

CHAMPAIGN UNIT 4 - ONLINE SURVEY - OVERVIEW OF DATA

Please take our online survey -- your opinion matters to us!

Please answer the following questions:

1. How long have you lived within the Champaign Unit 4 School District?

50 (5.0%)	0-2 years
90 (9.0%)	3-5 years
144 (14.4%)	6-10 years
263 (26.4%)	11-20 years
412 (41.3%)	More than 20 years
35 (3.5%)	Not a resident
3 (0.3%)	Other, don't know

2. Students are often given the grades A, B, C, D, and Fail to denote the quality of their academic work. Suppose the public schools across the State of Illinois were graded in the same way. What grade would you give the public schools in the State of Illinois - A, B, C, D, or Fail?

16 (1.7%)	A
253 (26.3%)	B
418 (43.4%)	C
131 (13.6%)	D
41 (4.3%)	Fail
99 (10.3%)	Other / don't know

3. What about your local school district - the Champaign Unit 4 School District. What grade would you assign to your local school district - A, B, C, D, or Fail?

60 (6.2%)	A
377 (39.1%)	B
306 (31.8%)	C
129 (13.4%)	D
49 (5.1%)	Fail
36 (3.7%)	Other / don't know

4a. Unit 4 is considering asking voters to approve a bond issue in order to fund facility improvements. Although an exact cost has yet to be determined, for the purpose of this question, let's assume that the proposal would ask voters to approve bonds in the amount of \$158 million to expand and renovate Central and Centennial High Schools in their current locations. If a vote were held today, would you strongly favor, favor, oppose, or strongly oppose such a proposal?

134 (29.1%)	Strongly favor
122 (26.5%)	Favor
73 (15.9%)	Undecided
58 (12.6%)	Oppose
67 (14.6%)	Strongly oppose
4 (0.9%)	Other / don't know

4b. Unit 4 is considering asking voters to approve a bond issue in order to fund facility improvements. Although an exact cost has yet to be determined, for the purpose of this question, let's assume that the proposal would ask voters to approve bonds in the amount of \$257 million to renovate and expand Central and Centennial High Schools, rebuild Dr. Howard Elementary School, renovate or rebuild South Side Elementary School, and renovate and expand International Prep Academy and Edison Middle School. If a vote were held today, would you strongly favor, favor, oppose, or strongly oppose such a proposal?

198 (39.4%)	Strongly favor
110 (21.9%)	Favor
75 (14.9%)	Undecided
49 (9.7%)	Oppose
61 (12.1%)	Strongly oppose
10 (2.0%)	Other / don't know

5. Well, which way are you leaning -- toward favor or toward oppose?

64 (39.5%)	Lean favor
49 (30.2%)	Undecided
36 (22.2%)	Lean oppose
11 (6.8%)	Other / don't know

6. What's the main reason you are opposed to a bond proposal to maintain and improve the condition of Unit 4 school buildings?

10 (3.7%)	I don't know enough about the proposal
26 (9.6%)	I don't want to pay more taxes no matter the cause
6 (2.2%)	The school buildings are fine the way they are
2 (0.7%)	I don't have children in Unit 4 schools
54 (19.9%)	I'm unhappy with recent decisions made by the BOE / Administration
30 (11.1%)	They should take care of school buildings with money on hand
56 (20.7%)	Proposed location of the high school
70 (25.8%)	Other
	(please specify) 114 (42.1%)

7. For each of the following, please rate the job performance of the Champaign Unit 4 School District as excellent, good, not so good or poor.

	Excellent	Good	Not so good	Poor	Other / Don't know
Earning community trust and confidence	29 (3.0%)	358 (37.2%)	348 (36.1%)	190 (19.7%)	31 (3.2%)
Hiring and retaining a high quality teaching staff	92 (9.6%)	556 (57.7%)	173 (18.0%)	69 (7.2%)	66 (6.9%)
Communicating with transparency regarding all aspects of the District	48 (5.0%)	336 (34.9%)	336 (34.9%)	188 (19.5%)	48 (5.0%)
Providing safe and secure schools	111 (11.5%)	534 (55.5%)	177 (18.4%)	95 (9.9%)	38 (3.9%)
Preparing students for success as they pursue college or a career	90 (9.3%)	513 (53.3%)	185 (19.2%)	89 (9.2%)	79 (8.2%)
Providing up-to-date school buildings	18 (1.9%)	201 (20.9%)	362 (37.6%)	344 (35.7%)	30 (3.1%)
Building collaborative relationships with the City and Park District	61 (6.3%)	376 (39.0%)	213 (22.1%)	109 (11.3%)	191 (19.8%)
Encouraging residents to participate in the District's decision-making process	133 (13.8%)	438 (45.5%)	206 (21.4%)	136 (14.1%)	39 (4.0%)
Attending to the needs of an ethnically and racially diverse student population	124 (12.9%)	425 (44.1%)	208 (21.6%)	99 (10.3%)	101 (10.5%)

8. For each of the following building updates and improvements that District Unit 4 has on a list of capital projects, indicate if you strongly favor, favor, oppose or strongly oppose the project?

	Strongly Favor	Favor	Lean Favor	Undecided	Lean oppose	Strongly Oppose	Other/ Don't know
Expand and improve parking and bus loading areas at District schools where safety is of concern	250 (26.0%)	312 (32.4%)	201 (20.9%)	88 (9.1%)	60 (6.2%)	24 (2.5%)	18 (1.9%)
Install artificial turf on fields to allow for greater use among athletic, band and community activities	89 (9.2%)	152 (15.8%)	176 (18.3%)	163 (16.9%)	210 (21.8%)	148 (15.4%)	18 (1.9%)
Zone off areas at each high school so they can be used by community groups afterschool hours	107 (11.1%)	171 (17.8%)	236 (24.5%)	212 (22.0%)	123 (12.8%)	76 (7.9%)	30 (3.1%)
Improve heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems where needed	490 (50.9%)	297 (30.8%)	120 (12.5%)	24 (2.5%)	16 (1.7%)	7 (0.7%)	2 (0.2%)
Replace roofs, windows, floors and classroom doors that have been identified as infailing condition	564 (58.6%)	254 (26.4%)	105 (10.9%)	15 (1.6%)	9 (0.9%)	2 (0.2%)	2 (0.2%)

	Strongly Favor	Favor	Lean Favor	Undecided	Lean oppose	Strongly Oppose	Other/ Don't know
Renovate science, technology and math classrooms to better support curriculum standards	467 (48.5%)	291 (30.2%)	129 (13.4%)	27 (2.8%)	20 (2.1%)	15 (1.6%)	4 (0.4%)
Improve building features that support accessibility for people with disabilities	508 (52.8%)	260 (27.0%)	115 (11.9%)	41 (4.3%)	14 (1.5%)	5 (0.5%)	5 (0.5%)
Replace or repair old and out of date fire alarm systems	568 (59.0%)	242 (25.1%)	98 (10.2%)	30 (3.1%)	11 (1.1%)	5 (0.5%)	2 (0.2%)

9. The following is a list of specific building improvement recommendations that have been made through a planning process led by a group of community members called the Tier Two Committee for Facility Planning. Using a 7 point scale, where 7 represents a high priority, and 1 represents low priority, chose a number between 7 and 1 that most closely indicates what priority you might assign to the recommendation.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Make needed repairs and classroom additions to, or possibly rebuild, South Side Elementary	94 (9.8%)	85 (8.8%)	97 (10.1%)	215 (22.3%)	195 (20.2%)	115 (11.9%)	136 (14.1%)
Renovate and expand Central High School at its current location to modernize classrooms and accommodate increases in student enrollment	138 (14.3%)	54 (5.6%)	51 (5.3%)	56 (5.8%)	74 (7.7%)	143 (14.8%)	425 (44.1%)
Tear down and rebuild Dr. Howard Elementary School on its current site	116 (12.0%)	69 (7.2%)	73 (7.6%)	141 (14.6%)	121 (12.6%)	138 (14.3%)	285 (29.6%)
Add gymnasium space at both Central and Centennial High Schools to support physical education and athletic programs	123 (12.8%)	83 (8.6%)	91 (9.4%)	146 (15.2%)	152 (15.8%)	140 (14.5%)	206 (21.4%)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Add athletic, activity, and physical education fields near and adjacent to Central High School	146 (15.2%)	80 (8.3%)	73 (7.6%)	101 (10.5%)	156 (16.2%)	149 (15.5%)	229 (23.8%)
Renovate and add classroom space at Edison Middle School	78 (8.1%)	63 (6.5%)	86 (8.9%)	174 (18.1%)	165 (17.1%)	186 (19.3%)	191 (19.8%)
Renovate and add classroom space at the International Prep Academy allowing the school to become a K-8 dual language program	163 (16.9%)	105 (10.9%)	126 (13.1%)	181 (18.8%)	154 (16.0%)	94 (9.8%)	115 (11.9%)
Renovate and expand Centennial High School at its current location to modernize classrooms and accommodate increases in student enrollment	115 (11.9%)	82 (8.5%)	68 (7.1%)	115 (11.9%)	156 (16.2%)	158 (16.4%)	248 (25.8%)
Improve athletic and physical education play fields at Franklin Middle and South Side Elementary to be utilized by students at these campuses as well as Central High School students	125 (13.0%)	88 (9.1%)	108 (11.2%)	147 (15.3%)	195 (20.2%)	141 (14.6%)	131 (13.6%)

10. The following is a list of some statements that people might make about the Champaign Unit 4 School District. For each, indicate if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree when thinking about Unit 4

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Other / Don't know
We must address challenges resulting from enrollment growth with several school buildings now over capacity.	616 (64.0%)	241 (25.0%)	45 (4.7%)	25 (2.6%)	16 (1.7%)
I'm willing to support a bond proposal to make sure the quality of our schools measures up to that of other top performing districts in our area.	473 (49.1%)	263 (27.3%)	70 (7.3%)	95 (9.9%)	47 (4.9%)
The quality of our schools is the most important factor protecting our property values.	255 (26.5%)	408 (42.4%)	171 (17.8%)	69 (7.2%)	45 (4.7%)
Several of our school buildings are old and outdated and detract from our ability to attract young families to our community.	354 (36.8%)	264 (27.4%)	182 (18.9%)	118 (12.3%)	32 (3.3%)
Our school district is a source of pride in this community.	163 (16.9%)	328 (34.1%)	284 (29.5%)	148 (15.4%)	29 (3.0%)
We need more space and updated school buildings to adequately prepare students.	488 (50.7%)	278 (28.9%)	97 (10.1%)	65 (6.7%)	17 (1.8%)

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Other / Don't know
We need to take whatever steps are necessary to ensure safe and secure school buildings.	551 (57.2%)	277 (28.8%)	75 (7.8%)	35 (3.6%)	7 (0.7%)
People like me can't afford a property tax increase regardless of the cause.	116 (12.0%)	181 (18.8%)	253 (26.3%)	323 (33.5%)	77 (8.0%)
Our property tax rate for education is low compared to surrounding school districts.	101 (10.5%)	153 (15.9%)	221 (22.9%)	154 (16.0%)	319 (33.1%)

11. State laws require Unit 4 to make upwards of \$6.5 million for health and safety repairs and renovations to its school buildings. If a bond issue were to pass, these costs could be paid for by funds collected from the sale of bonds. If bond money does not exist however, the Board of Education is obligated by law to determine a tax rate hike to pay for these improvements. How aware are you of these State mandated health/life safety requirements? Are you very aware, somewhat, not very or not at all aware?

97 (10.1%)	Very aware
218 (22.6%)	Somewhat aware
259 (26.9%)	Not very aware
371 (38.5%)	Not at all aware
16 (1.7%)	Other / don't know

12a. Now that you've answered a lot of questions, consider the possibility of a bond proposal one more time. Unit 4 has estimated that building improvements including some new construction will cost about \$158 million to be spent over the next several years. The District is considering asking voters to approve a bond issue in this amount which would cost the owner of a home valued at \$150,000 about \$242 per year. If an election was held today, and you were adequately informed about each project, would you strongly favor, favor, oppose or strongly oppose a bond proposal?

153 (33.3%)	Strongly favor
111 (24.1%)	Favor
78 (17.0%)	Undecided
31 (6.7%)	Oppose
64 (13.9%)	Strongly oppose
15 (3.3%)	Other, don't know

12b. Now that you've answered a lot of questions, I'd like to ask you about the possibility of a bond proposal one more time. Unit 4 has estimated that building improvements including some new construction will cost about \$257 million to be spent over the next several years. The District is considering asking voters to approve a bond issue in this amount which would cost the owner of a home valued at \$150,000 about \$393 per year. If an election was held today, and you were adequately informed about each project, would you strongly favor, favor, oppose or strongly oppose a bond proposal?

170 (33.8%)	Strongly favor
115 (22.9%)	Favor
88 (17.5%)	Undecided
49 (9.7%)	Oppose
69 (13.7%)	Strongly oppose
6 (1.2%)	Other, don't know

13. Well, which way are you leaning -- toward favor or toward oppose?

64 (34.2%)	Lean favor
77 (41.2%)	Undecided
34 (18.2%)	Lean oppose
10 (5.3%)	Other, don't know

14. Generally speaking how well informed do you feel about Unit 4 School District? Would you say that you are very informed, somewhat informed, not very well informed or not at all informed as to the work of the school district?

329 (34.2%)	Very informed
513 (53.3%)	Somewhat informed
88 (9.1%)	Not very informed
19 (2.0%)	Not at all informed
3 (0.3%)	Other / don't know

15. There are a number of ways that people receive information about their school district. What would you prefer to be your primary source of information about Unit 4?

468 (48.6%)	The local newspaper. The News Gazette
195 (20.2%)	Family and friends
258 (26.8%)	Television coverage
201 (20.9%)	The Principal's Newsletter
213 (22.1%)	From a classroom teacher or staff member
330 (34.3%)	The District's website
136 (14.1%)	By attending a school event
348 (36.1%)	Social media like Facebook or Twitter
209 (21.7%)	Local blogs such as Smile Politely, Chambanamoms, Board Corner Blog, etc.
77 (8.0%)	Local radio (specify below)
41 (4.3%)	Other (please specify) 95 (9.9%)

16. Is there some other way you would like to receive information?

128 (13.3%)	The local newspaper. The News Gazette
37 (3.8%)	Family and friends
132 (13.7%)	Television coverage
115 (11.9%)	The Principal's Newsletter
81 (8.4%)	From a classroom teacher or staff member
146 (15.2%)	The District's website
62 (6.4%)	By attending a school event
131 (13.6%)	Social media like Facebook or Twitter
87 (9.0%)	Local blogs such as Smile Politely, Chambanamoms, Board Corner Blog, etc.
55 (5.7%)	Local radio (specify below)
36 (3.7%)	Other (please specify) 76 (7.9%)

17. Are any children under the age of 18 living in your household?

581 (60.3%)	Yes
368 (38.2%)	No
9 (0.9%)	Other, don't know

18. Which of the following schools do they attend?

298 (51.3%)	Unit 4 elementary school
153 (26.3%)	Unit 4 middle school
169 (29.1%)	Unit 4 high school
81 (13.9%)	Private or parochial school (at any level)
12 (2.1%)	Unit 4 early childhood program
52 (9.0%)	Other / don't know

19. And what zip code do you live in?

1 (0.1%)	61815
184 (19.1%)	61820
366 (38.0%)	61821
278 (28.9%)	61822
2 (0.2%)	61825
118 (12.3%)	61874
0 (0.0%)	61826
13 (1.3%)	Other, don't know

20. In which of the following age groups are you?

207 (21.5%)	18-34
429 (44.5%)	35-49
210 (21.8%)	50-64
56 (5.8%)	65-74
14 (1.5%)	75 or over
35 (3.6%)	I prefer not to answer

21. What is your race or ethnicity?

34 (3.5%)	African American
727 (75.5%)	Caucasian
18 (1.9%)	Asian
0 (0.0%)	Congolese
21 (2.2%)	Hispanic/Latino
129 (13.4%)	I prefer not to answer
21 (2.2%)	Other (specify)
	(please specify) 23 (2.4%)

22. Do you or any member of your immediate family work for the Champaign Unit 4 School District?

232 (24.1%)	Yes
712 (73.9%)	No
14 (1.5%)	Other, don't know

23. What was the last grade or year of school you completed?

45 (4.7%)	High school
111 (11.5%)	Some college
360 (37.4%)	College
434 (45.1%)	Post-graduate
9 (0.9%)	Other/ don't know

24. How often do you use social media - daily, weekly, maybe once a month or less, or never?

814 (84.5%)	Daily
66 (6.9%)	Weekly
33 (3.4%)	Once a month or less
30 (3.1%)	Never
5 (0.5%)	Other / don't know

25. How often do you visit the District's website for information and updates about District Unit 4?

64 (6.6%)	A few times each week
90 (9.3%)	Once a week
183 (19.0%)	Once every couple of weeks
283 (29.4%)	Once a month
250 (26.0%)	Never
82 (8.5%)	Other

26. What is your gender?

267 (27.7%)	Male
681 (70.7%)	Female

Please click the "submit your answers" button to complete the survey.

Thank you for your cooperation!