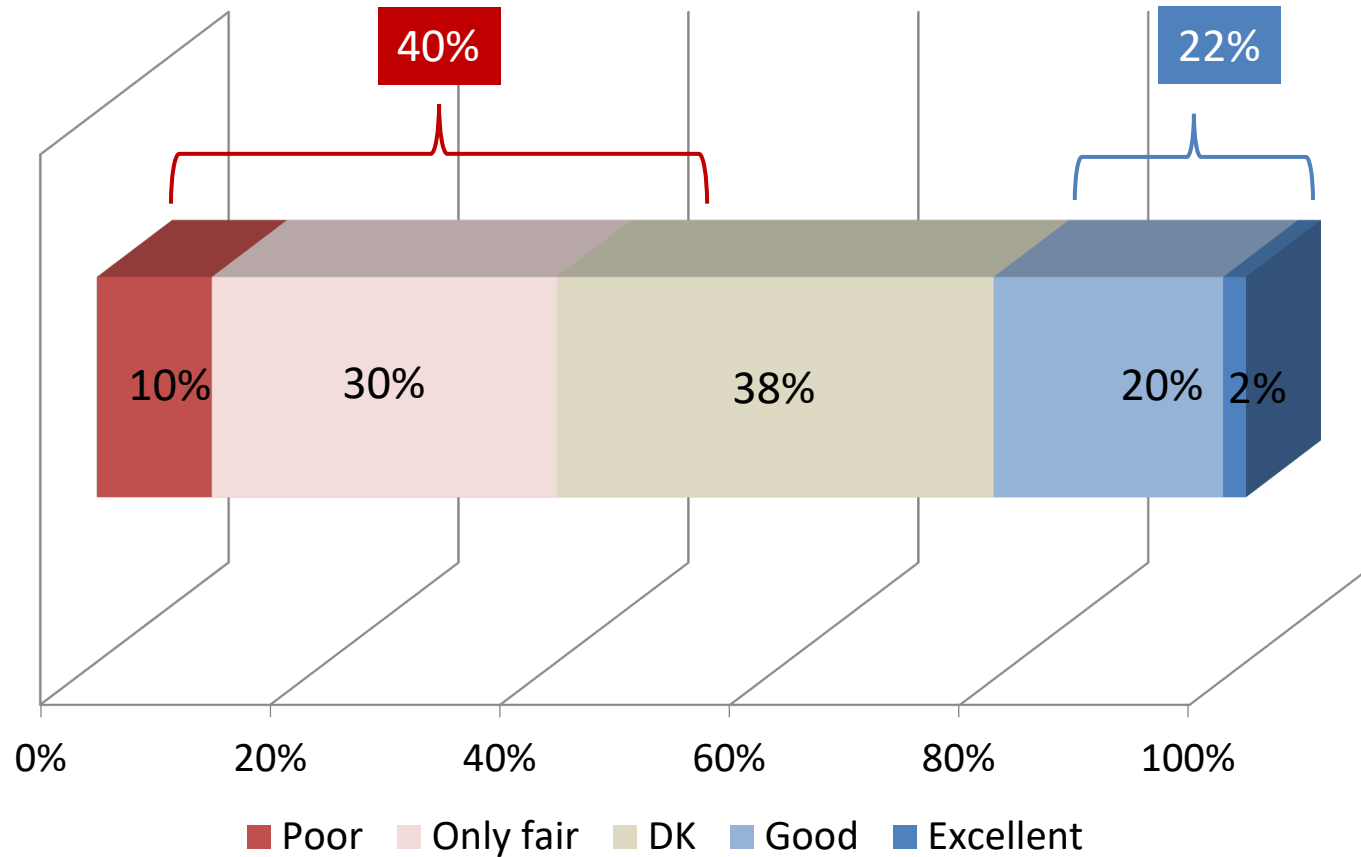


Where We Start

A plurality believe school condition is only fair or worse



Perception of school condition has an extremely heavy impact on vote choice for the bond.

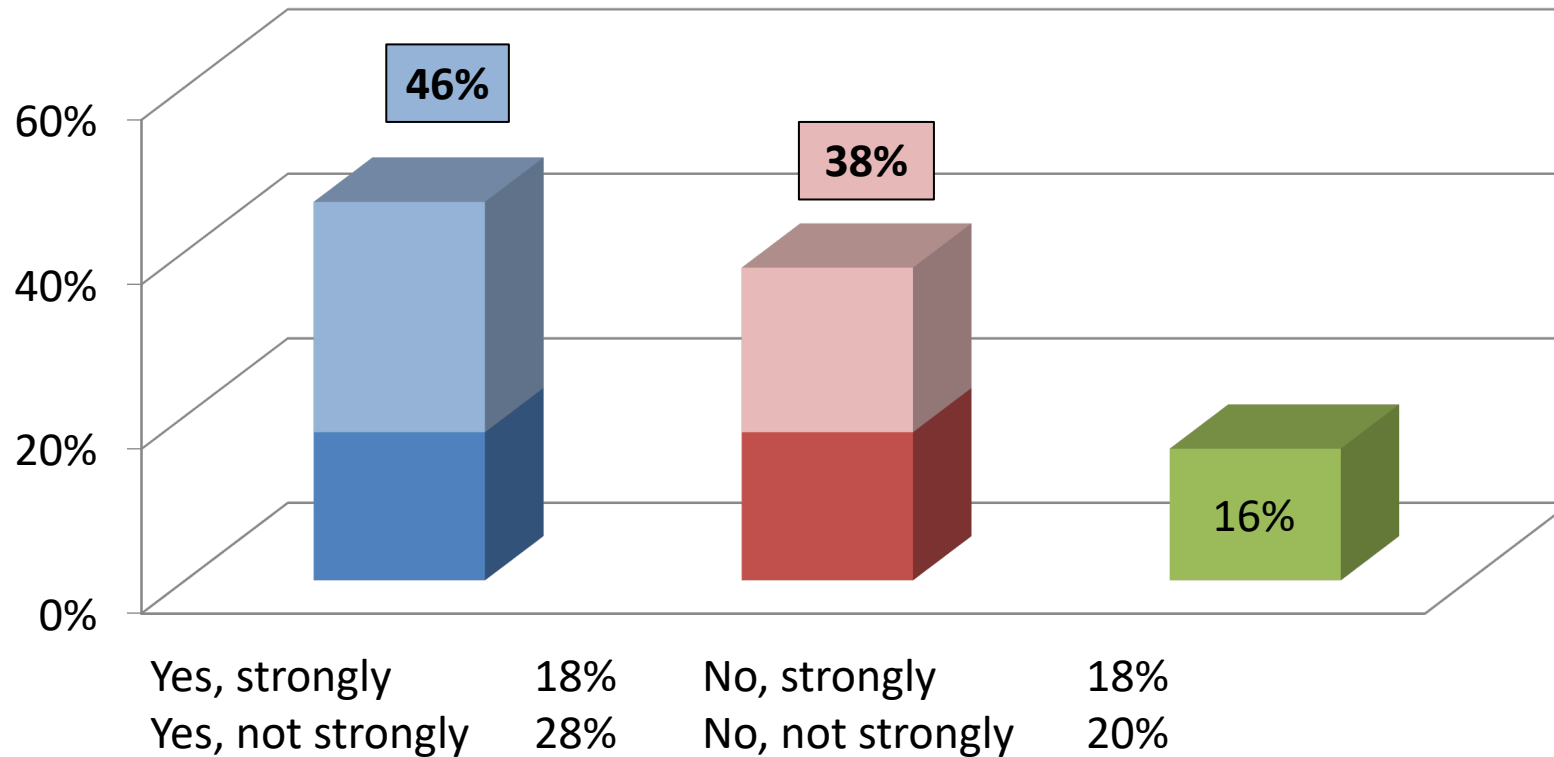


	Positive	Negative	DK/NA
Net Yes	29%	78%	22%
Net No	59%	13%	51%

Do you think the Lincoln County School District's facilities are in excellent physical condition, good condition, fair condition, or are they in poor physical condition?



Support for Bond Measure- Initial Ask
May 2025 Electorate



The Lincoln County School District may place a bond measure on the May 20th, 2025 ballot, which could read:

“Bonds to increase safety and security; construct, repair schools, classrooms. Shall District increase safety; construct, repair, update facilities and classrooms; issue \$73 million in bonds; estimated to maintain current tax rate?”

Now, if the election were held today, would you vote “yes” or “no” on this bond measure?

Younger voters, women, parents, and renters form the bond's base of support



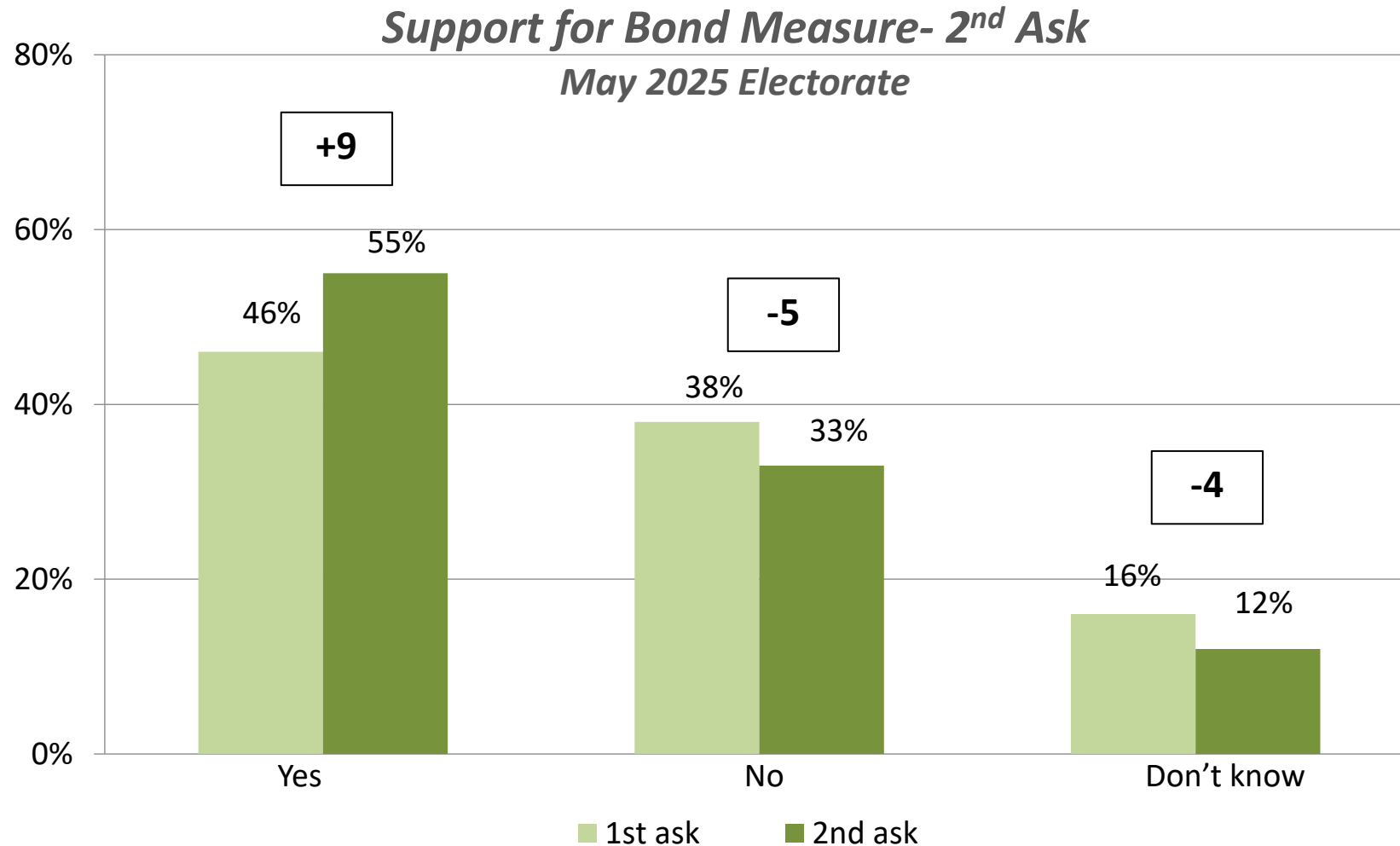
	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Don't Know</i>	<i>Yes Margin</i>
Men	39%	41%	20%	-2
Women	52%	34%	14%	+18
Under age 50	64%	14%	22%	+50
Over age 50	41%	44%	15%	-3
Age 70+	36%	48%	16%	-12
Homeowners	48%	42%	10%	+6
Renters	41%	28%	31%	+13
Current District Parents	68%	22%	10%	+46
Former/Future District Parents	42%	47%	10%	-5
No kids in schools	36%	33%	31%	+3
TOTAL	46%	38%	16%	+8

Having heard this, if the election were held today, would you vote "yes" or "no" on this bond measure?



Perceptions of Bond Packages and Projects

Reiterating to voters that this is not a tax increase results in a nine-point jump in the “yes” vote



The bond we just discussed replaces other bonds that are about to expire. As a result, property tax rates for the Lincoln County School District are estimated to continue at the same rate and not increase.

Now, if the election were held today would you vote “yes” or “no” on this bond measure?

Top testing bond projects put the focus on critical repair work, efficiency, and safety oriented items; exception to rule is job training



All of these bond projects are top testing among voters over age 50.

	Favor, strongly	Net Favor
REPAIR: Address failing infrastructure at schools across the district including replacing aging pipes, electrical, and heating and cooling systems like boilers and air conditioning	34%	63%
REPAIR: Conduct critical repair and replacement work on aging roofs, siding, and floor coverings	29%	63%
EFFICIENCY: More efficiently use taxpayer dollars by updating or installing energy efficient lighting, windows and insulation and repairing or replacing aging, inefficient heating systems	29%	63%
SAFETY: Install emergency generators at schools designated as community gathering sites in case of a disaster	33%	62%
JOB TRAINING: Provide dedicated space for career and technical education classrooms and hands-on learning labs at every high school	32%	61%
SAFETY: Remodel school bathrooms to ensure privacy and security for adults and students	27%	61%
SAFETY: Increase safety by improving or replacing aging fire safety systems at every school	28%	60%

Second tier projects test well, focusing on technology, accessibility, safety, and the arts



	Favor, strongly	Net Favor
TECH: Improve student learning by updating classroom technology	30%	59%
REPAIR: Make upgrades to improve A-D-A accessibility – also known as the Americans with Disabilities Act – to ensure that all students, staff, and community members can have equitable access to school grounds, restrooms, locker rooms and facilities	29%	59%
SAFETY: Increase security at every school by enhancing emergency communication and school lockdown systems as well as placing additional security cameras where needed	26%	59%
TECH: Increase protection of technology investments by installing critical technology infrastructure	30%	58%
ARTS: Meet demand for performing arts opportunities by providing school auditorium or performance spaces in all four communities across the county	28%	56%
REPAIR: Improve outdoor spaces by addressing drainage issues so students can use outdoor spaces year-round, adding covered playgrounds, and making them more accessible and inclusive for people with disabilities	24%	56%

Specific sports related projects are the lowest testing items; though both garner majorities in support



No significant regional divides. Older voters especially unwilling to support these projects.

	Favor, strongly	Net Favor
Replace the track at Taft 7 through 12 School and Newport High School	24%	55%
Replace the turf at Newport High School's football field	24%	52%



Messaging the Bond

Safety and security messages tested:



	Very convincing	Net Convincing
[GENERATORS] Our schools are more than just places of learning. This bond will install emergency generators in schools designated as community shelters-ensuring that when disaster strikes, people have a safe place to gather	32%	62%
[FIRE] Lifesaving systems in our schools are in some cases decades old, with aging fire safety systems and alarms requiring repair or replacement. Improving our fire safety systems is a priority that we need to address	32%	60%
[SECURITY] It's our responsibility to do everything we can to help protect students and staff in an emergency. This bond measure helps us do that—funding new security technology, locking systems, and emergency communications to help keep students and staff safe in the case of imminent danger	33%	59%

Fiscal responsibility messages tested:



	Very convincing	Net Convincing
[STATE \$\$\$] Passing this bond is a good bang for our buck. If this bond passes, the district will qualify for a minimum of six million dollars in additional state matching funds that can be used to improve student learning and safety across the district	32%	59%
[ACCOUNTABLE] The bond includes built-in oversight and transparency steps such as independent auditing to make sure our tax dollars are spent wisely and efficiently, and a citizen oversight committee made up of parents, staff, and leaders from across the district helping to plan and then implement the bond	30%	59%
[LOCAL CONTROL] Bond measure funds would be raised locally and could only be spent on improvements to schools within the Lincoln County School District as approved by voters and overseen by our school board.	29%	58%

Educational quality messages tested:



	Very convincing	Net Convincing
[CTE] Studies show that many students go into a trade soon after high school. In order to meet growing demand for career and technical education, this bond will update, expand, and improve job training classrooms and labs for students	31%	61%
[TEACHERS KNOW] Our children’s teachers need our help. Many of our elementary schools are outdated, with technology and wiring that are decades behind and inadequate to the demands of a modern classroom. This bond will ensure our kids have access to up-to-date technology and educations, helping students graduate career or college ready	25%	59%
[AUDITORIUMS] High school and middle school performing arts students, choirs, and bands are performing in gyms or cafeterias in most of our schools. This bond will address this problem, providing needed space for school performing arts programs, after school learning opportunities for kids and adult community programming	27%	58%
[OVERCROWDING] Our elementary schools were designed 60 years ago—which means their classroom spaces and communal areas are completely out-of-date. Most importantly, classroom and communal spaces are too small, resulting in overcrowding that gets in the way of teaching. This bond will address this problem, creating modern, flexible spaces that encourage classroom learning	29%	56%

Repair messages tested:

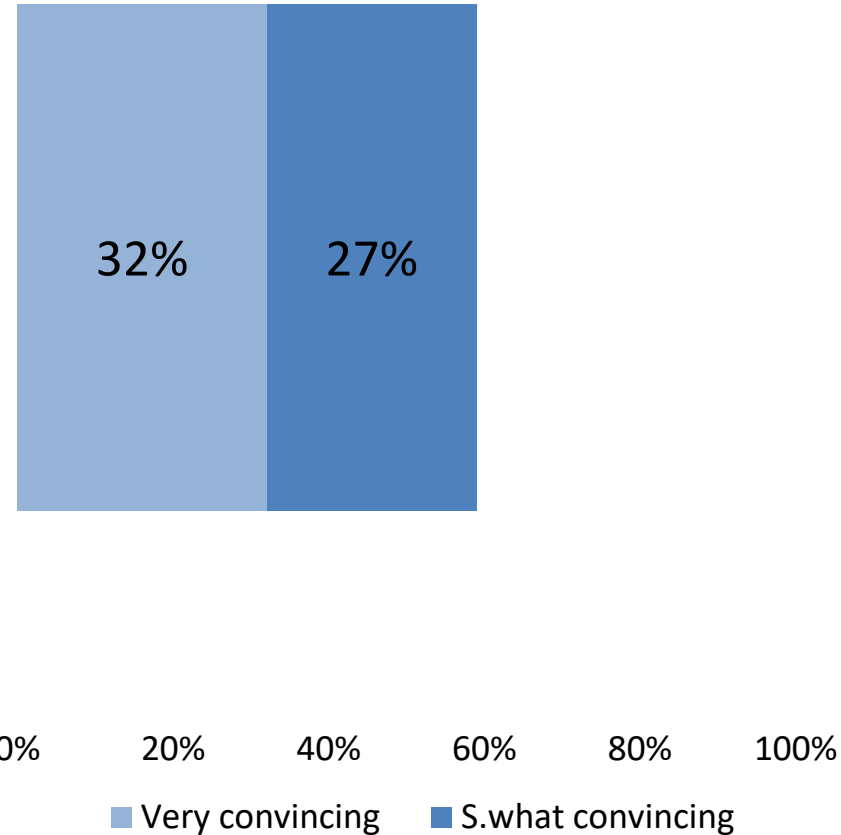


	Very convincing	Net Convincing
[TEACHERS /ENVIRONMENT] This bond will get us back to the basics, repairing aging air filtration and heating systems to make classroom environments more appropriate for teaching and learning	29%	60%
[BASIC REPAIRS] This bond measure will allow the Lincoln County School District to make needed, large-scale repairs and replacements to address safety hazards, accessibility issues and fix failing infrastructure like roofs, siding, floor coverings and H-VAC systems. With these repairs in place, our school buildings will be able to function and educate future generations for decades to come	31%	57%
[TURF FIELDS ELEMENTARIES] This bond will install turf fields at our elementary schools, providing year-round access to youth and adult sports programs	25%	57%
[ACCESS] Our schools are a community resource and everyone – including students, staff, and community members –should have equal access to their facilities. This bond ensures everyone, including students, staff, and community members with disabilities can safely access school facilities	28%	56%
[PLAYGROUNDS] This bond will ensure playgrounds are accessible to every student year-round by replacing bark chips with all-weather surfacing and adding play sheds where students can exercise outdoors in the rainy season	20%	50%

Message Flank #1: Make clear the bond is a renewal, is a good bang for our buck, and will be spent on priority items (learning / safety)



[STATE \$\$\$] Passing this bond is a good bang for our buck. If this bond passes, the district will qualify for a minimum of six million dollars in additional state matching funds that can be used to improve student learning and safety across the district



Note: Messages outlined in blue are drivers of support for the bond.

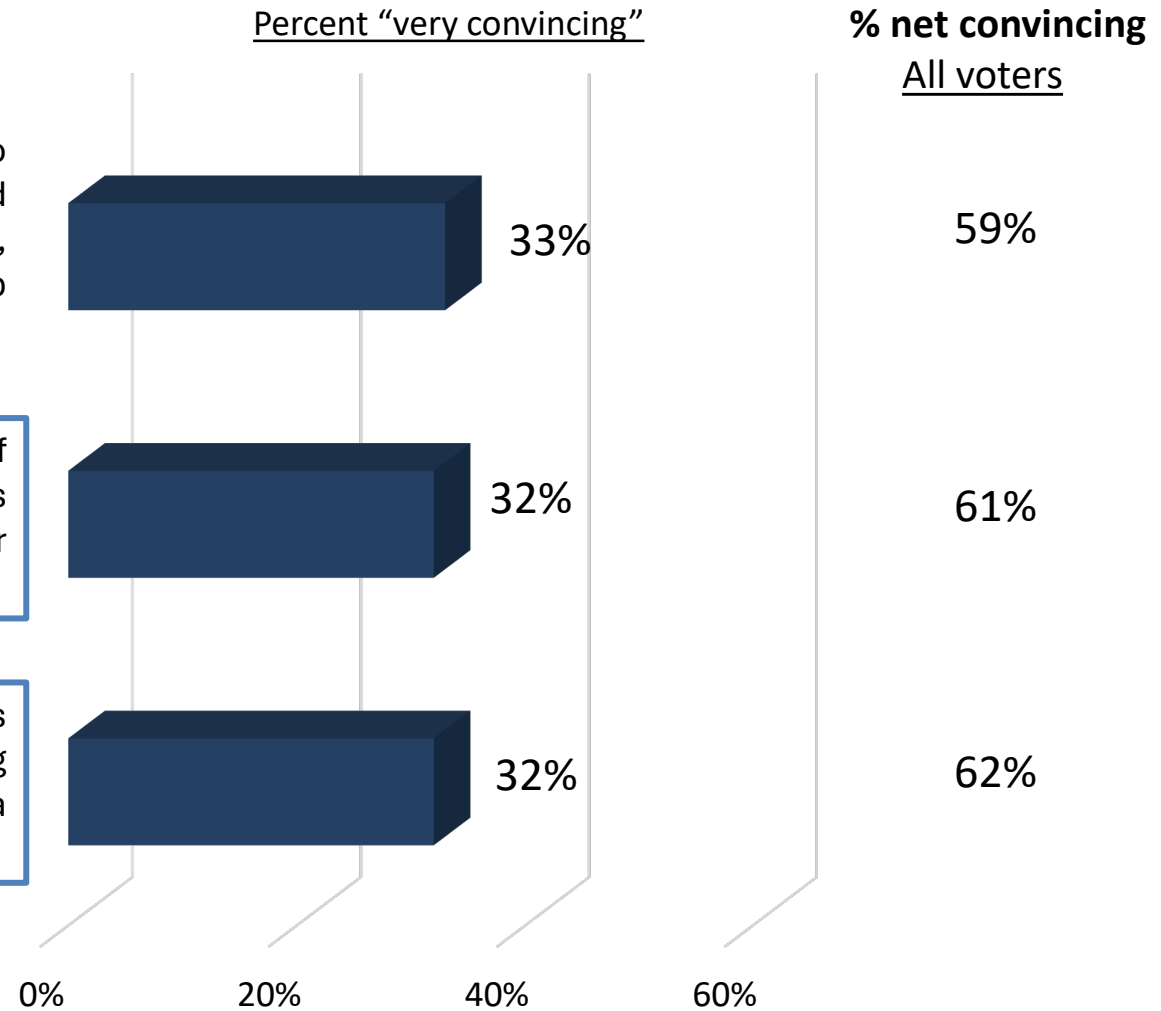
Message Flank #2: the bond increases safety and security not just for students and staff, but for the wider community as well



[SECURITY] It's our responsibility to do everything we can to help protect students and staff in an emergency. This bond measure helps us do that—funding new security technology, locking systems, and emergency communications to help keep students and staff safe in the case of imminent danger

[GENERATORS] Our schools are more than just places of learning. This bond will install emergency generators in schools designated as community shelters—ensuring that when disaster strikes, people have a safe place to gather

[FIRE] Lifesaving systems in our schools are in some cases decades old, with aging fire safety systems and alarms requiring repair or replacement. Improving our fire safety systems is a priority that we need to address

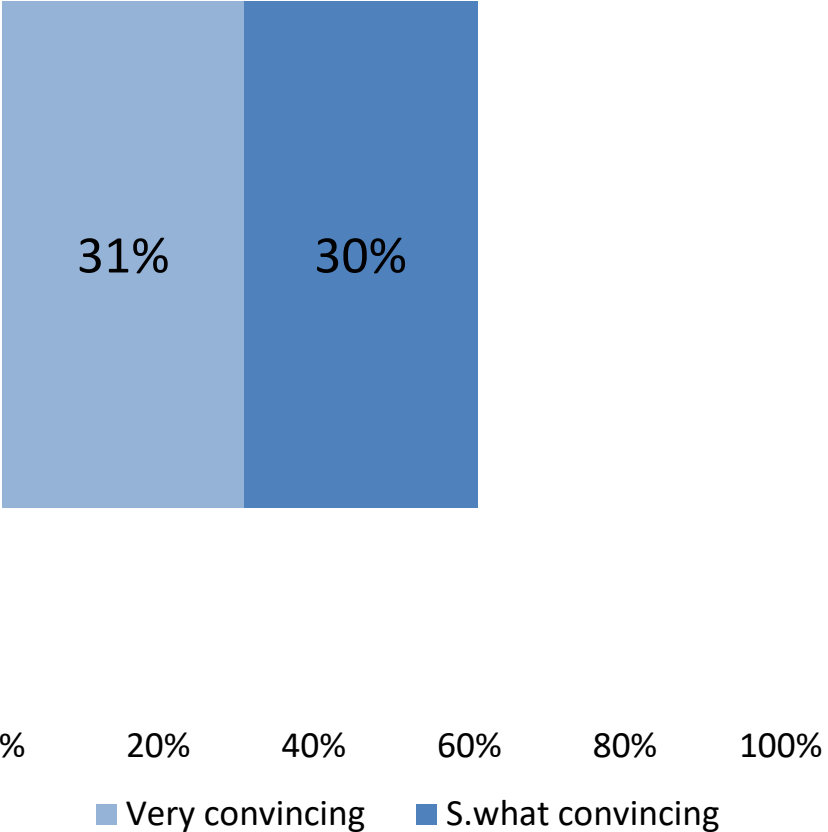


Note: Messages outlined in blue are drivers of support for the bond.

Message Flank #3: the bond improves access to job training opportunities

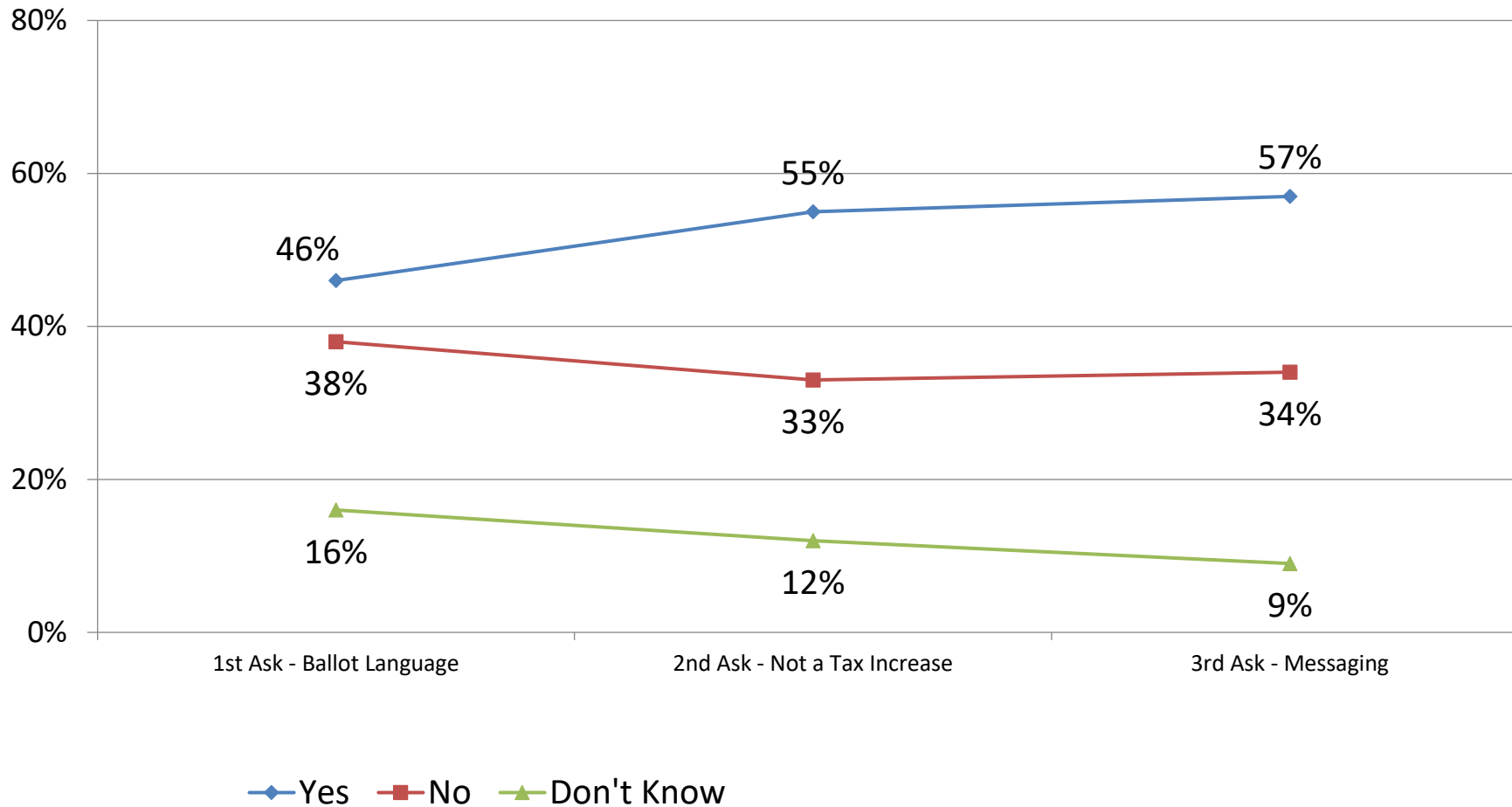


[CTE] Studies show that many students go into a trade soon after high school. In order to meet growing demand for career and technical education, this bond will update, expand, and improve job training classrooms and labs for students



Note: Messages outlined in blue are drivers of support for the bond.

By the end of the survey, support increases by 11-points, opposition drops by four-points



Having heard this, if the election were held today, would you vote "yes" or "no" on this bond measure?