

# State of The Schools

## Ballston Spa Central School District

September 1, 2015

Joseph P. Dragone, Ph.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

## Mission:

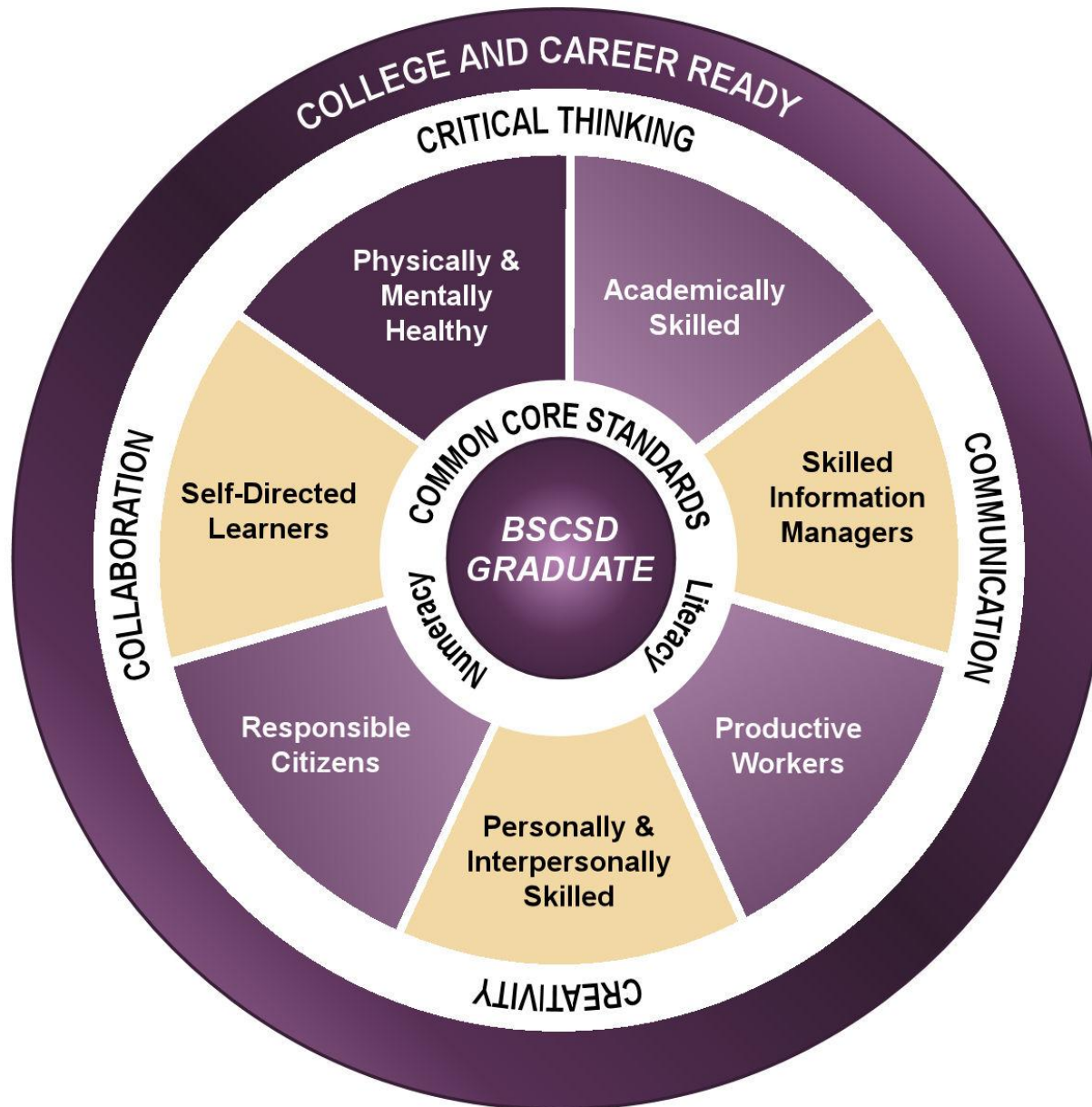
- The Ballston Spa Central School District is committed to providing an excellent education that maximizes the potential of each student. In partnership with family and community, our students will become responsible and well-rounded adults.

“Educating Everyone Takes Everyone”

## Delivering on our Mission:

- Deliver Superior Performance:
  - Defined by results and efficiency in delivering on the mission.
- Have a Distinctive Impact on Student Achievement:
  - We make a unique and unparalleled contribution to our students, families and the community.
- Creating Lasting Endurance:
  - We can deliver exceptional results over time and have foundations for the long term.

# Common Core Standards, Graduation Competencies and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills:



# Supporting Our Value Proposition and Delivering on Our Mission

## Sustaining Educational Excellence: Our Commitment to Student Success

- ✓ 90% of the Class of 2015 received a Regents or an Advanced Regents Diploma
- ✓ 16<sup>th</sup> Ranked District in the 11 County Region; 83 school districts
- ✓ Middle Schools “Schools to Watch” designation from the Middle Grades National Forum
- ✓ Technology Innovation Award for the Center for Economic Growth

## Sustaining Educational Excellence: Our Commitment to Student Success

- ✓ First ever Scholar-Athlete Team School of Distinction Award
- ✓ Titanium School District Safety Award
- ✓ First Place Education Award at the Saratoga County Fair
- ✓ Audits with no findings in Special Education Programs, Federal Special Education Funding, Medicaid etc.

## Sustaining Educational Excellence: Our Commitment to Student Success

- ✓ 2014-2015 Milton Terrace and Malta Avenue Elementary Schools National PTA Schools of Excellence
- ✓ 2014-2015 Gold Star No Place for Hate Award from the Anti-Defamation League at Malta Avenue.
- ✓ Offered 783 Professional Development opportunities with over 10,000 registrations
- ✓ Awarded over 3200 college credits from HVCC and SCCC



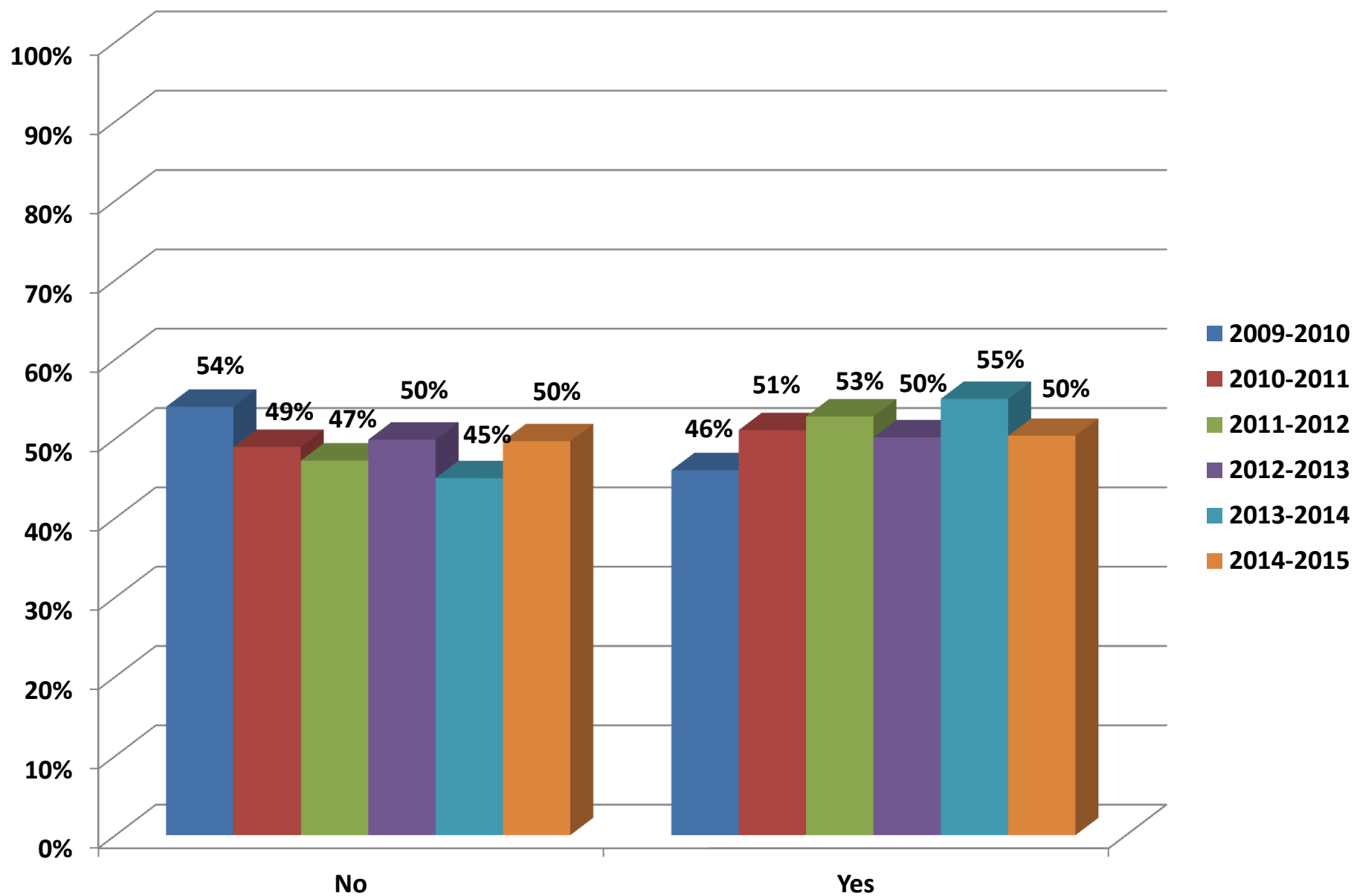
## Sustaining Educational Excellence: Our Commitment to Student Success

- ✓ Our Service Learning programs have raised over \$67,000 for community based programs.
- ✓ \$100,000 grant for a community microgrid study
- ✓ Child Abduction Prevention and Fine Arts Grants
- ✓ Regionally acclaimed MS and HS performing and Fine Arts
- ✓ Award winning Academic and Athletic Teams

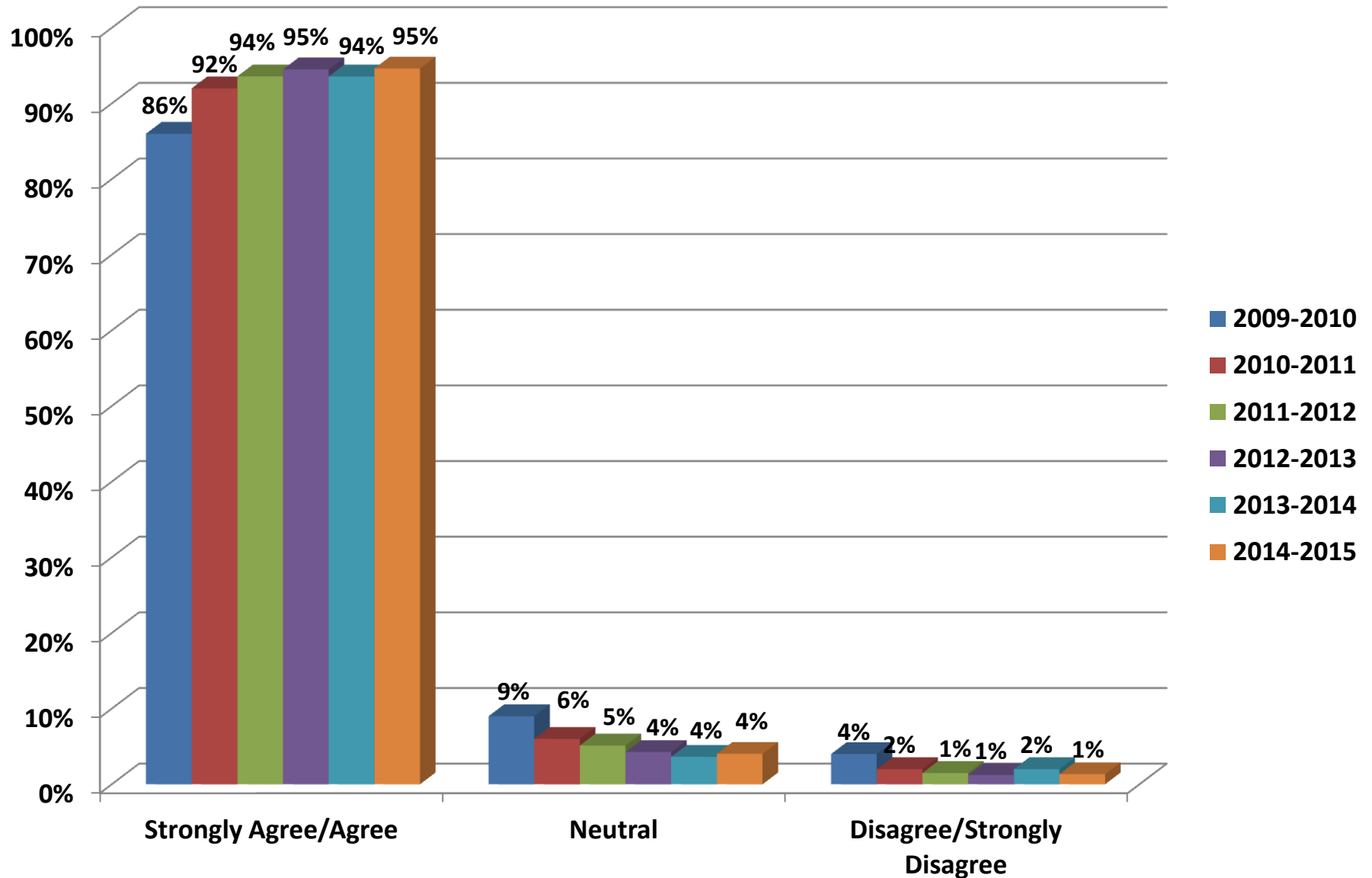
## Sustaining Educational Excellence: Our Commitment to Student Success

- ✓ First district in Saratoga County to bring school based mental health services to students and families
- ✓ Unparalleled integration of instructional technology
- ✓ The strongest partners in business, industry and higher education

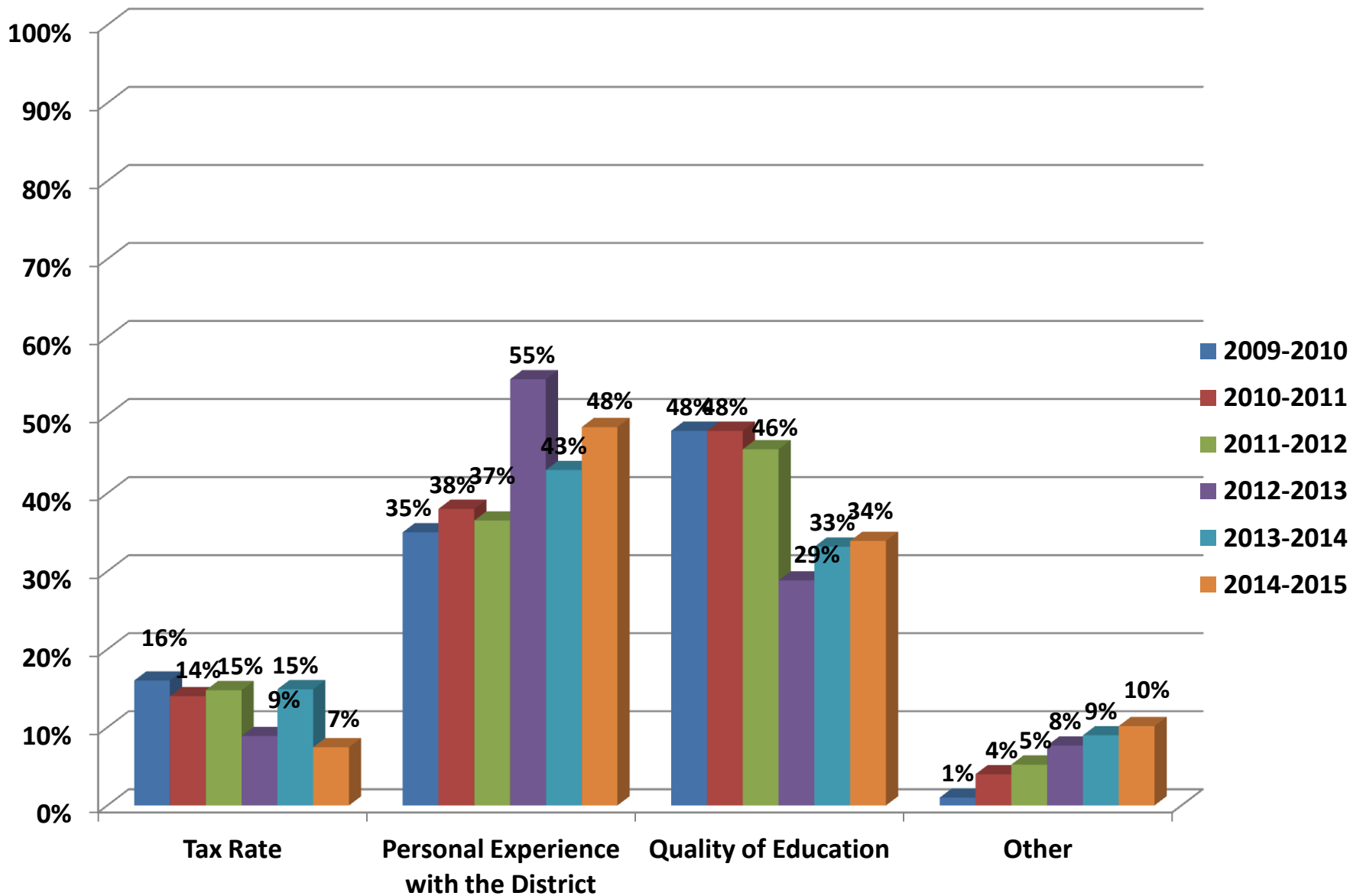
# Do You Have School Age Children?



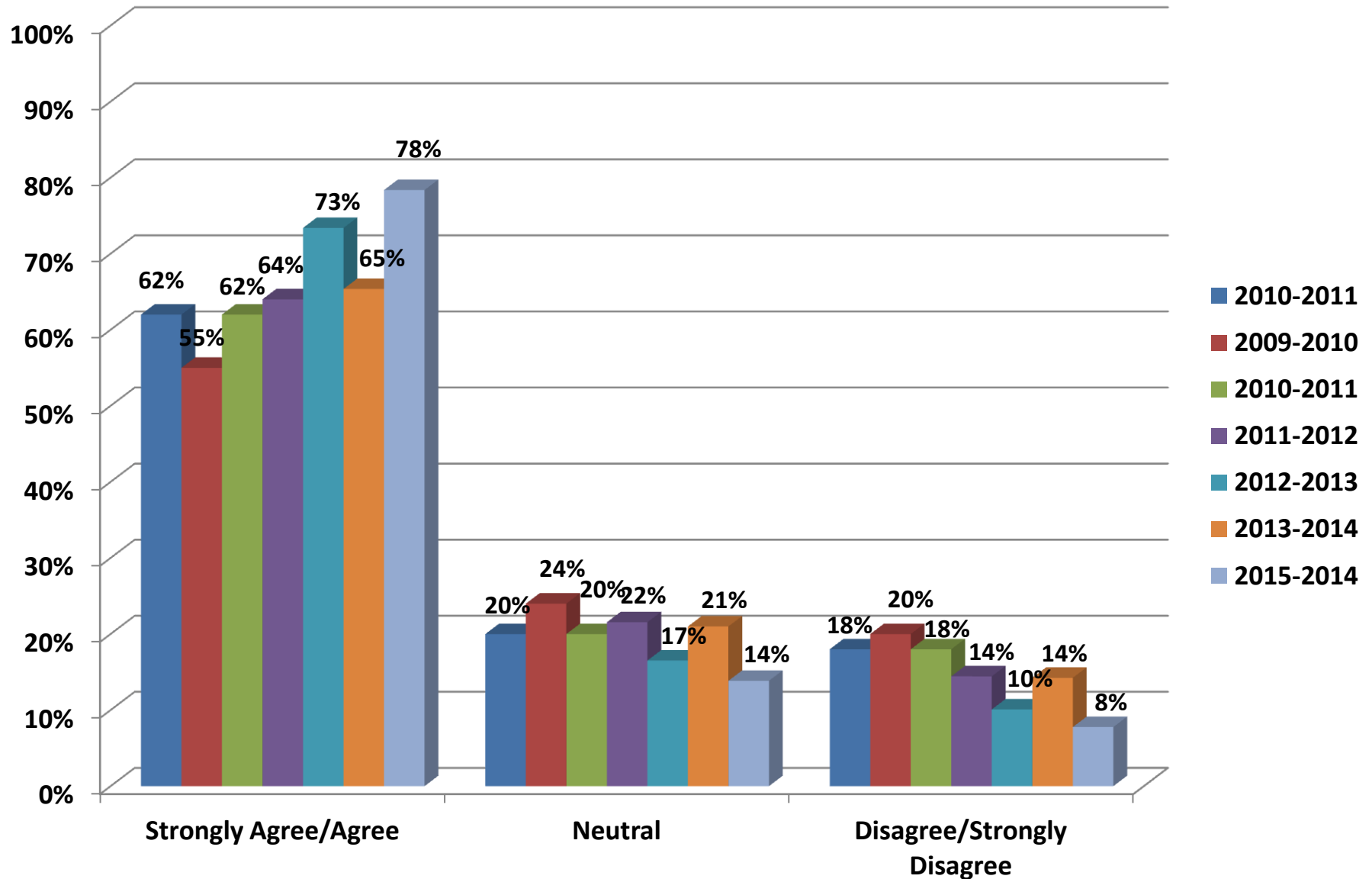
# Students in Ballston Spa Get A Quality Education:



# Which Of The Following Influenced Your Vote?

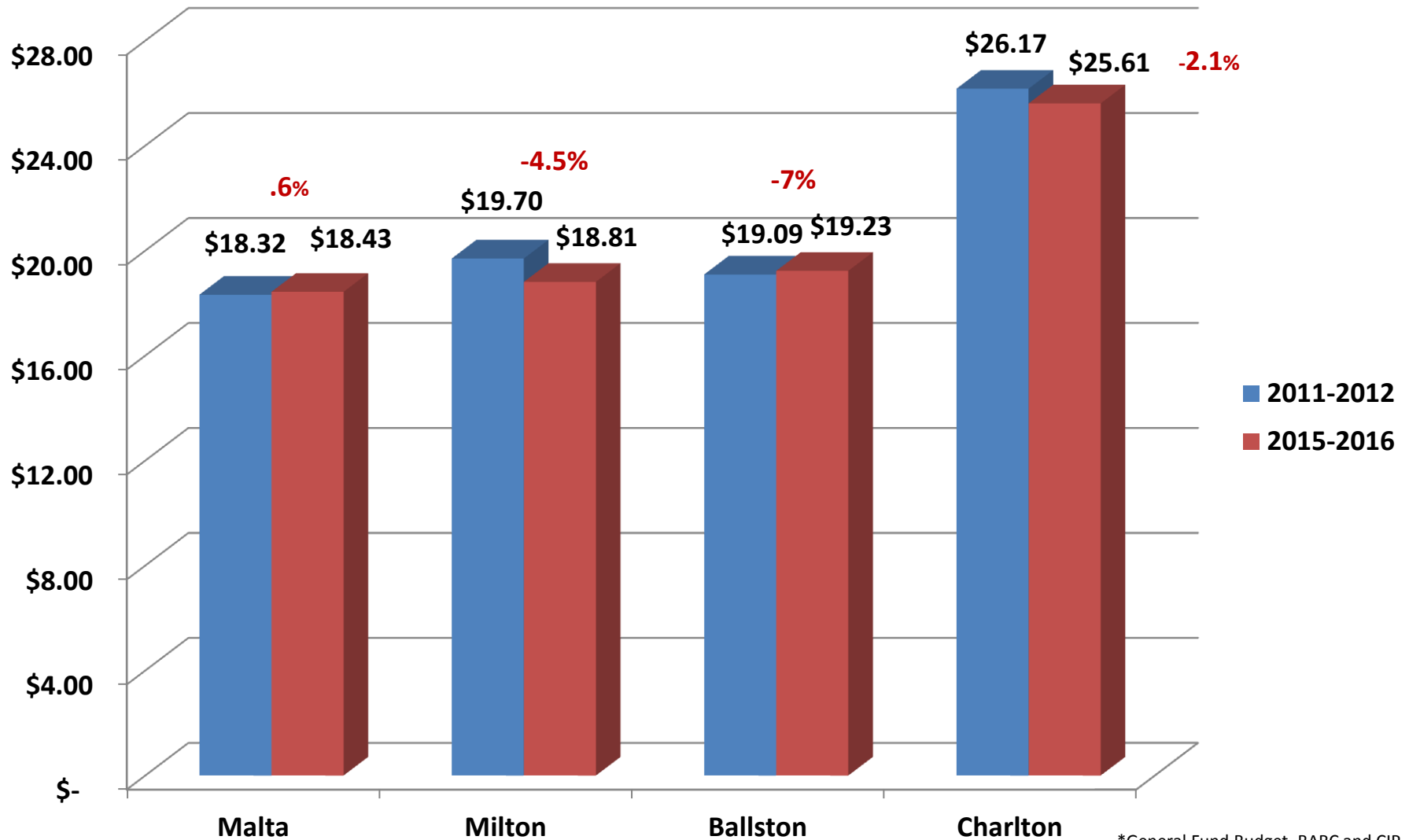


# School Taxes in Ballston Spa Are Reasonable:



# Tax Rates Per \$1000 Assessed Value

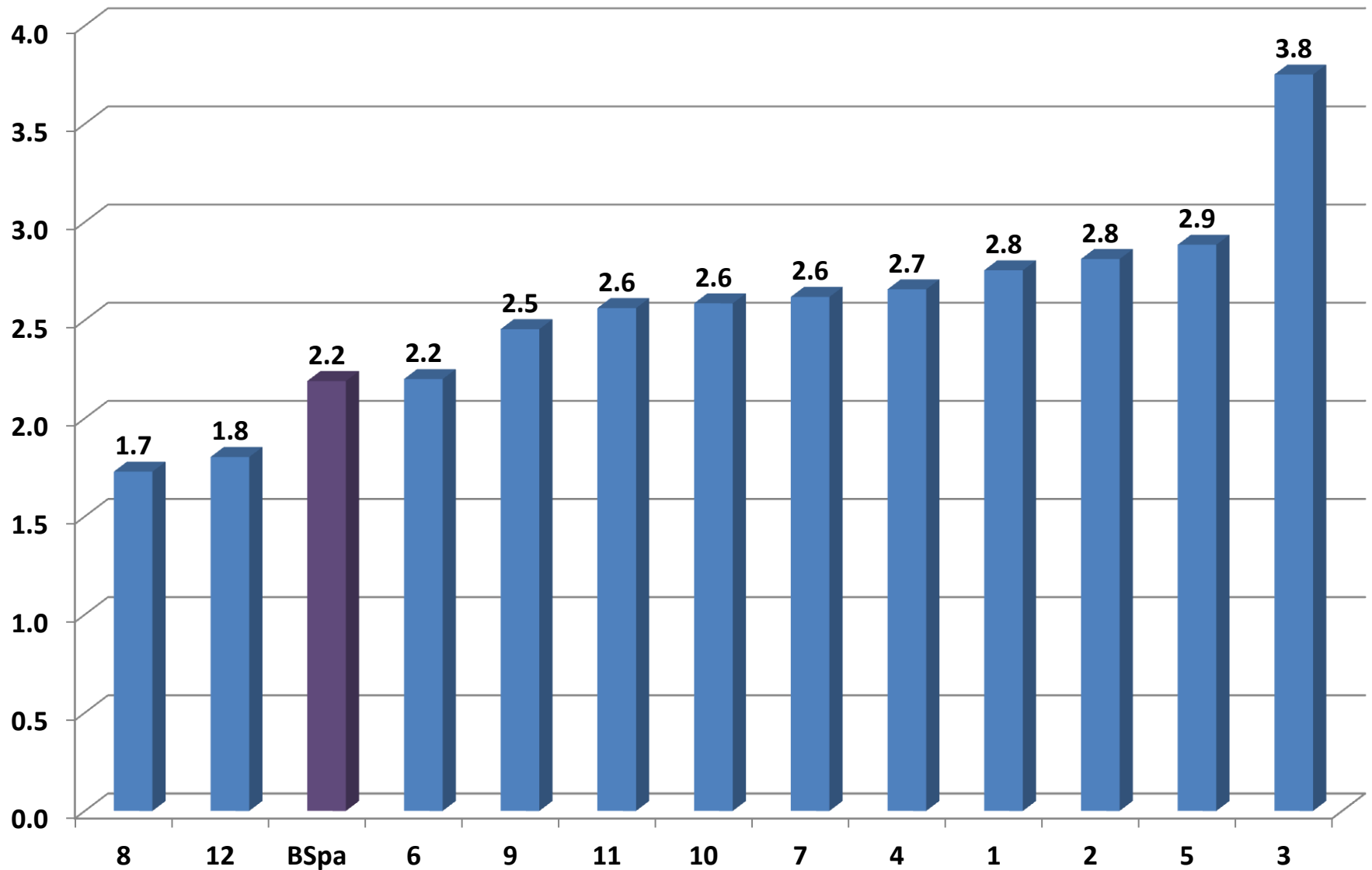
## 4-Year Historical



\*General Fund Budget, BARC and CIP

\*General Fund, BARC and CIP

# Suburban Council 7-Year Average Tax Levy Increase (%) 2009-2010 to 2015-2016





# Academic Benchmarks and Accountability

## Signposts:

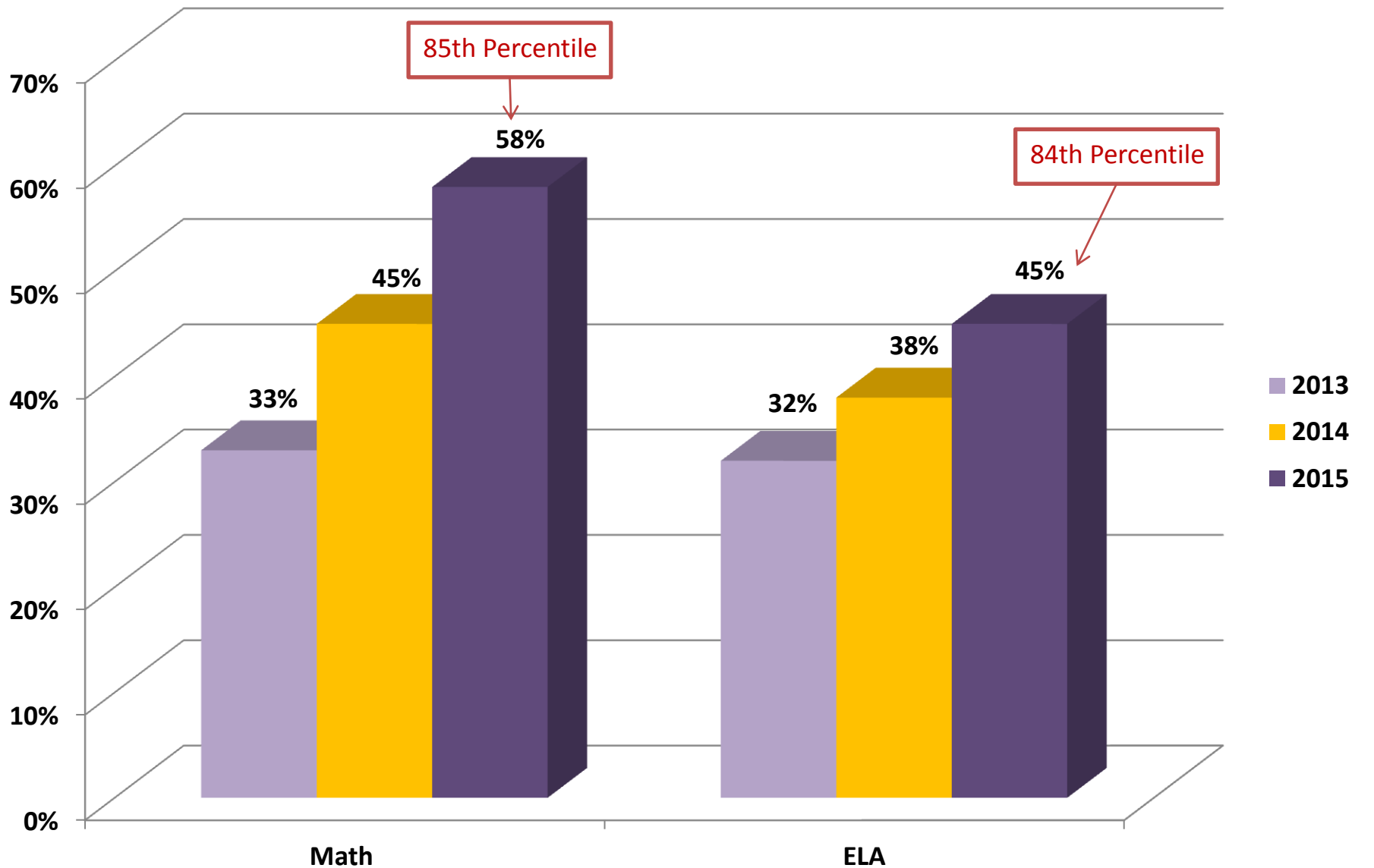
### 2011

- Building Status:
  - HS and MS in Improvement Status
- Graduates:
  - 2011: 84%
  - In 2006 it was 77%
- Special Education
  - Needs Assistance

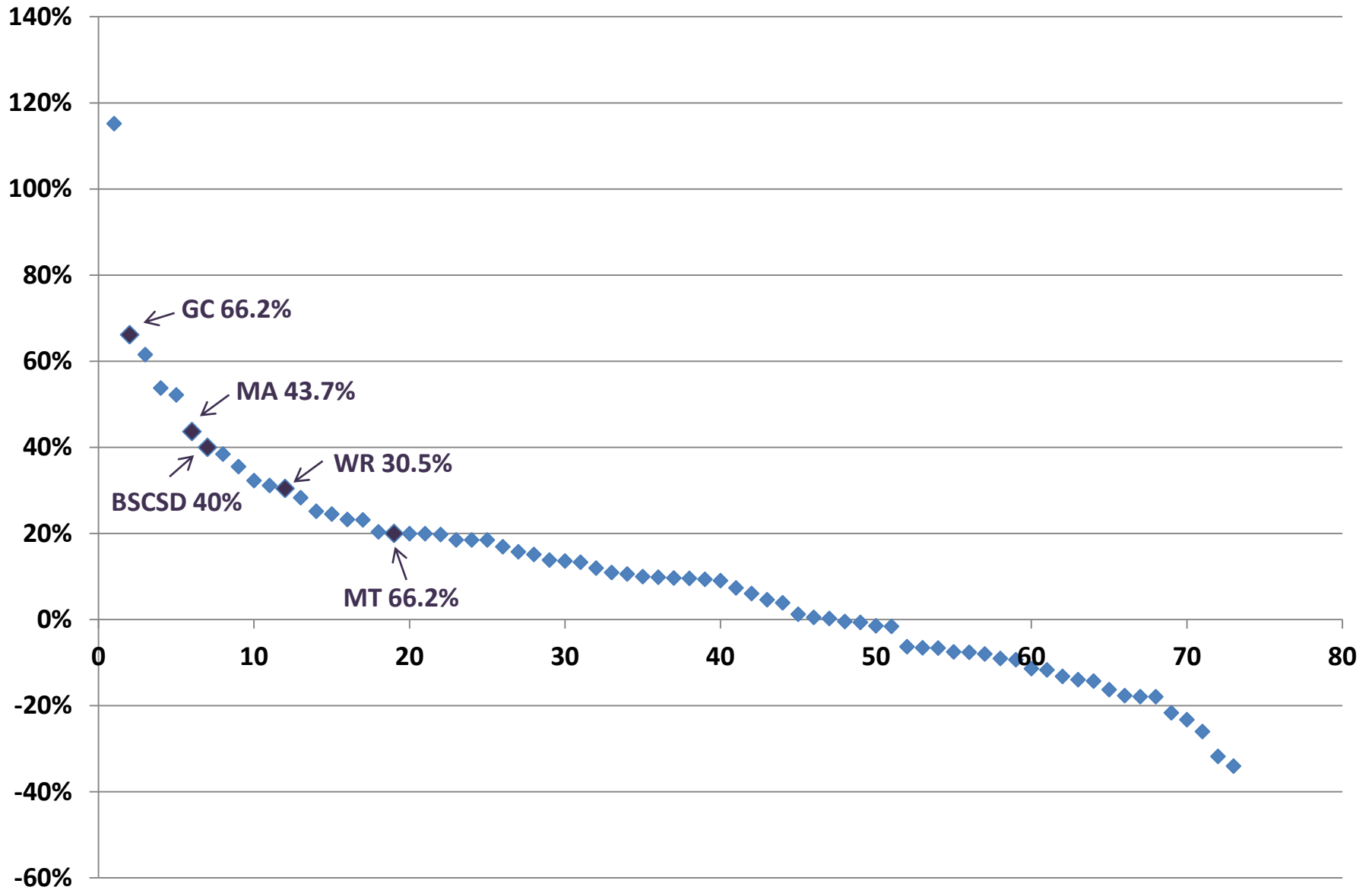
### 2015

- Building Status:
  - All in Good Standing for 4 consecutive years
- Graduates:
  - 2015: 89%
- Special Education:
  - Meets Requirements

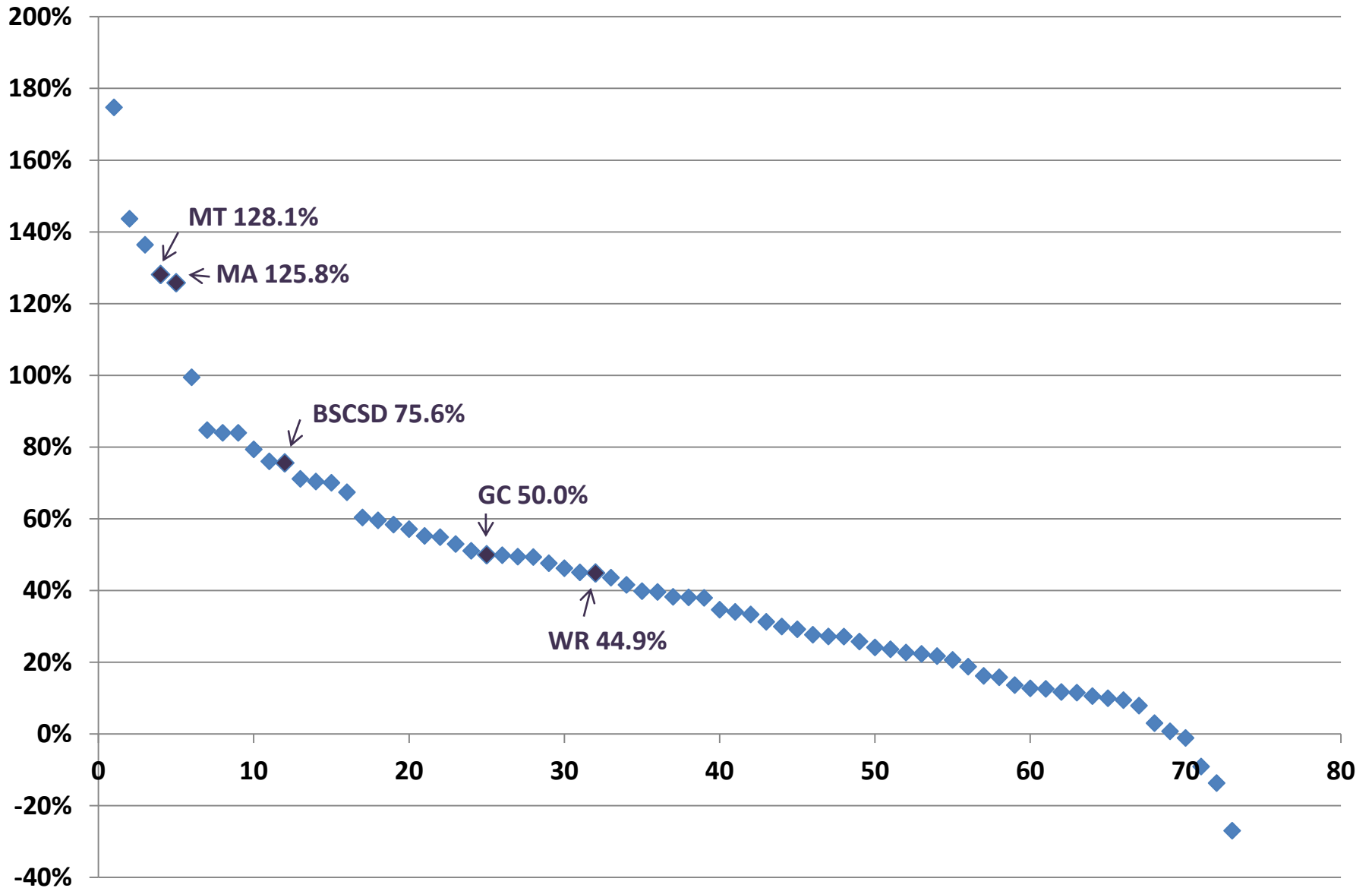
# 3rd Grade Proficiency Rates and Percentiles:



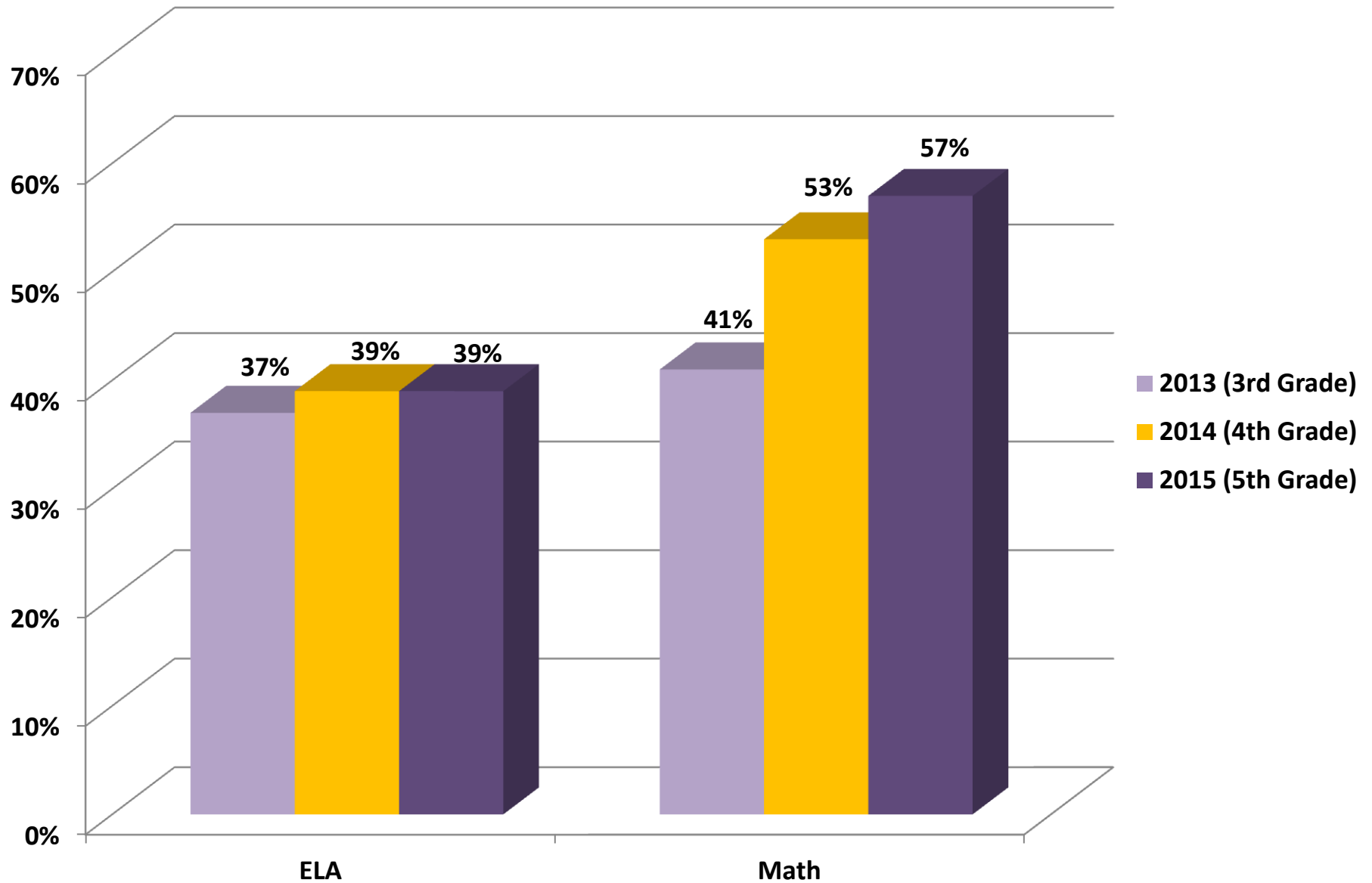
# ELA 3: % Growth 2013-2015



# Math 3: % Growth 2013-2015

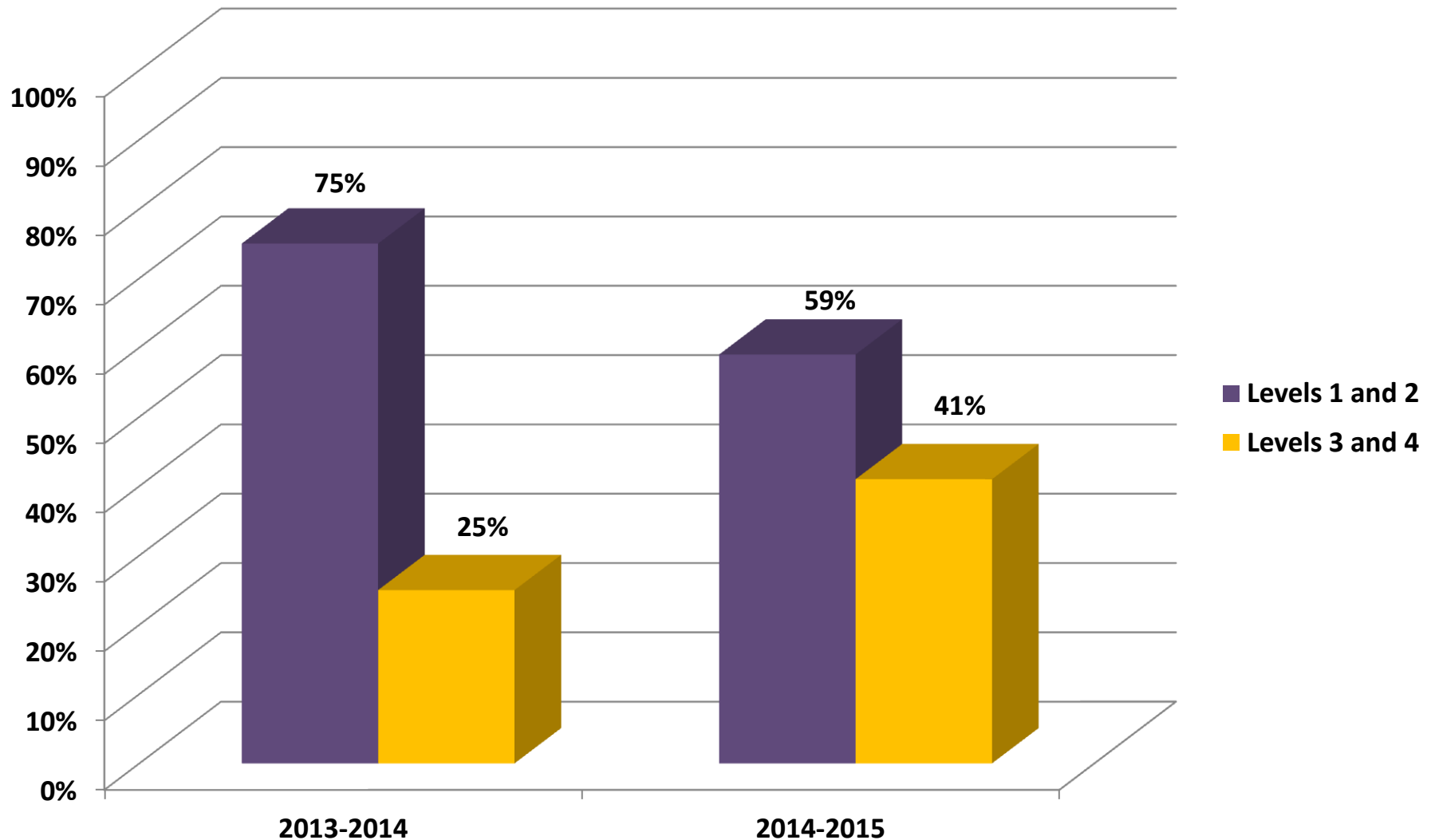


# 2014-2015 5th Graders: 3-Year Enrollment Matched Pairs



# 7<sup>th</sup> to 8th Grade ELA: 2013-2014 to 2014-2015

## Matched Pairs



## High School 2011 Total Cohort:\*

<b>2011 Total Cohort:</b>	<b>338</b>	
<b>Graduated in 4 Years:</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>89%</b>
<b>Still Enrolled:</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>3%</b>
<b>Transfer GED:</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2%</b>
<b>IEP Diploma:</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1%</b>
<b>Dropout:</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1%</b>
<b>Left:</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>4%</b>



## Post Secondary Plans:

- 4- Year College: 49% (147 kids)
- 2-Year College: 36% (112 kids)
- Employment: 9%
- Military: 4%
- Adult Services: 1%
- Other Post Secondary: 0.5%
- Plan Unknown: 0.5%

# New Regents Requirements:

- Class of 2017 (current Juniors): First cohort of graduates required to pass Common Core Regents Exams for graduation at the current score of 65.
- **Class of 2022 (current 6<sup>th</sup> Graders): First cohort of high school graduates required to pass Common Core Regents Exams for graduation at the college and career ready score.**
  - **Currently 79% in ELA; 74% in Algebra**

## Class of 2016 ELA

79+	71%
65-78	24%
55-64	3%
0-54	2%

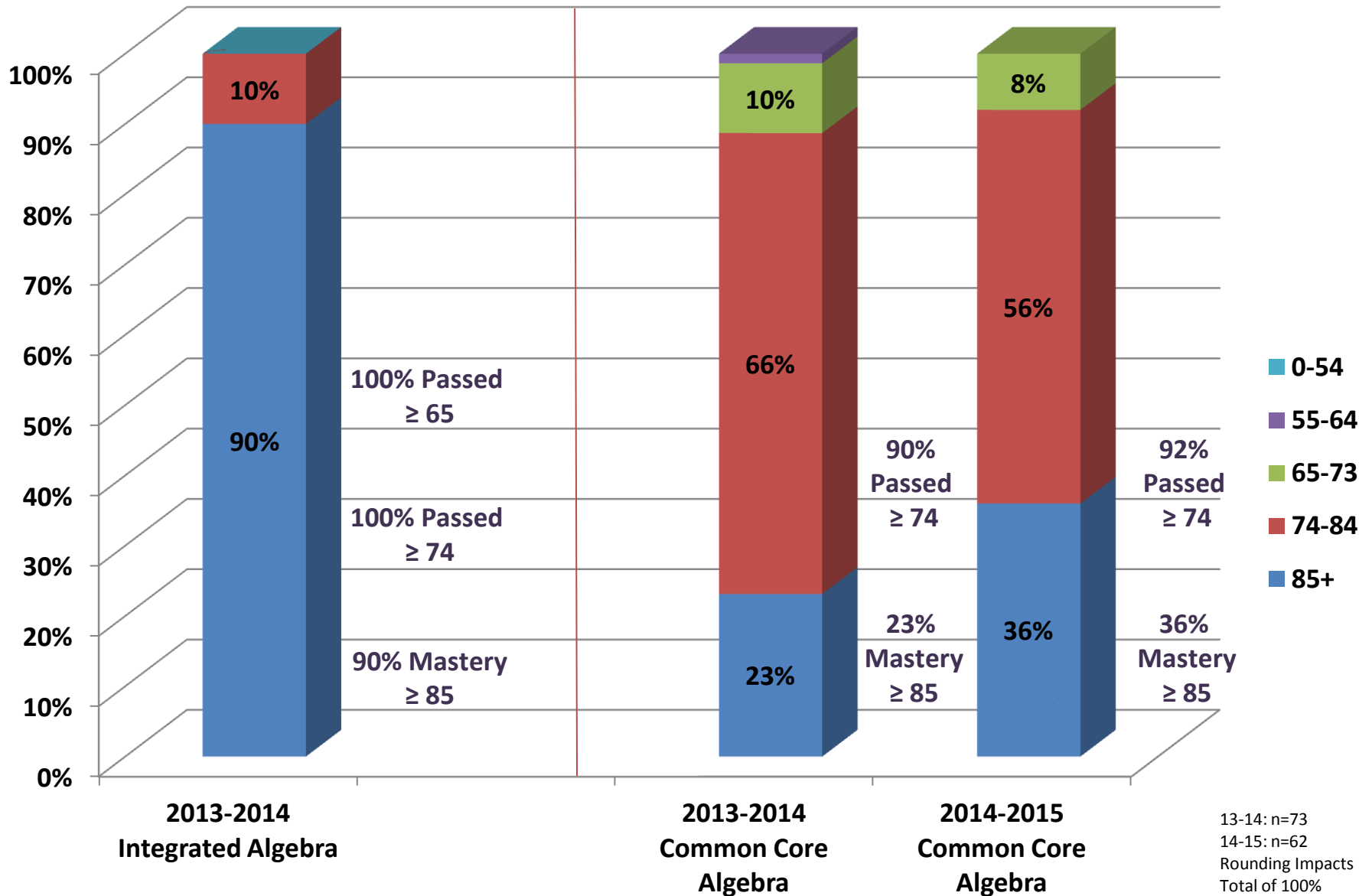
n=289

## Class of 2016 Math

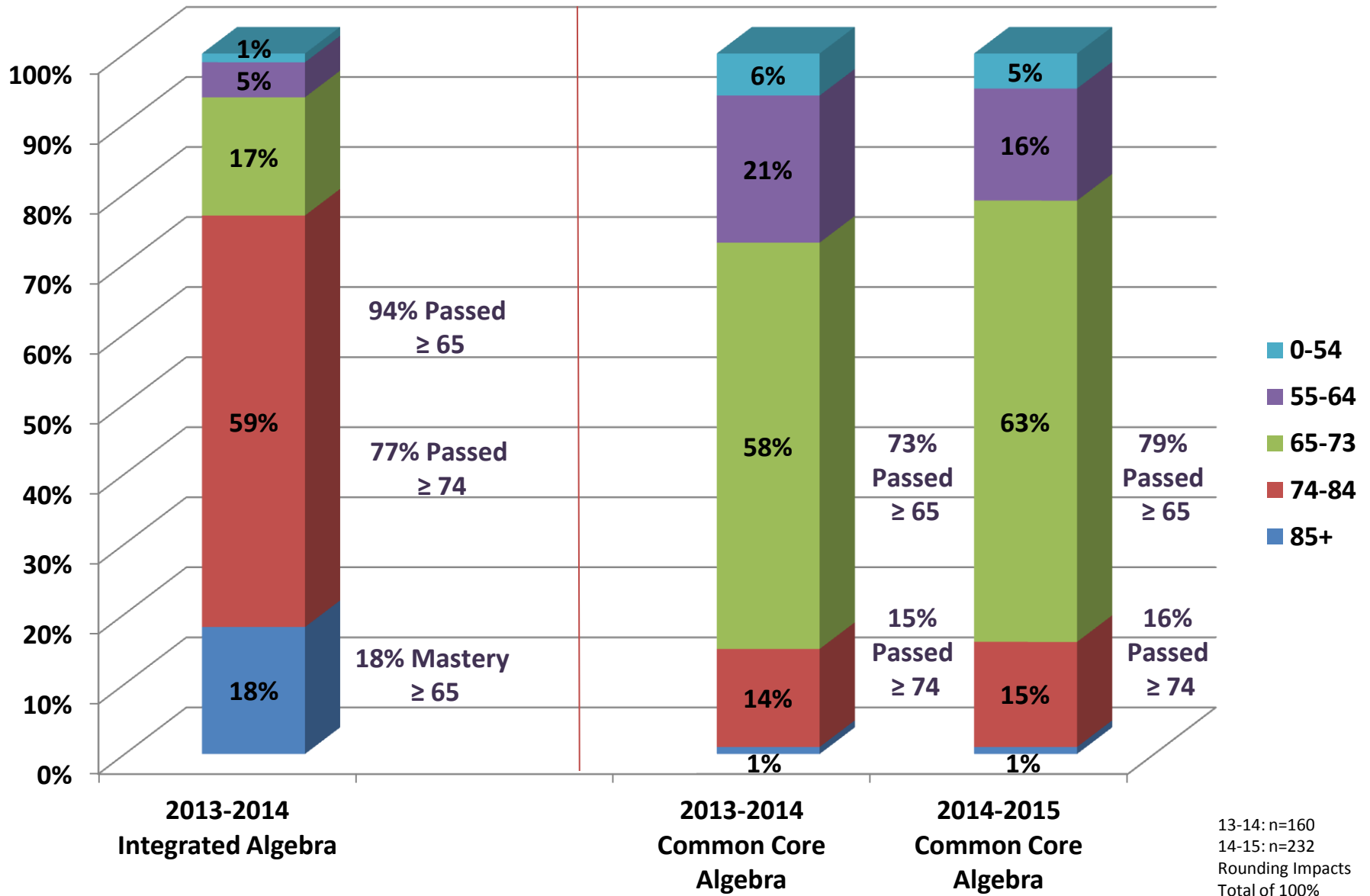
74+	40%
65-73	54%
55-64	4%
0-54	2%

n=307

# 8th Grade Algebra Students: 2013-2014 and 2014-2015



# 9th Grade Algebra Students: 2013-2014 and 2014-2015



## Barriers to Education

- Free and Reduced Lunch\*
  - District Average: 30% (+4%)
    - Wood Road: 43% (+6%) (29% in 09-10)
    - Milton Terrace North: 38% (+4%) (28% in 09-10)
    - Middle School: 32% (+6%)
    - Gordon Creek: 26%
    - High School: 23%
    - Malta Ave.: 23% (+4%)

## Barriers to Education

- Families in Transition:
  - We served 178 students from 131 Families that were homeless, at-risk of becoming homeless or in temporary housing.

# Operations Benchmarks: Transportation, Operations and Maintenance and IT



## Transportation:

- Fleet of 83 buses logged 900,000 miles on 125 regular routes
  - That's like driving to the Moon, back to Earth, back to the Moon and then halfway back to Earth
- 98% DOT Inspection passing rate
  - One of the highest in the State
- 45 Drivers earned safety awards last year

## Facilities:

- Everyday, all year, we maintain the equivalent of approximately 420 average size homes that sit on a half acre lot.
- Last year we spread 431 tons of salt and applied almost 1600 gallons of floor wax.
- Over 7000 events scheduled across our facilities in 2014-2015

## Technology:

	2011	2015
Internet Connection	40 GB	230 GB
Computers	1650	3740
Servers and Network Devices	187	648
Interactive Boards, IP Phones, Security, Printers, Facilities Controls...	2425	3773

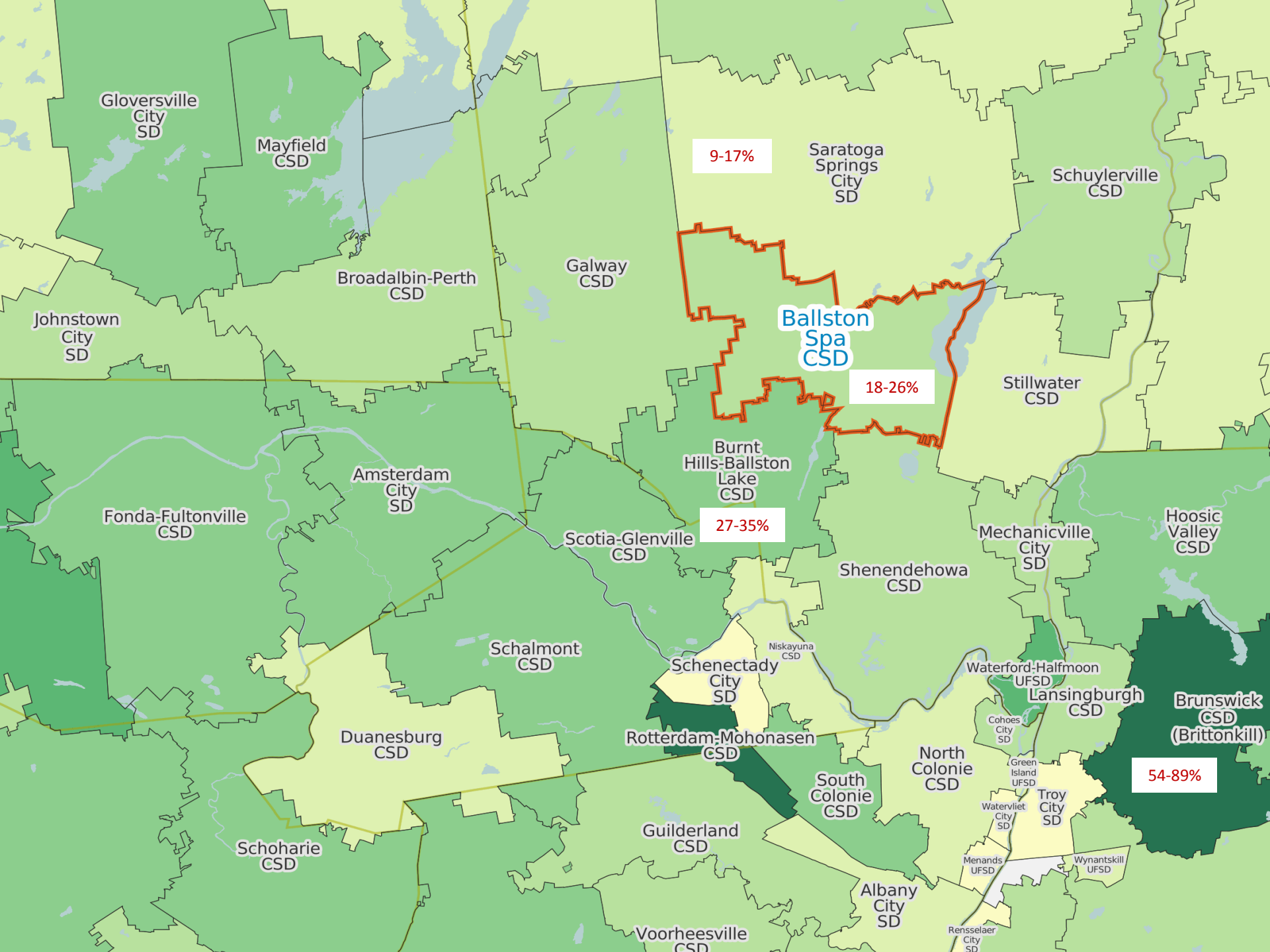
## Technology:

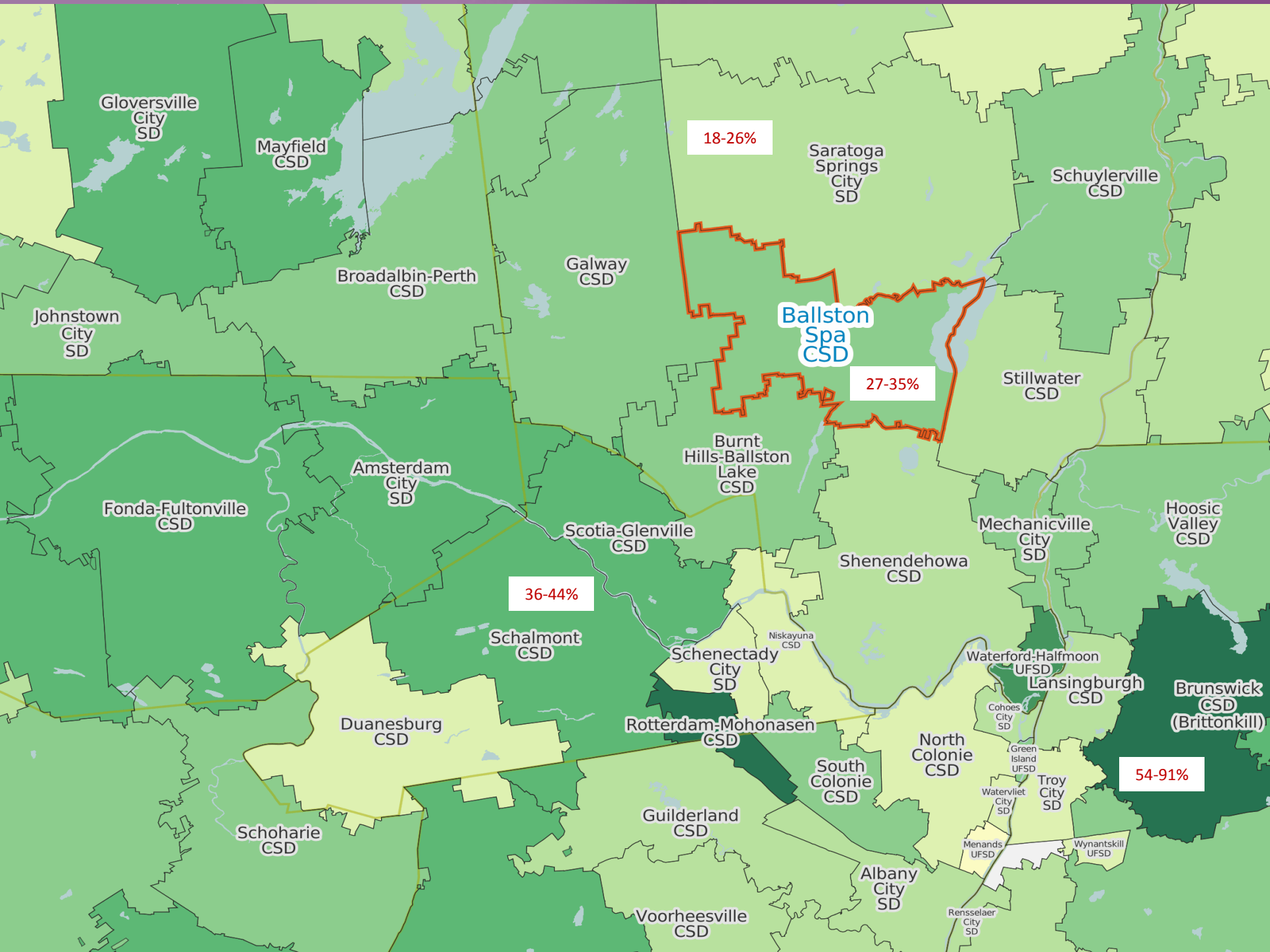
- Closed approximately 3000 technology work order in 2014-2015
- This summer beyond the work at WR and MT we:
  - Installed 180 IP phones
  - Installed 80 additional Wireless Access points in HS/MS
  - Replaced all HS/MS Network Switches

# Looking Ahead: Economics and Politics

## Politics:

- Schools will remain a very easy and popular political target:
  - Education rhetoric is about politics, not teaching and learning.
- Unanswered policy questions about standards and assessment



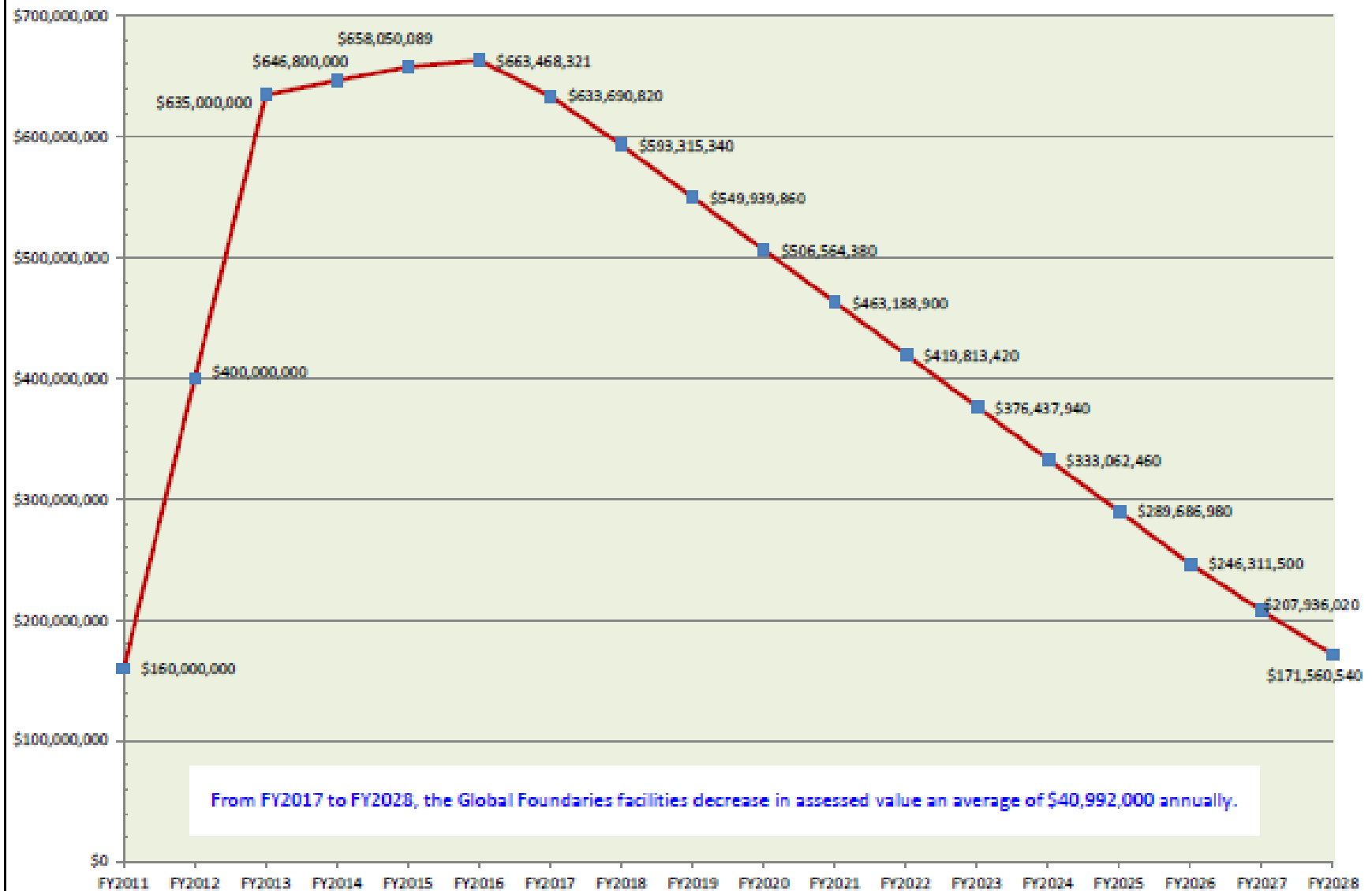




## Economics:

- We are still owed \$1.4 Million in state aid since 2010
- We met the 2015-2016 Property Tax Rebate qualifications
- Challenge of decreased assessment of GLOBALFOUNDRIES Facilities
  - Will cost us on average \$500,000 – \$1,000,000 annually for 10 years
- Related district wide Article 7 matters
- Obamacare and related uncontrolled costs

## Current Facilities: Projected Assessed Value Change



We have to Expect the Best from All of Us,  
All the Time, Period.

- **We will run our own race**
- **Everyone contributes to our collective success or failure**
- We will continue to work on building stronger systems and focus on delivering on our mission.
  - Are we the best we can be in all aspects of our work?

## What's the Most Important Thing You Teach Kids Everyday?

- To enjoy school and love learning
- To experience success
- Resiliency
- To always try hard and do the best you can
- To be respectful and to be a good person
- That tomorrow is always a new day

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