



Portland Public Schools

2020 School Bond Renewal Community Engagement Executive Summary and Review



PORTLAND
PUBLIC
SCHOOLS

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2020 School Bond Renewal Executive Summary

- Poll
- Survey
- Town Hall
- Focus groups





Survey Results

2,058 Total Respondents

People of Color - 20 percent

White - 80 percent

Respondent Demographics:

95% Portland Residents

70.5% Parents

17.3% Educators



Educational Investment Priorities

Perceived Value of Educational Investments											
Investment Category	Extremely valuable		Quite valuable		Slightly valuable		Somewhat valuable		Not at all valuable		Extremely Valuable and Quite Valuable
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	
Curriculum	956	57.0%	469	28.0%	43	2.6%	184	11.0%	24	1.4%	85.0%
Technology	743	44.0%	605	35.9%	61	3.6%	259	15.4%	19	1.1%	79.9%
Special Education Classrooms	709	42.1%	585	34.7%	86	5.1%	266	15.8%	39	2.3%	76.8%
Additional Instructional Investments	476	29.0%	578	35.2%	98	6.0%	421	25.6%	71	4.3%	64.1%

- Curriculum was the most valued category.
- Technology and Special Education investments were deemed ‘Quite or Extremely’ valuable by over 75% of respondents.

Healthy & Safety Investment Priorities

Perceived Value of Health and Safety Investments											
Investment Category	Extremely valuable		Quite valuable		Slightly valuable		Somewhat valuable		Not at all valuable		Extremely Valuable and Quite Valuable
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	
Roofs	750	44.5%	629	37.3%	55	3.3%	232	13.8%	20	1.2%	81.8%
ADA Accessibility	848	50.4%	514	30.6%	72	4.3%	213	12.7%	34	2.0%	81.0%
Seismic Improvements	893	53.1%	453	26.9%	78	4.6%	230	13.7%	28	1.7%	80.0%
Mechanical Systems	636	37.9%	683	40.7%	51	3.0%	293	17.4%	17	1.0%	78.5%
Security Systems	480	28.5%	457	27.2%	222	13.2%	448	26.6%	76	4.5%	55.7%

- Roofs, ADA accessibility, and Seismic Improvements were valued the most.
- Security systems were not seen as valuable as the other investments by these respondents.





School Bond Renewal: Town Hall Key Takeaways

Education Investments

- Support for investing in educational infrastructure, with a strong desire for additional SPED classroom funding

Health and Safety

- Support for increasing ADA accessibility investments, and school-based health centers

Bond Options, Modernization and Rebuilds

- In addition to support for modernizing Jefferson, these breakout rooms articulated the investment levels at Bond Option #3 were too conservative for Jefferson's overdue needs.

Collectively, community members expressed a common support for Bond Option #3, providing full funding to modernize Jefferson HS. During these conversations, the Center for Black Excellence emerged as an idea the School Board should consider including in the Bond Renewal 2020.





School Bond Renewal: Focus Groups Overview

To further enact on our commitment to flexible, future - focused environments where Black, Native, and students of color thrive, focus groups were held for additional feedback.

Small groups of students and families elevated priorities to inform the future of school communities. The following partners and groups worked with us as thought partners in the process:

- District Student Council
- Self Enhancement Inc.
- Latino Network
- NAYA
- Coalition of Black Men
- Open School





School Bond Renewal: Focus Groups Takeaways

Two themes emerged as top priorities from our focus groups:

1. Every group discussed a value for educational investments, especially as we transition to a world where virtual connection is essential in the lives of students and families.
1. Bond Option #3 was greatly preferred, due to it comprehensively funding the Jefferson HS modernization. The Center for Black Excellence has emerged as an idea which has received enthusiastic support, and is aligned to our District's core value of Racial Equity and Social Justice and more importantly aligned to our commitment to ensuring every Black student thrives at PPS.





Comments and Questions

