

**Community Survey**  
*October 2024*



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Throughout this report, responses from survey respondents are displayed in italic. All of the responses are presented as submitted and have not been edited to allow you to reach your own conclusion as to the meaning and intent of the survey respondent.

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## Executive Summary

The following is a summary of the findings from the 2024 Community Survey for Mason Consolidated Schools. The survey was completed by 363 residents of Mason Consolidated Schools between September 23 and October 4, 2024. While this report provides examples of the responses to the open-ended questions, a complete listing of all of the responses to the open-ended questions are available in a separate document.

**Mason Consolidated Schools.** More than two-thirds of respondents (71.6%) gave Mason Consolidated Schools an overall grade of either A, B, or C.

Over one-third of respondents (40.1%) felt Mason Consolidated Schools are fiscally responsible. Just over half of respondents (55.5%) indicated that they feel Mason Consolidated Schools does a good job communicating with district residents.

Nearly 9 out of 10 respondents (86.7%) indicated that they felt Mason Consolidated Schools' buildings and facilities were in need of improvement, while only 4.9% of respondents did not feel Mason Consolidated Schools' buildings and facilities were in need of improvement.

- ✔ Although 40.1% of survey respondents felt that Mason Consolidated Schools were fiscally responsible, nearly the same number of survey respondents (40.4%) were unsure. There is a strong correlation between feeling Mason Consolidated Schools are fiscally responsible and support for options one, two, and three for improving Mason Consolidated Schools' buildings and facilities. Moving forward it will be imperative for Mason Consolidated Schools to demonstrate their fiscal responsibility to unsure residents, as it will increase support for the options.
- ✔ Just over half of all survey respondents (55.5%) felt that Mason Consolidated Schools were doing a good job communicating with district residents, but over one-quarter of survey respondents (27.3%) said they did not feel that Mason Consolidated Schools were doing a good job communicating. Several areas of concern were raised including not communicating facility needs, minimal communication from the district, and only providing communication online. Mason Consolidated Schools should consider how best to reach all residents.

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**Facility Improvement Options.** After the need to update and make improvements in Mason Consolidated Schools' buildings and facilities was explained, respondents were presented with the four options under consideration.

For Option 1: Address Priority Needs, over two-thirds of respondents (69.8%) felt the plan was acceptable, while just over 10% of respondents (10.1%) did not find the plan acceptable. Just under two-thirds of respondents (68.4%) indicated that they would vote to approve option 1, and under one-fifth (18.2%) said they would not approve option 1.

For Option 2: Address Priority Needs and Facility Updates, just under two-thirds of respondents (63.4%) felt the plan was acceptable, while just over 10% of respondents (12.9%) did not find the plan acceptable. Just under two-thirds of respondents (63.4%) indicated that they would vote to approve option 2, while one-fifth of respondents (20.8%) said they would not approve option 2.

For Option 3: Address Priority Needs, Facility Updates, and Elementary Improvements, less than three-fifths of respondents (59.9%) felt the plan was acceptable, while 15.7% of respondents did not find the plan acceptable. Half of respondents (50.0%) indicated that they would vote to approve option 3, while just under one-third of respondents (30.3%) said they would not approve option 3.

For Option 4: Address Priority Needs and Classroom Additions to Reconfigure Current Schools to Accommodate PK – 6 and 7 – 12, over half of respondents (54.9%) felt the plan was acceptable, while just under one-fifth of respondents (18.5%) did not find the plan acceptable. Less than half of respondents (44.9%) indicated that they would vote to approve option 4, while almost one-third of respondents (30.6%) said they would not approve option 4.

- ✔ Over two-thirds of the survey respondents (68.4%) would vote to approve Option 1: Address Priority Needs and 63.4% of survey respondents would vote to approve Option 2: Address Priority Needs and Facility Updates. The other two options received 50.0% or less support and would be difficult to pass under current conditions.
- ✔ For Options 1 and 2 there were a variety of reasons survey respondents said they would not support the options or were unsure. Some of the reasons provided included the bond time frame, cost, more upgrades are needed, and need more information. While Mason Consolidated Schools could address several of these concerns, changing the bond time frame, cost, or adding upgrades could result in less support from respondents who previously stated that they would vote for options one and two based off of the information presented in the survey. One area Mason Consolidated Schools could address without decreasing support is providing district residents with more information about the bond proposals.

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**Information.** Nearly two-thirds (61.8%) of respondents indicated that how they would vote in May 2025 would not change compared to how they answered the survey, with 17.6% of respondents indicating how they would vote in May 2025 could change. A variety of reasons were provided for why survey respondents felt how they would vote in May 2025 could change, however, the most common reason was that they needed more information.

When asked if they had any other suggestions or concerns about Mason Consolidated Schools that had not been asked about on the survey, respondents provided a variety of answers, most often related to praise for Mason Consolidated Schools, cost, facilities need updated, new schools should be built, and concerns about district leadership.

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## Mason Consolidated Schools

### Recommendations:

- ☑ Although 40.1% of survey respondents felt that Mason Consolidated Schools were fiscally responsible, nearly the same number of survey respondents (40.4%) were unsure. There is a strong correlation between feeling Mason Consolidated Schools are fiscally responsible and support for options one, two, and three for improving Mason Consolidated Schools' buildings and facilities. Moving forward it will be imperative for Mason Consolidated Schools to demonstrate their fiscal responsibility to unsure residents, as it will increase support for the options.
  
- ☑ Just over half of all survey respondents (55.5%) felt that Mason Consolidated Schools were doing a good job communicating with district residents, but over one-quarter of survey respondents (27.3%) said they did not feel that Mason Consolidated Schools were doing a good job communicating. Several areas of concern were raised including not communicating facility needs, minimal communication from the district, and only providing communication online. Mason Consolidated Schools should consider how best to reach all residents.

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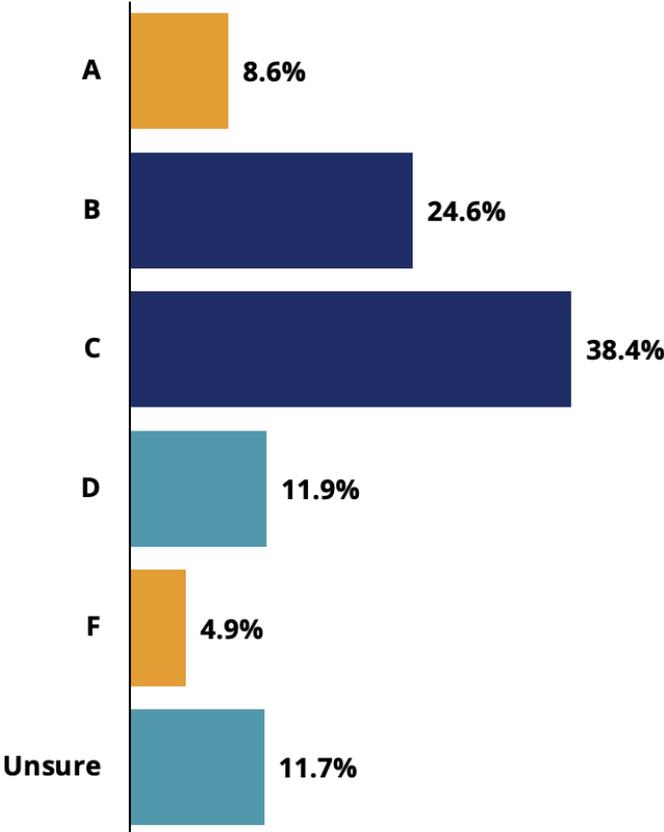
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### Grading Mason Consolidated Schools

When asked what grade they would give Mason Consolidated Schools overall – an A, B, C, D, or F, the majority of respondents graded Mason Consolidated Schools with either a B (24.6%) or C (38.4%). 8.6% of respondents graded Mason Consolidated Schools with an A, while 16.8% of respondents graded Mason Consolidated Schools overall with a D or F. Just over eleven percent (11.7%) of respondents were unsure.

*Overall Grade of Mason Consolidated Schools*



*Question: Overall, what grade would you give Mason Consolidated Schools – an A, B, C, D, or F?*

### Demographic Considerations – Overall Grade

There were no significant demographic differences for the overall grade of Mason Consolidated Schools.

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Respondents who graded Mason Consolidated Schools overall with either a D or F were asked to indicate why. Examples of common responses are sorted below by the respondents' reasoning for why they graded Mason Consolidated Schools either a D or F. A complete list of all responses to this question is available in a separate document.

### **Education Quality**

*Consistently terrible scores according to mischooldata.org, overpaid teachers doing the bare minimum, kids unprepared for the next level. I cannot tell you how many kids transfer to another school like Bedford and are immediately at least a year behind as compared to the Bedford kids. There's no reason that our kids should be so far behind in any capacity. The same goes for kids starting college. Two of my kids who were A students at Mason had to take remedial classes before they could start the actual curriculum.*

*Does not manage with education as a priority.*

*I have a child on an IEP and I question whether or not his educational needs are a focus or priority. I have a daughter in high school that excels, but I fear that she doesn't have the same opportunities as other students in the county do.*

*Lack of competitive curriculum, lack of opportunities for students to develop into trades vs college, the drop in proficiency in the core subjects upon graduating, the lackluster college partnerships available to students as far as dual enrollment goes.*

*Leaders are a poor example for students, they do not prioritize business properly. Scores at large are terrible, enrollment and graduates are declining, college preparedness/engagement and success is very low. Board decisions are led with school passion and not professional experience and higher level education.*

*Poor scores, poor communication, poor safety especially with regard to busing.*

*They do not offer much help in academic acceleration. AP classes have just started, and they don't receive much help in pursuing college classes, etc.*

### **Poor Building Conditions**

*Building conditions are in poor shape, lack of resources for students, and minimal updates to facilities.*

*Facilities are extremely outdated and in major need of improvements.*

*I recently graduated from this school and through my enrollment I noticed how dirty and out of shape the facilities were.*

*No reason every surrounding area has brand new schools and we don't. My great grandmother graduated from the same high school standing.*

*Poor conditions. The curriculum is amazing, it's a shame the buildings are in such rough shape. The buildings are falling apart, the kitchen needs an upgrade with air conditioning, along with the rest of the building. The ceilings need upgraded with new tiles. Playground needs new equipment, and all schools should have metal detectors, new cameras inside and outside the building.*

*We need new facilities and the classrooms are crumbling.*

### **Miscellaneous**

*Because it was a C 35 years ago. Also due to how the school has prioritized past projects. Honestly a D is being generous.*

*Cause they misused the money they did have to fix things. Just put "duct tape" on the important projects or tried short cutting to be cheap (the pool).*

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**Miscellaneous - Continued**

*Numerous homeschooled children equates to local parents not trusting the school district. There are a total of 4 school age children (2 of 4 homes on my street) who run around daily doing nothing except playing outdoors.*

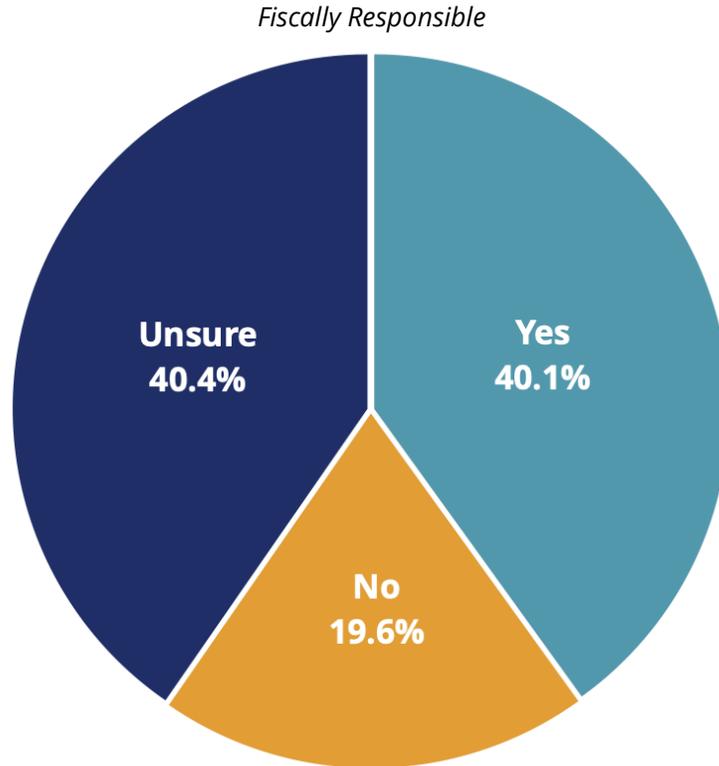
*Students are not prepared for basic success. Leadership doesn't know how to run it like a business like everything else. This board lacks any experience at large and keeps coming back for money asks this community cannot afford. They cannot be trusted with money and have well-earned that reputation.*

*The elementary policy of not allowing the parents in the building.  
They certainly aren't the best, but not quite the worst.*

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## Fiscal Responsibility

When asked if they felt that Mason Consolidated Schools are fiscally responsible, less than half (40.1%) of respondents felt that Mason Consolidated Schools are fiscally responsible, while almost the exact same percentage of respondents (40.4%) were unsure. Just under one-fifth of respondents (19.6%) did not think that Mason Consolidated Schools are fiscally responsible.



*Question: Do you feel Mason Consolidated Schools are fiscally responsible?*

### Demographic Considerations – Fiscally Responsible

Demographic categories with a significantly lower percentage of respondents who believed Mason Consolidated Schools are fiscally responsible included: age 55-64 (26.4%)

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Respondents who indicated they did not feel Mason Consolidated Schools were fiscally responsible were asked to explain why. Examples of common responses are sorted below by the respondents' reasoning for why they felt Mason Consolidated Schools were not fiscally responsible. A complete list of all responses to this question is available in a separate document.

### **Concerns About District Leadership**

*As of lately, I feel like it's been better. Unfortunately, we should have never been in this spot due to bad leadership in previous years.*

*Audit was not done on time, therefore the district lost state funding and had to take out a loan that cost the district more money. Also, people who are fixing things around the district and they are not properly fixed, it costs the district more money. If it were done properly the first time, this would save money.*

*Have we done an audit of our administration? Are they all doing the job asked of them or are they just doing enough to earn a paycheck? Can some jobs be combined/eliminated? Are they living up to their potential as overseers of our students or are they "just getting by" as well? Spending money on the wrong things. How many times are we going to "fix" the pool? Gym floors and bleachers. I'm sure so much more. Don't get me wrong, these things are so nice to have, but so are nice, clean, and modern bathrooms. Priorities.*

*I think the last millage increase request (not the renewal) was an irresponsible and aggressive mistake highlighting how detached decision makers are from reality.*

*Things at Mason appear to be fixed only when they are nearly beyond repair, and thusly cost much more. I read the minutes from the board meetings and understand how tight finances are overall, but the persons in charge throughout the last 15 years fail to have creative, proactive solutions to financial issues at the school.*

### **Mismanagement of Funds**

*I feel money is mismanaged and not used where it is most beneficial.*

*I feel they have not budgeted their money well for years. They should have plans in place for items that need improving or replaced, and not scrapping together last minute.*

*Last 10 years the money has been spent foolishly, never spend it on what you're supposed to.*

*Mismanagement*

*Poor planning and usage of funds.*

*The disarray of the facilities was caused by a long line of fiscal irresponsibility. Prioritization of past projects was done irresponsibly also.*

### **Not Properly Maintained**

*Due to maintenance not done or used money for which it was supposed to be used previously.*

*Money seems to go to irrelevant things. Things are left in disrepair, or a quick fix thrown on instead of fixing the heart of the problem. Maybe we wouldn't need a new school if fixes would have been happening along the way.*

*The buildings are falling apart, holes in the walls, pest problems, sewers backing up into the buildings. The bare minimum is done to ever fix it. It's embarrassing as a resident in the district. This school is falling apart.*

*They need to maintain their buildings, continuously. They should not wait until there is a problem then look for money to fix it.*

*They should have been making repairs to the school every year instead of asking for a huge millage.*

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### **Prioritized Wants Instead of Needs**

*Building improvements need to be made before sport field improvements.*

*I feel that Mason Consolidated Schools are investing the most money into the middle school and high school for unnecessary improvements, while the elementary school is the oldest and receives the least amount of attention. I feel that money was not needed to be spent on new sidewalks and repaving, when buildings are suffering.*

*Leaking ceiling should be priority over new bleachers and things like that.*

*Often the school receives funding for improvements which are spent on the track/football field or gyms instead of our SERIOUSLY failing buildings.*

*Putting money into the pool rather than heating or air.*

*They put a new gym floor under a leaking roof.*

*Why pave or put in new concrete when roofs and windows leak or the heating system is in dire need. Or electrical needs to be updated. If you had a leak in your roof at home would you pave your driveway?*

### **Miscellaneous**

*I feel there are better solutions then just hanging a bond on the already strapped residence of Erie and La Salle. Schools need to become more creative and look to merge especially since growth in population hasn't really materialized in the area in which Mason serves.*

*Hanging a bond the size of the last bond on the few businesses that exist in the area and taxpayers like myself who do not have kids in Mason is wrong.*

*Money for upkeep on maintenance, transportation, and grounds is not to the best of my tax paid dollars.*

*Supervisors, principals, and teachers are way too overpaid which leaves the rest of the school district needs with nothing.*

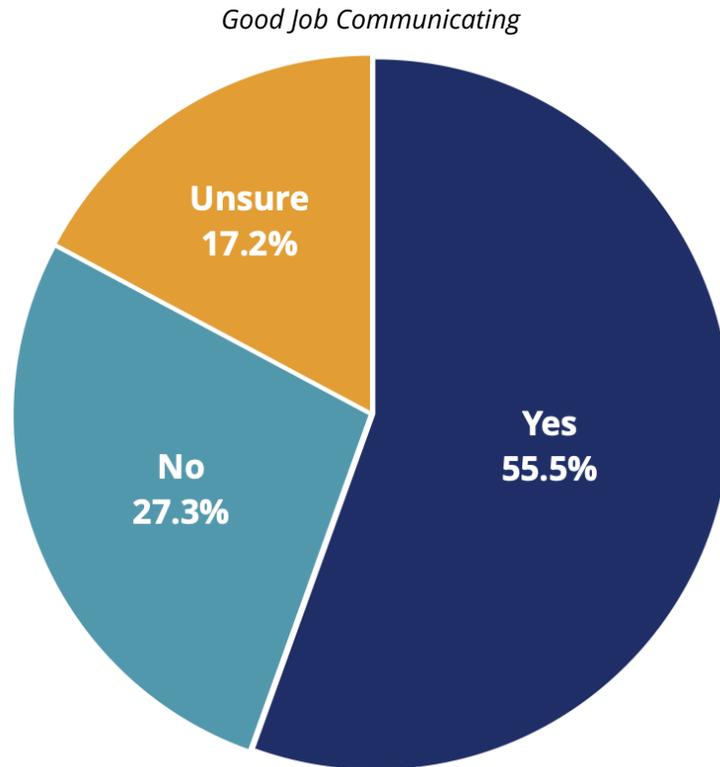
*The ISD should be downsizing based on low enrollment and projected low future enrollment.*

*They do all this fundraising, but nothing is put back into the school.*

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## District is Communicating Well

When asked if they felt that Mason Consolidated Schools are doing a good job communicating with district residents, over half (55.5%) felt that Mason Consolidated Schools are doing a good job of communicating, while just over one-quarter (27.3%) did not, and 17.2% were unsure.



*Question: Do you feel Mason Consolidated Schools are doing a good job communicating with district residents?*

### Demographic Considerations – Good Job Communicating

Demographic categories with a significantly lower percentage of respondents who felt that Mason Consolidated Schools are doing a good job communicating with district residents included: age 55-64 (44.4%)

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Respondents who indicated they did not feel Mason Consolidated Schools were doing a good job communicating with district residents were asked to explain why. Examples of common responses are sorted below by the respondents' reasoning for why they felt Mason Consolidated Schools were not doing a good job communicating with district residents. A complete list of all responses to this question is available in a separate document.

### **Concerns About District Leadership**

*Board of Education don't seem to listen to the public.*

*Just last year students raised concerns for safety in the school and the administration and Superintendent told the residents that it was all a lie. Even though multiple families followed protocol and filled formal reports.*

*There is no charted plan, they begin everything year after year just like they spend the money. No successful business runs this way.*

*When the audit was not done on time, the public did not truly understand what happened.*

*Agenda for the Board of Education meetings are vague. When attending a Board of Education meeting the board often refers to "the packet" in which the public does not know what they are discussing or talking about. Once the minutes of a board meeting come out, it feels as if it is too late to address the Board of Education. When attending a Board of Education meeting or addressing the Board of Education when an issue arises, I do not feel heard or feel as though anyone is listening or considering the public's input. Seems as somewhat of a dictatorship or a Board of Education/Superintendent's way with no consult with the community. Public comment at a Board of Education meeting is before anything is discussed, therefore, public cannot comment on anything after the Board of Education meeting. When agenda items are voted on, the public does not know what is voted on and have not heard a discussion on the voted item. I realize the Board of Education has the vote however, the Board of Education is working for the public, therefore, they should also be communicating with the public and considering the public's input.*

### **District Must Communicate Facility Needs**

*Asking for more tax money but don't explain anything ahead of time.*

*I remember when the renewal came out and at first there wasn't much info. It was voted down because of the lack of communication.*

*Pictures should be submitted of the damage that is in the school with the proposals.*

*The conditions and problems in the buildings need to be addressed to the parents/caregivers.*

*Majority are unaware of what their children deal with on a daily basis.*

*The school could do a better job of explaining to the public why additional funds are needed. I would recommend using visual imagery to illustrate the multitude of problems.*

*There needs to be informational/educational opportunities to show why supporting our school financially is in the community, and their own, best interest.*

*We should have received written communication as residents about this situation to make aware of what is needed. Only school families know what is going on.*

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### **Lack of Trust/Transparency**

*2020 bond, absolute laced with lies and incorrect facts. It's very clear there's more to the big picture and plan here again. Yet you treat the district and people living here disrespectfully with your lack of a long-term plan and transparency.*

*Better put to say that you share only what you want to. You're not transparent with your plans ever. Either that or you can't live up to them.*

*Communication should be transparent and timely.*

*Half-truths*

*I don't think they are being honest with the residents.*

*There is not anything mailed to residents. I feel the school is keeping secrets as to where all the money is going and what it's being spent on.*

### **Only Provide Communications Online**

*Communication seems to only be done through social media, which is a fine tool, but it doesn't reach everyone. In-person canvassing will better reach the people you want support from. I would even help but there is no system in place.*

*I feel like a lot of things are just put on Facebook or sent via instant alert and some of our older residents do not get info. Also, during the school closing I believe students should have been emailed that it is safe to return not all students have parents that share this info with them.*

*Mason relies completely on Facebook to relay information. Facebook should NOT be used as an official form of communication for seniors, sports, and schools. Families without Facebook are always out of the loop. I absolutely abhor Facebook.*

*Not everyone is on Facebook. And to vote on this proposal in November seems rushed. Just like the last attempt.*

*The platforms used. There are several senior residents that are not online and social media. More needs to be done to be more inclusive for everyone in the community.*

*Too reliant on Facebook for spreading information.*

### **Receive No/Minimal Communication**

*I do not get any communication from them even though I live in the district.*

*I feel if the resident doesn't have a child in the district they do not get information.*

*I haven't heard anything about Mason.*

*Living with a temperance address, info is never received.*

*Not getting enough info or info that is understandable to the elderly in the community.*

*Residents who do not have school age children do not seem to get the same communication as those in the school.*

*We never hear anything from the schools. We moved into the district after our children were grown. Maybe if you have kids in the schools the communication is good. We just don't know.*

### **Miscellaneous**

*Communication at this school does not exist aside from messages about late/early buses that my child doesn't ride.*

*I am getting information from Ida Public Schools - they are doing an excellent job of communicating with the public even if I'm not in their district - makes me want to school of choice.*

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**Miscellaneous - Continued**

*Late notice on vital issues.*

*Several items that I did not think were communicated properly.*

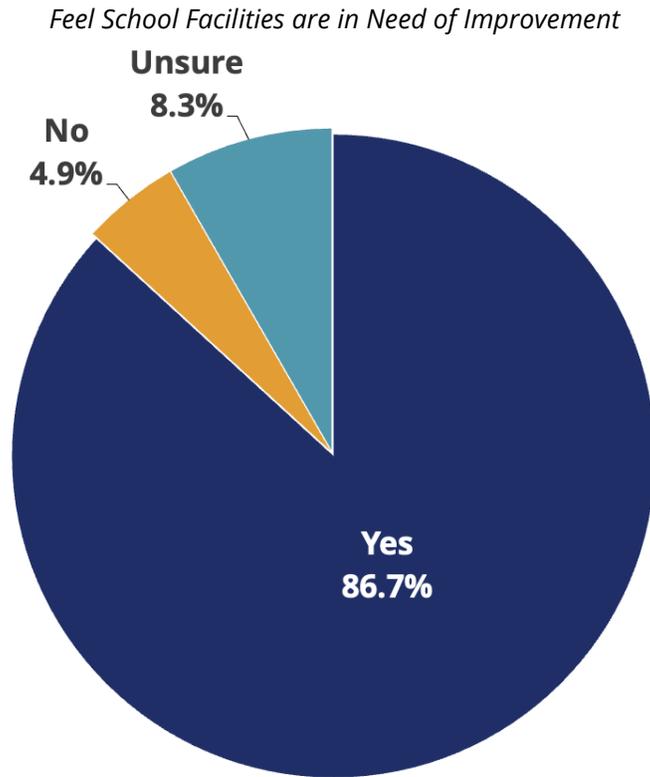
*They only communicate with those they feel are "beneficial" and could care less about the "non-elite."*

*You rely on parents checking the portal all the time. Who has time for that? When you send a message to phones I get it multiple times.*

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## Facilities in Need of Improvement

Survey respondents were asked if they felt that the school facilities in Mason Consolidated Schools need to be improved. Just over four-fifths (86.7%) of respondents indicated that they did feel buildings and facilities were in need of improvement, while 4.9% of respondents did not feel the facilities were in need of improvement and 8.3% of respondents were unsure.



*Question: Do you feel the school facilities in Mason Consolidated Schools need to be improved?*

### Demographic Considerations - Facilities in Need of Improvement

Demographic categories with a significantly lower percentage of respondents who felt the school facilities needed to be improved included: have not been in the schools in the past two years (67.7%), no relationship with the district (64.2%)

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Respondents who indicated they did not feel Mason Consolidated Schools' facilities were in need of improvement were asked to explain why. Examples of common responses are sorted below by the respondents' reasoning for why they felt the facilities were not in need of improvements. A complete list of all responses to this question is available in a separate document.

### **Facilities Are In Good Shape**

*All 3 schools are in beautiful shape and serve their purpose for our tiny community and ever shrinking child population. No new items will ever hold up like the current items. Improving the facilities will not help our kids get into college, bring people into the community, or make them more ready for life. No new businesses are coming here to help pay for these upgrades.*

*Buildings last 100s of years and it hasn't changed much since I went there.*

*Doing a great job on their own. Look at the athletic fields.*

*From what I've seen it looks great. Other than the classrooms get hot.*

*Myself I haven't seen anything that called immediate attention to needing improvement.*

*Overall, the place looks very comparable to every other school. I'm sure there are things to fix, that's for leaders to get done and not for the taxpayers to pay 30 years on.*

### **Miscellaneous**

*Because if they would use the ridiculous amount of tax money they already receive to do upkeep on the facility there would be no issues.*

*Fix like you're supposed to 5 years ago, wasted the money once again.*

*The ISD should be downsizing and think of merging resources versus stand-alone facilities.*

*They just need to be maintained. It's stated the buildings are 50 years old, so what. Take care of what WE pay for. Like all of the money spent at North on roof, playground, floors, etc. to just be sold off. Ridiculous and no accountability.*

*Who will pay for it? My taxes are too high already.*

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## Proposed Options

### Recommendations:

- ✔ Over two-thirds of the survey respondents (68.4%) would vote to approve Option 1: Address Priority Needs and 63.4% of survey respondents would vote to approve Option 2: Address Priority Needs and Facility Updates. The other two options received 50.0% or less support and would be difficult to pass under current conditions.
  
- ✔ For Options 1 and 2 there were a variety of reasons survey respondents said they would not support the options or were unsure. Some of the reasons are in the control of the district such as the bond time frame, cost, more upgrades are needed, and need more information. While Mason Consolidated Schools could address several of these concerns, changing the bond time frame, cost, or adding upgrades could result in less support from respondents who previously stated that they would vote for options one and two based off of the information presented in the survey. One area Mason Consolidated Schools could address without decreasing support is providing district residents with more information about the bond proposals.

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## Introduction

Following the rating questions and questions about the performance of Mason Consolidated Schools, respondents were told the following:

“Mason Consolidated Schools operates Mason Central Elementary, Mason Middle School, and Mason Senior High School. These schools, originally built in the 1950s and 1960s—Mason Central Elementary in 1953, Mason Middle School in 1954, and Mason Senior High School in 1960—have served the community well over the years. While they've undergone some updates, the district recognizes the need for more extensive improvements to continue supporting students and staff.

In the summer of 2024, a comprehensive facility assessment was conducted to help better understand where enhancements are needed. This assessment identified several high-priority areas, including secure vestibules, roof replacements, heating and cooling system upgrades, electrical and alarm system improvements, updates to the sanitary systems, and asbestos abatement. As the oldest building in the district, Mason Central Elementary was noted as having exceeded its expected lifespan in both structure and equipment.

The assessment also identified additional opportunities for improvements, such as expanding classrooms at both the middle and high schools, upgrading the high school cafeteria, improving parking lots and sidewalks, replacing ceiling tiles and flooring, upgrading lighting, enhancing non-instructional technology, replacing windows and doors, and addressing a foundation wall issue at the middle school.

These updates are important for ensuring that the schools remain safe, welcoming, and equipped to meet the changing needs of students.”

After explaining the facility conditions in Mason Consolidated Schools, respondents were presented with four different options to address the district's facility needs.

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## **Option 1: Address Priority Needs**

After presenting the current condition of Mason Consolidated Schools facilities, respondents were told the following:

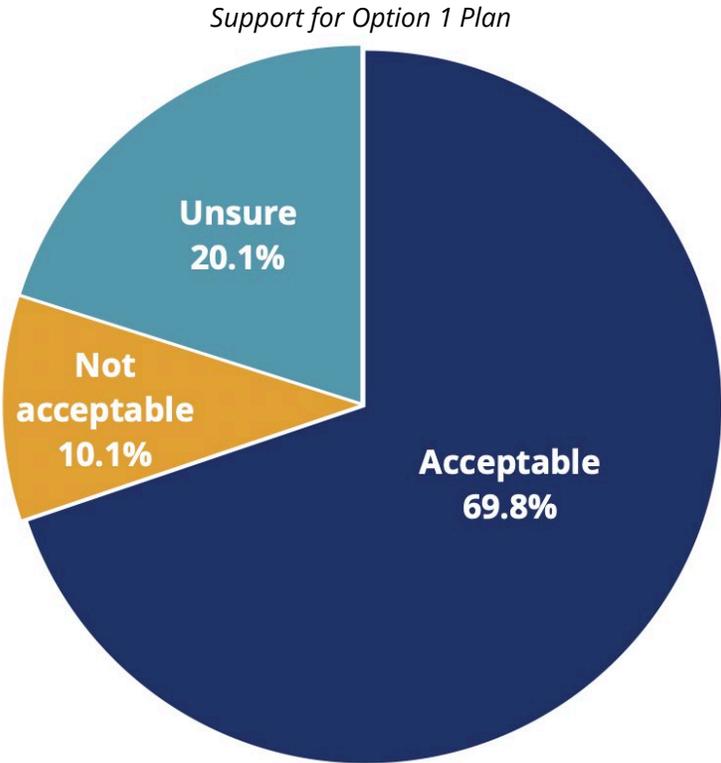
“School board members and district administrators have identified four options for addressing these facility needs. The first option: Address Priority Needs would include essential safety and security updates including asbestos abatement, new fire alarms, and upgraded electrical service in all buildings. In addition, the priority needs include new temperature controls, new ventilation units, and roofing replacement where needed at the middle and high school.

For the elementary and middle school, the priority needs could begin as early as Spring/Summer 2026 and be completed by Fall 2026.

For the high school, the priority needs could begin as early as Spring/Summer 2027 and be completed by Fall 2027.”

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After the first plan to solve these concerns was explained, respondents were asked if they felt the plan was acceptable. The plan was acceptable to over two-thirds of respondents (69.8%), just over 10% of respondents did not find the plan acceptable, and one-fifth (20.1%) of respondents were unsure what they thought about the plan.



*Question: How do you feel about this plan for addressing the district's priority needs?*

**Demographic Considerations – Option 1 – Is the Plan Acceptable?**

Demographic categories with a significantly lower percentage of respondents who felt the plan to address the district's priority needs was acceptable included: age 55-64 (59.3%), have not been in the schools in the past two years (57.8%), no relationship with the district (58.5%)

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Respondents who indicated they did not feel the plan for addressing the district's priority facility needs was acceptable were asked to explain why. Examples of common responses are sorted below by the respondents' reasoning for why the plan is not acceptable. A complete list of all responses to this question is available in a separate document.

### **Band-Aid Solution**

*A band-aid is no longer a reasonable solution. The school needs rebuilt.*  
*All schools are in need of immediate attention now, beyond just the priorities. This is not a long-term solution. This is just a band-aid!*  
*Asbestos seems to be an important and IMMEDIATE need to tackle and the dates should be moved up. I also feel like these plans are just band-aids where we need to put greater efforts into new buildings for our campus and not just repairing them temporarily to bleed out later.*  
*I don't think we can keep putting band-aids on things. I feel as if we should start with a new building. Start with the elementary.*  
*It's just more "band-aids." Real fixes need to finally be made.*  
*Need more help than just band-aids.*  
*Sounds like a band-aid.*

### **More Upgrades Are Needed**

*I do not want to put the money into a building that still needs a lot more work.*  
*I think more needs to be done for our students.*  
*More needs to be done. This will help for a few years and then more issues will need addressed.*  
*Not enough for the school. Way more needed for our kids.*  
*"Safety Updates" I don't think are achievable with outside hallways. The entire setup of the elementary school is unsafe in the day and age we live in. A rebuild would be more appropriate to achieve this goal.*  
*The buildings need more.*  
*The buildings need significant updates, especially the elementary school, sooner than later.*

### **Upgrades Are Needed Sooner**

*I feel that the timeline could be tighter - beginning the "priority" projects two calendar years from now seems like it's not a priority at all.*  
*Needs immediate attention in some cases.*  
*Not soon enough and nothing has been addressed about the lack of cafeteria for junior high.*  
*Priority needs to be sooner than 2-3 years out.*  
*Some of those should be done sooner than 2027.*  
*The high school ventilation and temperature controls need to be completed sooner than that!*  
*The improvements need to happen sooner than 2026 and 2027.*

### **Miscellaneous**

*I have no vested interest in the school, so I don't want to be taxed. If I invest I want more say about the teachers.*  
*Money has already been paid; you waste it.*  
*No improvements for central. Why has central exceeded life? But not the middle school? 1 year difference in age?*

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**Miscellaneous - Continued**

*The school board does not have the experience to make such determinations, or history of trust and transparency. This community cannot afford their delusional planning and is not willing to go broke because board after board and leader after leader has run it into the ground. This small district cannot make or plan for a grand plan to save decades of terrible management. Figure out another plan.*

*Tired of spending money on things the school doesn't even need.*

*You could have fixed some of these problems but felt AC in the "administration office" aka for the superintendent, was more important.*

*Your operational funding and budget planning should be paying for these things over the years. If these fixes are not planned for two years, you've got time to make a plan.*

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### Assessing Option 1: Address Priority Needs

Survey respondents were then informed of the following:

"The total cost for all of these priority needs would be \$12.0 million. The estimated annual cost to Mason Consolidated Schools homeowners for the priority needs listed above would be:

#### Option1: Address Priority Needs

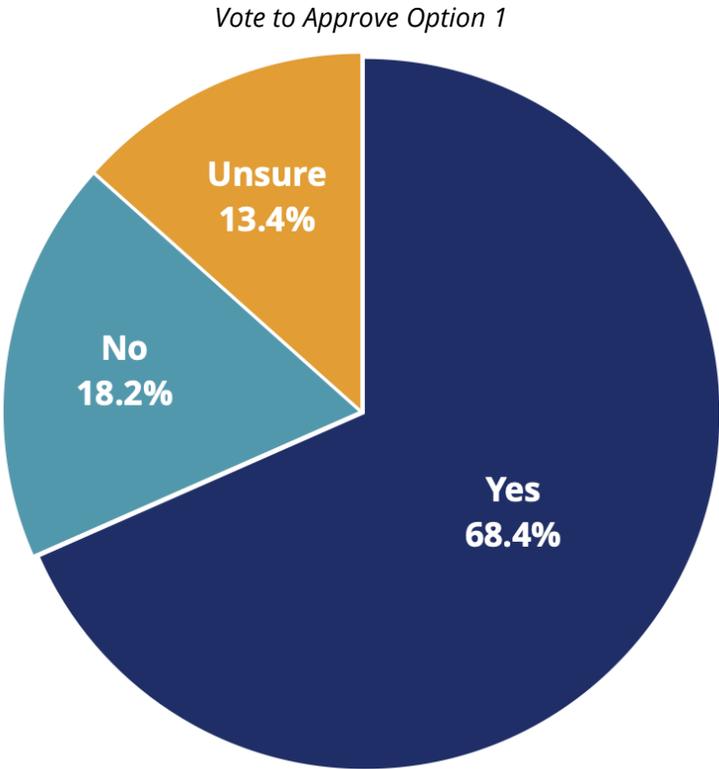
Taxable Value*	Market Value	Annual Cost
\$50,000	\$100,000	\$100.00
\$75,000	\$150,000	\$150.00
\$100,000	\$200,000	\$200.00
\$125,000	\$250,000	\$250.00
\$150,000	\$300,000	\$300.00
\$200,000	\$400,000	\$400.00
\$250,000	\$500,000	\$500.00

*\* Taxable value is approximately half of market value*

This option would increase your property taxes by 2.0 mills."

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After details of Option 1: Address Priority Needs, including its cost to taxpayers, were explained to survey respondents, respondents were then asked if they would vote to approve the bond. Just under two-thirds (68.4%) said they would vote to approve the bond, under one-fifth (18.2%) said they would not approve the bond, and 13.4% of respondents were unsure.



*Question: Would you vote to approve a 30-year bond to pay for addressing the district's priority needs?*

**Demographic Considerations – Option 1 – Support for the Plan**

Demographic categories with a significantly higher percentage of respondents who would vote to approve a 30-year bond to pay for the district's priority needs included: age 35-44 (81.3%), parents with children currently attending Mason Consolidated Schools (80.0%)

Demographic categories with a significantly lower percentage of respondents who would vote to approve a 30-year bond to pay for the district's priority needs included: have not been in the schools in the past two years (53.1%), did not vote in the last school election (56.1%), no relationship with the district (54.7%)

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The respondents who indicated they would not vote for a bond to pay for the district's priority needs or were unsure if they would vote for a bond to pay for the district's priority needs, were asked to explain why. Examples of common responses are sorted below by the respondents' reasoning for why they would not vote for the bond, or why they were unsure if they would vote for the bond. A complete list of all responses to this question is available in a separate document.

### **Bond Time Frame is Too Long**

*30 years, too many years.*

*30 years!?*

*Don't wanna be locked into anything for 30 years. You need to let the people know what the total cost of that \$12 million bond is going to be over 30 years.*

*I feel 30 years is a long time and by the end of the 30 years there will be the things that didn't get done are worse. Also what the bond covered will be old now too. 30 years is too long.*

*Too long of a time frame.*

*Will not approve 30-year bond.*

### **Cost/Taxes**

*12 million dollars for 30 years? You have to be kidding me, right? That is 1/3 of the last bond and it's far more than this community can afford.*

*Being on a fixed income, I cannot afford a \$300 increase in taxes that will most likely increase as the years go by. It's just not financially responsible.*

*Cannot afford.*

*Depending on the economy and what it is like and how money is would depend on if I could afford higher taxes.*

*I am retired on a fixed income. My current property tax is over \$300 a month I couldn't afford the additional tax.*

*I would not vote to approve this because I am already taxed enough for everything else. Including free school lunches for millions of kids that are not mine. I could go further but I think you understand my point. How about we reallocate some financial that we do NOT need (and should not be doing anyway) and let's put that toward things we do need, like building repairs for example.*

*Raising property taxes during inflation is a terrible idea due to many families already struggling.*

*The amount is too high for my family to pay additionally. We are barely getting by as it is. 30 years from now who knows. We need more business support or increased revenue in the area.*

*You are asking for too much.*

### **More Upgrades Needed**

*Are these temporary fixes? Do you just need a new school? At least 1 new and fix the other 2?*

*I feel that the amount that is needed to fix everything wrong with the school, you are better off rebuilding all three schools into one.*

*I will not vote for a band-aid. I will vote yes to rebuild a new school.*

*Not fixing anything, just prolonging the issue.*

*Seems to me, the major fixes are geared towards the middle and high school. I think a bigger issue would be to fix the plumbing in the elementary school.*

*We would just be paying for more band-aids. We're tired of the silly band-aids. Fix it for real.*

*You would be putting money into an improvement that still needs improvement!*

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## Need More Information

*A one page listing on how old the school is and what needs to be done is not enough for me. I would like to ask a few questions. For example, would there be a budget to repair things. Maybe hire more than the one guy to take care of things or someone better. In 30 years from now will we be in the same situation? How much of an increase for non-homestead taxpayers?*

*I need to process the information.*

*I would need more information.*

*Need more details regarding what's needed, nobody likes a blank check.*

*Need more information and time to review.*

*Need more time to read the proposal.*

*What they want to do has not been specified.*

## Miscellaneous

*Again, have they even tried to apply for state offered grants for any of these updates that are being suggested in the bond? Have they put in the work to ease the burden put on taxpayers for a bond?*

*Didn't we just go through this? Where is all of that continuing to go over the years? How about we fund appropriately and show where it has been going over the last 10 years?*

*I do not feel that Mason Consolidated Schools values the voters of this community.*

*My child just started preschool this year. I'm not really familiar with the school district whatsoever.*

*Do I want my taxes going up even more in this economy? No. But I also have no idea how the school has spent money given and I honestly think the government needs to give schools a better budget in general.*

*The district student numbers are not increasing. The district should consider merging with another district, Ida, Bedford, or Monroe. Without an increase in student numbers there is not a reason to spend tax dollars on a losing program. Fiscal responsibility needs to be done.*

*They haven't tried to keep the buildings up as the years passed. Fixing things as the years passed would have been better than waiting until all needs repaired.*

*Why wait until something is fallen apart to fix, hundreds of thousands of dollars went to fix a pool.*

*Why? Money could have been spent more wisely. Management only put a gum fix on things. Now everything is falling apart and expect the community to bail you out.*

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## **Option 2: Address Priority Needs and Facility Updates**

After presenting Option 1: Address Priority Needs, respondents were introduced to Option 2: Address Priority Needs and Facility Updates.

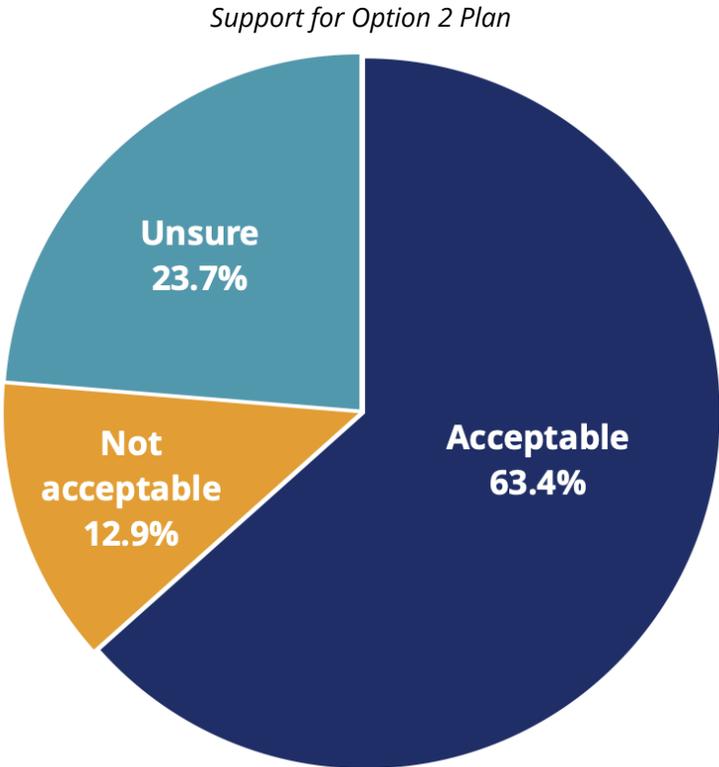
“The second option: Address Priority Needs and Facility Updates would include all of the improvements from the first option “Address Priority Needs” as well as new ventilation units at the elementary school, new doors, ceilings, and lighting at the middle school, and cafeteria upgrades at the high school.

For the elementary and middle school, the priority needs and facility updates could begin as early as Spring/Summer 2026 and be completed by Winter 2026.

For the high school, the priority needs and facility updates could begin as early as Spring/Summer 2027 and be completed by Winter 2027.”

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After the second plan to solve these concerns was explained, respondents were asked if they felt the plan was acceptable. The plan was acceptable to just under two-thirds of respondents (63.4%), just over 10% of respondents (12.9%) did not find the plan acceptable, while just over one-fifth of respondents (23.7%) were unsure what they thought about the plan.



*Question: How do you feel about this plan for addressing the district's priority needs and facility updates?*

**Demographic Considerations – Option 2 – Is the Plan Acceptable?**

Demographic categories with a significantly higher percentage of respondents who felt the plan to address the district's priority needs and facility updates was acceptable included: age 35-44 (76.8%), parents with children currently attending Mason Consolidated Schools (75.2%)

Demographic categories with a significantly lower percentage of respondents who felt the plan to address the district's priority needs and facility updates was acceptable included: age 55-64 (40.7%), age 65-74 (44.6%), have not been in the schools in the past two years (43.8%), no relationship with the district (51.9%)

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Respondents who indicated they did not feel the plan for addressing the district's priority facility needs and facility updates was acceptable were asked to explain why. Examples of common responses are sorted below by the respondents' reasoning for why the plan is not acceptable. A complete list of all responses to this question is available in a separate document.

### **More Upgrades Needed**

*Again, I feel the buildings are needing more attention due to safety of students and this is not the solution.*

*Elementary needs a lot of improvements and elementary kitchen needs a complete overhaul. New tile, dishwasher, etc.*

*I don't think the elementary school is worth the money to put into it, my tax dollars would be better spent on a new building.*

*Not enough still. The elementary needs more than this plan.*

*Our middle school needs a cafeteria. In this day in age, it is not safe for our middle school students to walk to the high school for lunch.*

*We need to start building a new building for at least one of the schools.*

### **Upgrades Are Needed Sooner**

*Needs to be done sooner. (2 respondents)*

*Again, waiting until 2026 to 2027 is too long.*

*Improvements need to be made sooner.*

*Not fast enough.*

*Not soon enough and the issue of no cafeteria in the junior high has NOT been addressed.*

*Once again, needs to be addressed sooner than two years from now.*

*The timeline for critical updates is too far. The children are suffering repercussions now.*

### **Miscellaneous**

*50% poverty? And you're coming for more taxes?*

*Enrollment does not support this plan.*

*I understand the age of the school, however, it seems the school should have addressed/communicated these issues in previous years. Feels like they waited until the building was well beyond repair.*

*No mention of "security." What are the plans to protect the children, teachers, and staff in the event of a "shooter."*

*None of this seems necessary at this moment. Didn't at least 2 of the boilers get completely redone with part of the sinking fund and what not? Why would we suddenly need new HVAC after all of that money was spent? New doors, new ceilings, and lighting? I mean come on.*

*Please explain what is wrong with the current doors, ceilings, and lights.*

*The funds would not be used appropriately.*

*Why isn't ventilation for central a priority need in number 1? It's where the most kids and adults in our district attend! If you didn't pick the proposals apart most wouldn't realize this. Is that the goal?*

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## Assessing Option 2: Address Priority Needs and Facility Updates

Survey respondents were then informed of the following:

“The total cost for all of the priority needs and facility updates would be \$16.0 million. The estimated annual cost to Mason Consolidated Schools homeowners for the improvements from the first option “Address Priority Needs” and the facility updates listed above would be:

### Option 2: Address Priority Needs and Facility Updates

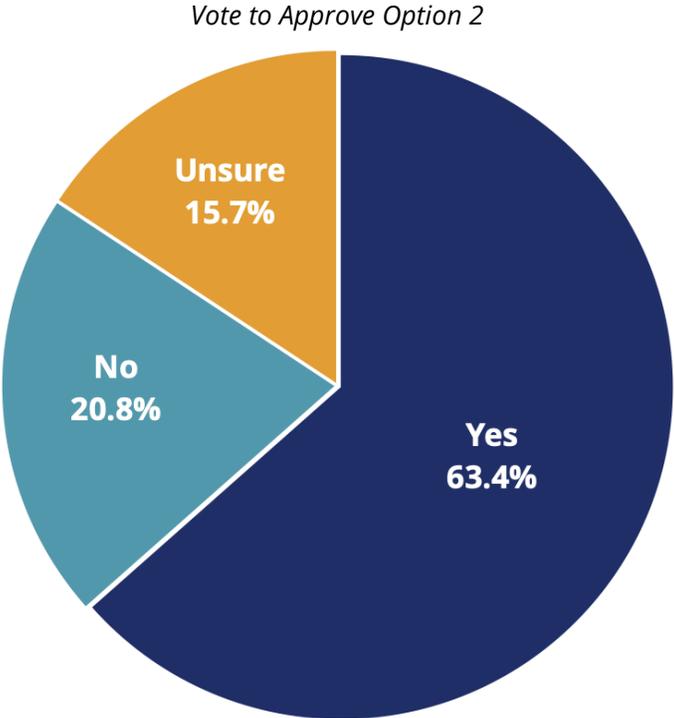
Taxable Value*	Market Value	Annual Cost
\$50,000	\$100,000	\$134.50
\$75,000	\$150,000	\$201.75
\$100,000	\$200,000	\$269.00
\$125,000	\$250,000	\$336.25
\$150,000	\$300,000	\$403.50
\$200,000	\$400,000	\$538.00
\$250,000	\$500,000	\$672.50

*\* Taxable value is approximately half of market value*

This option would increase your property taxes by 2.69 mills.”

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After details of Option 2: Address Priority Needs and Facility Updates, including its cost to taxpayers, were explained to survey respondents, respondents were then asked if they would vote to approve the bond. Just under two-thirds (63.4%) of respondents said they would vote to approve the bond, while one-fifth of respondents (20.8%) said they would not vote to approve the bond, and 15.7% of respondents were unsure.



*Question: Would you vote to approve a 30-year bond to pay for addressing the district's priority needs and facility updates*

**Demographic Considerations - Option 2 - Support for the Plan**

Demographic categories with a significantly higher percentage of respondents who would vote to approve a 30-year bond to pay for the district's priority needs and facility updates included: age 35-44 (74.0%), parents with children currently attending Mason Consolidated Schools (76.6%)

Demographic categories with a significantly lower percentage of respondents who would vote to approve a 30-year bond to pay for the district's priority needs and facility updates included: age 55-64 (50.0%), age 65-74 (48.2%), have not been in the schools in the past two years (45.3%), no relationship with the district (47.2%)

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The respondents who indicated they would not vote for a bond to pay for the district's priority needs and facility updates or were unsure if they would vote for a bond to pay for the district's priority needs and facility updates were asked to explain why. Examples of common responses are sorted below by the respondents' reasoning for why they would not vote for the bond or why they were unsure if they would vote for the bond. A complete list of all responses to this question is available in a separate document.

### **Bond Time Frame is Too Long**

*30 years is too long. You would just keep asking for more.*  
*30 years?!*  
*30-year bond too long.*  
*No 30-year bond.*  
*This board does not have the experience to determine 30 years of costs.*  
*Too many years.*  
*Will not approve 30-year bond.*

### **Cost/Taxes**

*Again, it's an unreasonable amount to ask. We are the poorest district in the county. As well as many families living in mobile homes and lower income housing, they will be contributing little to none. There needs to be money in grants or funds we can apply for to help.*  
*Can't afford more increases.*  
*Cost of living is high right now. We are struggling as it is, without raising property taxes.*  
*I can hardly afford where I live let alone bail out a school that will not serve me.*  
*Like many others in the district, a lot of us are overworked and overtaxed.*  
*No way people could afford \$500 plus on their taxes. I understand the school needs major updates but that's a huge burden on the community.*  
*We are taxed way too much, same as before. It won't pass.*

### **More Upgrades Needed**

*Again, I feel rebuilding the schools into one would be a better option.*  
*I still want to see what other plans are available. I feel the schools would still need more than is listed in the first 2 plans.*  
*Just a band-aid to prolong the indefinite.*  
*More improvements need to be made.*  
*Unfortunately the schools need torn down, especially the elementary.*

### **Need More Information**

*Again, need more information. What updates and priority needs exactly are being proposed per each building? Are there grants available through the state of Michigan that would cover certain updates or priority needs.*  
*I need more information about the facility upgrades and if they are really needed at this time.*  
*That is a bigger jump in taxes, and I do not have kids that attend those schools.*  
*I would need more information to make a decision.*  
*Need facts because lost trust when the last plan was proposed.*  
*Need more information to be sent to taxpayers for review.*  
*Need to read more and ensure the administration handles the funds appropriately.*  
*Unsure until more details are given.*

---

**Miscellaneous**

*Again, there is no growth occurring in the district.*

*Didn't we just go through this? Where HAS all the money been going if we are in such disarray?*

*Who is responsible for allocation? What has been spent over the last 10 years and improved upon?*

*I do not feel that Mason Consolidated Schools values its community members.*

*I don't believe this plan is as necessary as the first one addressed.*

*Money won't be allocated correctly.*

*The guarantee that these would be actually used for updates and who is held accountable for money being used for purposes voted for. Previously money was not spent per approved.*

*Fiscal responsibility.*

*You must address SECURITY. This, in our view, is priority #1.*

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### **Option 3: Address Priority Needs, Facility Updates, and Elementary Improvements**

After presenting Option 2: Address Priority Needs and Facility Updates, respondents were introduced to Option 3: Address Priority Needs, Facility Updates, and Elementary Improvements.

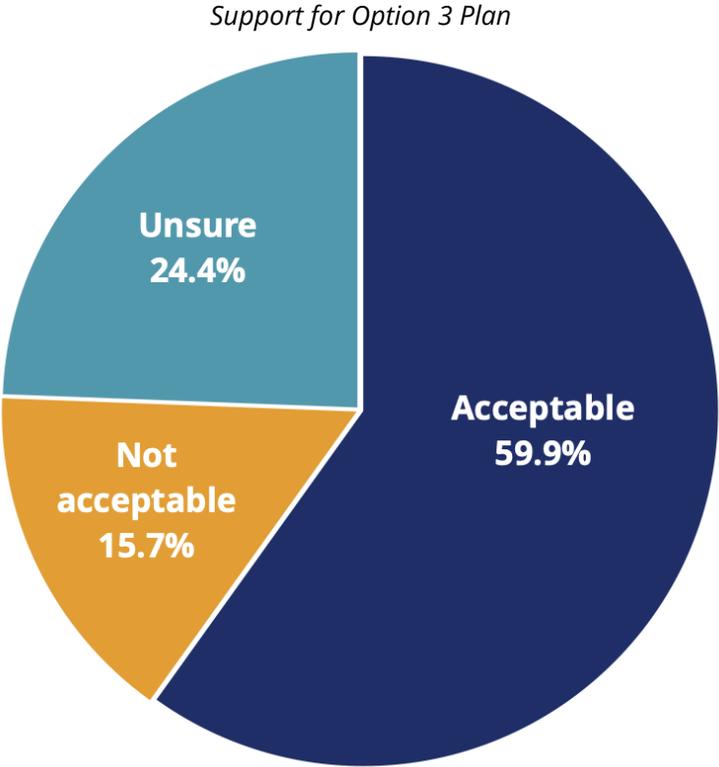
“The third option: Address Priority Needs, Facility Updates, and Elementary Improvements would include all of the improvements from the second option “Address Priority Needs and Facility Updates” as well as elementary school improvements including new temperature controls, lighting, ceilings, classroom doors, classroom furniture, and a new playground. The elementary school improvements would also include updating bathrooms, replacing roofing as needed, and replacing parking areas and sidewalks where needed. This option would also include new classroom furniture at the middle school and high school, as well as new ceilings, lighting, and repaving the student parking lot at the high school.

For the elementary and middle school, the priority needs, facility updates, and elementary improvements could begin as early as Spring/Summer 2026 and be completed by Winter 2026.

For the high school, the priority needs, facility updates, and elementary improvements could begin as early as Spring/Summer 2027 and be completed by Winter 2027.”

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After the third plan to solve these concerns was explained, respondents were asked if they felt the plan was acceptable. The plan was acceptable to just under three-fifths of respondents (59.9%), while 15.7% of respondents did not find the plan acceptable, and just under one-quarter of respondents (24.4%) were unsure what they thought about the plan.



*Question: How do you feel about this plan for addressing the district's priority facility needs, facility updates, and elementary improvements?*

**Demographic Considerations – Option 3 – Is the Plan Acceptable?**

Demographic categories with a significantly higher percentage of respondents who felt the plan to address the district's priority needs, facility updates, and elementary improvements was acceptable included: age 35-44 (75.0%), parents with children currently attending Mason Consolidated Schools (71.7%)

Demographic categories with a significantly lower percentage of respondents who felt the plan to address the district's priority needs, facility updates, and elementary improvements was acceptable included: age 55-64 (42.6%), age 65-74 (42.9%), have not been in the schools in the past two years (43.8%), no relationship with the district (41.5%)

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Respondents who indicated they did not feel the plan for addressing the district's priority facility needs, facility updates, and elementary improvements was acceptable were asked to explain why. Examples of common responses are sorted below by the respondents' reasoning for why the plan is not acceptable. A complete list of all responses to this question is available in a separate document.

### **More Upgrades Needed**

*Again, more improvements need to be made.*

*It does not do enough. Throwing money away into the elementary building.*

*Need new school.*

*Put the money towards 1 new school. Junior high walking across a field for lunch is a huge safety concern. Figure out how to either put a cafeteria in junior high or just rebuild the school and house all levels of education. Elementary, junior, and senior high.*

*Security plans are not addressed. Better doors is NOT enough.*

*We need to build a new school, not just put band-aids on problems.*

### **Unnecessary**

*A lot in there like parking lots that aren't that important.*

*Elementary does NOT need a whole new playground, apply for a grant. Not our tax money. And the school parking lot does not need to be repaved. What NEEDS to happen is taking care of the elementary school first and foremost! They need working bathrooms, and pest control!*

*I believe that just the first plan was sufficient enough and we can worry about the more minor issues when ready and more financially viable.*

*I don't feel a new playground is a necessary improvement.*

*The high school lot does not need to be replaced (yet). The middle school needs more parking options. The playground doesn't need to be replaced, it needs some updates. Very few of these changes are going to promote better education. What's wrong with the bathrooms? Cafeteria does need updating.*

*Too much at once.*

*Way too much.*

### **Upgrades Are Needed Sooner**

*Needs to be done sooner. (3 respondents)*

*Actions are not happening soon enough.*

*See previous comments. Too far off and not fixing the root issues.*

*The delay in time. There is mold, regular bathroom issues, and multiple other critical problems in the elementary school. These updates should not be delayed.*

*Why the delay?*

### **Miscellaneous**

*A lot of work being done at one time. The millage will hurt a lot of people and students. Would be interested to know what kind of preventative maintenance was established. The proposals should have been requested 20-25 years ago in this type of detail.*

*Beyond the ventilation system, what else is for safety? At this point, keep our schools safe, but at the end of the day we have to quit pouring money into these money pit buildings.*

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**Miscellaneous - Continued**

*I don't even know what this will cost me yet and I can already tell that's FAR too much. What is our current enrollment? Based on state numbers, our enrollment continues to plummet because nobody wants their kids going to Mason. Nothing, especially the school, is bringing anyone to this district. Instead, thanks to school of choice, they are leaving in DROVES and this bond will pretty much finish off this school and community and we'll be stuck with it for 30 years.*

*No one can afford this.*

*Seek other funding first. Stop spending money on anything outside of the building, our kids need education. This is a lot of money for our district. fix the basics.*

*These projects will not even start for a few years. Just like every other industry has had to figure out, get this done over the next few years with operational funding.*

*Why are bathrooms that are awful at central not in 1 or 2? Why is the worst last? I get it is old but so is the middle school. PRIORITIES. Any sports getting improvements yet?*

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### Assessing Option 3: Address Priority Needs, Facility Updates, and Elementary Improvements

Survey respondents were then informed of the following:

“The total cost for all of these priority needs, facility updates, and elementary improvements would be \$25.0 million. The estimated annual cost to Mason Consolidated Schools homeowners for the improvements from the second option “Address Priority Needs and Facility Updates” and the elementary improvements listed above would be:

#### Option 3: Address Priority Needs, Facility Updates, and Elementary Improvements

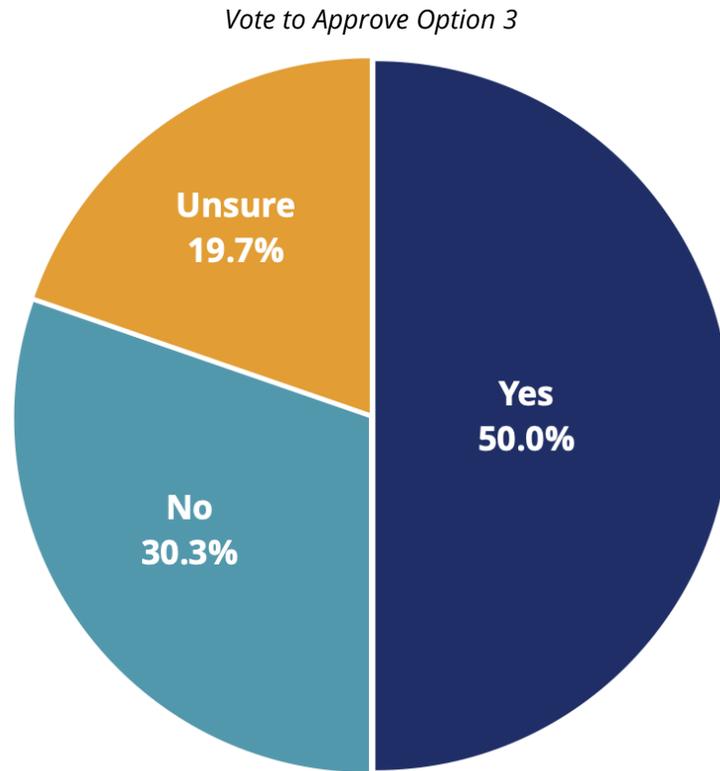
<b>Taxable Value*</b>	<b>Market Value</b>	<b>Annual Cost</b>
\$50,000	\$100,000	\$212.50
\$75,000	\$150,000	\$318.75
\$100,000	\$200,000	\$425.00
\$125,000	\$250,000	\$531.25
\$150,000	\$300,000	\$637.50
\$200,000	\$400,000	\$850.00
\$250,000	\$500,000	\$1,062.50

*\* Taxable value is approximately half of market value*

This option would increase your property taxes by 4.25 mills.”

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After details of Option 3: Address Priority Needs, Facility Updates, and Elementary Improvements, including its cost to taxpayers, were explained to survey respondents, respondents were then asked if they would vote to approve the bond. Half of respondents (50.0%) said they would vote to approve the bond, just under one-third of respondents (30.3%) said they would not approve the bond, and just under one-fifth (19.7%) of respondents were unsure.



*Question: Would you vote to approve a 30-year bond to pay for addressing the district's priority needs, facility updates, and elementary improvements?*

### **Demographic Considerations - Option 3 - Support for the Plan**

Demographic categories with a significantly lower percentage of respondents who would vote to approve a 30-year bond to pay for the district's priority needs, facility updates, and elementary improvements included: age 65-74 (39.3%), have not been in the schools in the past two years (37.5%), did not vote in the last school election (37.9%), no relationship with the district (32.1%)

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The respondents who indicated they would not vote for a bond to pay for the district's priority needs, facility updates, and elementary improvements or were unsure if they would vote for a bond to pay for the district's priority needs, facility updates, and elementary improvements were asked to explain why. Examples of common responses are sorted below by the respondents' reasoning for why they would not vote for the bond or why they were unsure if they would vote for the bond. A complete list of all responses to this question is available in a separate document.

### **Bond Time Frame is Too Long**

*30 years is too long. Start by addressing the needs and safety.*

*30 years!?*

*Figure out how to not make me cover the entire cost over 30 years.*

*No 30-year bond.*

*Too long.*

*Too many years.*

### **Cost/Taxes**

*\$500+ a year is a lot of money even though I'm sure the option is probably essential.*

*Because a \$1,000 tax raise would be a 33% hike in my annual taxes.*

*Cost per house is high for some.*

*Economic hardship.*

*I just can't afford the increase in my taxes. I am on social security and a fixed income.*

*It's a lot of money and I am worried about being able to sell my home in the future with such a large bond. I'm not saying 'no,' I just am unsure at this time.*

*The cost is too high for most people in the community.*

*Too much money and my children will have graduated and will not benefit from this. I will no longer have children in the district.*

*We are a fixed incoming, lower class household. This will not be affordable.*

*You're gonna have to come up with a different way for building repairs without increasing taxes, we are taxed to death. People aren't gonna approve it.*

### **Need More Information**

*Cost is understandable, however, would take a lot of work to be able to pay my property taxes.*

*Need more detail on what will be fixed to come on board.*

*I would have to assess the whole overall proposal in more depth.*

*Need more facts.*

*Need more information to be sent to taxpayers for review.*

*Need to read more and ensure the administration handles the funds appropriately.*

*There would need to be a whole list of itemized expenditures showing why this is necessary. New desks seem to be a want, not a need.*

### **New School Should Be Built**

*How much would it cost for a new building to be built?*

*I will only vote yes for a new school being built.*

*If rebuilding the school is not the next option, this is the best of the four so far.*

*The cost for improvement is too high. It would be better to replace the buildings.*

*We don't need new playgrounds. We need new buildings.*

---

## Unnecessary

*I am not sure all these items are actually necessities.*

*I said no because I don't agree with the priority list that has been presented.*

*Not sure it's necessary to redo the playground.*

*Some of the third option expenses seem unnecessary and with funds not being used for earmarked projects in the past, not sure I trust all this money would go to intended purpose.*

*There are other things that should be done first if asking taxpayers for such a large amount, for instance, a lunchroom at the middle school.*

*Why a new playground? Structural improvements are more important.*

## Miscellaneous

*Again, the costs will increase every year so you're already attempting to minimize the costs to our small district. Which way is it, 50% poverty or able to carry these absurd plans for 30 years?*

*More improvements need to be made.*

*Same reasons as before and Masons board should have been making repairs all along. Maybe the sinking fund money should have been spent better.*

*Seems as though this should start earlier than this.*

*These are very costly repairs that should be covered by taxes. The amount of taxes that are being legally stolen should cover every repair for the schools. Not just Mason, but all schools.*

*Michigan has failed everyone and so has the federal government.*

*Transparency and priorities.*

*With the amount of grants given to school districts for improvements and the aesthetics upgrades that were just done at the high school, it seems ridiculous to increase property taxes this significantly. These safety issues and priority concerns should have been addressed before a new football field.*

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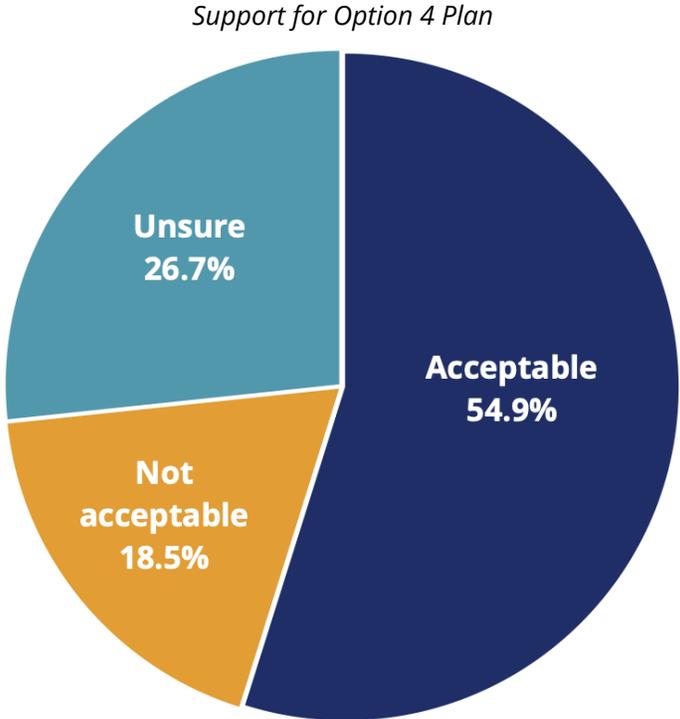
### **Option 4: Address Priority Needs and Classroom Additions to Reconfigure Current Schools to Accommodate PK – 6 and 7 – 12**

After presenting Option 3: Address Priority Needs, Facility Updates, and Elementary Improvements, respondents were introduced to Option 4: Address Priority Needs and Classroom Additions to Reconfigure Current Schools to Accommodate PK – 6 and 7 – 12.

“The fourth option: Address Priority Needs and Classroom Additions to Reconfigure Current Schools to Accommodate PK-6 and 7-12 would include additional classrooms at the middle school and high school to provide sufficient space for grades PK-6 at the middle school and grades 7-12 at the high school. Additionally, a serving kitchen and cafeteria would be added to the middle school to allow all students to eat at the building.

For the elementary and middle school, the priority needs and classroom additions to reconfigure the current middle school to accommodate PK - 6 could begin as early as Spring 2026 and be completed by Spring 2027. For the high school, the priority needs and classroom additions to reconfigure the current high school building to accommodate grades 7 - 12 could begin as early as Spring 2027 and be completed by Spring 2028.”

After the fourth plan to solve these concerns was explained, respondents were asked if they felt the plan was acceptable. The plan was acceptable to just over half of respondents (54.9%), while just under one-fifth of respondents (18.5%) did not find the plan acceptable, and over one-fourth of respondents (26.7%) were unsure what they thought about the plan.



*Question: How do you feel about this plan for addressing the district's priority needs and classroom additions to reconfigure current schools to accommodate PK – 6 and 7 – 12?*

**Demographic Considerations – Option 4 – Is the Plan Acceptable?**

Demographic categories with a significantly higher percentage of respondents who felt the plan to address the district's priority needs and classroom additions to reconfigure current schools to accommodate PK – 6 and 7 – 12 was acceptable included: parents with children currently attending Mason Consolidated Schools (65.5%)

Demographic categories with a significantly lower percentage of respondents who felt the plan to address the district's priority needs and classroom additions to reconfigure current schools to accommodate PK – 6 and 7 – 12 was acceptable included: no relationship with the district (34.0%)

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Respondents who indicated they did not feel the plan for addressing the district's priority needs and classroom additions to reconfigure current schools to accommodate PK – 6 and 7 – 12 was acceptable were asked to explain why. Examples of common responses are sorted below by the respondents' reasoning for why the plan is not acceptable. A complete list of all responses to this question is available in a separate document.

### **Disagree With PK – 6 and 7 – 12 In The Same Buildings**

*6th graders do not belong in the same building as Preschoolers and 7th graders do not belong in the same building as seniors in high school.*

*7th grade with 12th graders is not a good idea.*

*Don't feel that grades 7-12 should be together in same building.*

*I do not appreciate the way the children are being split or the appropriate ages/locations.*

*I don't like the building's handling that many grades. It takes away from the transitions students make to each building. Increase in behaviors and exposure for younger students.*

*Pre-K through 6th grades should NOT be in the same building! Same for 7th and 8th grades being with high school students. This is unacceptable!*

*Who in their right mind would put 7th graders with seniors?*

### **Dropping Enrollment**

*Adding rooms with dropping enrollment?*

*Enrollment is declining, asking for too much.*

*The school has the lowest numbers in decades, and you want to add space? You want to add operations that will cost more to manage when you cannot manage operations or a budget now? No one trusts you with more and, more importantly, this district cannot afford uncapped bonds. We are too small and it's too risky for 30 years. This is ludicrous thinking. I do not trust your leadership or your ability to execute anything as planned, or worse, to be able to manage it.*

*There are less than 32 school age children who reside outside of the subsidized housing complex in Luna Pier. Those families in subsidy are statistically transitional. This plan does not have the current or future enrollment numbers to justify the plans as written.*

*This plan is absolutely ridiculous. Volumes are declining every single year, you cannot maintain the buildings you have, and you want to add space?*

### **Upgrades Are Needed Sooner**

*Needs to be done sooner. (3 respondents)*

*Timeline again. And put that money towards a new campus and not expanding one that is outdated and unsafe.*

### **Miscellaneous**

*A lunchroom at the middle school should be more of a priority. This is a safety issue.*

*Buildings are already struggling. It sounds like this would shut the elementary school down and shift grades between middle and high school to accommodate.*

*Just leave things how they are.*

*Security is not addressed. This option is too rich for our district.*

*That is more money than I would vote to approve. The school improvements would happen if we had better township representation that would responsibly grow a community. Then the burden would not be only on residents but share it with businesses.*

---

**Miscellaneous – Continued**

*Too much at once. Better to do it in stages. Once you start opening stuff up, who knows what else will be needed.*

*We do not need a kitchen in the middle school. As a student, a parent of a student, a grandparent of a student, and a great grandparent of a student of Mason Consolidated Schools I enjoyed the outdoor experience and break of walking to the high school for band, lunch, and PE swimming. We were not bused in the rain either. It was a mentally enjoyable experience with your friends and fellow students and teachers/classroom aides and for me.*

---

**Assessing Option 4: Address Priority Needs and Classroom Additions to Reconfigure Current Schools to Accommodate PK – 6 and 7 – 12**

Survey respondents were then informed of the following:

“The total cost for all of these priority needs and classroom additions to reconfigure current schools to accommodate PK – 6 and 7 - 12 would be \$30.0 million. The estimated annual cost to Mason Consolidated Schools homeowners for addressing the priority needs and classroom additions to reconfigure current schools to accommodate PK – 6 and 7 - 12 would be:

**Option 4: Address Priority Needs and Classroom Additions to Reconfigure Current Schools to Accommodate PK - 6 and 7 - 12**

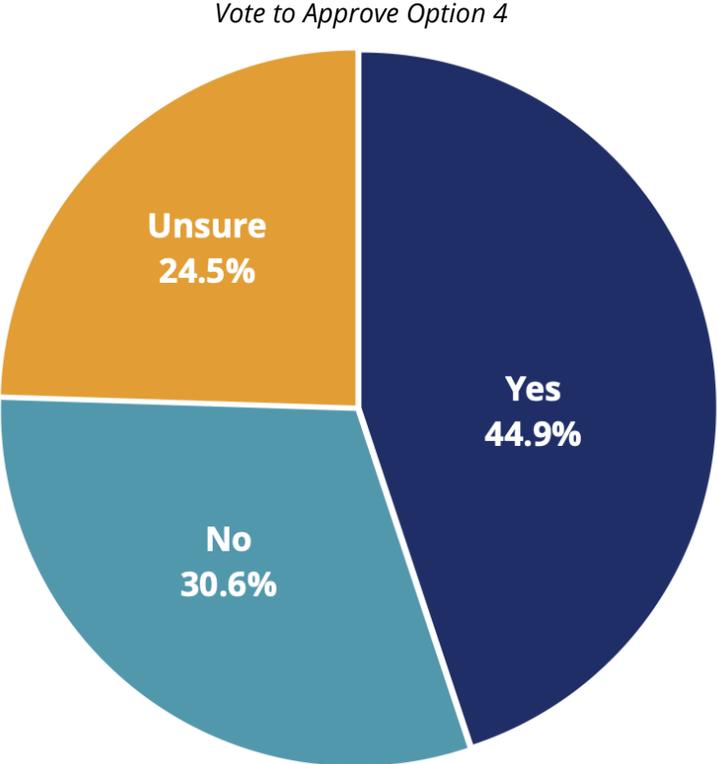
<b>Taxable Value*</b>	<b>Market Value</b>	<b>Annual Cost</b>
\$50,000	\$100,000	\$237.50
\$75,000	\$150,000	\$356.25
\$100,000	\$200,000	\$475.00
\$125,000	\$250,000	\$593.75
\$150,000	\$300,000	\$712.50
\$200,000	\$400,000	\$950.00
\$250,000	\$500,000	\$1,187.50

*\* Taxable value is approximately half of market value*

This option would increase your property taxes by 4.75 mills.”

---

After details of Option 4: Address Priority Needs and Classroom Additions to Reconfigure Current Schools to Accommodate PK – 6 and 7 – 12, including its cost to taxpayers, were explained to survey respondents, respondents were then asked if they would vote to approve the bond. Less than half of respondents (44.9%) said they would vote to approve the bond, almost one-third of respondents (30.6%) said they would not approve the bond, and one-quarter of respondents (24.5%) were unsure.



*Question: Would you vote to approve a 30-year bond to pay for addressing the district's priority needs and classroom additions to reconfigure current schools to accommodate PK – 6 and 7 – 12?*

**Demographic Considerations – Option 4 – Support for the Plan**

Demographic categories with a significantly lower percentage of respondents who would vote to approve a 30-year bond to pay for the district's priority needs and classroom additions to reconfigure current schools to accommodate PK – 6 and 7 – 12 included: have not been in the schools in the past two years (30.2%), no relationship with the district (26.4%)

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The respondents who indicated they would not vote for a bond to pay for the district's priority needs and classroom additions to reconfigure current schools to accommodate PK – 6 and 7 – 12 or were unsure if they would vote for a bond to pay for the district's priority needs and classroom additions to reconfigure current schools to accommodate PK – 6 and 7 – 12 were asked to explain why. Examples of common responses are sorted below by the respondents' reasoning for why they would not vote for the bond or why they are unsure if they would vote for the bond. A complete list of all responses to this question is available in a separate document.

### **Cost/Taxes**

*Again, the cost is too high.*

*At a cost of almost \$600 a year for a \$250,000 home is steep for someone over 65 and retired.*

*Cost and reliability of work done.*

*It's just expensive. Why weren't these issues addressed instead of unnecessary updates that the high school did not need? Just doesn't make sense to me.*

*Once again, taxes and the amount of inflation is hurting everyone right now.*

*That is quite an increase in taxes for the next thirty years.*

*This would be a great plan, but it is too expensive financially for the next 30 years.*

*Unsure we can afford additional taxes.*

*We are at retirement age and not sure if this amount would fit in our budget.*

*While extremely valuable and important needs, the price is growing too steep for one family to pay an additional \$600+ for 30 years.*

### **Disagree With the Plan**

*Do not approve plan.*

*I do not agree with this option.*

*I do not believe young kids should be in same school as older children.*

*I don't think kids should be in the same school with such a wide range of ages. Leaves too much room for influence, more bullying, unsafe environments for smaller children, younger children to feel uncomfortable.*

*Not a fan of 7-12. I like the middle school but would love for lunch to be there.*

*Not sure I like the idea of 6th graders with Pre-K and 12th graders with 7th graders.*

*Point 1 - I don't agree with the students being in just two buildings. It is a terrible idea to have such a big age range in each building. Point 2 - it is too much money.*

*The plan with improvements to the elementary is less than this plan to get rid of it and would still allow for the current divide of K-5, 6-8, and 9-12.*

### **Need More Information**

*Again, not enough information. Again, need more information on what updates and priority needs exactly are being proposed per each building and the price change for each addition.*

*Planning for the future what is the pupil count year over year? Are there grants available through the state of Michigan that would cover certain updates or priority needs.*

*Central Elementary would be demolished? I need more information to approve of this plan.*

*I would need more information on how this is being done. Some potential lay out options and what exactly the new configuration entails. Also, I would like to know where the students would be attending school while the project is taking place.*

*Just wondering about other options such as a new building. Why has it gotten this bad? Why haven't these things been addressed as they happened?*

---

**Need More Information – Continued**

*Need more information about how this will look.*

*Not enough transparency on any other future needs. Will the school need more money for more updates in the next 5-10 years? Some building plans for the expansion option? Which option is the best bang for the buck? Can we get a cost breakdown for each “job”? I need some justification as to why the most expensive option would also be the best option. Would need to understand costs by line item.*

**Miscellaneous**

*Enrollment is low.*

*If the economy changes and prices are reduced elsewhere then it wouldn't be an issue.*

*It's an older building, we will have to go through this again if the numbers ever increase.*

*Tear down and build new schools.*

*These plans are more than what is needed and minimal to no effort was put into other options that would not be on the backs of residents for 30 years. When will leaders understand this tax base cannot support uncapped bonds for 30 years?*

*Unfeasible for district residents.*

*You should have put money into the elementary and not just the high school.*

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# Information

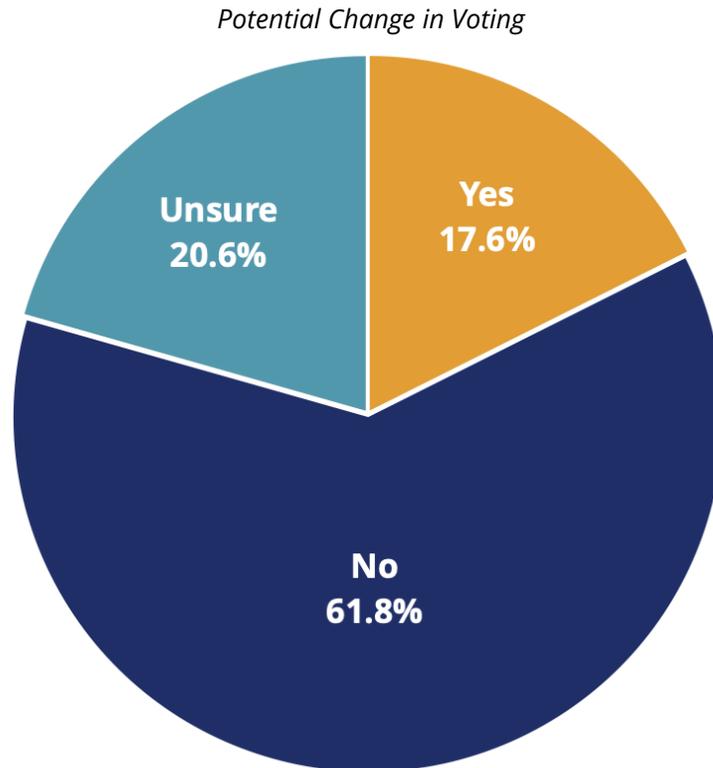
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## Potential Reasons Votes Could Change

Respondents were asked if they felt there was any reason their vote could change between now and May 2025. Almost two-thirds of respondents (61.8%) indicated that how they would vote in May 2025 would not change. Just under one-fifth of respondents (17.6%) indicated that how they would vote in May 2025 could change, and a similar percentage of respondents (20.6%) were unsure.



*Question: Mason Consolidated Schools is considering putting this bond request on the ballot in May 2025. Is there any reason how you vote on this bond request in May 2025 could change from how you answered this survey today?*

### Demographic Considerations – Potential That Respondents Vote Could Change

Demographic categories with a significantly lower percentage of respondents who thought their vote would not change by May 2025 included: have not been in the schools in the past two years (46.9%)

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Respondents who indicated how they vote in the May 2025 election could change were asked how their vote might change. Examples of common responses are sorted below by the respondents answer to how their vote might change. A complete list of all responses to this question is available in a separate document.

### **Need More Information**

*At this point I am in support, but I have not yet discussed or processed the need and the proposal with others who have further information and details. Also, need to see where we are financially at that time and whether we can afford the increase in our taxes.*

*Further details on the work to be completed/not completed, plus the economic outlook in the near future may sway my vote on if it is feasible for my family financially.*

*I need more information on what each plan would entail (specific details on what upgrades are needed and how this will improve the schools). If the upgrades are only a band-aid and not a solution, I'd rather go with the option that will be a long-term solution, even if it's the more expensive option (because in the long run, it will be more cost effective).*

*I would definitely want to see the layouts of the buildings to understand how the new flow would work. I would also vote yes for a brand new school if that became an option.*

*If I had more detailed information about the selection options.*

*More information and details of what is to be done.*

*Need more specific info to review and want improvements to start sooner than later.*

*With more information I would make the best choice for the community and my family. The schools need improvements, but I want to see more of the plan to know what one would be best.*

### **Miscellaneous**

*Anything is possible when voting.*

*Adding more items to the wish list.*

*Grants, state assistance, anything.*

*If cost of living decreases, that would be helpful. Also, it would be helpful if the school was mindful of how often they ask for money. I don't want my kids to miss out, but the amount we pay for sports, towards making raffle baskets, providing team dinners, fundraisers, etc. all adds up.*

*If the actual cost rises. If my home is revalued much higher for some reason. If anyone in my household loses their job.*

*If we haven't gone after all state grant money first I won't vote for the any of these options, so the community needs to be addressed. I will vote to make schools better all the time because our future is with our younger generation, but we need to do a better job keeping up on maintenance, so it doesn't become overwhelming.*

*Why are we not building a school to accommodate PK-5 and then a Jr. high/high school?*

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## Other Comments

All respondents were asked if they had any other comments about Mason Consolidated Schools that had not been talked about. Examples of common responses are sorted below by similar comment types. A complete list of all responses to this question is available in a separate document.

### Concerns About District Leadership

*I agree with option 3 but do not think it is as important to do a new playground for the elementary school. There are other major issues with the school that need to be addressed before a new playground is put in. The community of Mason Consolidated Schools is strong. I believe that if the Board of Education works with the community, accepts the community's input, works alongside the community, and truly listens to what the community has to say and offer, this bond should be smooth sailing. For far too long the Board of Education/Mason Schools and the public have not seen eye to eye. I believe this is due to the lack of communication to the public and the public does not feel heard. There are many giving people within this community that can make this bond happen and provide a great learning environment for our kids. The school needs to be open to the public's input and accepts suggestions and constructive criticism to make this happen. The public needs to feel heard. At this time, the public does not feel heard.*

*I have always liked Mason schools, and it is a shame that the boards have not accomplished more than they did. The window replacements were a beautifying and very nice addition - 20 years ago! Since then it's been band-aids and duct tape. I feel bad for the chaos it is in now.*

*Teacher retention should also be considered. The turnover there at Mason is far too high. We had amazing teachers for many years and we're very proud of those teachers. Many of them are now gone or considering leaving. Something needs to be done about this. Look at your administration and ask why you are losing such good teachers.*

*We cannot trust this school or the board. The endless stream of lies that came out during the last bond scam tells me that I should never support this school financially ever again. The wasteful spending over the years has proven that people with zero financial or corporate backgrounds can't handle our money.*

*What HAVE we been doing that led us here? These are our only options? Seems like someone needs to address the ones making decisions.*

### Cost/Economy

*Appreciate the frustration of trying to make improvements whilst dealing with high inflation causing this to cost more and more each year. It's terrible that monies that were supposed to be allocated to our schools (ex. lottery) aren't.*

*I appreciate the schools putting together this survey. I believe everyone in this school district recognizes the need to upgrade the school buildings, however, the reality of our economy may cause even the supports to reject a bond. Whatever the outcome of the proposal is, I expect the school district to put together a comprehensive maintenance plan and follow through with it.*

*Need a new plan that won't be a financial burden, that people can afford in this economy, and it doesn't last 30 years because who knows what's gonna happen in 30 years to the school. Taxes are already too high!*

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### **Cost/Economy – Continued**

*The entire township understands that there are needs to keep our school running but it seems as if the economic makeup of the community isn't really being looked at. Having a 30-40% increase in taxes seems to be ridiculous when we are talking about a low income/farm community.*

*The price of the improvements is clearly over charged. Ask anyone with common sense.*

*You are asking for 30-year commitments, too much for this community. There are a lot of middle to elderly who can't commit.*

### **Facilities Need Updated**

*A/C needs added.*

*Great complex, just fix/upgrade where appropriate. Don't ask for a blank check.*

*I believe option 4 would be the best option of all. The elementary needs to have individual rooms instead of the current set up where they have to walk through other rooms during the school day.*

*I prefer the last option. Putting band-aids on the elementary is wasteful. One less building to heat, etc. would be more fiscally responsible. That being said, SOMETHING needs to be done.*

*Therefore, I would vote yes for any improvements.*

*I would love to see the schools updated in a significant way.*

*Pay attention to ALL students. Start fixing things that should have been easily fixed long ago.*

*The schools are old and need many improvements. Hopefully people will see the need.*

*We definitely need all these upgrades as soon as possible.*

*Whatever option is chosen, updates and upgrades must be made to school facilities asap. Our students should be our priority. And we as parents and grandparents are willing to help.*

### **Need More Information**

*I would like a meeting with this information given out with more detail and drawings of the said enhancements.*

*I would like to know why we can't get some help from the state to help the district make the improvements it needs to make without putting the entire burden on district residents.*

*I would love to have a meeting about this where questions could be asked.*

*Just wondering with option 4, what happens to the elementary? Torn down? Or repurposed?*

*More information about the conditions should be shared with the community.*

*To pass this millage, there should be a lot of publicity, community outreach, a question and answer meeting for the community, and literature available to all residents on plans.*

*Would like more info.*

### **New Schools Should Be Built**

*Find a way to build a new school.*

*How much more would it be to build new schools for our district?*

*It seems we could tear down all the buildings and start fresh for 12 million dollars!*

*My opinion is all three schools should be torn down and new ones built. Do them in stages. But I don't think you could get the money from the community. Not even sure we would be able to put the additional tax increase in our budget.*

*Our children deserve the best. I know our community is not always behind that, but I believe we should always have that option open to build new. If presented correctly maybe the community would come around.*

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### **New Schools Should Be Built – Continued**

*Personally, I feel we need new schools instead of keeping on patching the old. Eventually a new school will be needed and the longer we wait the more expensive it will get.*

*Please get rid of the outdated building and build new schools!*

### **Praise for Mason Consolidated Schools**

*Great school, my daughter graduated in 2023.*

*I appreciate the new leadership in place. The current board, superintendent, and administration are very transparent. I respect the educational improvements that have been made and continue to be made. I appreciate that I can contact administrators with questions and get answers.*

*I graduated from Mason as did my husband, our children, and now grandchildren. I would like to see the Mason pride we all feel.*

*Keep up the good work.*

*Mason Schools are wonderful and are worth every penny needed to accomplish an improved school system. Our youth are our future residents and leaders of our community. They deserve to have a safe, accommodating environment and the best resources at their disposal.*

*Teachers and staff are great.*

### **Miscellaneous**

*As stated, I am more than willing and happy to invest in the future of our community but do it right.*

*How about you pay a bit more attention to un-needed expenditures and less attention to high school football.*

*I am happy to support the schools financially, but it would be important to me that the whole process from start to end was transparent.*

*I would support this bond. I personally like the last one the best.*

*It is a shame that it has taken so long for our community to vote yes on improving our schools.*

*My children graduated 20+ years ago. I am no longer in the schools. Why has it taken so long to address the issues to residents without children in the building? Education and safety should be top priority for our students. I appreciate this survey and will reach out for additional detail.*

*Overall, I would support school improvements. Just want to spend money on things that will last.*

*Don't invest in something that you will tear down in the near future. The schools should be safe and conducive to learning in our ever challenging environment and world.*

*Please quit putting money into just one school, spread the wealth and put more money into the middle and elementary school.*

*School needs to listen to the public and communicate with the public. There is a lack of trust within the community and school.*

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## Survey Methodology

The Mason Consolidated Schools 2024 Community Survey included 26 questions on a variety of topics, including: awareness and perception of Mason Consolidated Schools, communications, satisfaction with Mason Consolidated Schools, residents' opinions on bond proposal options, and demographic information. The survey was developed based on input from Mason Consolidated Schools. Perspectives Consulting Group, Inc. assembled and ordered the survey questions.

The population surveyed was specifically limited to residents of Mason Consolidated Schools. The survey was open to the public from September 23 – October 4, 2024. The survey was completed by 363 residents of the Mason Consolidated School district. All respondents were at least 18 years old.

Based on the number of households in the Mason Consolidated School district and the number of survey completions, a confidence level and confidence interval can be calculated. In statistical terms, the confidence level is the likelihood that, if the survey were replicated, the results would be the same. The confidence level for this survey is 95.0%, meaning that 95 times out of 100 this survey would produce substantially the same results as achieved this time.

The confidence interval is the range that any answer could vary from the actual value. This is the “+/- xxx percent” margin of error value that pollsters reference. In this case, the 2024 Community Survey has a confidence interval of +/- 4.8%. Therefore, the answers provided by respondents are within plus or minus 4.8% of the actual value. When comparing the responses from any two questions, any difference of less than 9.6% needs to be examined carefully, since statistically the difference could be considered negligible.

Throughout this report, responses from survey respondents are displayed in italic. All of the responses are presented exactly as submitted and have not been edited to allow you to reach your own conclusion as to the meaning and intent of the survey respondent.

Ideally, the survey respondents participating in this survey would reflect the population of the Mason Consolidated Schools district as a whole. Since the survey was an online opt-in survey, and anyone over 18 living in the Mason Consolidated Schools district could take the survey, the survey respondents did not reflect the population of the Mason Consolidated Schools district as a whole.

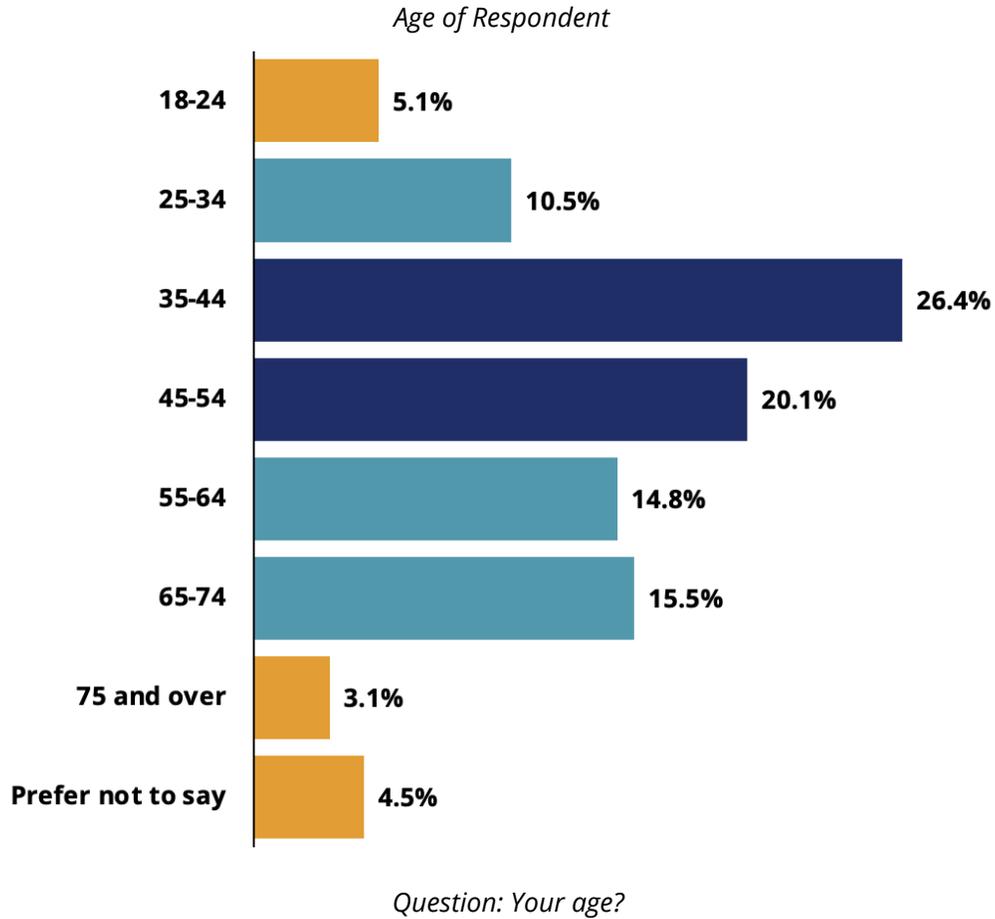
In particular, the number of survey respondents with children currently attending Mason Consolidated Schools was not proportional to the number of households that would have children currently attending public schools. Approximately one-and-a-third times as many surveys were received from households with children attending Mason Consolidated Schools (53.4%) as would be expected based on the number of households with children currently attending public schools in Monroe County (40.0%). Also, the proportion of male to female respondents was not consistent with what would be expected. Approximately one-and-a-quarter times as many surveys were received from women (63.4%) as would be expected based on the population of Monroe County (50.0%).

Using a weighting process, all of the survey responses received were weighted to reflect the appropriate proportion of households with children attending Mason Consolidated Schools and the proportion of men and women in Monroe County. The percentage responses to each question in the report reflect using the weighted data. Although the data was weighted to determine the percentage responses to each question, responses to open-ended questions received from all survey respondents are included in this report.

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## Respondent Profile

All respondents were asked to indicate their age. The ages of the respondents ranged from age 35-44 at 26.4% to age 75 and over at 3.1%.



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## Demographic Considerations – Age of Respondent

The significant differences by age of the respondent are summarized below. An up arrow (↑) indicates a higher or greater difference, while a down arrow (↓) indicates a lower or lesser difference. There were not enough survey respondents ages 18-24, 25-34, and 75 and over to determine if significant differences existed for those age groups.

### Age 35-44

- ↑ Would vote to approve Option One
- ↑ Feel that the plan for Option Two is acceptable
- ↑ Would vote to approve Option Two
- ↑ Feel that the plan for Option Three is acceptable

### Age 55-64

- ↓ Feel Mason Consolidated Schools are fiscally responsible
- ↓ Feel that Mason Consolidated Schools are communicating well
- ↓ Feel that the plan for Option One is acceptable
- ↓ Feel that the plan for Option Two is acceptable
- ↓ Would vote to approve Option Two
- ↓ Feel that the plan for Option Three is acceptable

### Age 65-74

- ↓ Feel that the plan for Option Two is acceptable
- ↓ Would vote to approve Option Two
- ↓ Feel that the plan for Option Three is acceptable
- ↓ Would vote to approve Option Three

All respondents were asked to indicate their relationship with Mason Consolidated Schools. The largest percentage of respondents indicated that they graduated from Mason Consolidated Schools (44.9%), followed by 39.9% of respondents who had at least one child currently attending Mason Consolidated Schools.

*Relationship with Mason Consolidated Schools*

	<b>% Total</b>
I graduated from Mason Consolidated Schools	44.9%
I am the parent of one or more children currently attending Mason Consolidated Schools	39.9%
I am the parent of one or more children who have graduated from Mason Consolidated Schools	37.3%
I am an employee of Mason Consolidated Schools	6.5%
I currently attend Mason Consolidated Schools	0.5%
None of the above apply to me	14.6%

*Question: Please check ALL of the following statements that may describe you:*

*\* The percent total equals more than 100% as respondents could select multiple answers.*

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## **Demographic Considerations – Relationship with Mason Consolidated Schools**

The significant differences by relationship with Mason Consolidated Schools are summarized below. An up arrow (↑) indicates a higher or greater difference, while a down arrow (↓) indicates a lower or lesser difference.

### **Parents with Children Currently Attending Mason Consolidated Schools**

- ↑ Would vote to approve Option One
- ↑ Feel that the plan for Option Two is acceptable
- ↑ Would vote to approve Option Two
- ↑ Feel that the plan for Option Three is acceptable
- ↑ Feel that the plan for Option Four is acceptable

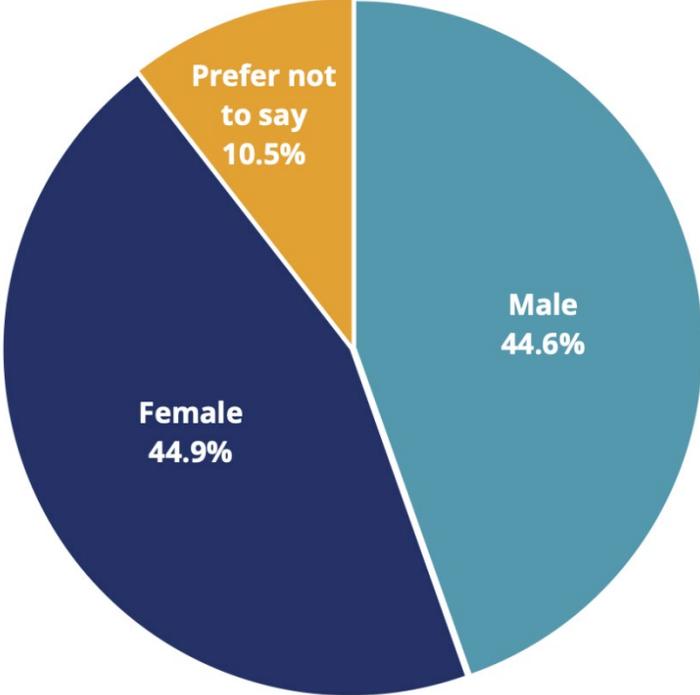
### **No Relationship With the District**

- ↓ Feel that Mason Consolidated Schools' facilities need improvement
- ↓ Feel that the plan for Option One is acceptable
- ↓ Would vote to approve Option One
- ↓ Feel that the plan for Option Two is acceptable
- ↓ Would vote to approve Option Two
- ↓ Feel that the plan for Option Three is acceptable
- ↓ Would vote to approve Option Three
- ↓ Feel that the plan for Option Four is acceptable
- ↓ Would vote to approve Option Four

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All respondents were asked their gender. 44.9% were female, 44.6% were male, and 10.5% of respondents did not provide their gender.

*Gender of Respondent*



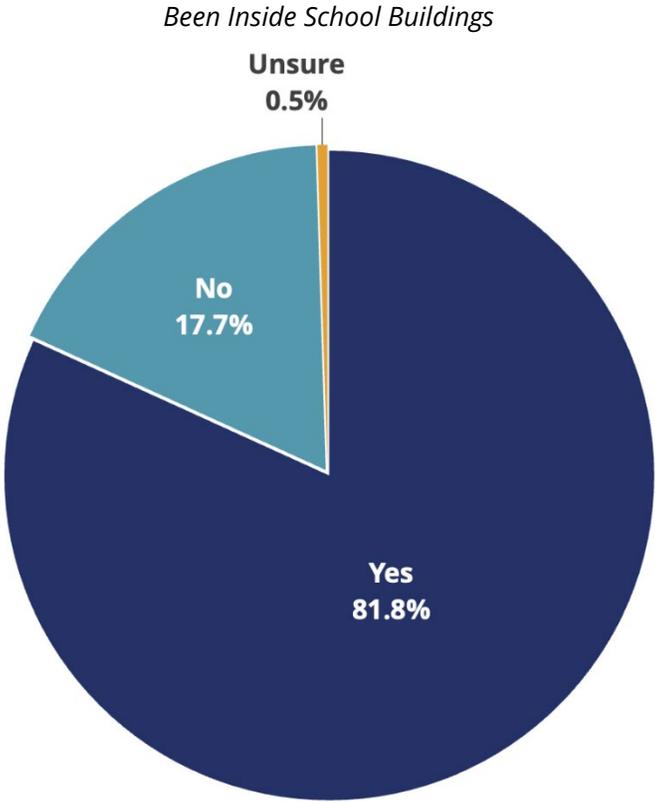
*Question: Your Gender:*

**Demographic Considerations – Gender of Respondent**

There were no significant differences between males and females.

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All respondents were asked to indicate whether they had been inside of any of Mason Consolidated Schools' school buildings in the past two years. More than four-fifths of respondents (81.8%) had been, 17.7% had not, and 0.5% were unsure.



*Question: In the past two years, have you been inside an of Mason Consolidated Schools' school buildings?*

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## Demographic Considerations – Been Inside School Buildings

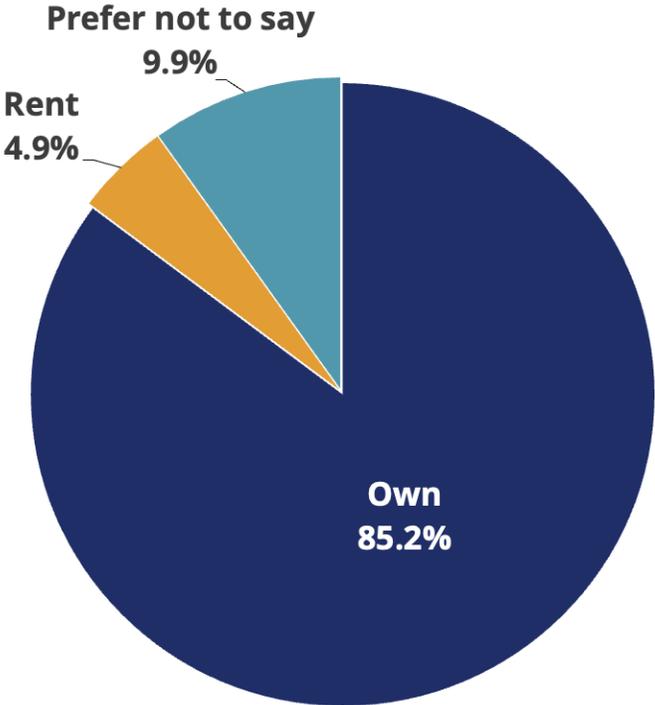
The significant differences by the respondent not having been inside any of Mason Consolidated Schools' buildings in the past two years are summarized below. An up arrow (↑) indicates a higher or greater difference, while a down arrow (↓) indicates a lower or lesser difference.

- ↓ Feel that Mason Consolidated Schools' facilities need improvement
- ↓ Feel that the plan for Option One is acceptable
- ↓ Would vote to approve Option One
- ↓ Feel that the plan for Option Two is acceptable
- ↓ Would vote to approve Option Two
- ↓ Feel that the plan for Option Three is acceptable
- ↓ Would vote to approve Option Three
- ↓ Would vote to approve Option Four
- ↓ Vote will not change by May 2025

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All respondents were asked to indicate whether they rented or owned their home. The vast majority of respondents (85.2%) indicated that they owned their homes, while 4.9% indicated that they rented, and 9.9% did not provide information on their home ownership.

*Home Ownership*



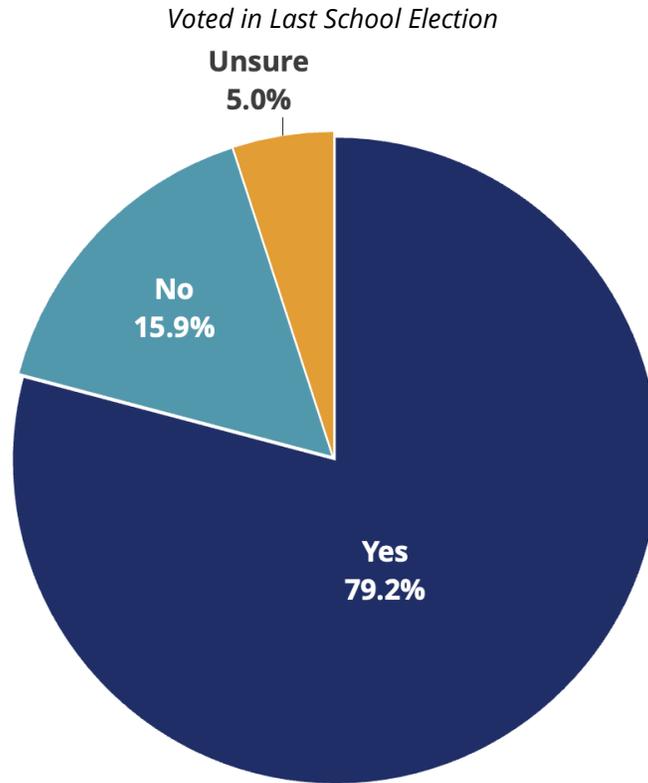
*Question: Do you own or rent your home?*

**Demographic Considerations - Own Home**

There were not enough survey respondents who were renters to determine significant differences between homeowners and renters.

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All respondents were asked to indicate whether they had voted in the March 2020 school facilities election. Almost four-fifths of respondents (79.2%) indicated that they had, while 15.9% of respondents indicated they had not, and 5.0% were unsure.



*Question: Did you vote in the last Mason Consolidated Schools Facilities election in March 2020?*

### **Demographic Considerations – Voted in 2020 Facilities Election**

The significant differences in respondents who did not vote in the last Mason Consolidated Schools facilities election in March 2020 are summarized below. An up arrow (↑) indicates a higher or greater difference, while a down arrow (↓) indicates a lower or lesser difference.

- ↓ Would vote to approve Option One
- ↓ Would vote to approve Option Three

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## 2024 Community Survey Instrument

Mason Consolidated Schools is asking for your opinion about facility improvements in the district. This brief survey is anonymous, as the results will be tabulated by Perspectives Consulting Group, Inc., an independent market research firm.

### 1. Are you a resident of the Mason Consolidated Schools district?

- Yes
- No

We appreciate your willingness to take part in this survey; however, we are only asking for feedback from people who live in the Mason Consolidated Schools district, as we are specifically looking at the issues that will impact district residents.

### 2. Are you age 18 or older?

- Yes
- No

We appreciate your willingness to take part in this survey; however, you must be 18 years old to participate in this survey.

### 3. Overall, what grade would you give Mason Consolidated Schools – an A, B, C, D, or F?

- A  B  C
- D, why? \_\_\_\_\_
- F, why? \_\_\_\_\_
- Unsure

### 4. Do you feel Mason Consolidated Schools are fiscally responsible?

- Yes
- No, why not? \_\_\_\_\_
- Unsure

### 5. Do you feel Mason Consolidated Schools are doing a good job communicating with district residents?

- Yes
- No, why not? \_\_\_\_\_
- Unsure

### 6. Do you feel the school facilities in Mason Consolidated Schools need to be improved?

- Yes
- No, why not? \_\_\_\_\_
- Unsure

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## Facility Conditions

Mason Consolidated Schools operates Mason Central Elementary, Mason Middle School, and Mason Senior High School. These schools, originally built in the 1950s and 1960s—Mason Central Elementary in 1953, Mason Middle School in 1954, and Mason Senior High School in 1960—have served the community well over the years. While they've undergone some updates, the district recognizes the need for more extensive improvements to continue supporting students and staff.

In the summer of 2024, a comprehensive facility assessment was conducted to help better understand where enhancements are needed. This assessment identified several high-priority areas, including secure vestibules, roof replacements, heating and cooling system upgrades, electrical and alarm system improvements, updates to the sanitary systems, and asbestos abatement. As the oldest building in the district, Mason Central Elementary was noted as having exceeded its expected lifespan in both structure and equipment.

The assessment also identified additional opportunities for improvements, such as expanding classrooms at both the middle and high schools, upgrading the high school cafeteria, improving parking lots and sidewalks, replacing ceiling tiles and flooring, upgrading lighting, enhancing non-instructional technology, replacing windows and doors, and addressing a foundation wall issue at the middle school.

These updates are important for ensuring that the schools remain safe, welcoming, and equipped to meet the changing needs of students.

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**Four Options for Addressing Mason Consolidated Schools' Facility Needs**

**Option #1: Address Priority Needs**

School board members and district administrators have identified four options for addressing these facility needs. The first option: Address Priority Needs would include essential safety and security updates including asbestos abatement, new fire alarms, and upgraded electrical service in all buildings. In addition, the priority needs include new temperature controls, new ventilation units, and roofing replacement where needed at the middle and high school.

For the elementary and middle school, the priority needs could begin as early as Spring/Summer 2026 and be completed by Fall 2026.

For the high school, the priority needs could begin as early as Spring/Summer 2027 and be completed by Fall 2027.

**7. How do you feel about this plan for addressing the district's priority needs?**

- The plan is acceptable
- The plan is not acceptable, why not? \_\_\_\_\_
- Unsure

The total cost for all of these priority needs would be \$12.0 million. The estimated annual cost to Mason Consolidated Schools homeowners for the priority needs listed above would be:

**Option1: Address Priority Needs**

<b>Taxable Value*</b>	<b>Market Value</b>	<b>Annual Cost</b>
\$50,000	\$100,000	\$100.00
\$75,000	\$150,000	\$150.00
\$100,000	\$200,000	\$200.00
\$125,000	\$250,000	\$250.00
\$150,000	\$300,000	\$300.00
\$200,000	\$400,000	\$400.00
\$250,000	\$500,000	\$500.00

*\* Taxable value is approximately half of market value*

This option would increase your property taxes by 2.0 mills.

**8. Would you vote to approve a 30-year bond to pay for addressing the district's priority needs?**

- Yes – please skip to Option #2 on the next page
- No – please continue with question 9
- Unsure – please continue with question 9

**9. Why wouldn't you vote to approve the bond, or why are you unsure about voting to approve the bond?**

\_\_\_\_\_

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**Option #2: Address Priority Needs and Facility Updates**

The second option: Address Priority Needs and Facility Updates would include all of the improvements from the first option “Address Priority Needs” as well as new ventilation units at the elementary school, new doors, ceilings, and lighting at the middle school, and cafeteria upgrades at the high school.

For the elementary and middle school, the priority needs and facility updates could begin as early as Spring/Summer 2026 and be completed by Winter 2026.

For the high school, the priority needs and facility updates could begin as early as Spring/Summer 2027 and be completed by Winter 2027.

**10. How do you feel about this plan for addressing the district’s priority needs and facility updates?**

- The plan is acceptable
- The plan is not acceptable, why not? \_\_\_\_\_
- Unsure

The total cost for all of the priority needs and facility updates would be \$16.0 million. The estimated annual cost to Mason Consolidated Schools homeowners for the improvements from the first option “Address Priority Needs” and the facility updates listed above would be:

**Option 2: Address Priority Needs and Facility Updates**

<b>Taxable Value*</b>	<b>Market Value</b>	<b>Annual Cost</b>
\$50,000	\$100,000	\$134.50
\$75,000	\$150,000	\$201.75
\$100,000	\$200,000	\$269.00
\$125,000	\$250,000	\$336.25
\$150,000	\$300,000	\$403.50
\$200,000	\$400,000	\$538.00
\$250,000	\$500,000	\$672.50

*\* Taxable value is approximately half of market value*

This option would increase your property taxes by 2.69 mills.

**11. Would you vote to approve a 30-year bond to pay for addressing the district’s priority needs and facility updates?**

- Yes – please skip to Option #3 on the next page
- No – please continue with question 12
- Unsure – please continue with question 12

**12. Why wouldn’t you vote to approve the bond, or why are you unsure about voting to approve the bond?**

\_\_\_\_\_

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**Option #3: Address Priority Needs, Facility Updates, and Elementary Improvements**

The third option: Address Priority Needs, Facility Updates, and Elementary Improvements would include all of the improvements from the second option “Address Priority Needs and Facility Updates” as well as elementary school improvements including new temperature controls, lighting, ceilings, classroom doors, classroom furniture, and a new playground. The elementary school improvements would also include updating bathrooms, replacing roofing as needed, and replacing parking areas and sidewalks where needed. This option would also include new classroom furniture at the middle school and high school, as well as new ceilings, lighting, and repaving the student parking lot at the high school.

For the elementary and middle school, the priority needs, facility updates, and elementary improvements could begin as early as Spring/Summer 2026 and be completed by Winter 2026.

For the high school, the priority needs, facility updates, and elementary improvements could begin as early as Spring/Summer 2027 and be completed by Winter 2027.

**13. How do you feel about this plan for addressing the district’s priority needs, facility updates, and elementary improvements?**

- The plan is acceptable
- The plan is not acceptable, why not? \_\_\_\_\_
- Unsure

The total cost for all of these priority needs, facility updates, and elementary improvements would be \$25.0 million. The estimated annual cost to Mason Consolidated Schools homeowners for the improvements from the second option “Address Priority Needs and Facility Updates” and the elementary improvements listed above would be:

Option 3: Address Priority Needs, Facility Updates, and Elementary Improvements

Taxable Value*	Market Value	Annual Cost
\$50,000	\$100,000	\$212.50
\$75,000	\$150,000	\$318.75
\$100,000	\$200,000	\$425.00
\$125,000	\$250,000	\$531.25
\$150,000	\$300,000	\$637.50
\$200,000	\$400,000	\$850.00
\$250,000	\$500,000	\$1,062.50

\* Taxable value is approximately half of market value

This option would increase your property taxes by 4.25 mills.

**14. Would you vote to approve a 30-year bond to pay for addressing the district’s priority needs, facility updates, and elementary improvements?**

- Yes – please skip to Option #4 on the next page
- No – please continue with question 15
- Unsure – please continue with question 15

**15. Why wouldn’t you vote to approve the bond, or why are you unsure about voting to approve the bond?**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Option #4: Address Priority Needs and Classroom Additions to Reconfigure Current Schools to Accommodate PK - 6 and 7 - 12**

The fourth option: Address Priority Needs and Classroom Additions to Reconfigure Current Schools to Accommodate PK-6 and 7-12 would include additional classrooms at the middle school and high school to provide sufficient space for grades PK-6 at the middle school and grades 7-12 at the high school. Additionally, a serving kitchen and cafeteria would be added to the middle school to allow all students to eat at the building.

For the elementary and middle school, the priority needs and classroom additions to reconfigure the current middle school to accommodate PK - 6 could begin as early as Spring 2026 and be completed by Spring 2027. For the high school, the priority needs and classroom additions to reconfigure the current high school building to accommodate grades 7 - 12 could begin as early as Spring 2027 and be completed by Spring 2028.

**16. How do you feel about this plan for addressing the district’s priority needs and classroom additions to reconfigure current schools to accommodate PK - 6 and 7 - 12?**

- The plan is acceptable
- The plan is not acceptable, why not? \_\_\_\_\_
- Unsure

The total cost for all of these priority needs and classroom additions to reconfigure current schools to accommodate PK - 6 and 7 - 12 would be \$30.0 million. The estimated annual cost to Mason Consolidated Schools homeowners for addressing the priority needs and classroom additions to reconfigure current schools to accommodate PK - 6 and 7 - 12 would be:

**Option 4: Address Priority Needs and Classroom Additions to Reconfigure Current Schools to Accommodate PK - 6 and 7 - 12**

<b>Taxable Value*</b>	<b>Market Value</b>	<b>Annual Cost</b>
\$50,000	\$100,000	\$237.50
\$75,000	\$150,000	\$356.25
\$100,000	\$200,000	\$475.00
\$125,000	\$250,000	\$593.75
\$150,000	\$300,000	\$712.50
\$200,000	\$400,000	\$950.00
\$250,000	\$500,000	\$1,187.50

\* Taxable value is approximately half of market value

This option would increase your property taxes by 4.75 mills.

**17. Would you vote to approve a 30-year bond to pay for addressing the district’s priority needs and classroom additions to reconfigure current schools to accommodate PK - 6 and 7 - 12?**

- Yes – please skip to question 19
- No – please continue with question 18
- Unsure – please continue with question 18

**18. Why wouldn’t you vote to approve the bond, or why are you unsure about voting to approve the bond?**

\_\_\_\_\_

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**19. Mason Consolidated Schools is considering putting this bond request on the ballot in May 2025. Is there any reason how you vote on this bond request in May 2025 could change from how you answered this survey today?**

- Yes, how or why would it change: \_\_\_\_\_  
 No  Unsure

**20. Please list any other comments you would like to share about Mason Consolidated Schools:**

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To help Mason Consolidated Schools better understand the results of this survey, please answer the following questions. Your responses are anonymous, and the survey results will be tabulated by Perspectives Consulting Group, Inc., an independent market research firm.

**21. Please check ALL of the following statements that may describe you:**

- I am the parent of one or more children currently attending Mason Consolidated Schools  
 I am the parent of one or more children who have graduated from Mason Consolidated Schools  
 I currently attend Mason Consolidated Schools  
 I graduated from Mason Consolidated Schools  
 I am an employee of Mason Consolidated Schools  
 None of the above apply to me

**22. In the past two years, have you been inside any of Mason Consolidated Schools' school buildings?**

- Yes  No  Unsure

**23. Did you vote in the last Mason Consolidated Schools facilities election in March 2020?**

- Yes  No  Unsure

**24. Your age:**

- 18-24  25-34  35-44  45-54  
 55-64  65-74  75 and over  Prefer not to say

**25. Do you own or rent your home?**

- Own  Rent  Prefer not to say

**26. Your gender:**

- Male  Female  Other, please specify \_\_\_\_\_  
 Prefer not to say

Thank you for completing this survey. Your responses to this survey, along with the responses from other community members, will be used to inform and guide the work of Mason Consolidated Schools. If you have additional questions about Mason Consolidated Schools, please visit: <https://eriemason.k12.mi.us/>

Please drop off this survey in person at: Mason Consolidated Schools, 2400 Mason Eagles Drive, Erie, MI 48133 or mail the survey to: Perspectives Consulting Group, P.O. Box 496, Paw Paw, MI, 49079. Survey responses must be received by October 4, 2024.

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## Report Credits and Contact Information

### 2024 Community Survey • Mason Consolidated Schools

Survey Open: September 23, 2024 – October 4, 2024

Founded in 1987, Perspectives provides planning, consulting, research, and ideas to maximize impact for public sector and nonprofit organizations.

If you have questions or comments about this project, contact us at (269) 657-5400 or [info@focusedperspectives.com](mailto:info@focusedperspectives.com).

**Lead Consultants:** Gary M. Goscenski and Bryn Bogemann



[schools.focusedperspectives.com](http://schools.focusedperspectives.com)  
(269) 657-5400