Xenia Community Values & Priorities Survey Update

November 2, 2026

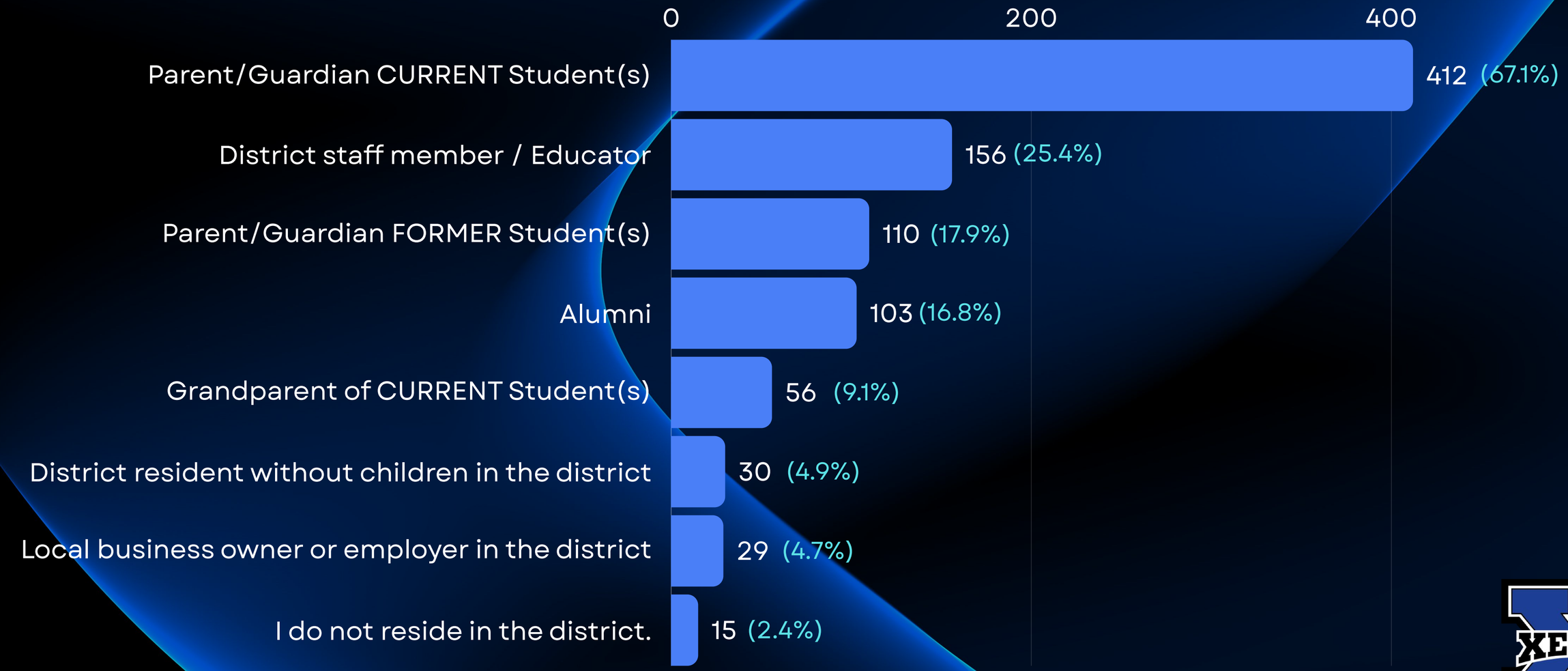
By the #s: Methodology Snapshot

- **Brief:** Easy to complete. Only 7 survey questions; only 4 required.
  - Optional: Open-ended questions + demographics
- **Timely:** Survey open from October 1 - 16 at 5:00 p.m.
- **Type:** Anonymous, Census Approach
- **Open to Entire Community:** Survey sent directly to all XCS families, staff + community members:
  - 4,563 received invitation (4x) from district.
  - Principals also invited families to complete the survey.
  - Link posted on website, but not social media.

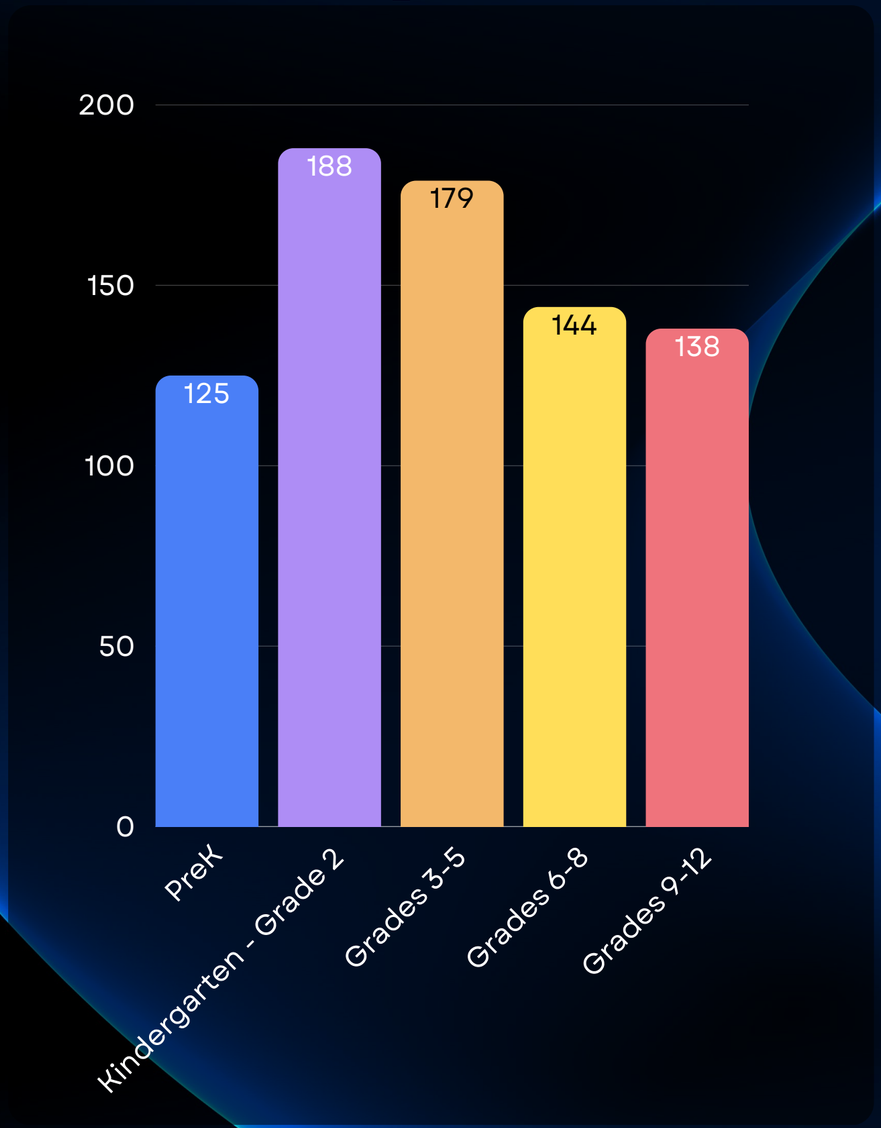
Total Response: 614 Completed Surveys

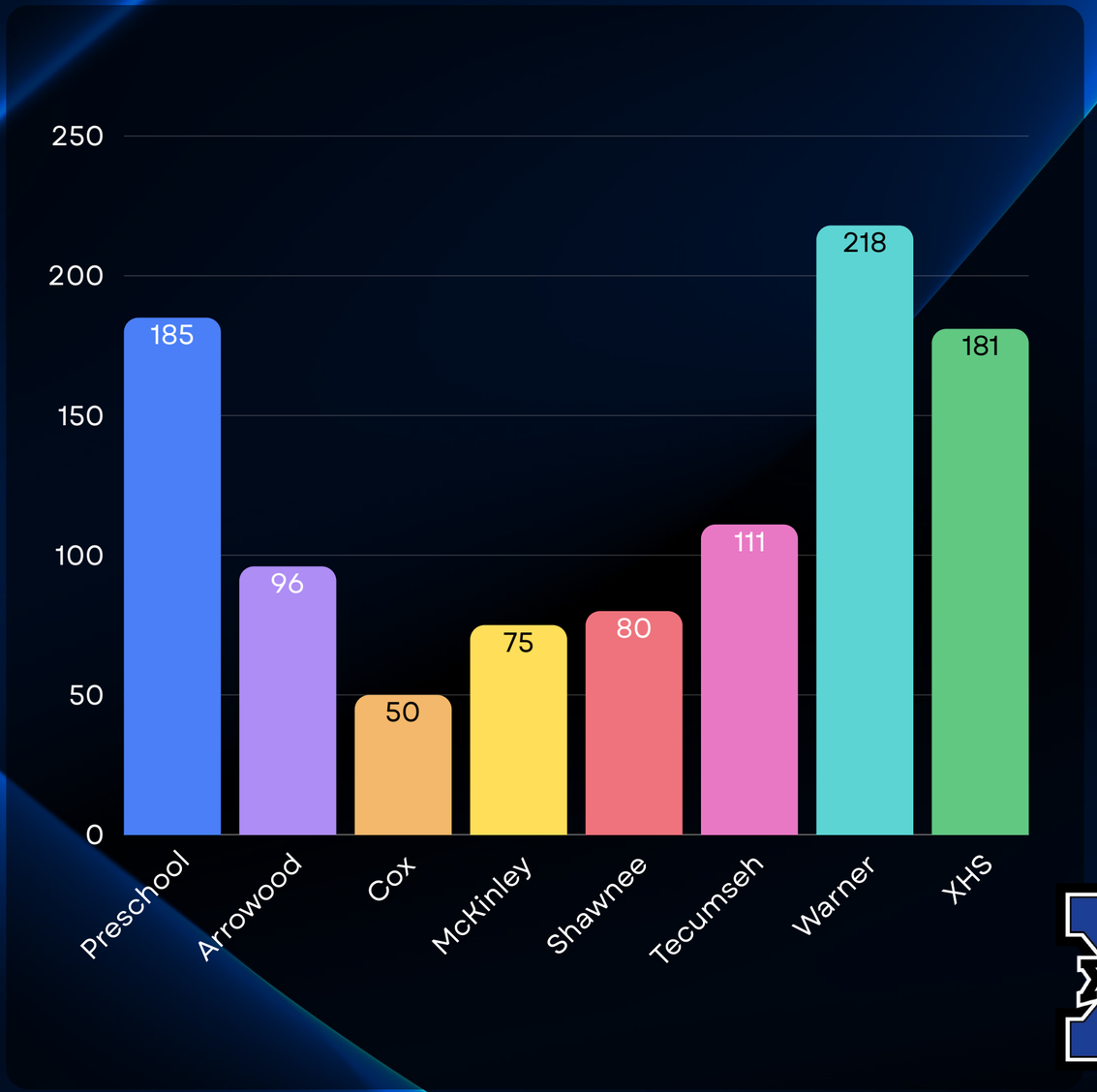
Response rate: 13.5%

Who Responded?



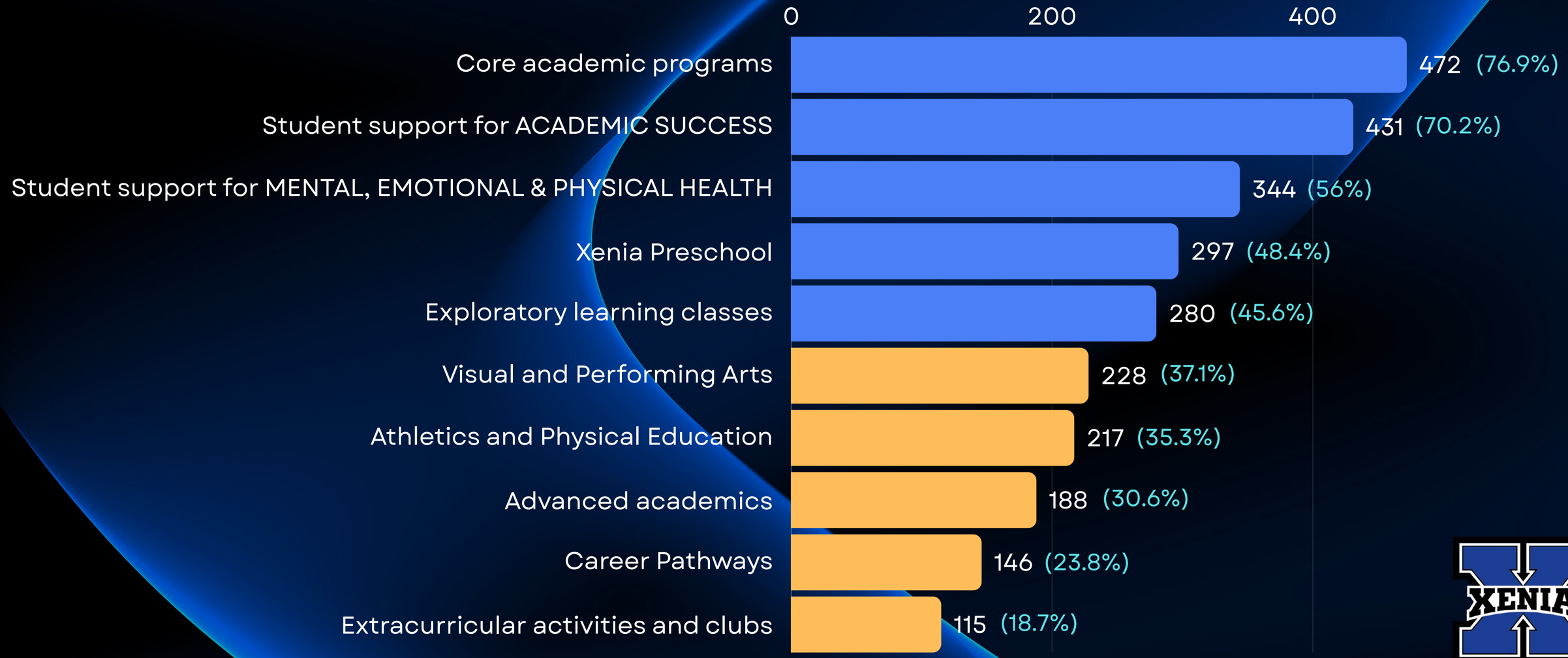
Who Responded?





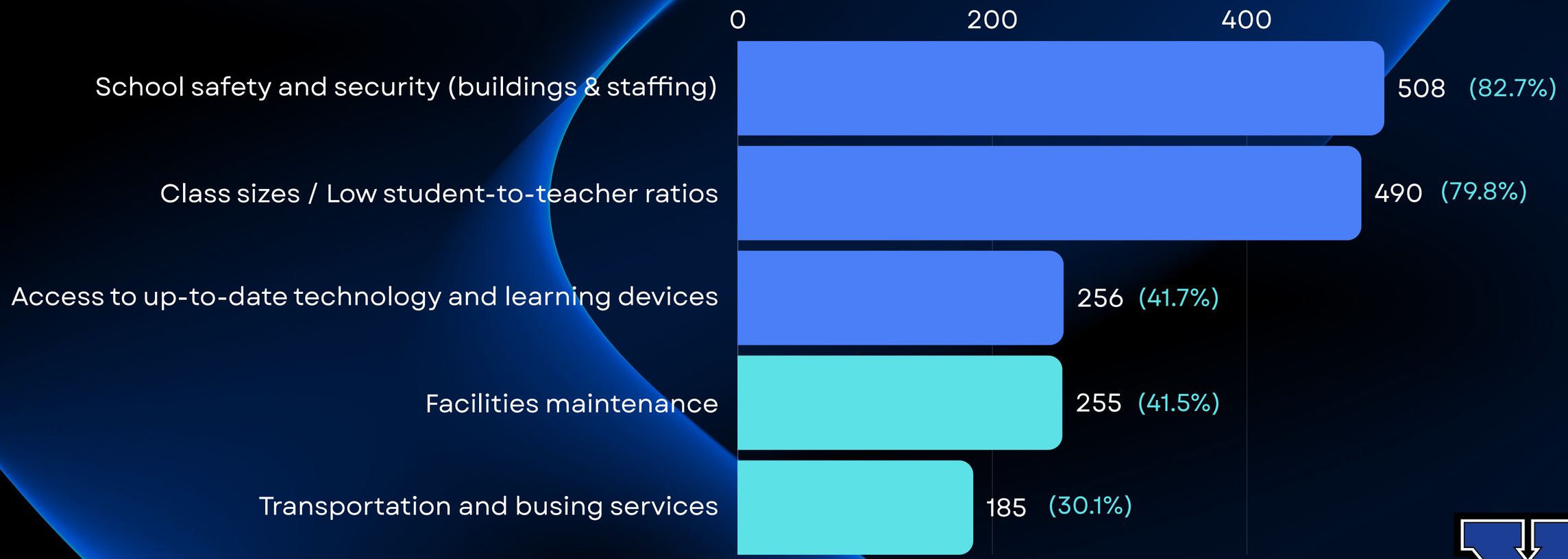
Q2: Academic & Student Services

ACADEMICS & STUDENT SERVICES: Choose Your TOP Priorities (select up to 5)



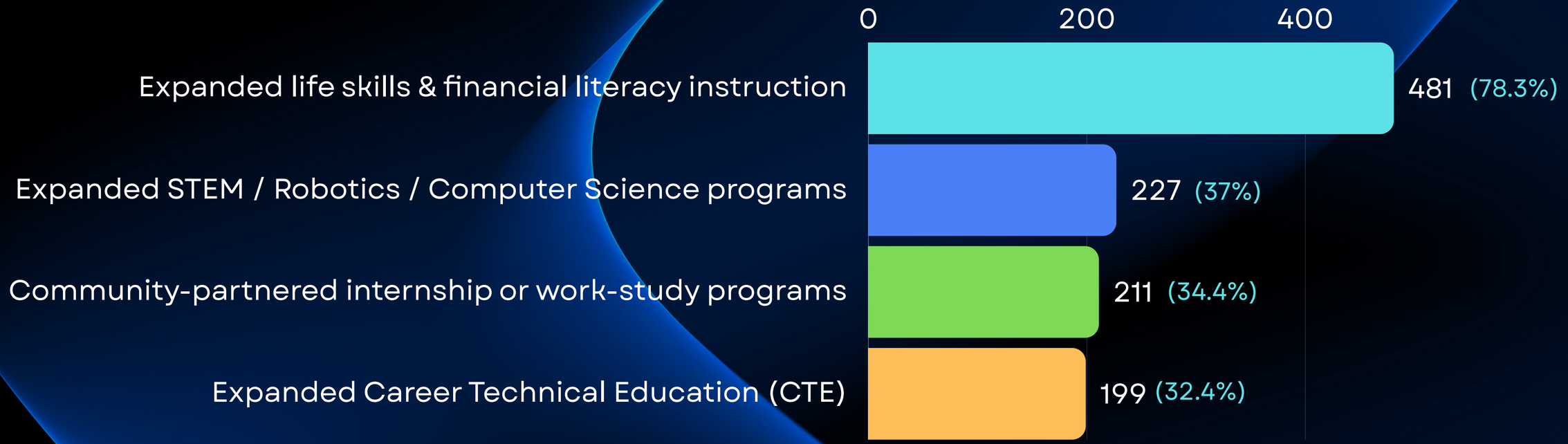
Q3: Operations & Infrastructure

OPERATIONS & INFRASTRUCTURE: Choose Your TOP Priorities (select up to 3)



Q4: Opportunities for Expansion

If resources allow — either through budget or supported through community partnerships — what programs or services would you most like to see expanded or added? (Select up to 2)



Q5: Key Trends - 5 Takeaways

What are the things our district is doing well that we must not lose, even during tough budget cycles?

See Appendix for additional details. N=380

Academics, Intervention & Specialized Supports

186

Protect core learning + support for struggling learners and Special Education.

Protect Early Childhood Education

90

Affordable tuition and early intervention services are vital assets that set up long-term student success.

Retention of High-Quality Educator Talent

91

Recruit and retain quality teachers and instructional staff. Class size/ratio. Relationships support student achievement and well-being.

Commitment to the Arts

65

Band, choir, theater, and fine arts are seen as essential non-negotiables rather than optional extras, with strong advocacy across grade levels.

Balanced Academic Opportunities in a Safe Environment

Dual Focus: Maintain small class sizes in elementary grades, while protecting advanced curriculum (AP, Honors, CCP, Gifted) and practical pathways in secondary grades. Broad opportunities for student growth.

Q6: Key Trends - 4 Takeaways

Are there any cost-neutral or low-cost ideas for improving our schools you would like to share?

See Appendix for additional details. N=186

Leveraging Community & Volunteer Capital

28

Expand volunteer opportunities to support classrooms, lunchrooms, and extracurricular activities w/o increasing payroll. Build stronger partnerships with local businesses.

Streamlining Operations & Administrative Overhead

20

Protect teachers by focusing potential budget trim on central office administration, utility efficiency, and grounds maintenance.

Calendar and Operational Restructuring

27

Re-evaluate district calendar to reduce transportation, building utility, and staffing costs.

Revenue Generation

26

Consider new/alternate revenue opportunities (fundraisers, fees, concessions), ways to donate/support. State budget advocacy.

Higher Cost/Added-Budget Suggestions

60

Focus on safety, school climate/culture, continued building improvements, added courses.

Q7: Key Trends - 4 Takeaways

Is there anything else you want us to know?

See Appendix for additional details. N=153

Protect the Front Lines / Long-Term Value Focus

58

Evaluate budget decisions based on long-term educational value (academic support, SPED preschool) rather than short-term savings.

Collaborative Budget Governance

28

Strong desire for transparency if reductions become necessary. Focus on non-instructional spending before making cuts in classrooms.

Valuing Human Capital & Staff Morale

16

Staff dedication is the district's greatest asset. Protect morale, avoid burnout, and maintain competitive compensation to retain quality teachers.

Underlying Community Goodwill & Support

22

Alongside constructive criticism, a solid baseline of community support. Gratitude was expressed toward district staff and leadership for managing facilities and navigating tough budget cycles.

Other Concerns

22

Operational logisitics, facilities management, student safety, school climate.

APPENDIX

Q5: Breakdown

What are the things our district is doing well that we must not lose, even during tough budget cycles?

PRIORITY AREA	#	KEY WORDS/THEMES/FOCUS
Curriculum / Instruction / Teaching	**125**	AP/CCP/Honors courses, Gifted programs, STEM/STEAM, Electives/Explo classes, Foreign Languages, Literacy/Math core instruction, Library/Media centers & Library/Digital Literacy components of "Specials".
High Quality Teachers	**91**	Quality educators, teacher retention, competitive teacher pay/compensation, maintaining low class sizes, favorable student-teacher ratios, and essential teaching staff.
Preschool / Early Childhood Education	**90**	Xenia Preschool, early childhood education opportunities, early intervention/preschool special ed, and affordable preschool tuition rates.
Arts, Music & Performing Arts	**65**	Music, Band, Choir, Orchestra, Visual Art, Theater/Drama, Elementary Art/Music "Specials", and student concerts/art shows.
Academic Support & Special Education	**61**	Special Education (SpEd, IEP, 504 plans), Intervention Specialists, Reading/Math Specialists, Classroom Aides, Paraprofessionals, Speech Therapy, and Academic Support.
Facilities, Technology & Transportation	**48**	Building upkeep, maintenance, athletic fieldhouse/fields/stadiums, cleanliness, and HVAC/air conditioning systems. Bus routes, bus drivers, transportation reliability, and student safety on buses.
Athletics / P.E.	**45**	High school/middle school athletics, sports teams, Physical Education (PE), gym classes, coaching, and PE components of Elementary "Specials".
Safety & Security	**24**	School safety protocols, physical security, safe learning environments, and security personnel/school resource officers.
Student Mental Health	**15**	Guidance counselors, social workers, mental health resources, emotional wellness support, and behavioral support staff.
Technology	**12**	1:1 student devices (Chromebooks/laptops), digital learning tools, computer labs, internet infrastructure, and digital literacy coursework.
General District Satisfaction / Other	**60**	General satisfaction, positive community culture, and specific school-level praise.

Q6: Breakdown

Are there any cost-neutral or low-cost ideas for improving our schools you would like to share?

PRIORITY AREA	#	KEY WORDS/THEMES/FOCUS
Community & Volunteer Capital	**28**	Expanding parent/community volunteer rosters, corporate sponsorships, business mentorships/internships, grants, student-led solutions, peer tutoring.
Operational & Staffing Efficiencies	**20**	Administrative overhead reductions, optimizing grounds/facility maintenance (e.g., native prairie plantings to reduce mowing), energy conservation, paperless workflows, and flexible staffing/job-sharing.
Calendar & Operations Optimization	**27**	Exploring 4-day school weeks, adjusting school year calendars (Labor Day to Memorial Day), optimizing daily bell/transportation schedules, rezone,
Generate Revenue	**26**	Grant-writing, fundraisers, allow ways for families to donate needs, revisit fees, advocate for schools in state budget funding.
Other Ideas (not low cost or unrelated)	**60**	Curriculum/staffing (revolve around life skills ranging from driver's ed and budgeting to cooking and car maintenance), safety security, PBIS, crosswalk signals, technology.

Q7: Breakdown

Is there anything else you want us to know?

PRIORITY AREA	#	KEY WORDS/THEMES/FOCUS
Facility Operations, Busing, Preschool	**43**	Maintenance of district buildings, busing routes/transportation reliability, and continued support for Xenia Preschool facilities.
Prioritizing Direct Student & Academic Needs	**15**	Protecting student-facing services, addressing learning loss, supporting special education inclusion/neurodivergent students, and preserving early intervention.
Teacher & Staff Retention, Morale & Compensation	**16**	Recognizing staff dedication, preventing educator burnout, competitive pay, and retaining experienced classroom personnel (including aides).
Transparency & Engagement	**28**	Joint parent-staff-community advisory committees during budget cuts, transparent decision-making, tax/levy sensitivity, targeting “bloat," long-term financial stability, and legislative/statehouse advocacy.
Expressions of Gratitude & District Pride	**22**	General satisfaction with schools and staff, appreciation for leadership, and appreciation for this survey.
General Feedback & Specific Suggestions	**22**	Individual site-level and miscellaneous feedback (e.g., specific playground behavior, cafeteria food requests, etc.) that did not fit the primary analytical buckets.

Questions?