OLYMPUS NETWORK

RECONFIGURATION REQUEST

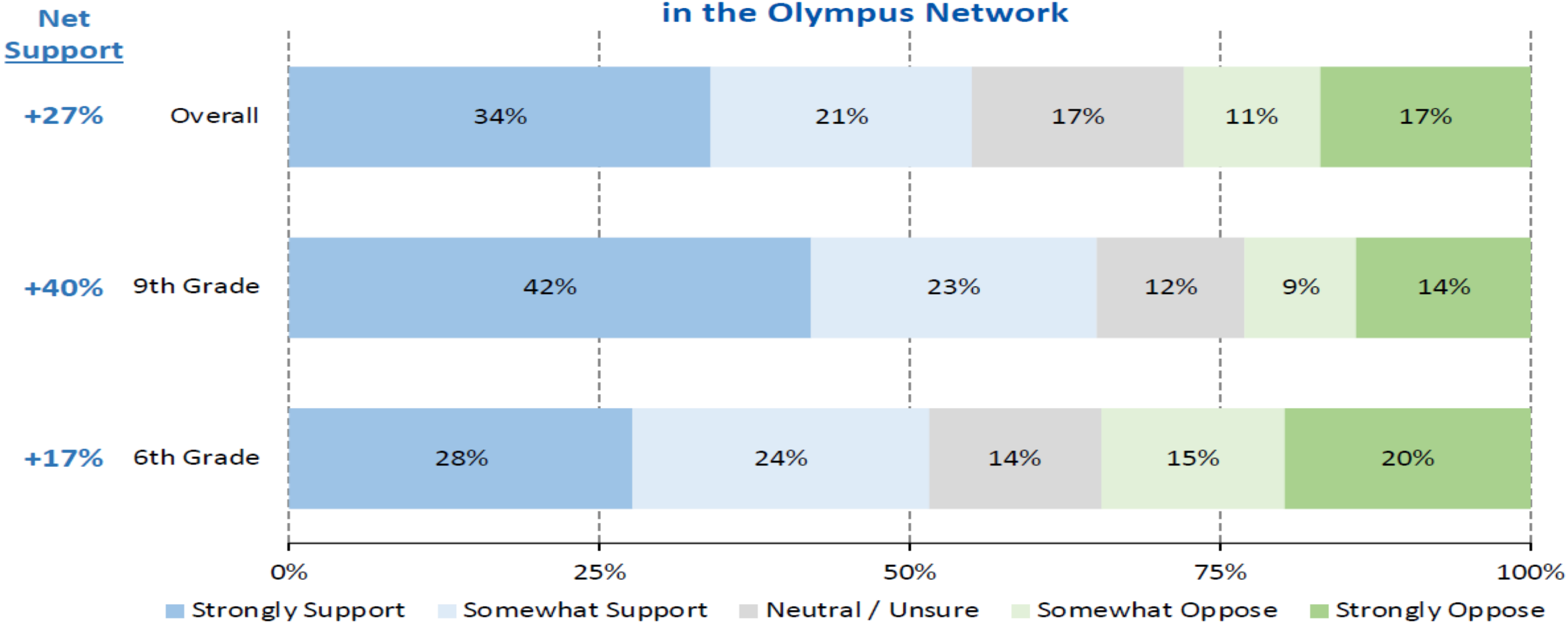
September 3, 2019

OLYMPUS NETWORK
RECONFIGURATION TIMELINE

Councils informally discussing reconfiguration and process (K-5, 6-8, 9-12)	2014-2019
Network community council meeting to discuss pros/cons	October 25, 2016
Network reconfiguration meeting for all Oly network community councils and patrons (all schools invited to discuss full reconfiguration)	April 20, 2017
Vision statements drafted by each school	Fall 2018/Winter 2019
Olympus network elementary community council meeting to discuss reconfiguration	January 30, 2019
Public information meeting with Dr. Bates	May 21, 2019
Reconfiguration vision statements from each school sent out by communications office	June 2019
Survey conducted by Lighthouse Research	June/July 2019
Survey results network meeting (Public invited and participated)	July 30, 2019
Community Council voting (Well publicized with a few weeks' notice)	August 2019

RECONFIGURATION

Support for or Opposition to the Reconfiguration of Grades in the Olympus Network



LIGHTHOUSE RESEARCH

OLYMPUS HIGH

- SCC vote was 9 for reconfiguration, 1 against, and 2 were absent
- Teachers: 36% are in favor of reconfiguration, 39% are fine either way, 25% are against
- Enrollment has remained steady with around 1600 students grades 10-12, with 9th grade, Olympus High would be around 2150 students (2350 building capacity)
- Concerns about open enrollment permits, permits will be maintained
- All network schools will collaborate to keep our school enrollment balanced
- 9th grade students will have more opportunities and choices for elective classes, honors and AP, GTI classes, and athletics
- Fall of 2020 implementation is feasible

EVERGREEN JUNIOR

- Evergreen Community Council voted 7-1 in favor of reconfiguration this morning. Two members were absent
- 67% of Evergreen's teachers support reconfiguration. 33% oppose
- 7 members of the council would like to proceed with reconfiguration in the fall of 2020. 1 member would like to hold off until 2021 if reconfiguration occurs.

Pros to reconfiguration:

- Increase opportunity to attend GTI classes.
- Increase opportunity for more AP, ACT prep and elective course at Olympus High School.
- Increased opportunities for freshman sports.
- All high school students are housed in the same building and overseen and tracked by the same administrators and counselors.
- Moves ACT Aspire and ACT prep into the high schools.

Cons/Concerns:

- Ability to track and influence the at-risk population.
- Is there something for every student to be involved in.
- Less opportunity to earn credit (10 vs. 8)
- Decreased time for 6th grade DLI students in the target language.
- Reconfiguration survey showed mixed support for 6th grade entering the Jr. high schools.

OLYMPUS JUNIOR

- Olympus Junior High Community Council voted unanimously (7-0) in favor of grade reconfiguration
  - Vote was to move 6th graders to the junior high and 9th graders to the high school

- The community council would like to see grade reconfiguration implemented for the 2020-2021 school year

Pros:

High school students all housed at the high school

Academic opportunities for 9th graders at the high school
-GTI, honors/AP, Aspire/ACT prep, electives

Easier access for athletic/extracurricular involvement for 9th graders at high school

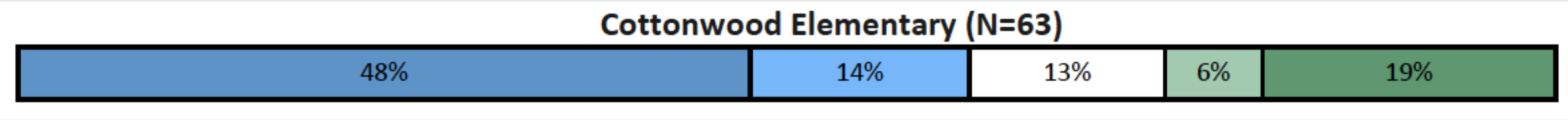
Allows the junior high to be fully part of junior high athletics

Brings 6th graders into middle school model that provides more academic and extracurricular opportunities

Concern:

Enrollment numbers and Open Enrollment at the high school

COTTONWOOD ELEMENTARY



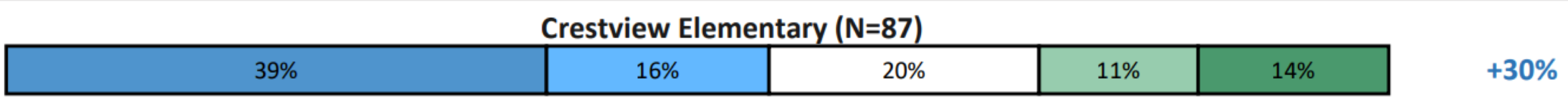
Cottonwood Community Council voted unanimously in favor of K-5, 6-8, and 9-12 grade reconfiguration and would like it to take effect in the 2020-2021 school year.

Cottonwood Community Council has held formal and informal meetings beginning in October 2016 to discuss reconfiguration. In May 2018, the Council voted unanimously to send a letter of interest regarding the study of grade reconfiguration to Superintendent Bates as well as a letter to formally request that the survey regarding reconfiguration within the Olympus Network begin.

COTTONWOOD ELEMENTARY

Pros for Reconfiguration	Cons for Reconfiguration
• Clear vision and plan at Olympus Jr. that will meet the needs of the 6th grade students • Fewer students at the elementary means more access to programs (PE, Art, etc.) • 5th Grade - more opportunities for leadership roles • Eliminate two relocatable buildings on the playground creating additional blacktop space for students • Positive impact for K-5 students	• Concern over special permits at Olympus High

CRESTVIEW ELEMENTARY



Crestview Community Council voted unanimously (7-0) in favor of a K-5; 6-8; 9-12 grade reconfiguration and would like it to take effect the 2020-2021 school year.

Teachers: 80% are in favor of reconfiguration, 10% are fine either way, 10% are against

Crestview Community Council has held formal and informal meetings over the last 4 years to discuss reconfiguration. Meetings with secondary administrators as well as district personnel were in attendance in at least 4 different meetings to help us understand what reconfiguration would look like in the secondary schools and the impact it would have.

Council members have looked at K-5; 6-8; 9-12 models around the US and Utah to understand the advantages of the model.

CRESTVIEW ELEMENTARY

Reasons FOR Reconfiguration	More elective and extracurricular activities available at junior high.
Common Core curriculum designed for K-5; 6th graders not getting intended experiences.	2020/2021 reconfiguration will allow sixth grade teachers the best opportunity to be placed where they want to be (with a high potential to still be within our school) versus being surplused.
Entire 6th grade is housed in relocatable classrooms, which negatively impacts student/school interaction and teacher collaboration/communication while also creating security concerns.	6th grade gets “too cool;” they already have a separate field day and separate holiday parties, don’t want to sit on the floor in assemblies, don’t walk single file in halls, etc.
Expanded student support services at junior high (more administrators, 3-4 counselors, part-time social worker, less than part-time psychologist vs. 1 part-time social worker for 655+ students).	Age difference in elementary school is much larger than junior high and there is a significant difference between 8th graders and 9th graders; would rather put grades 6-8 together vs 7-9 as 9th graders are getting driving permits, attending the high school for sports/academics, dating etc.

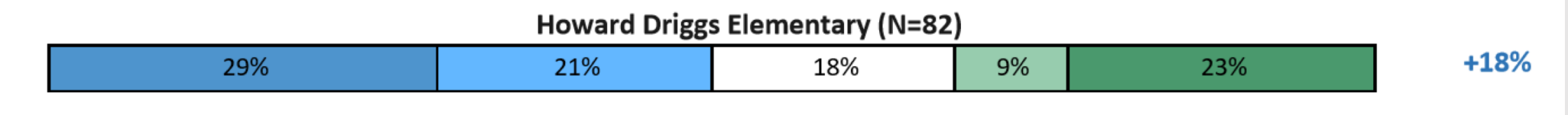
Reasons AGAINST Reconfiguration
Maturity - are students ready for junior high? Are we forcing students to grow up too fast?
Lose great teachers who may/may not move up with students.

Howard R. DRIGGS ELEMENTARY

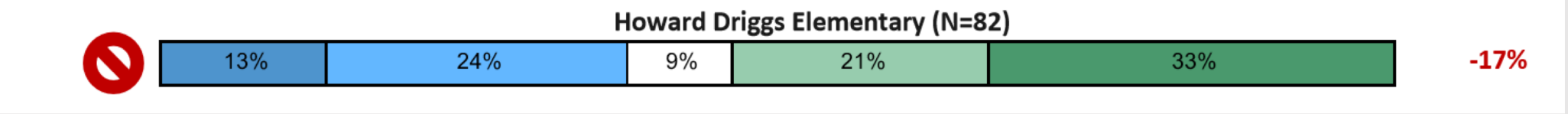
- School community Council has been discussing reconfiguration for more than 4 years. Spring of '18 SCC process review.
- 11/27/18- Driggs community information meeting was held at Driggs.
- Survey shows School Community Council and community in favor of 9th grade moving to high school.
- In regards to sixth grade, community was not in favor of moving 6th grade to the Junior High. The council took into account that the stability of the programming and student experience at Olympus Junior High would not remain stable in a 7-8 configuration.
- The School Community Council voted narrowly to approve reconfiguration on a 5-4 vote. The council recommends a reconfiguration in the fall of 2021 to give appropriate time to plan the transition. The SCC has formally submitted a letter to request reconfiguration.

Howard R. DRIGGS ELEMENTARY

Driggs 9th grade reconfiguration survey results:



Driggs 6th grade reconfiguration survey results:



MILL CREEK ELEMENTARY

Mill Creek Community Council voted in favor of reconfiguration - 4 in favor; 2 absent
Lengthy discussion involving community members and review of survey results and comments received.

2020-2021 Implementation is best for Mill Creek community. Currently in the Roosevelt Boundary Population study which potentially could add 75 students in 2020-2021.

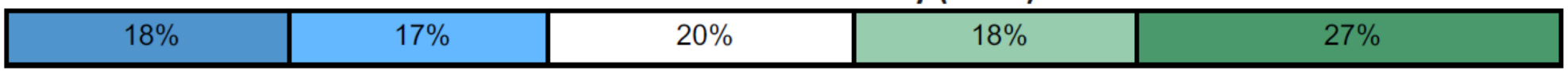
ROSECREST ELEMENTARY

- SCC did not formally request grade reconfiguration
- Community is very split
  - Lighthouse survey reflects this split
  - Dissension and disagreement has caused stress on both sides

9th Grade

+31%

6th Grade



-10%

ROSECREST ELEMENTARY

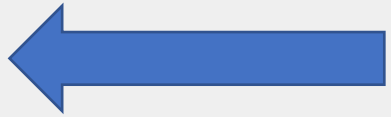
- SCC did not formally request grade reconfiguration
- Community is very split
- Most common reasons:

In Favor	Opposed
Olympus has the most robust learning & cultural experience and students should have one more year there.	Preserve the innocence of childhood for 1 more year
Uniformity with rest of district & beyond	Adequate plans have not yet been developed
9th grade counts towards high school – college preparation & planning	*If it ain't broke, don't fix it* – Rosecrest & Evergreen satisfaction and achievement are high

ROSECREST ELEMENTARY

- SCC did not formally request grade reconfiguration
- In order to provide complete data SCC voted on
  - In favor or opposed to moving 9th grade to Olympus
  - In favor or opposed to moving 6th grade to Evergreen

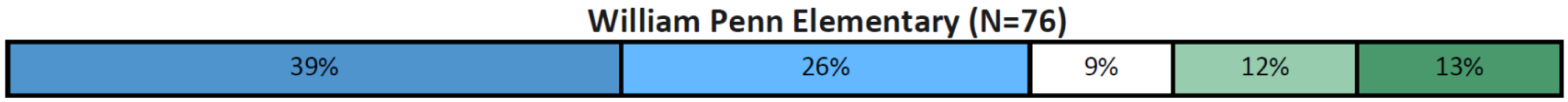
Issue	In Favor	Opposed
9th Grade to Olympus	4 votes	2 votes
6th Grade to Evergreen	3 votes	3 votes
Preferred year	2020 – 5 votes	2021 – 1 votes



WILLIAM PENN ELEMENTARY

- School Community Council has been discussing reconfiguration for four years at our community council meetings.
- School Community Council voted unanimously 8-0 in support of a K-5, 6-8, 9-12 reconfiguration for the 2020-2021 school year.
- Discussion of transitioning 6th grade to Evergreen occurred.
- Mr. Cutler has had discussions with parents on how they will be transitioned to 6th grade, and future meetings at Evergreen will occur. Parents feel confident in the transition and supporting the Dual Immersion program.
- Overall 60% support in our community.

Over 60% Support ✓



NETWORK SUMMARY

- Ongoing reconfiguration discussion since 2014-15
- Questions and Concerns with Open Enrollments
- Principals support reconfiguration
- Fall 2020 implementation is feasible
- Super-Majority (8 of 9) SCCs support reconfiguration
- Olympus Network Community Councils formally request K-5, 6-8, 9-12 reconfiguration beginning the 2020-2021 school year