# Survey Basics

- This survey involved 403 completed telephone interviews with registered voters in the Indian Prairie School District.
  - Registered voters were interviewed to allow the results of this survey to be directly compared to the results of a voter survey completed for the district in 2005.
- All interviews were completed between November 30 and December 13, 2009.
  - During the interviewing process the following factors were monitored to make sure the demography of the population interviewed matched the demography of the voting population of the district: gender, age, parent status, vote history and ZIP code.
- The overall margin of error for the results of this survey is +/- 4.5%.

The Center For
Community Opinion

Grade the District

"Students are often given the grades of A, B, C, D, and F to denote the quality of their work. Suppose the public schools in your community were graded in the same way.
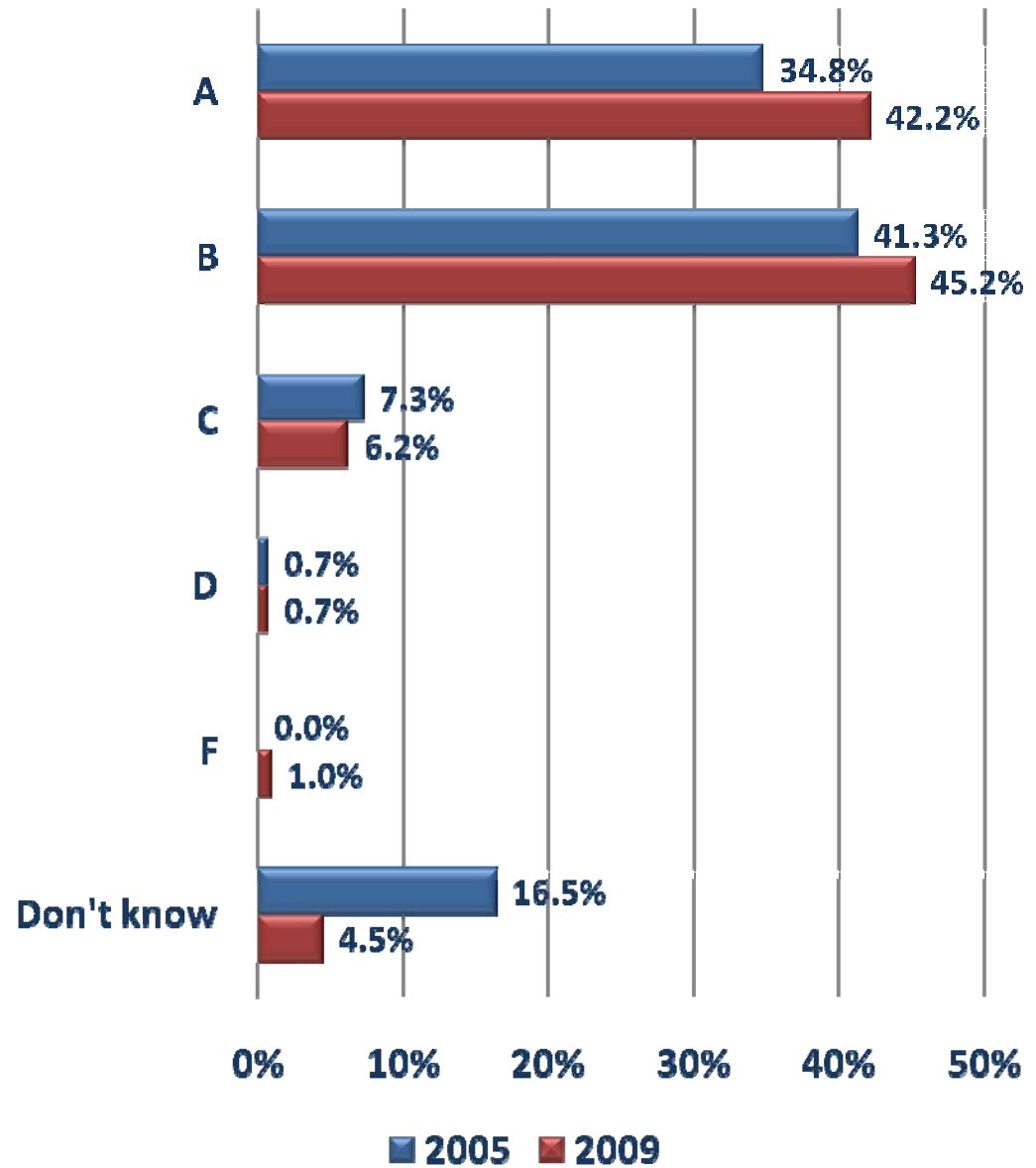
"What grade would you give the public schools in the Indian Prairie School District?"

Grade	Percent
A	42.2%
B	45.2%
C	6.2%
D	0.7%
F	1.0%
Don't know	4.5%
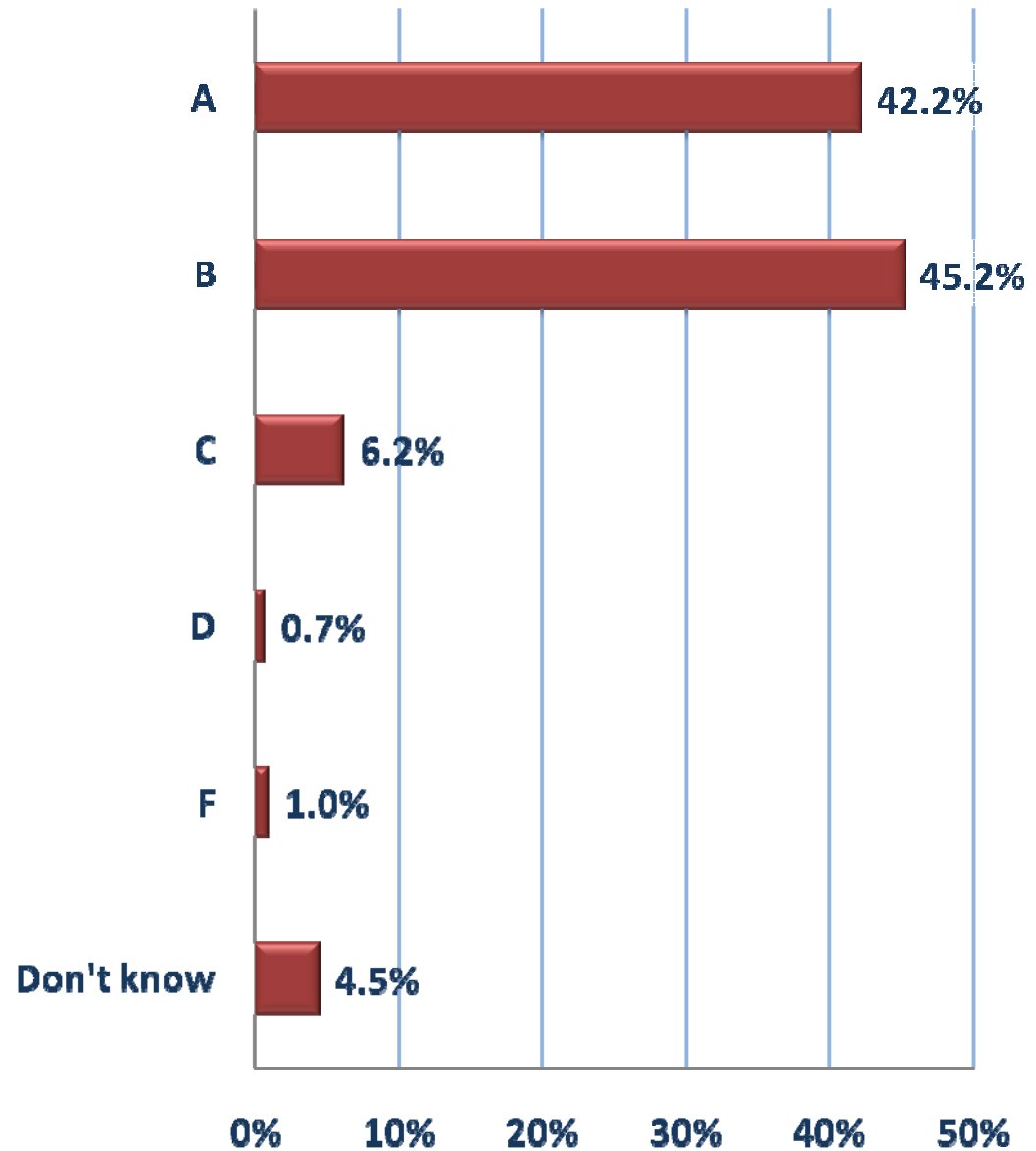
Grade the District

Better grades than voters gave the district in 2005.

"What grade would you give the public schools in the Indian Prairie School District?"

Grade	2005	2009
A	34.8%	42.2%
B	41.3%	45.2%
C	7.3%	6.2%
D	0.7%	0.7%
F	0.0%	1.0%
Don't know	16.5%	4.5%

■ 2005 ■ 2009

The Center For **Community Opinion**
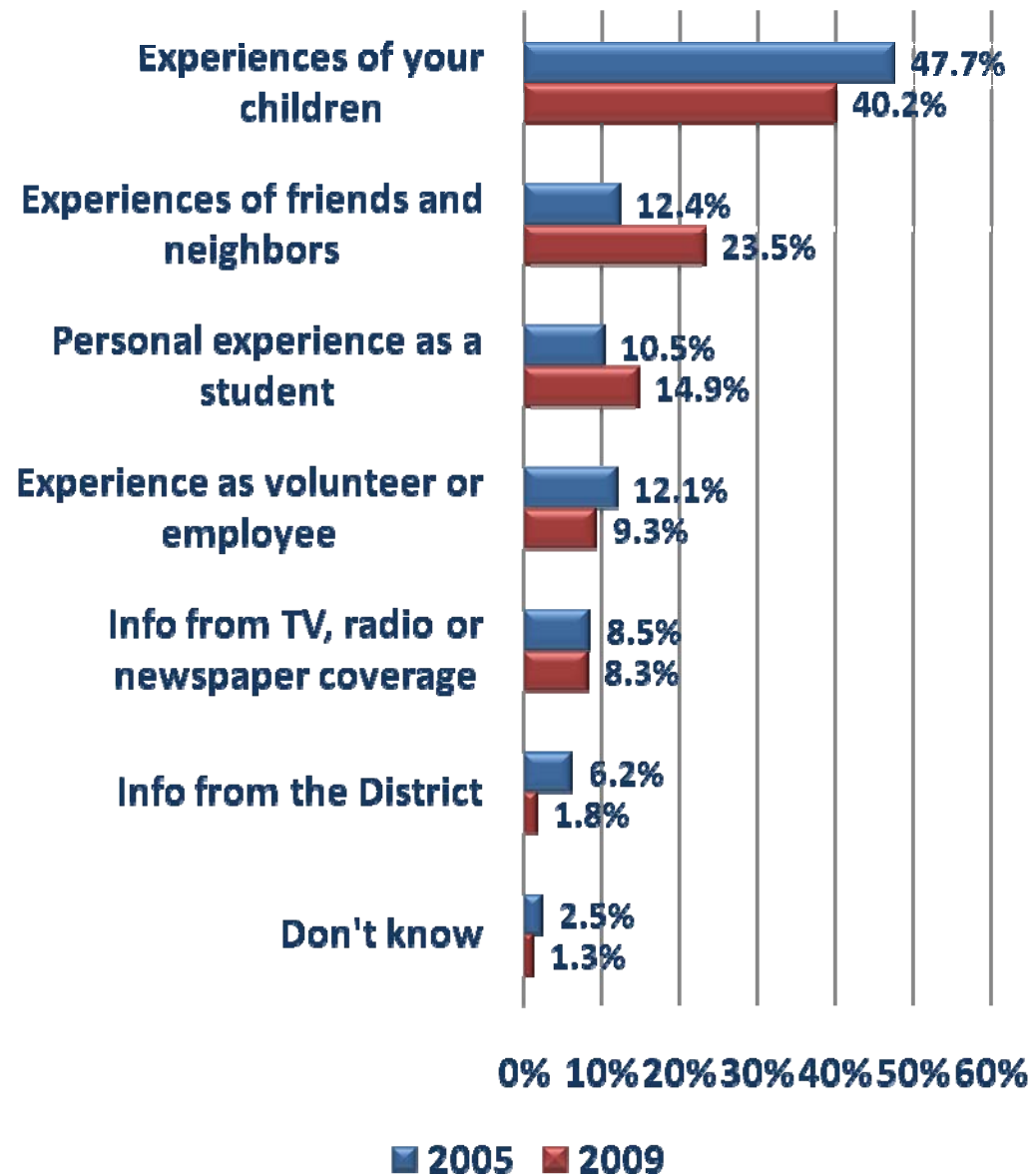
Grade facilities

Better grades than voters
gave the district in 2005.

"What grade would
you give to the school
facilities that serve
your neighborhood in
the Indian Prairie
School District?"

Grade	2005	2009
A	49.5%	53.1%
B	28.8%	35.7%
C	6.5%	5.7%
D	0.8%	1.5%
F	0.0%	0.7%
Don't know	14.5%	3.0%

■ 2005 ■ 2009

The Center For
Community Opinion

4
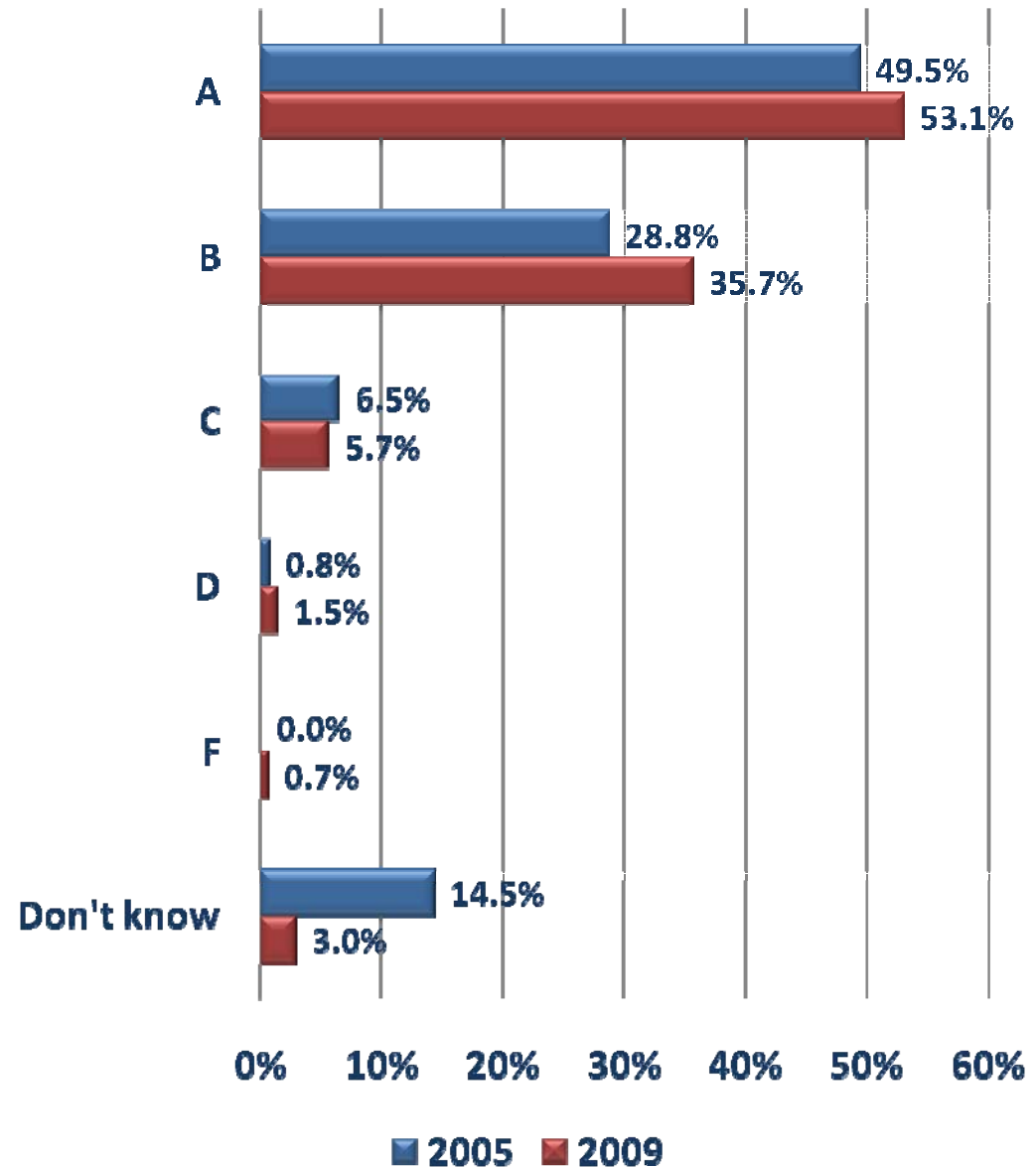
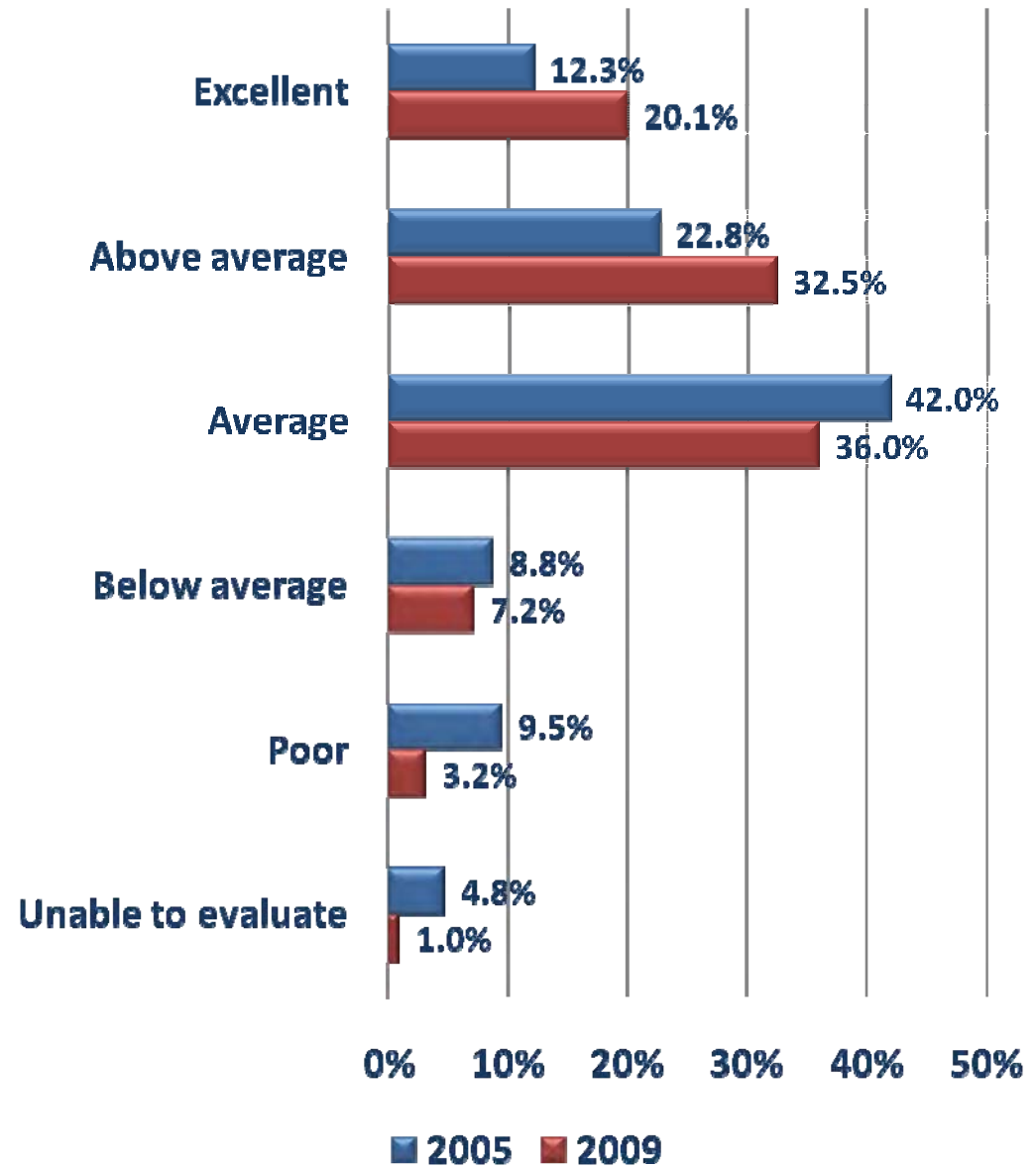# Basis for grades

"Is the grade you just gave based mainly on:

1.) your personal experience as a student in the public schools

2.) the experiences of your children

3.) your experience as a volunteer or employee of the school district

4.) the experiences of your friends and neighbors

5.) information you have received directly from the school district, or

6.) information from TV, radio, or newspaper coverage of your local schools?
District?"

Basis	2005	2009
Experiences of your children	47.7%	40.2%
Experiences of friends and neighbors	12.4%	23.5%
Personal experience as a student	10.5%	14.9%
Experience as volunteer or employee	12.1%	9.3%
Info from TV, radio or newspaper coverage	8.5%	8.3%
Info from the District	6.2%	1.8%
Don't know	2.5%	1.3%

0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60%

■ 2005 ■ 2009

The Center For
Community Opinion

Informed 2009 & 2005

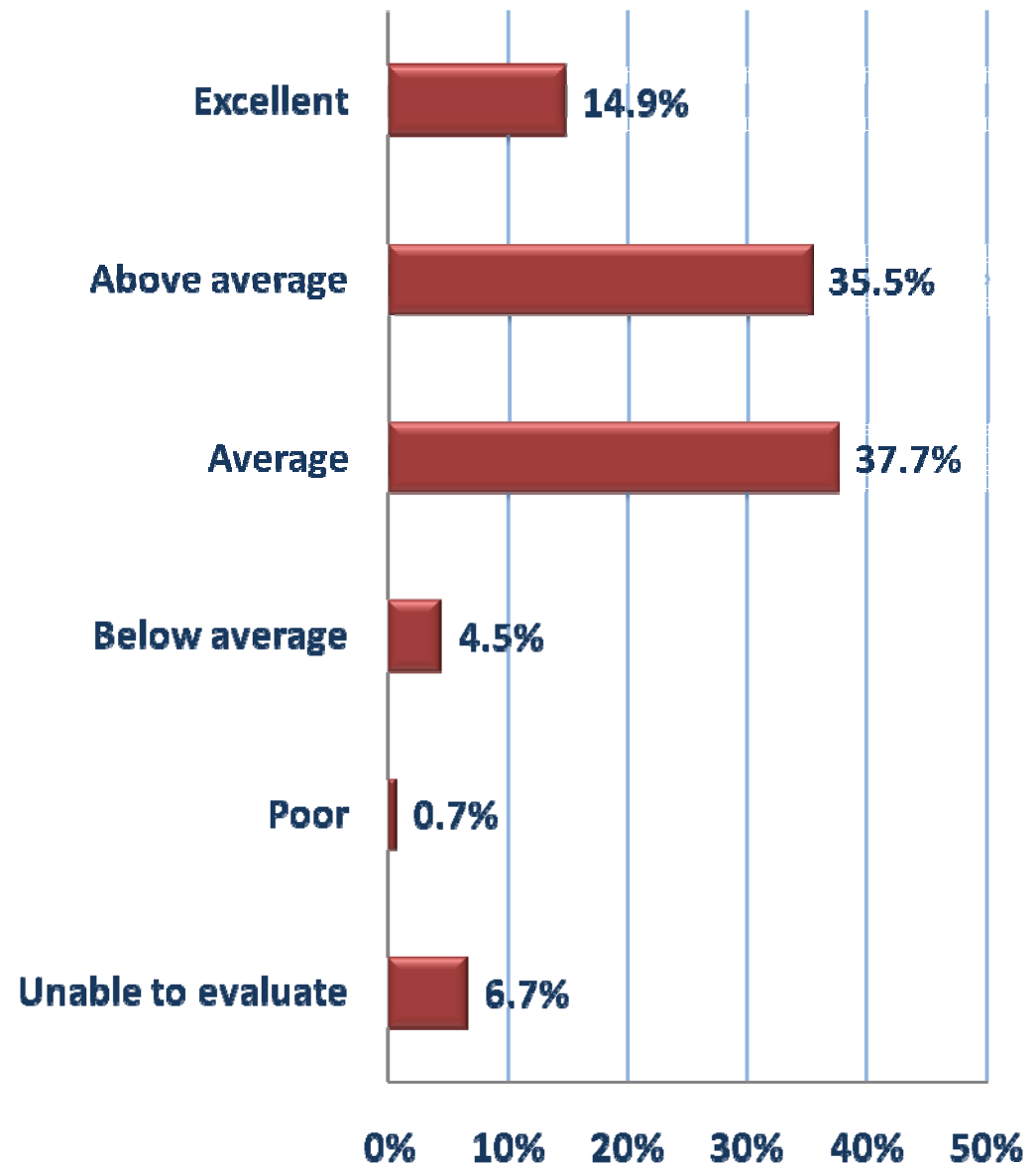"Please tell me if you believe the district has done an excellent, above average, average, below average or poor job:

"Keeping the public informed about school district plans."

Category	2005	2009
Excellent	12.3%	20.1%
Above average	22.8%	32.5%
Average	42.0%	36.0%
Below average	8.8%	7.2%
Poor	9.5%	3.2%
Unable to evaluate	4.8%	1.0%

■ 2005   ■ 2009

The Center For
Community Opinion

Social and emotional needs

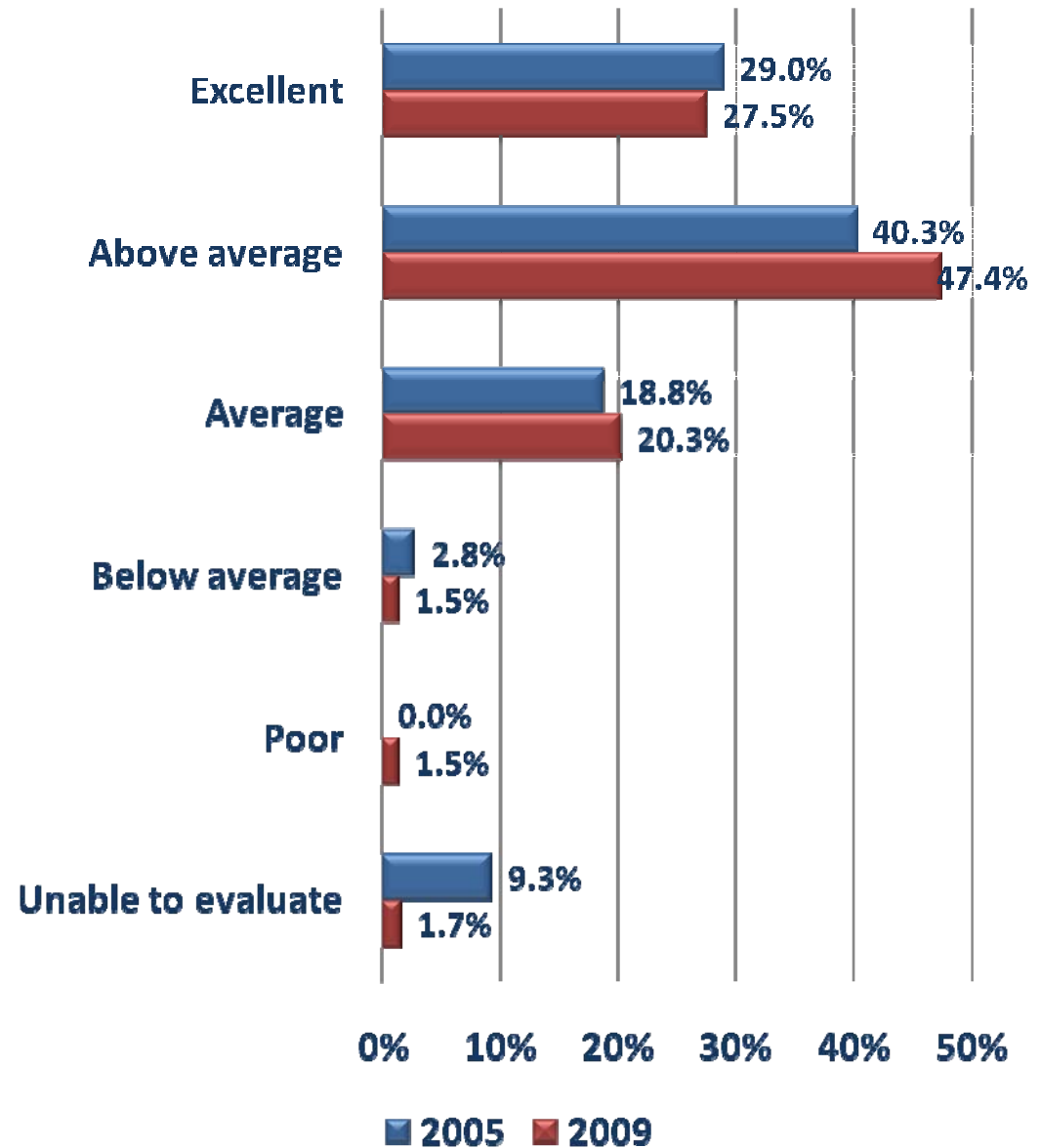"Please tell me if you believe the district has done an excellent, above average, average, below average or poor job:

"Meeting the social and emotional needs of students."

Category	Percentage
Excellent	14.9%
Above average	35.5%
Average	37.7%
Below average	4.5%
Poor	0.7%
Unable to evaluate	6.7%

The Center For
Community Opinion

Educational needs

"Please tell me if you believe the district has done an excellent, above average, average, below average or poor job:
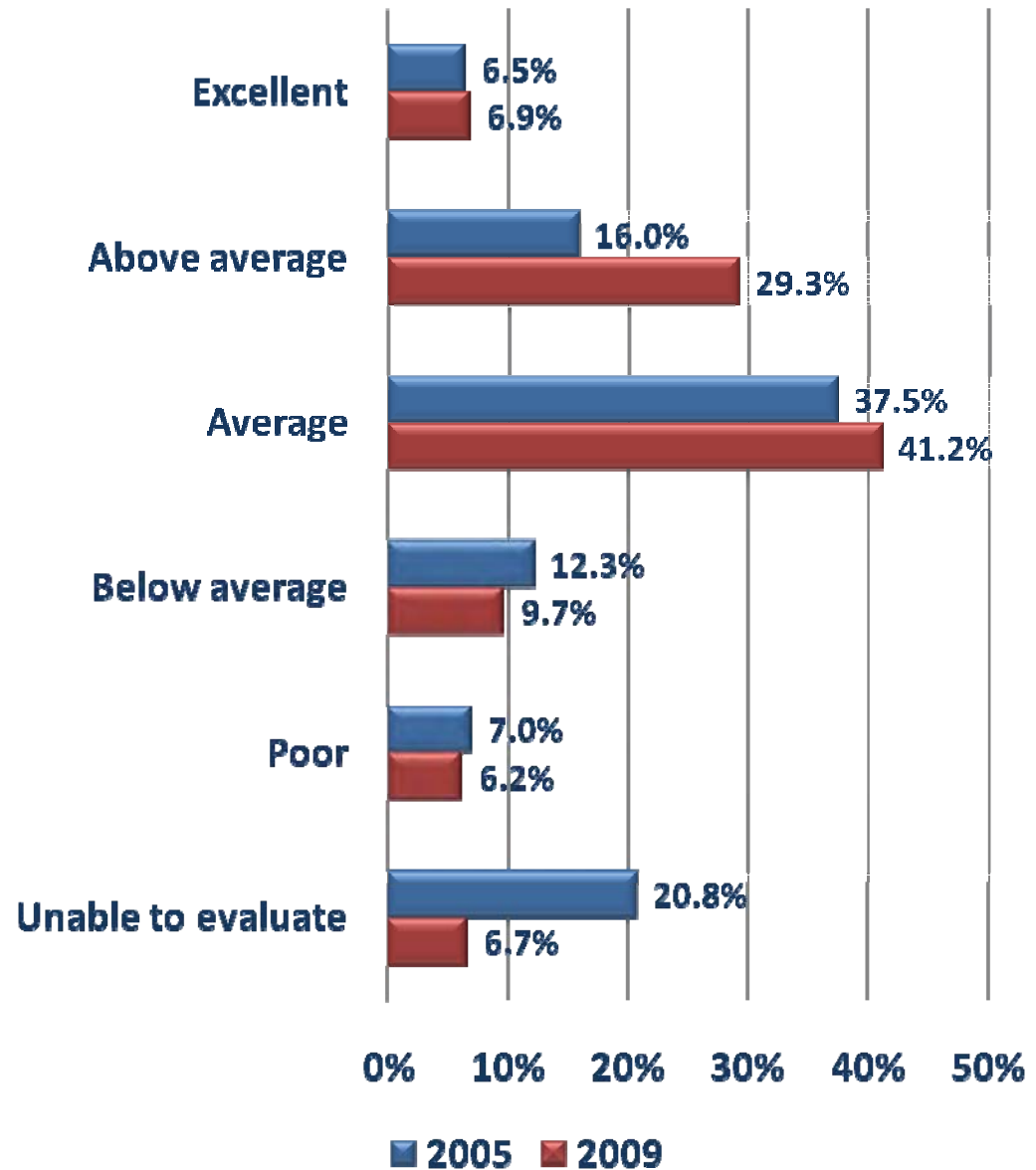
"Serving the educational needs of the students in your neighborhood."

Excellent
- 2005: 29.0%
- 2009: 27.5%

Above average
- 2005: 40.3%
- 2009: 47.4%

Average
- 2005: 18.8%
- 2009: 20.3%

Below average
- 2005: 2.8%
- 2009: 1.5%

Poor
- 2005: 0.0%
- 2009: 1.5%

Unable to evaluate
- 2005: 9.3%
- 2009: 1.7%

■ 2005 ■ 2009

The Center For
Community Opinion

8

Financial management 2009 & 2005

"Please tell me if you believe the district has done an excellent, above average, average, below average or poor job:
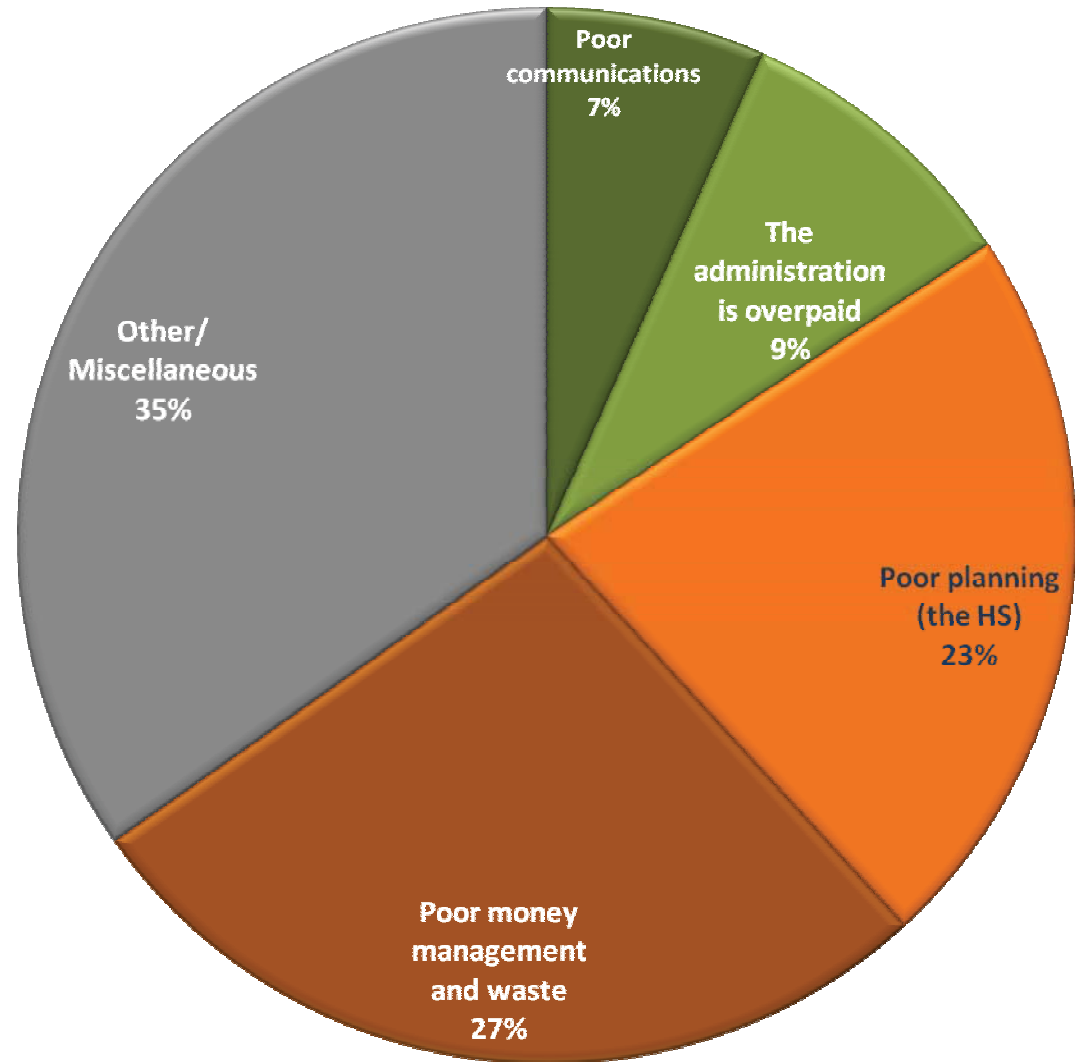
"Consider the financial management of the school district. Would you rate the financial management as excellent, above average, average, below average or poor?"

Excellent
- 6.5%
- 6.9%

Above average
- 16.0%
- 29.3%

Average
- 37.5%
- 41.2%

Below average
- 12.3%
- 9.7%

Poor
- 7.0%
- 6.2%

Unable to evaluate
- 20.8%
- 6.7%

0%   10%   20%   30%   40%   50%

■ 2005   ■ 2009

Low ratings

Those who rated any aspect of the district as Below Average or Poor were asked:

"Why have you given the district a rating of below average or poor?"

Poor communications
7%

The administration is overpaid
9%

Poor planning (the HS)
23%

Poor money management and waste
27%

Other/ Miscellaneous
35%

The Center For **Community Opinion**

Excellent ratings

Those who rated any aspect of the district as Excellent were asked:

"Why have you given the district an excellent rating?"

Information heard or read about the district
13.9%

Other/ Miscellaneous
19.0%

Positive experiences with the district
67.1%

The Center For
Community Opinion
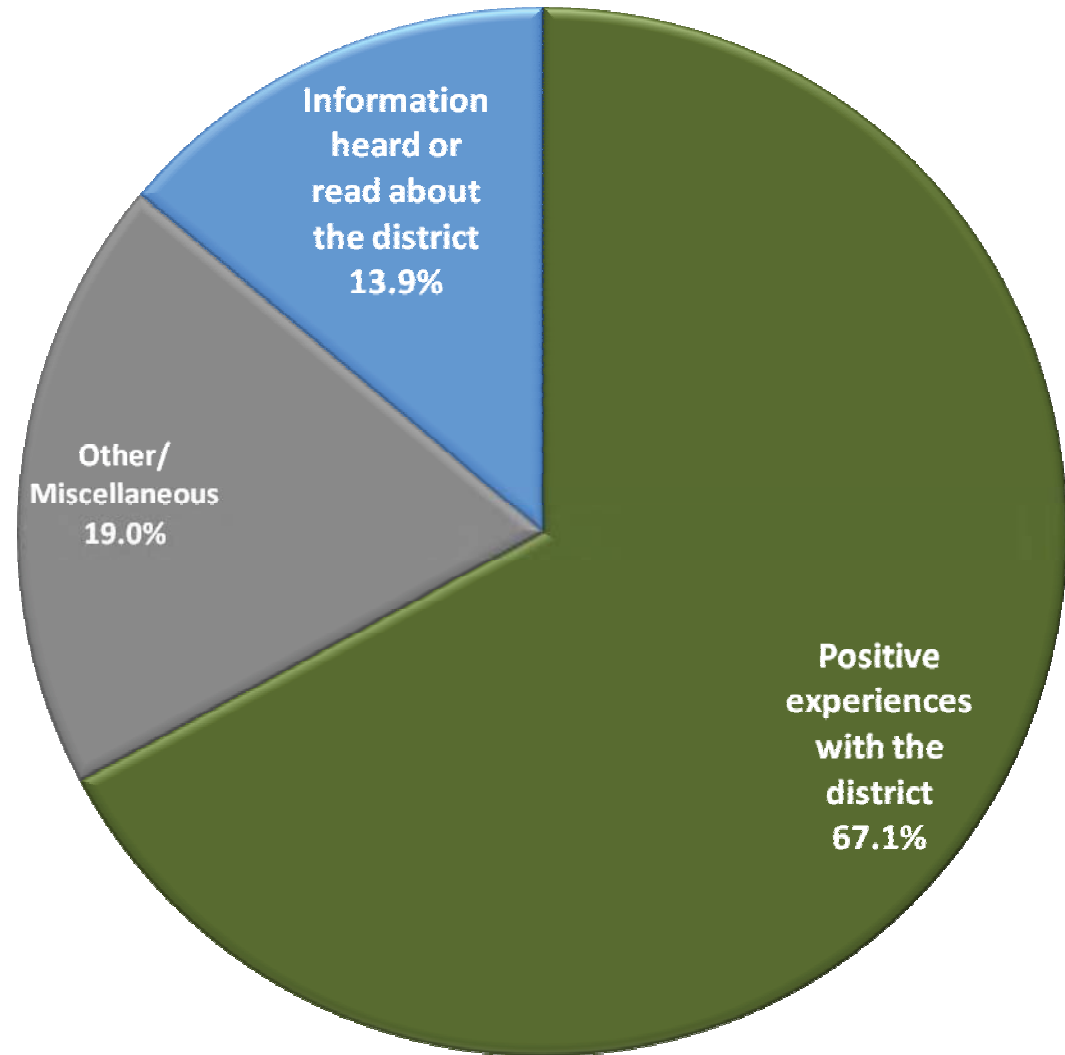
Greatest strength

Every voter was asked the following open-ended question:

"What do you feel is the greatest strength in the Indian Prairie School District?"

The faculty and staff — 28.9%

Other/ Miscellaneous — 14.6%

Programs and options — 11.5%

The curriculum and classes — 10.6%

A good education and district reputation — 10.4%

Community support and provision of resources — 9.5%

Test scores — 6.2%

Its good facilities — 5.3%

Good communications — 3.1%

0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50%

The Center For
Community Opinion
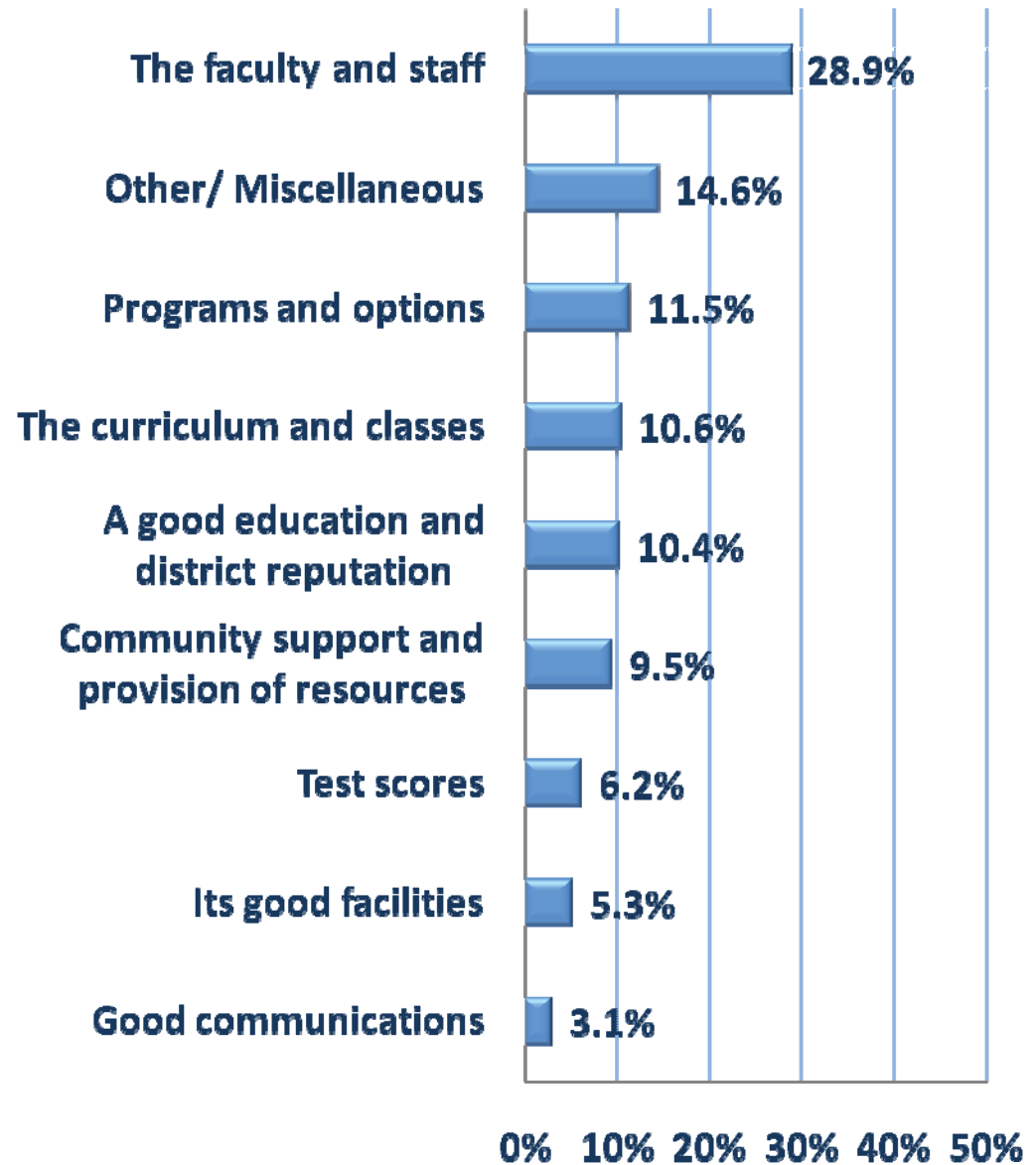
Greatest challenge

Every voter was asked the following open-ended question:

"What do you feel is the greatest challenge facing the Indian Prairie School District in the next five years?"

Category	Percentage
Other/ Miscellaneous	28.2%
Funding/ Money	18.4%
Overcrowding and class size	14.7%
Growth	9.3%
Maintaining a quality education	6.2%
The budget	5.6%
Facilities	5.1%
Diversity	4.8%
The teachers	4.0%
Concerns about taxes	3.7%

The Center For **Community Opinion**

13
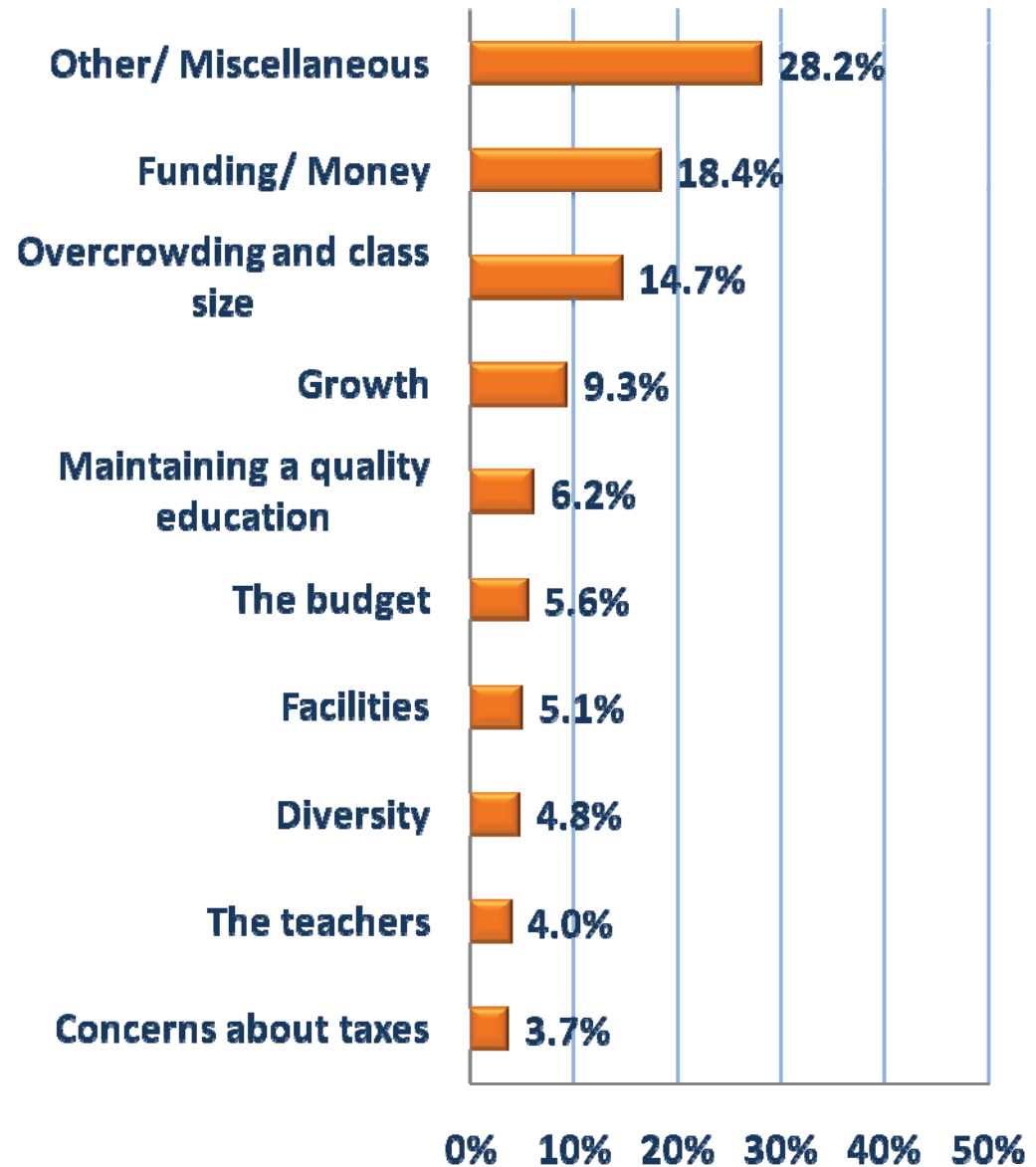
The School Board

"Please tell me whether you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree with the following statement:

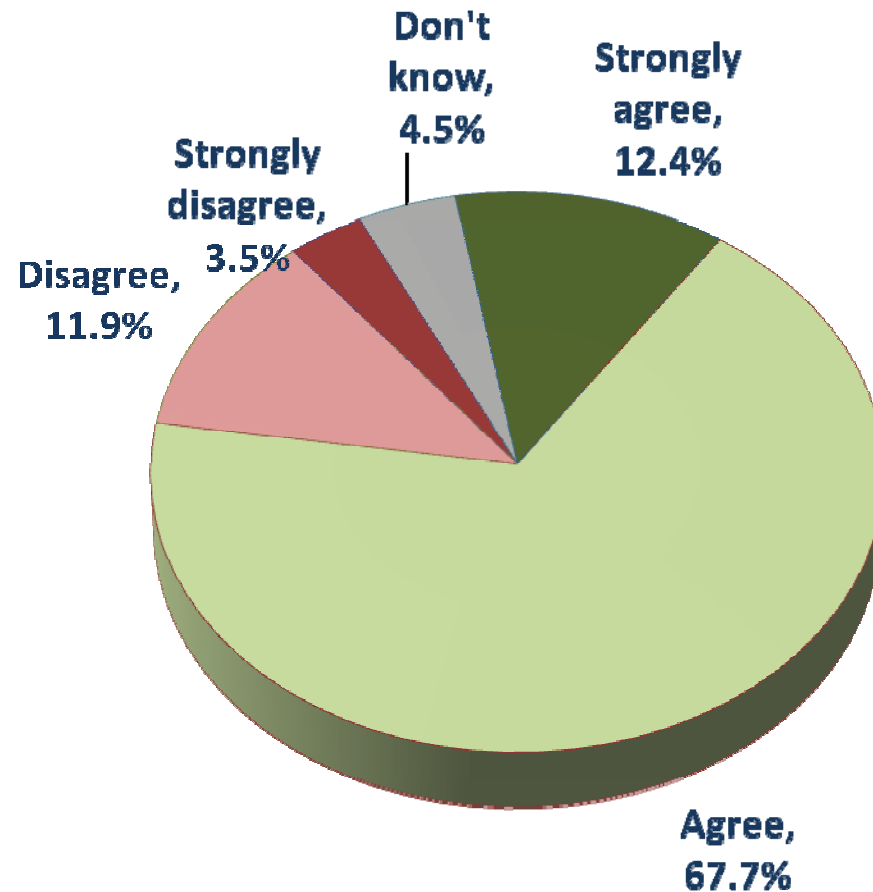"The Indian Prairie School Board listens and responds to the community."

Pie chart:
- Strongly agree, 8.2%
- Don't know, 6.0%
- Strongly disagree, 6.0%
- Disagree, 14.6%
- Agree, 65.3%
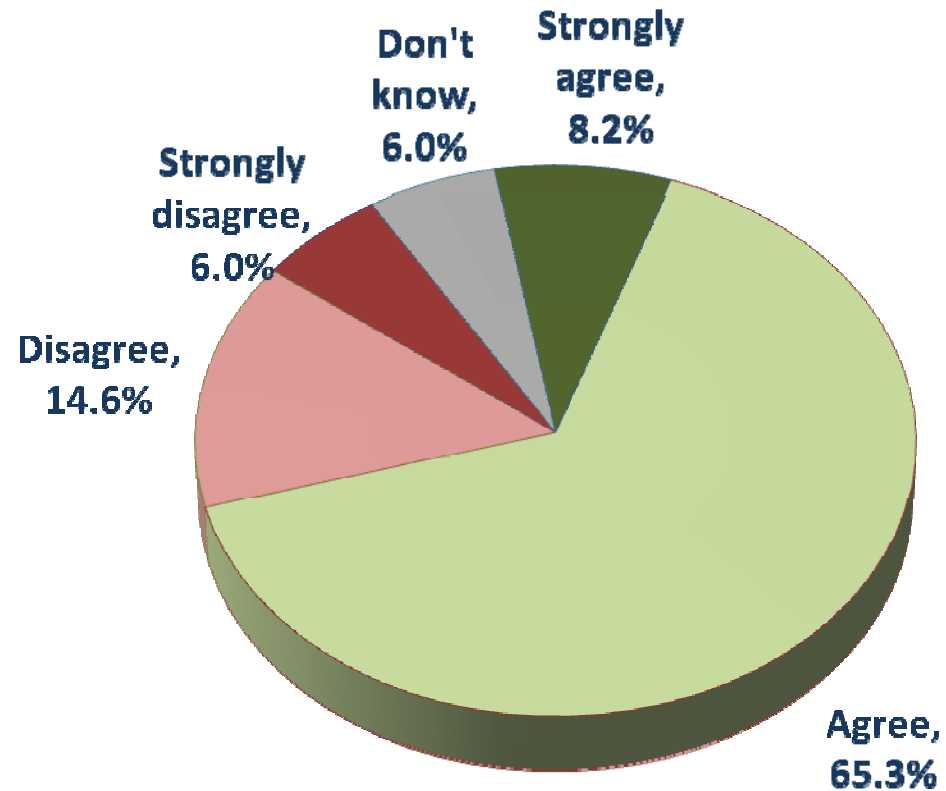
The Administration

"Please tell me whether you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree with the following statement:

## "The administrators in the Indian Prairie School District listen and respond to the community."

Don't know, 4.5%

Strongly agree, 12.4%

Strongly disagree, 3.5%

Disagree, 11.9%

Agree, 67.7%

The Teachers

"Please tell me whether you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree with the following statement:

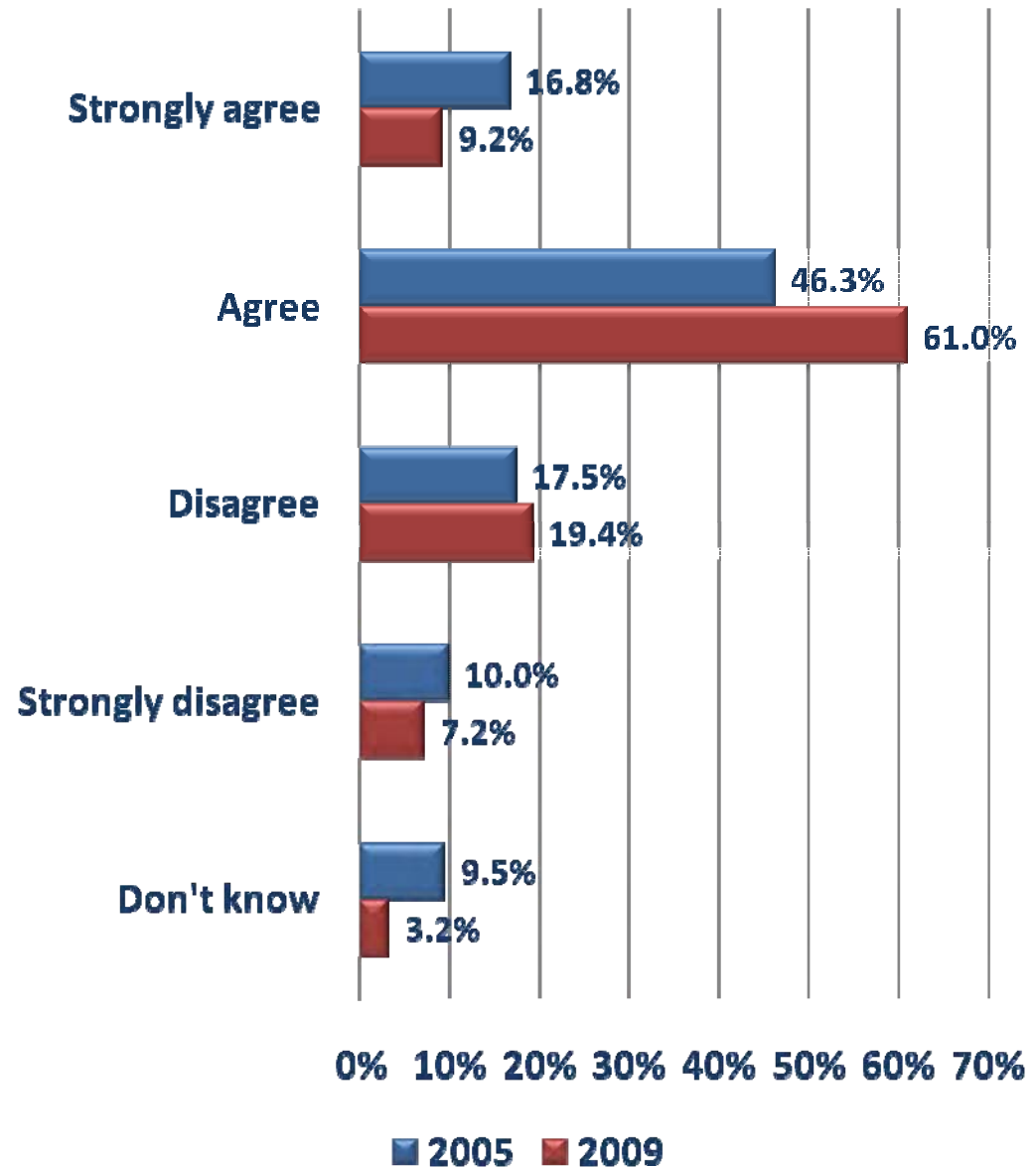"The teachers in the Indian Prairie School District listen and respond to parents when they have questions or concerns."

Strongly disagree, 1.0%

Don't know, 7.9%

Disagree, 3.2%

Strongly agree, 32.5%

Agree, 55.3%
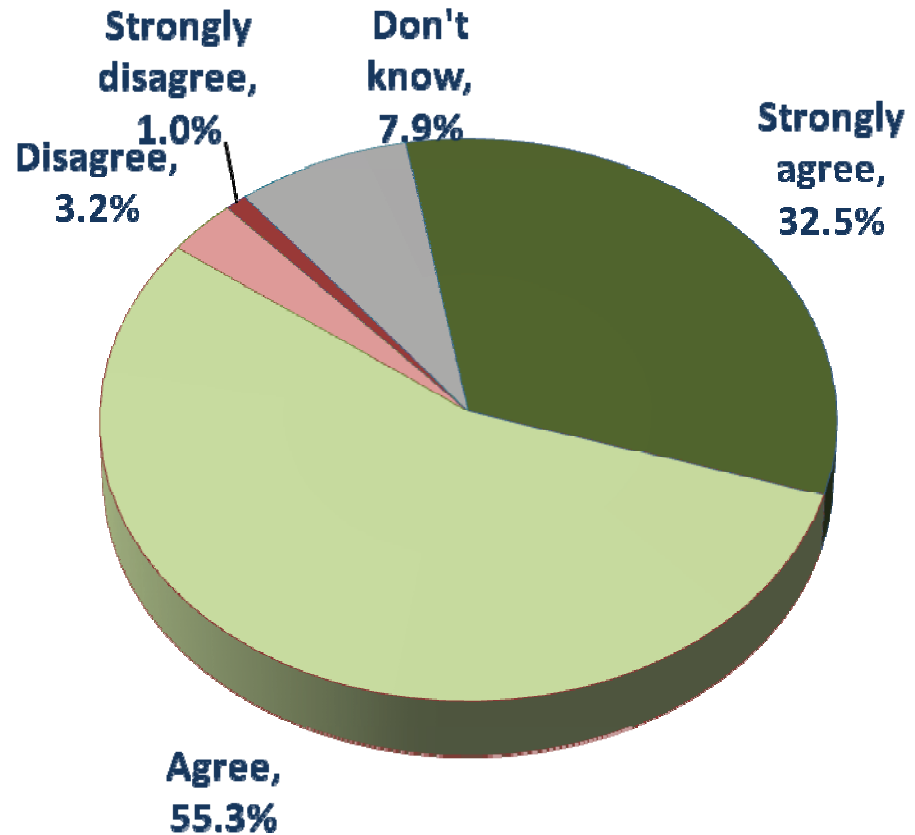
Trust

"Please tell me whether you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree with the following statement:

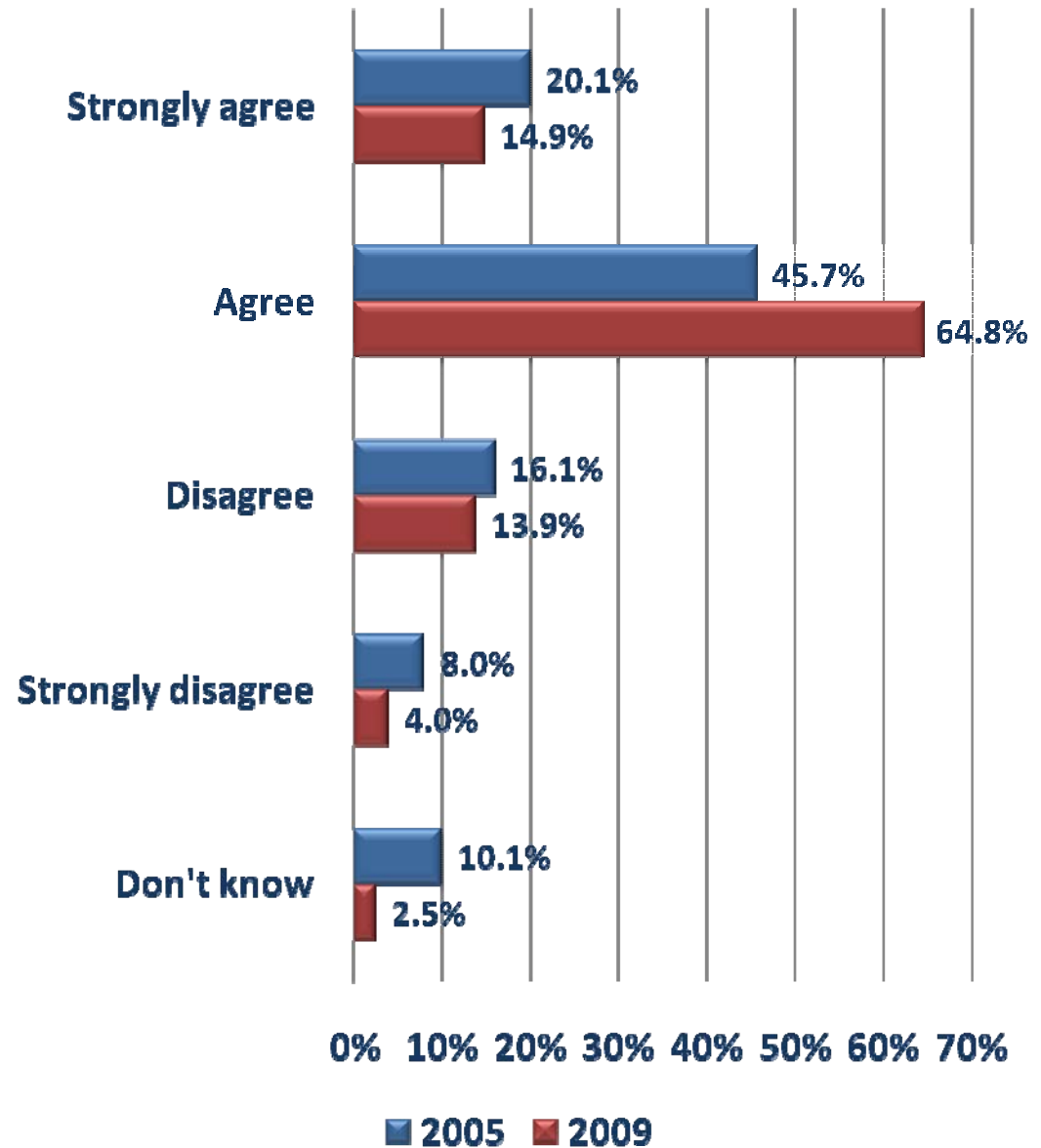"The Indian Prairie School District can be trusted to spend local tax dollars wisely."

Strongly agree
- 16.8%
- 9.2%

Agree
- 46.3%
- 61.0%

Disagree
- 17.5%
- 19.4%

Strongly disagree
- 10.0%
- 7.2%

Don't know
- 9.5%
- 3.2%

0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70%

■ 2005 ■ 2009
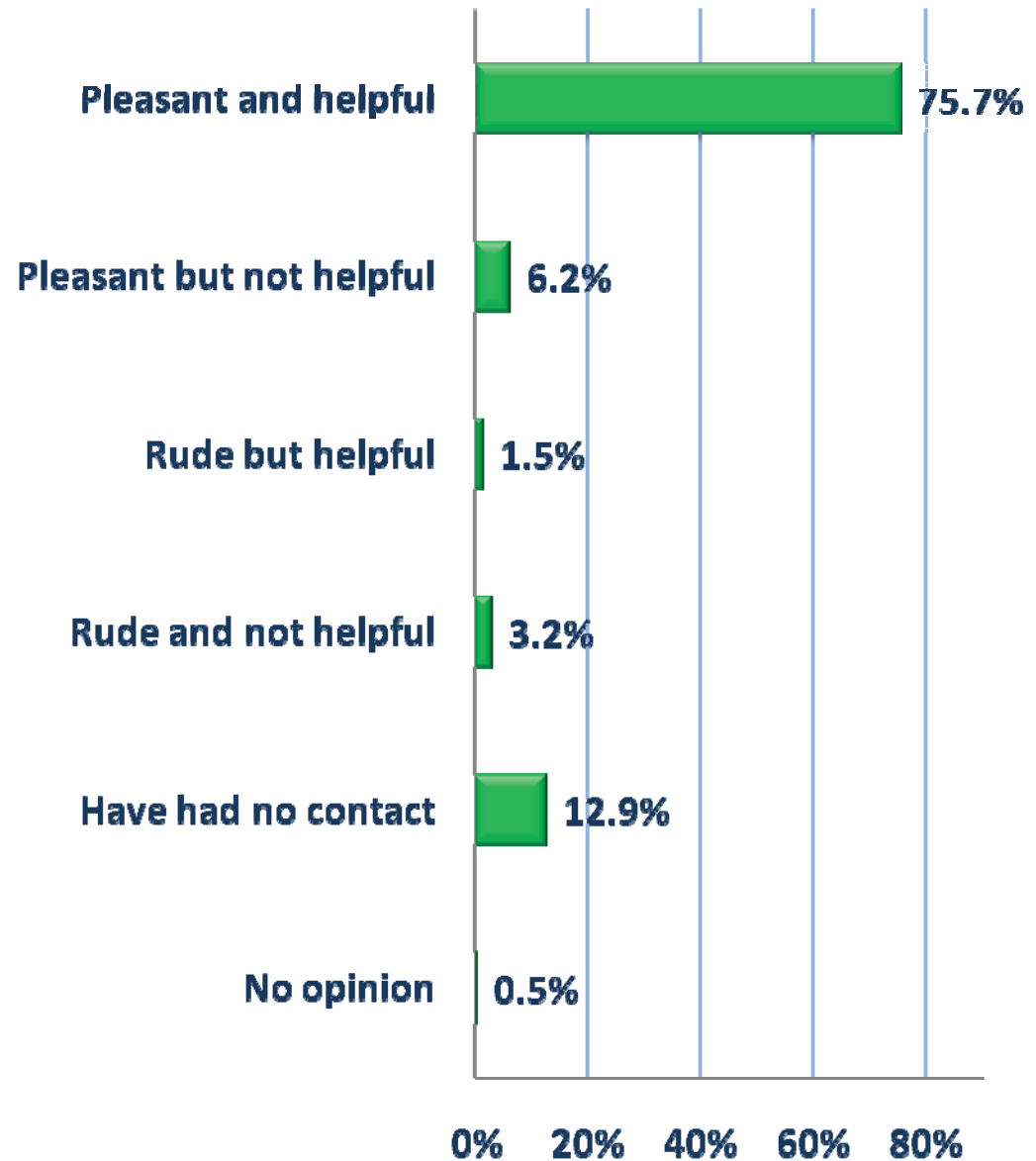
The Center For
Community Opinion

17

Decisions

"Please tell me whether you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree with the following statement:

"I personally have confidence in the school district's decision making process."

	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
2005	20.1%	45.7%	16.1%	8.0%	10.1%
2009	14.9%	64.8%	13.9%	4.0%	2.5%

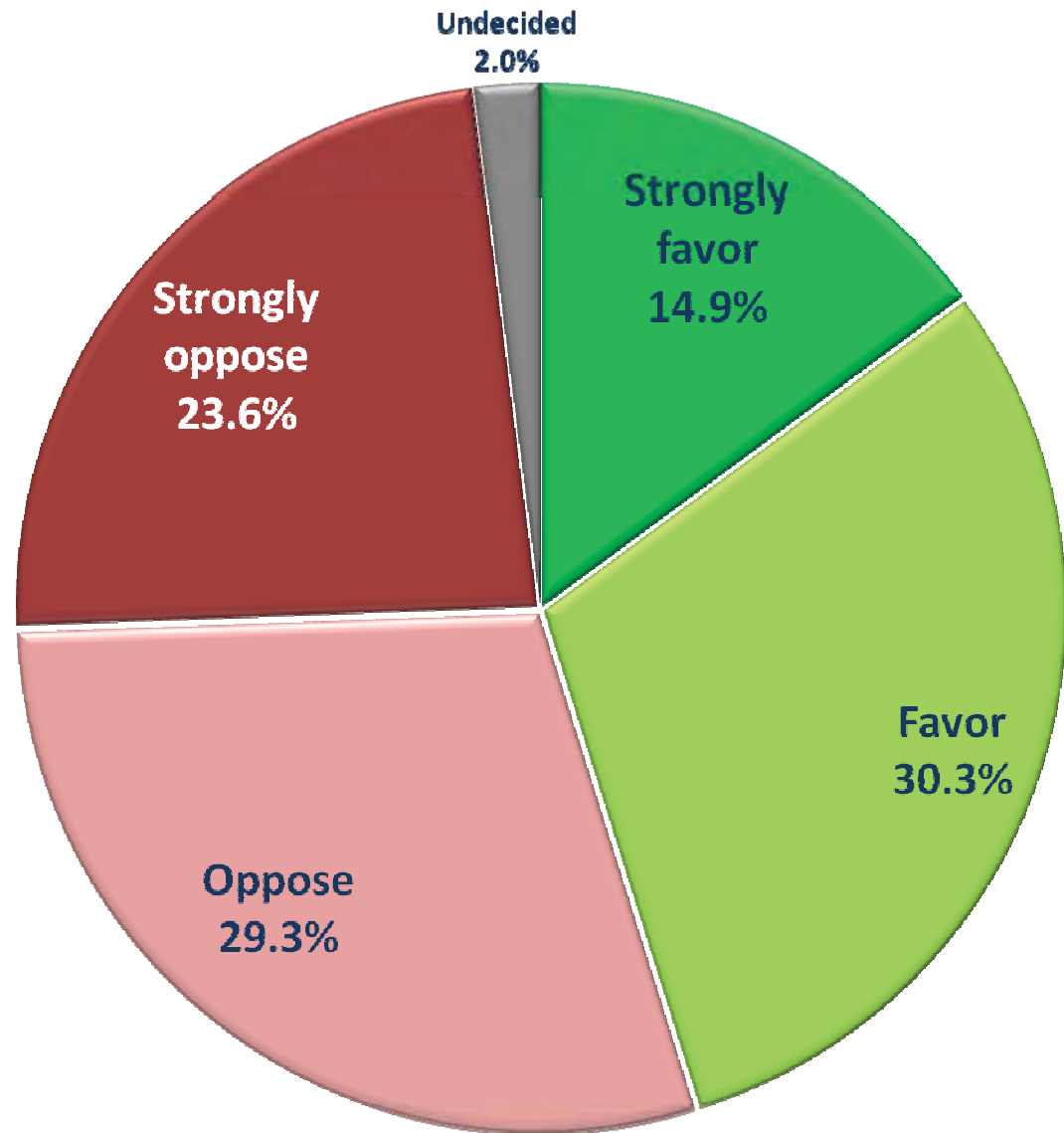The Center For
Community Opinion

Customer service

"Think about the last contact you had with an employee of the Indian Prairie School District. Which of the following best describes your reaction to the employee's attention to customer service:"

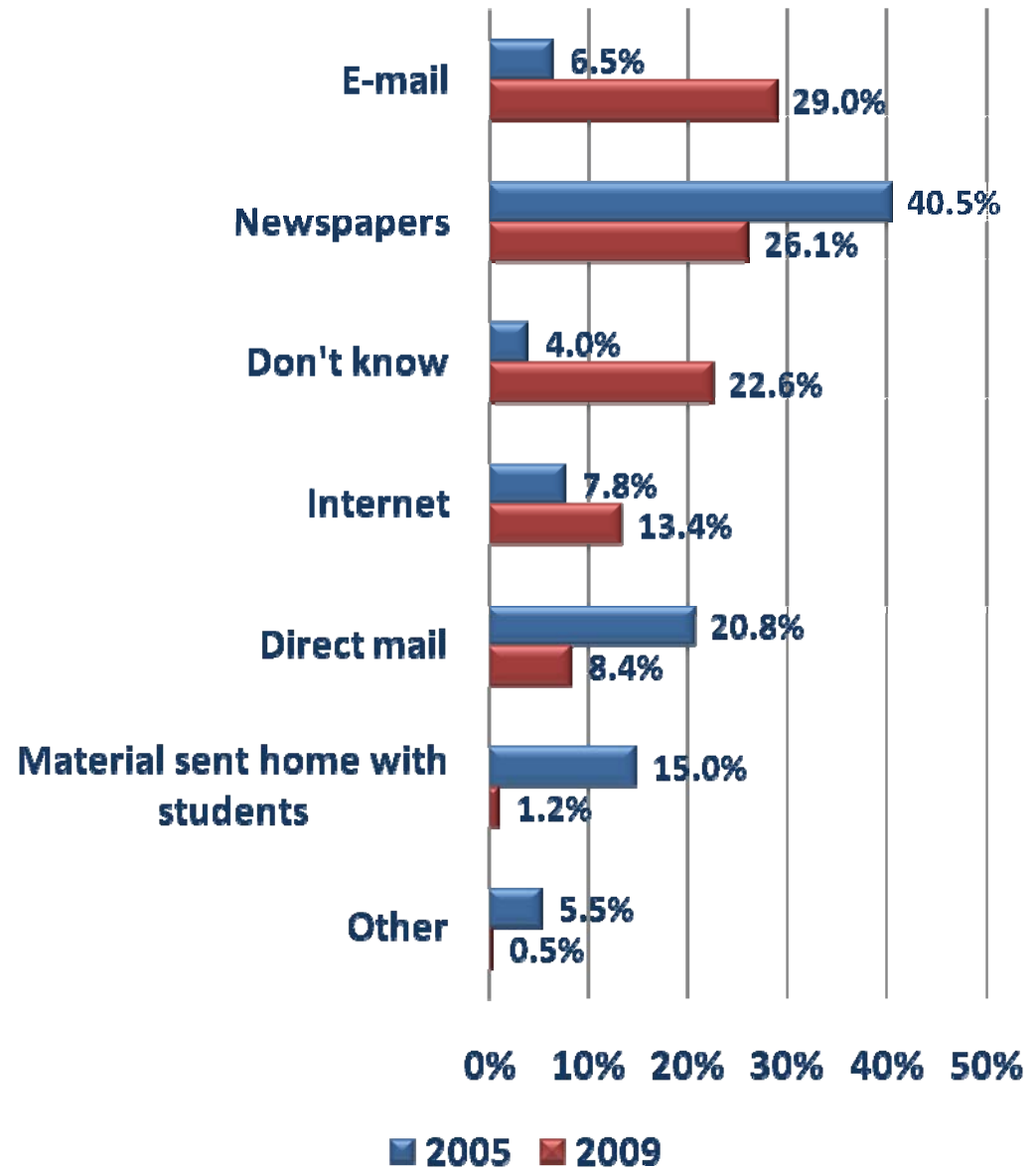|	
Pleasant and helpful	75.7%
Pleasant but not helpful	6.2%
Rude but helpful	1.5%
Rude and not helpful	3.2%
Have had no contact	12.9%
No opinion	0.5%

AC

"Most of the elementary schools in the district are not air conditioned. In order to air condition all the elementary schools, voters would need to approve a local property tax increase, which would cost the average homeowner in the district $107 per year. If a proposal was placed on the ballot to raise property taxes in order to air condition all the district's elementary schools, would you strongly favor, favor, oppose or strongly oppose such a proposal?"
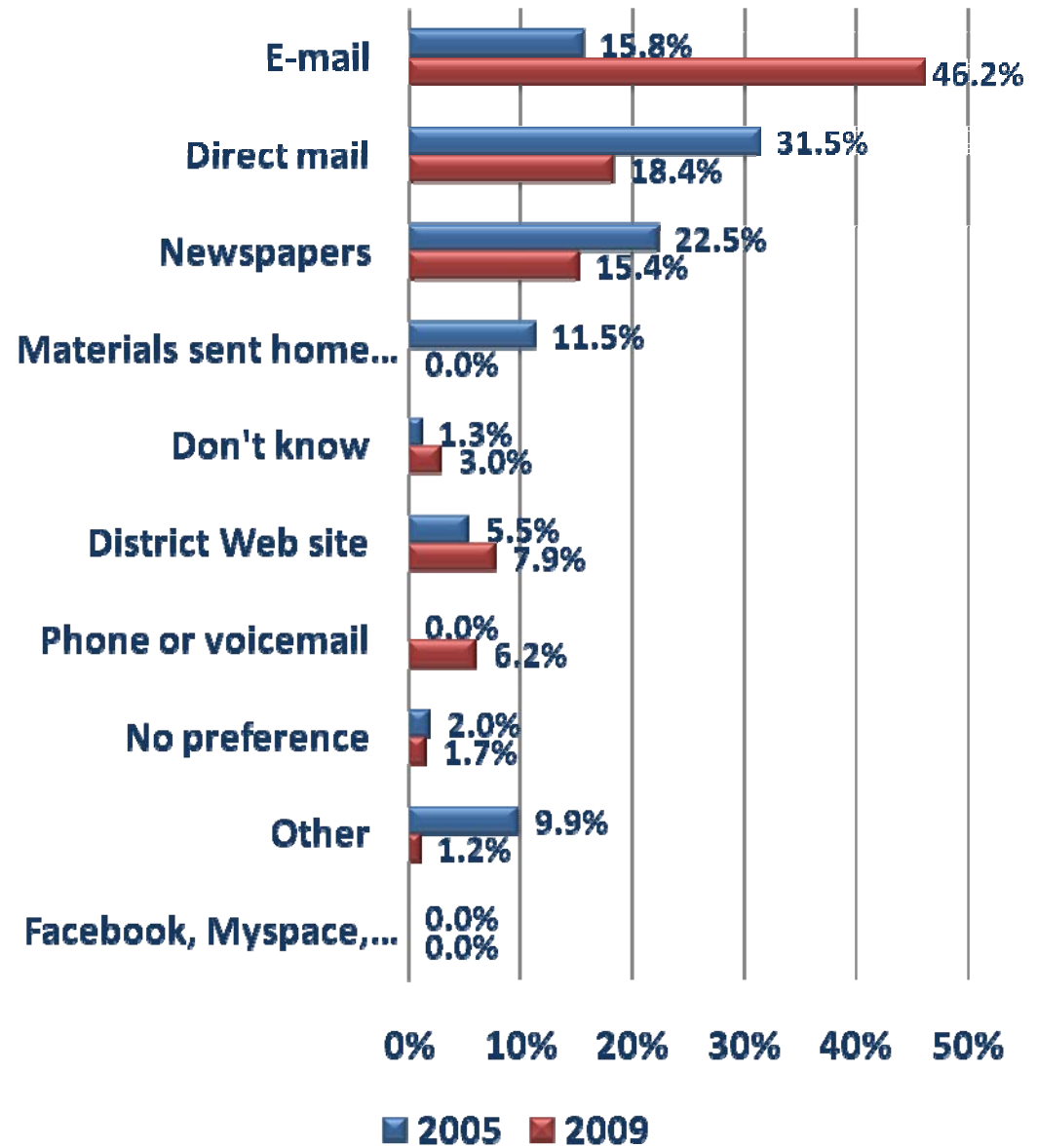

Undecided 2.0%

Strongly favor 14.9%

Strongly oppose 23.6%

Favor 30.3%

Oppose 29.3%

The Center For **Community Opinion**

Information

"How do you currently receive information about the Indian Prairie School District?"

	2005	2009
E-mail	6.5%	29.0%
Newspapers	40.5%	26.1%
Don't know	4.0%	22.6%
Internet	7.8%	13.4%
Direct mail	20.8%	8.4%
Material sent home with students	15.0%	1.2%
Other	5.5%	0.5%

The Center For
Community Opinion

21

Information

"What is the most effective way for the district to communicate with you in the future?"

	2005	2009
E-mail	15.8%	46.2%
Direct mail	31.5%	18.4%
Newspapers	22.5%	15.4%
Materials sent home...	11.5%	0.0%
Don't know	1.3%	3.0%
District Web site	5.5%	7.9%
Phone or voicemail	0.0%	6.2%
No preference	2.0%	1.7%
Other	9.9%	1.2%
Facebook, Myspace,...	0.0%	0.0%

The Center For
Community Opinion

Web site

2009

2005

Not visited Web site 27%

Visited Web site 73%

Not visited Web site 44%

Visited Web site 56%

The Center For
Community Opinion
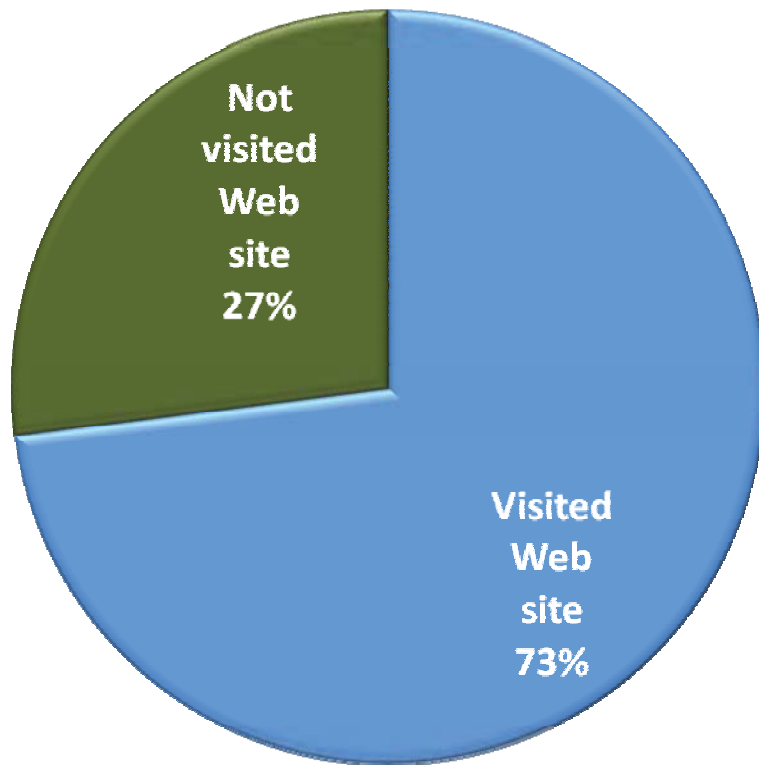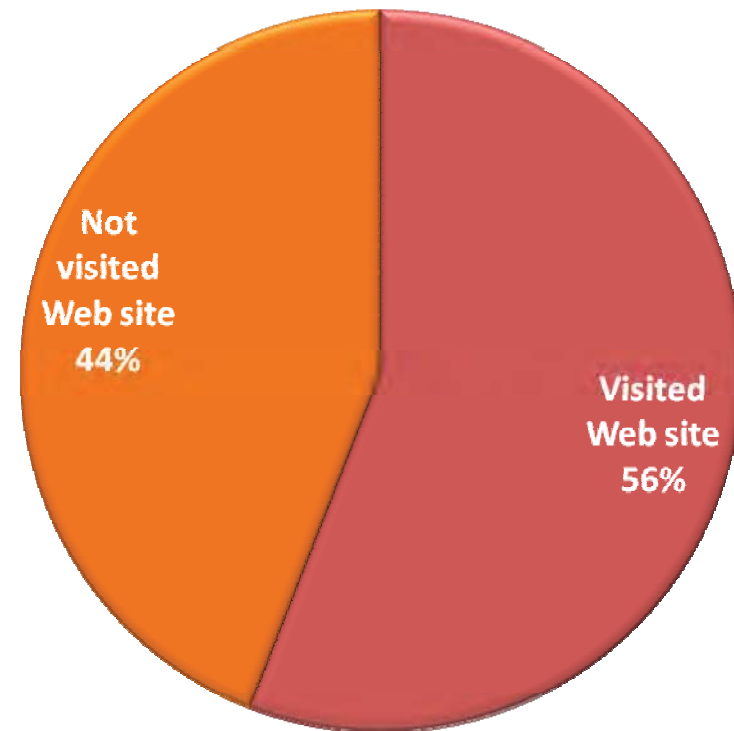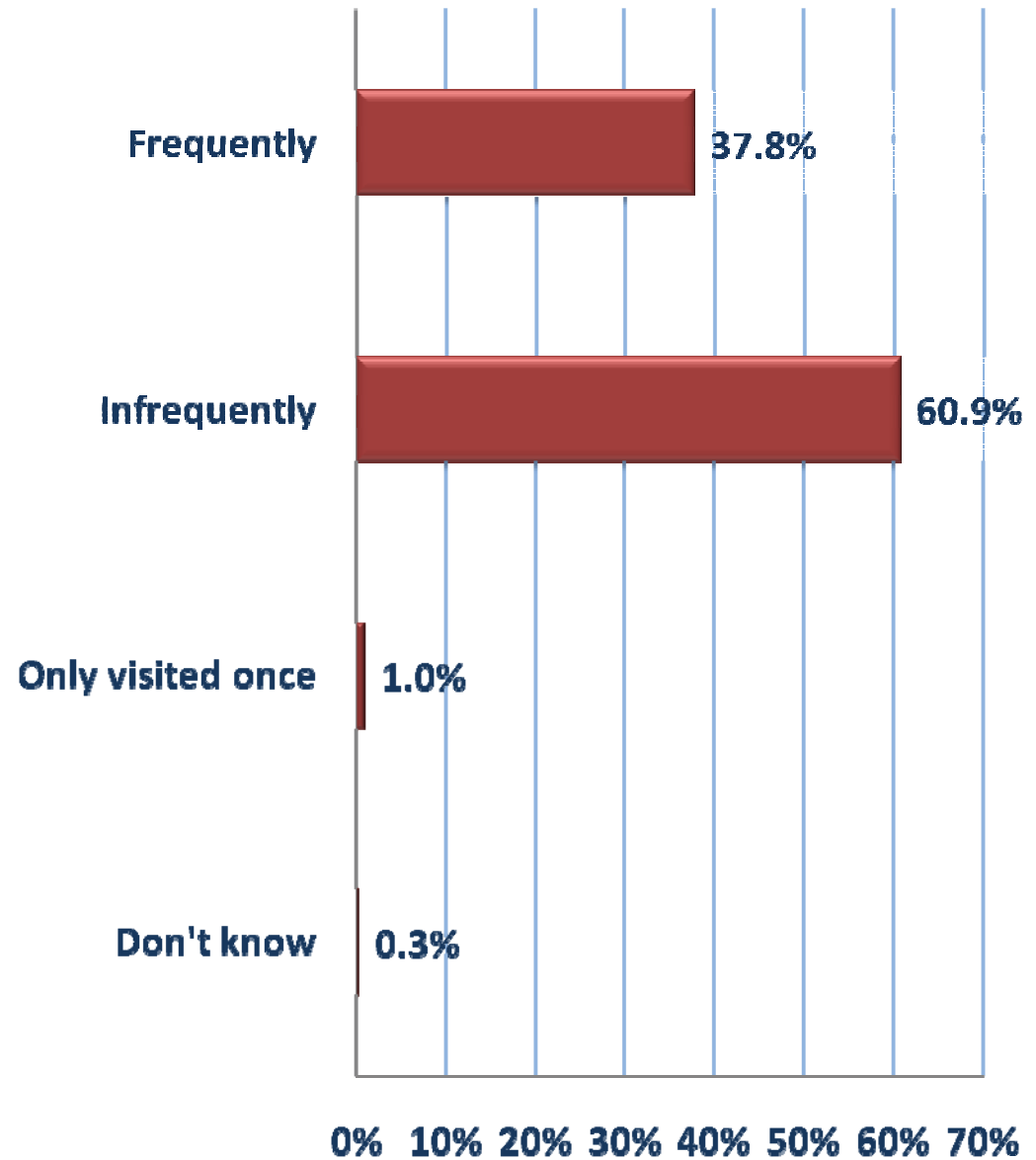
Web site

Those who have visited the district's web site were asked:

"Do you visit the district's web site frequently or infrequently?"

Frequently — 37.8%
Infrequently — 60.9%
Only visited once — 1.0%
Don't know — 0.3%
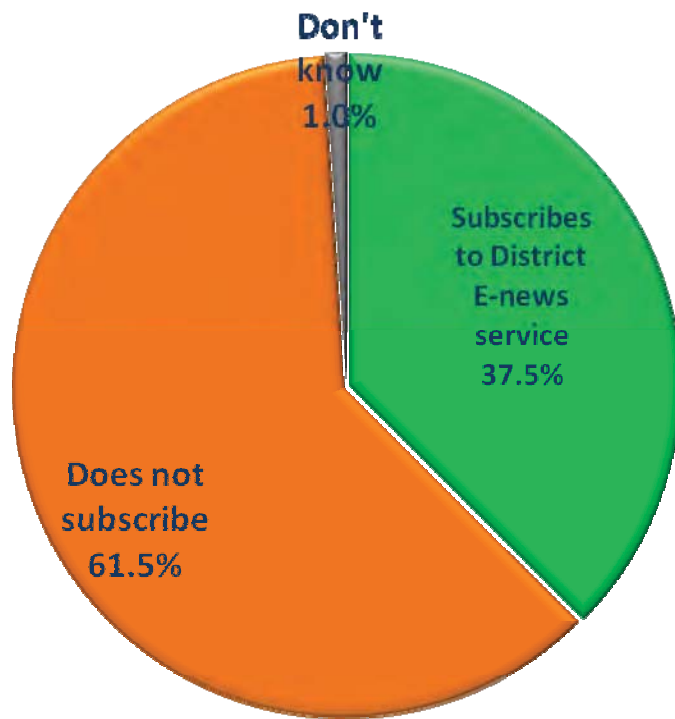
0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70%

Web site

Those who have visited the district's web site were asked:

"Was it very easy, somewhat easy, somewhat difficult or very difficult for you to find the information you needed on the district's Web site?"
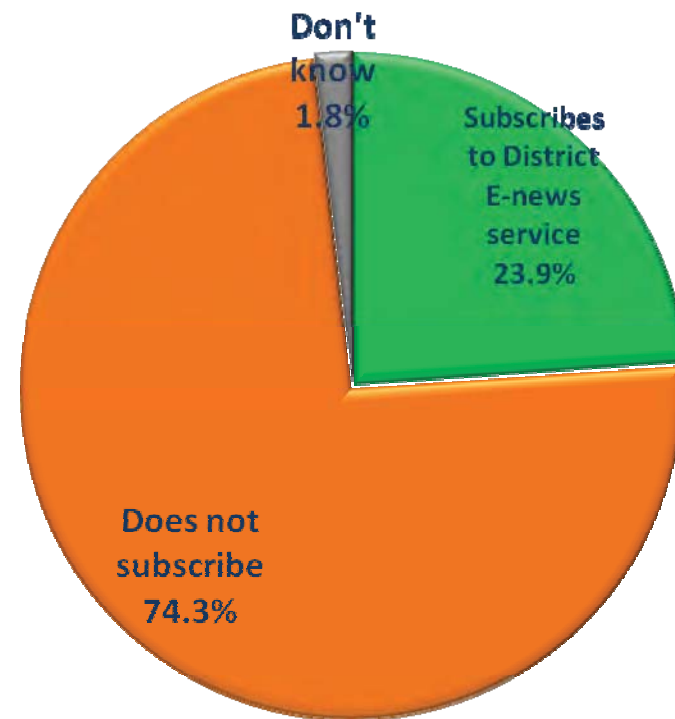

	Very easy	Somewhat easy	Somewhat difficult	Very difficult	DK/Refused
2005	56.1%	34.5%	5.8%	2.2%	1.3%
2009	47.1%	45.1%	6.5%	1.0%	0.3%

■ 2005 ■ 2009

The Center For
Community Opinion

E-news

2009

2005

Don't know 1.0%

Subscribes to District E-news service 37.5%

Does not subscribe 61.5%

Don't know 1.8%

Subscribes to District E-news service 23.9%

Does not subscribe 74.3%
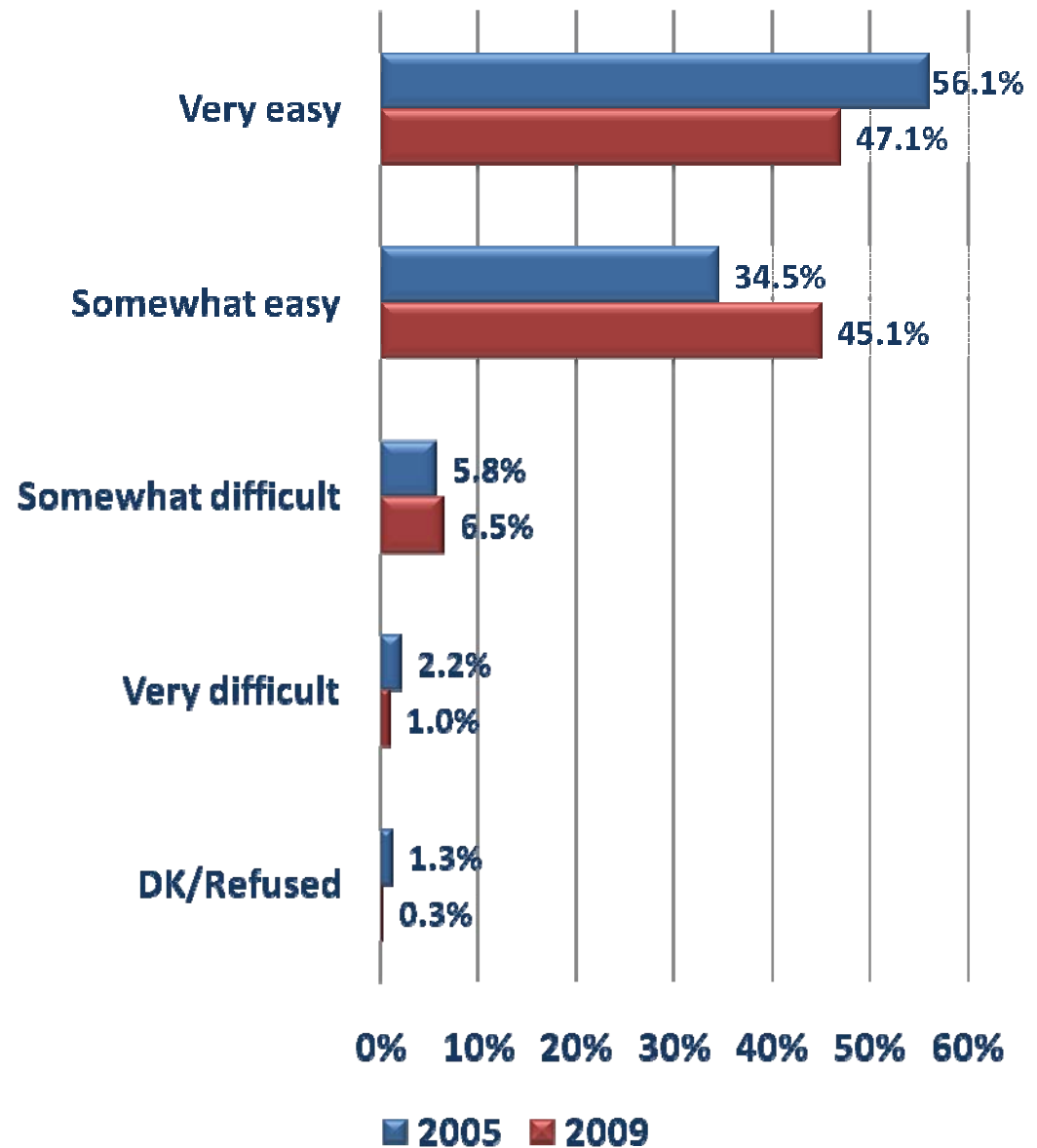
Additional information

"In which of the following subject areas would you most like to receive additional information about the Indian Prairie School District?

1) The District's budget and finances

2) Enrollment

3) Student test scores

4) How the district compares to other school districts?"