



# School District of Osceola

## Mark Luebker Superintendent of Schools

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## Community Survey Results Show Community Supports Addressing Operational Funding First

The Osceola School District learned the results of the recent community survey during a presentation by School Perceptions, LLC, the firm that conducted the survey last week. The survey asked the community to weigh in on the District's operational funding, facility maintenance projects and the future of Osceola Elementary School.

The survey was completed by 772 people, including 392 parents of Osceola School District students. Respondents support the District pursuing a \$1.4 million operational referendum to maintain current programs and services. When asked what cuts the District should consider, if needed, taxpayers favor delaying the replacement of buses and fleet vehicles and reducing the number of athletic and co-curricular offerings for students. Respondents agreed that they did not want to see the District cut staff and increase class size nor reduce elective and advanced placement courses to save money.

"The survey gave us pretty clear direction on the wishes of our community," shares Superintendent of Schools Mark Luebker. "It was affirming to see the strong support for our programs and services from all segments of our community."

Sue Peterson, the consultant with School Perceptions who presented the data, noted the community's overall satisfaction with Osceola Schools. "Eighty-five percent of survey respondents reported they were either very satisfied or satisfied with the school district," she shared. "This shows your community is happy with the work that you are doing." Additionally, the community gave positive rankings to the district for delivering a high-quality education, maintaining facilities, building pride in the community and preparing students for life after high school.

The survey also asked residents if the District should pursue a capital referendum to address infrastructure and maintenance needs throughout the District. While Peterson reported that there is support for the \$8 million in projects, she saw a need to focus efforts on educating the community on these needs before heading to the polls. "A little over a third of respondents reported that they needed more information," she explained. "This tells us that you are better served to slow down and better educate your community on the needs in your buildings at this time."

The survey also asked residents to weigh in on the future of Osceola Elementary School. The 55 year old school is in need of significant updates and the District is looking for feedback on renovating or building new at some point in the future. Respondents indicated that they prefer the idea of building a new school, including 76% of staff respondents and 53% of parent respondents supporting a new School.

"Knowing our community wants us to further explore the idea of building a new school is helpful direction," shares Luebker. "This allows us to focus facility updates at our other locations and think strategically over the next year or so as we consider our options."

The full survey results presentation can be found on the school district's website.

**Home of the  
Chieftains**

Osceola High School – 1111 Oak Ridge Drive – 715-294-2127  
Osceola Middle School – 1029 Oak Ridge Drive – 715-294-4180  
Osceola Intermediate School – 949 Education Avenue – 715-294-2800  
Osceola Elementary School – 250 Tenth Avenue East – 715-294-3457  
Transportation – 501 Simmon Drive – 715-294-3456  
[www.osceola.k12.wi.us](http://www.osceola.k12.wi.us)



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