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## Overview



- The public is worried about the shortages of teachers and other school personnel
- The public supports policies that will help attract and retain educators and support staff, which could help combat the teacher shortage
- Illinois continues to value education and understands that teaching is harder than it ever has been
- Illinois wants public schools that produce kids with ethics and who are thinkers and they want parents and teachers to have the largest say in how to make that happen

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## Poll details

### Conducted by:

- Jill Normington of Normington Petts
- Pat Brady of Next Generation Strategies

### Sample:

- 1,000 adults (not just voters) in Illinois

### Dates:

- January 19-24, 2023 (2022-2023 school year)

### Margin of error:

- +/- 3.1% with 95% confidence

### Data weighted:

- U.S. Census data for Illinois

### Previous waves were:

- 2018-2019 school year
- 2019-2020 school year
- 2020-2021 school year
- 2021-2022 school year

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**The public is becoming increasingly aware of shortages of teachers and other school personnel**

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## Data shows that COVID-19 exacerbated the teacher shortage crisis



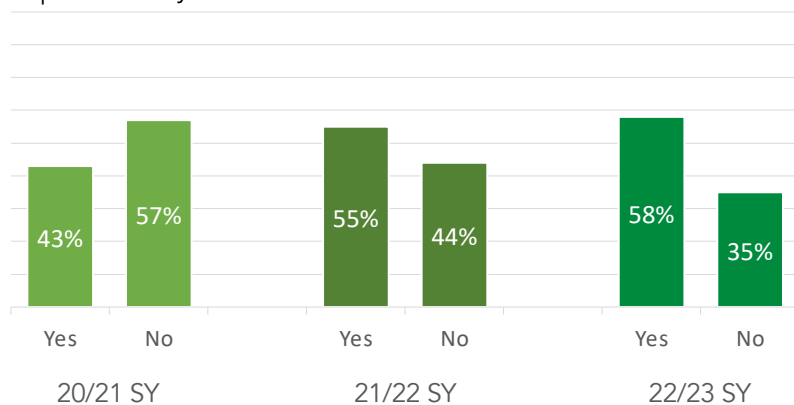
- One-in-three IEA members who were polled in September 2021, stated that they were considering leaving the profession.
- That same poll showed two-in-three IEA members felt “more burned out than normal this year.”
- In the past three years, more than 12,000 teachers have retired.
- According to data from the Illinois State Board of Education there were 62 percent more openings in 2022 as there were in 2017 (5,301 vs. 2,006).

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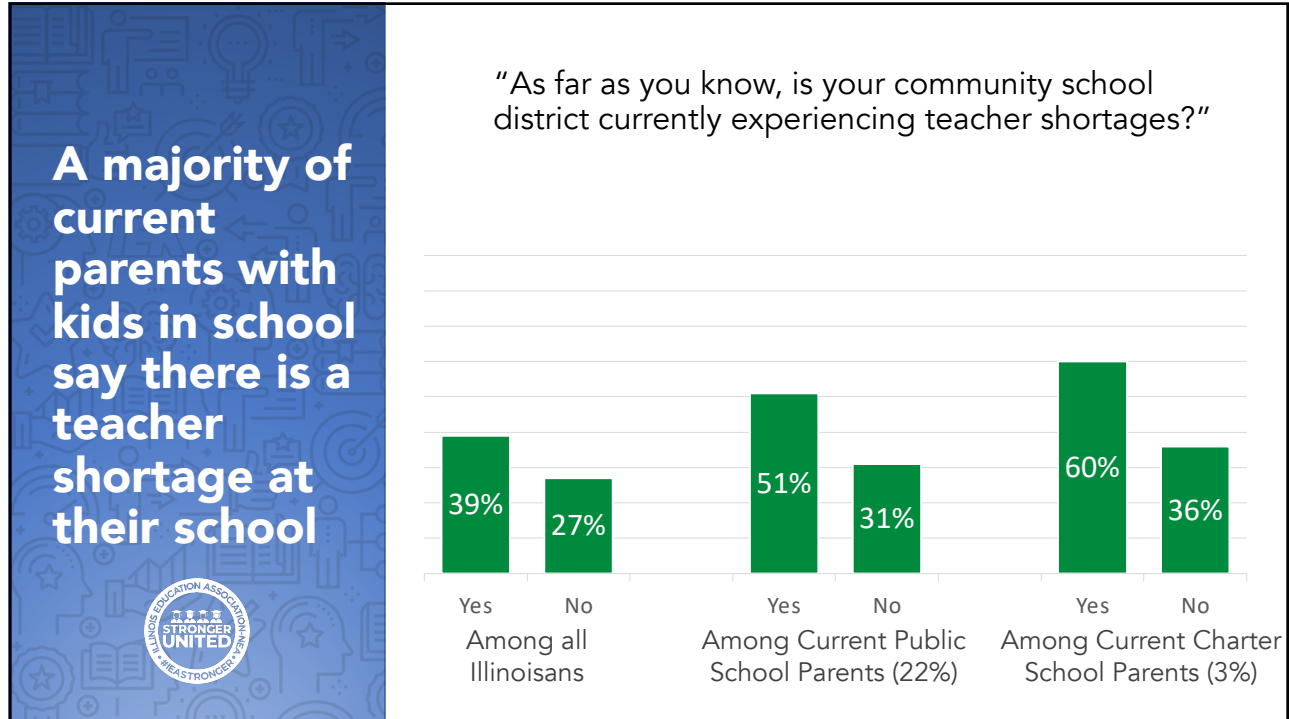
## Most Illinoisans are becoming aware of the teacher shortage



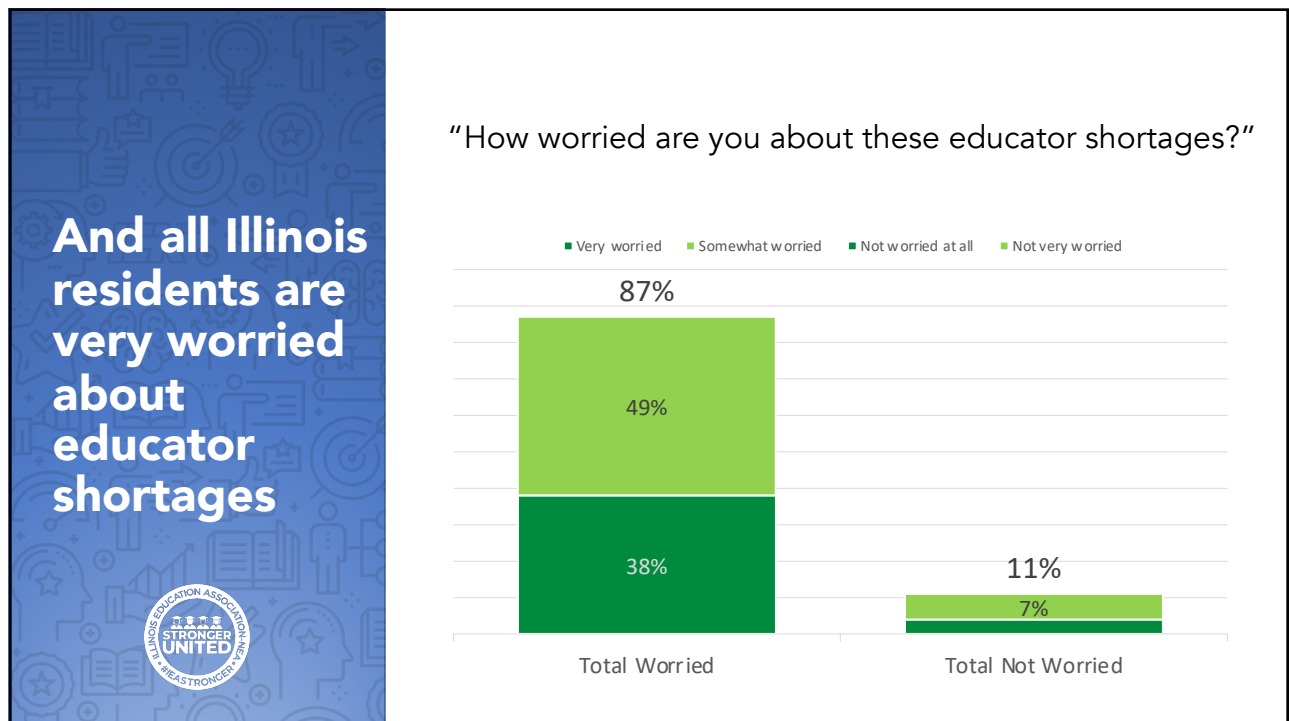
“As you may know, public schools in Illinois have had a teacher shortage for several years. Recent surveys suggest that as many as one in three teachers, school psychologists and paraprofessionals in Illinois are now thinking about leaving the profession permanently because the pandemic has made everything more difficult. Had you or had you not heard that about teachers and other public school employees leaving permanently before now?”



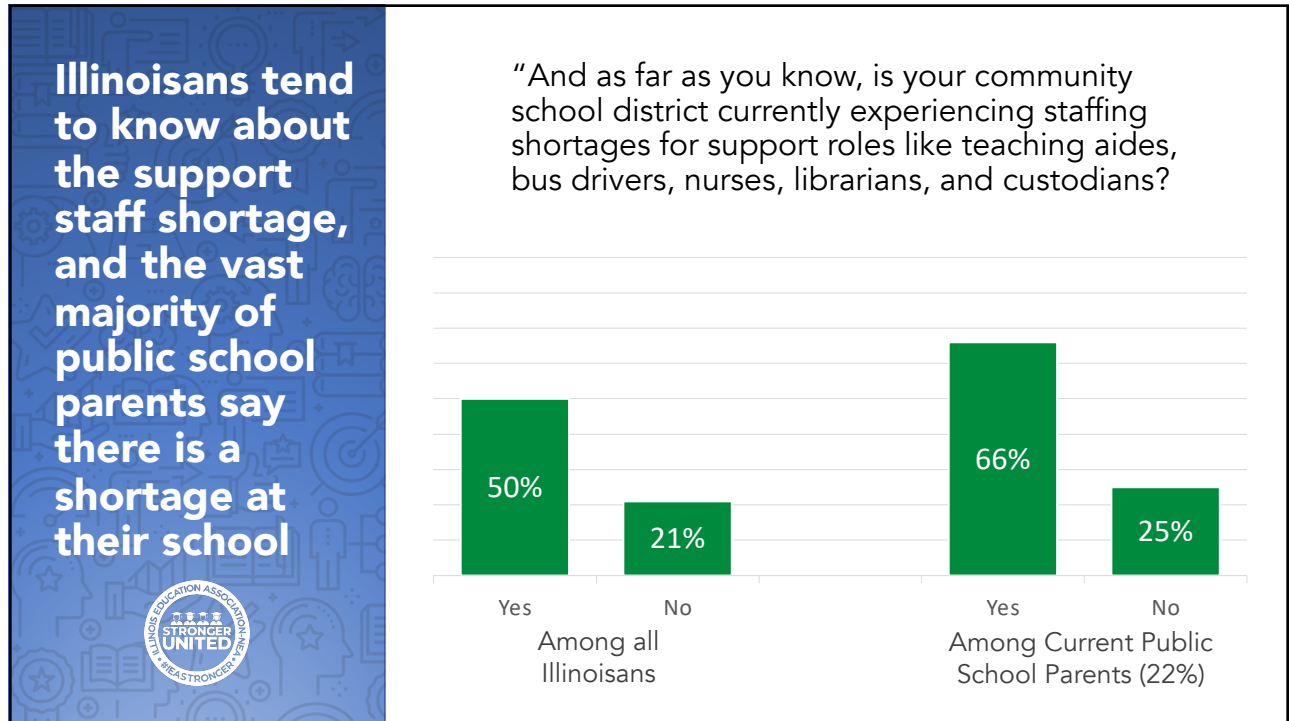
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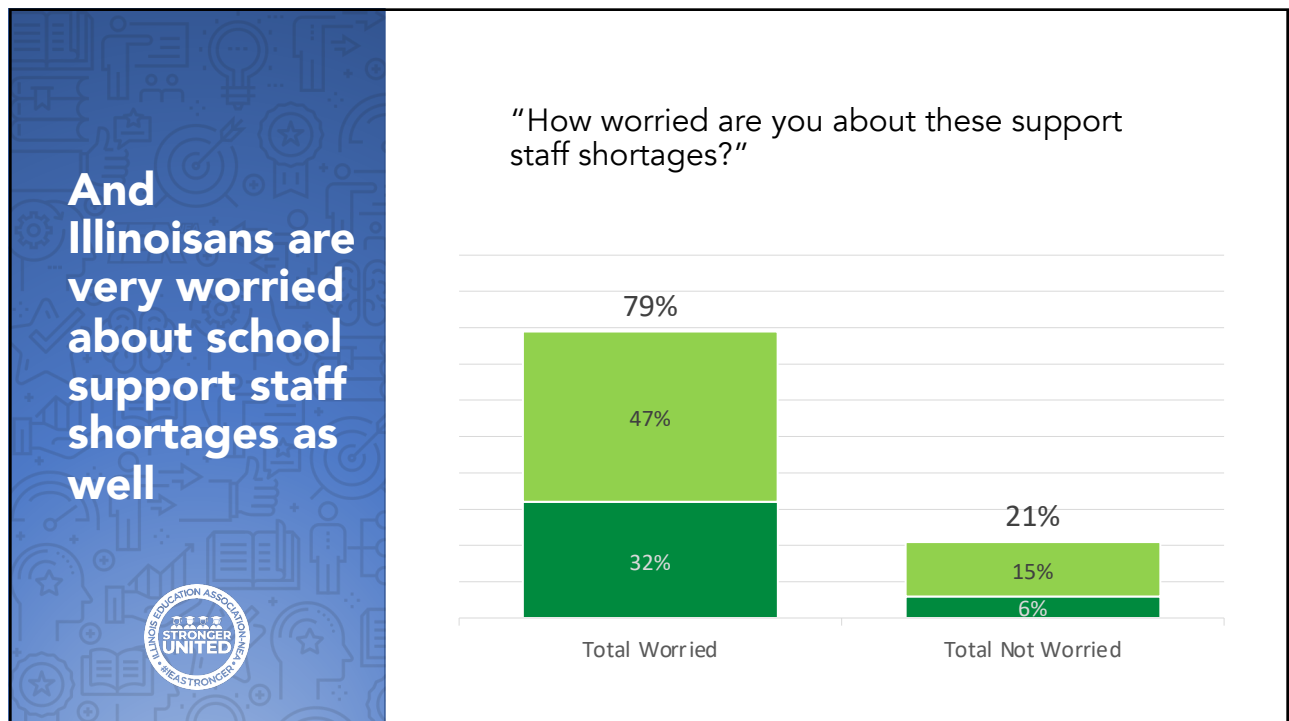
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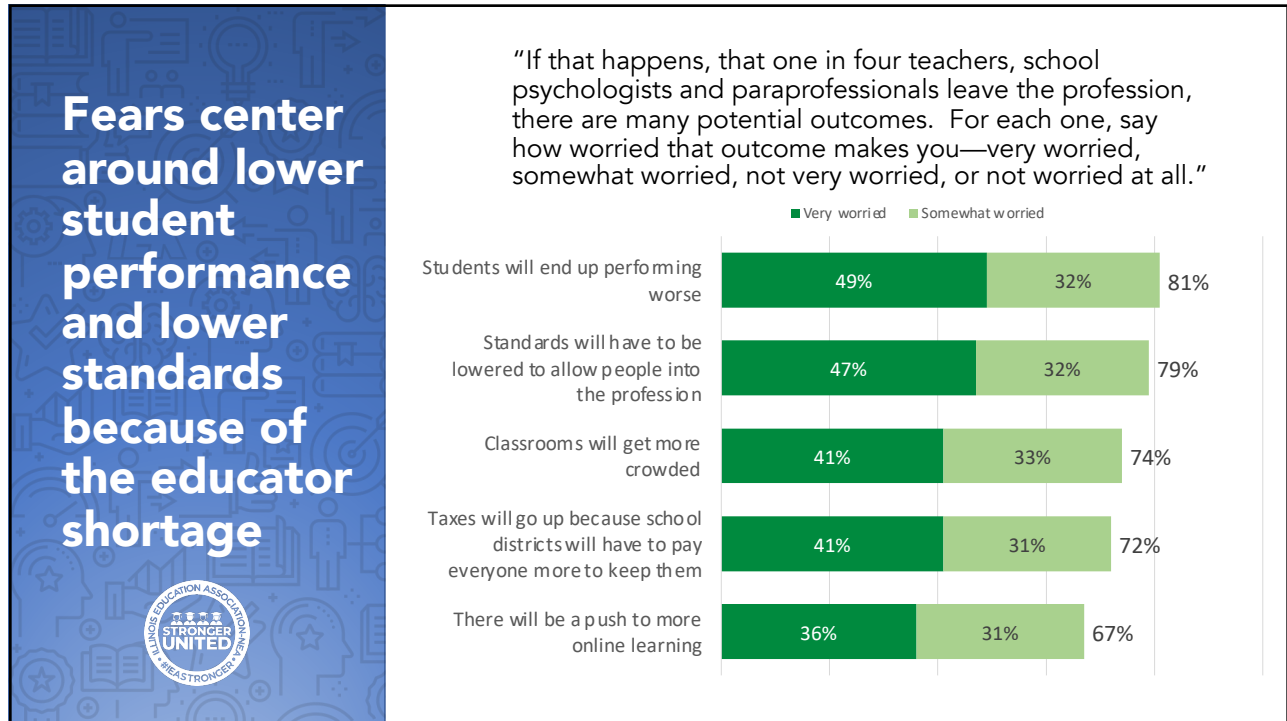


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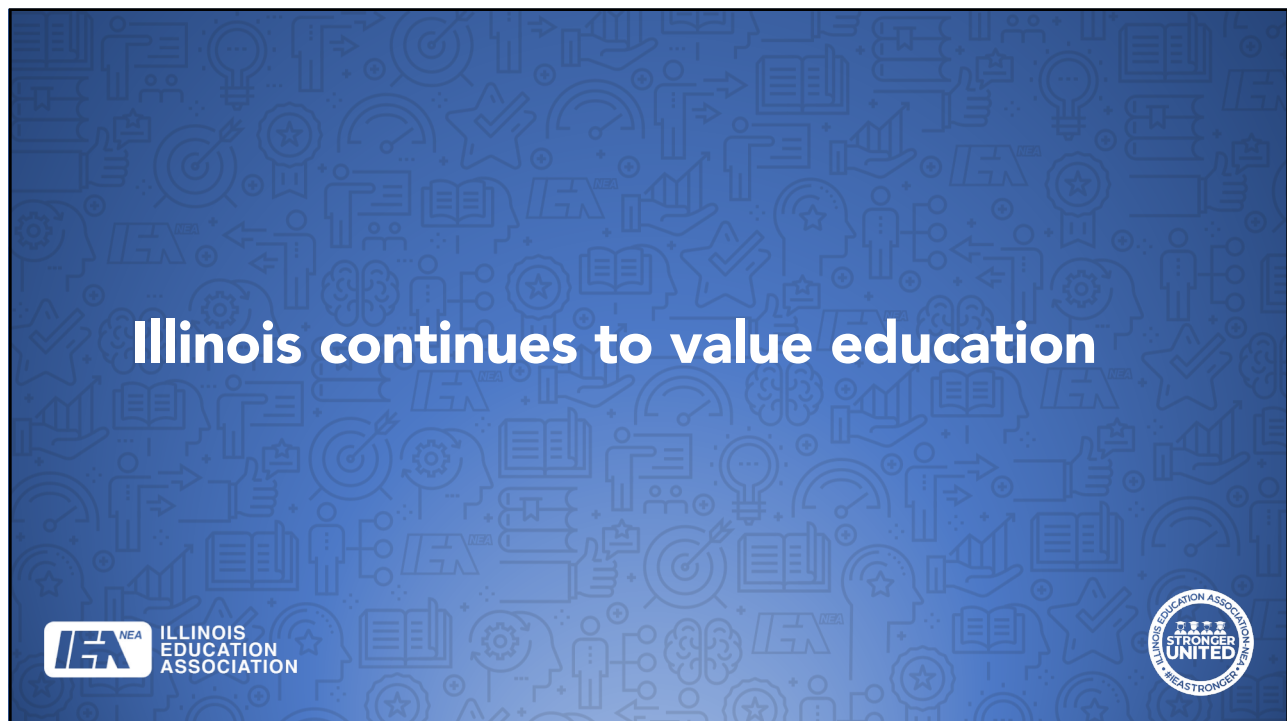


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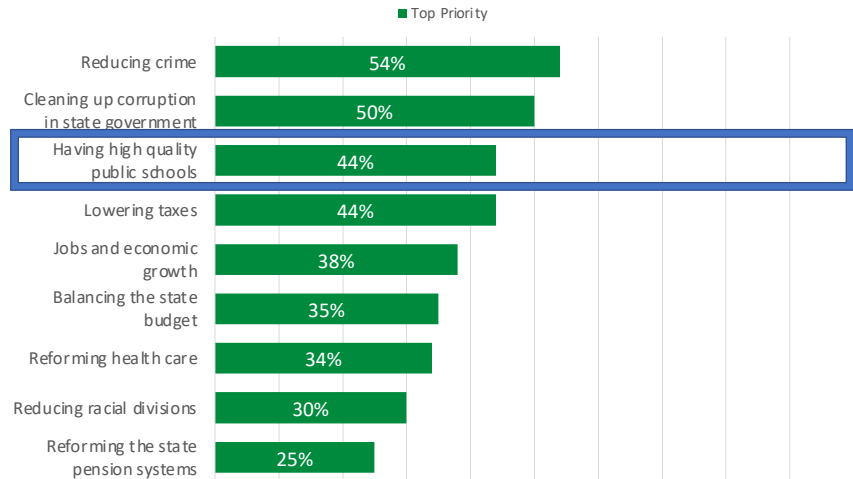


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**High quality schools are more important to the public than balancing the state's budget or reforming the state pension system**



"Now, I am going to read you a list of priorities for Illinois. Please tell me how important each one is to you, personally, on a scale of zero to ten where a zero means not a priority at all and ten means it is your top priority. You can choose any number from zero to ten."

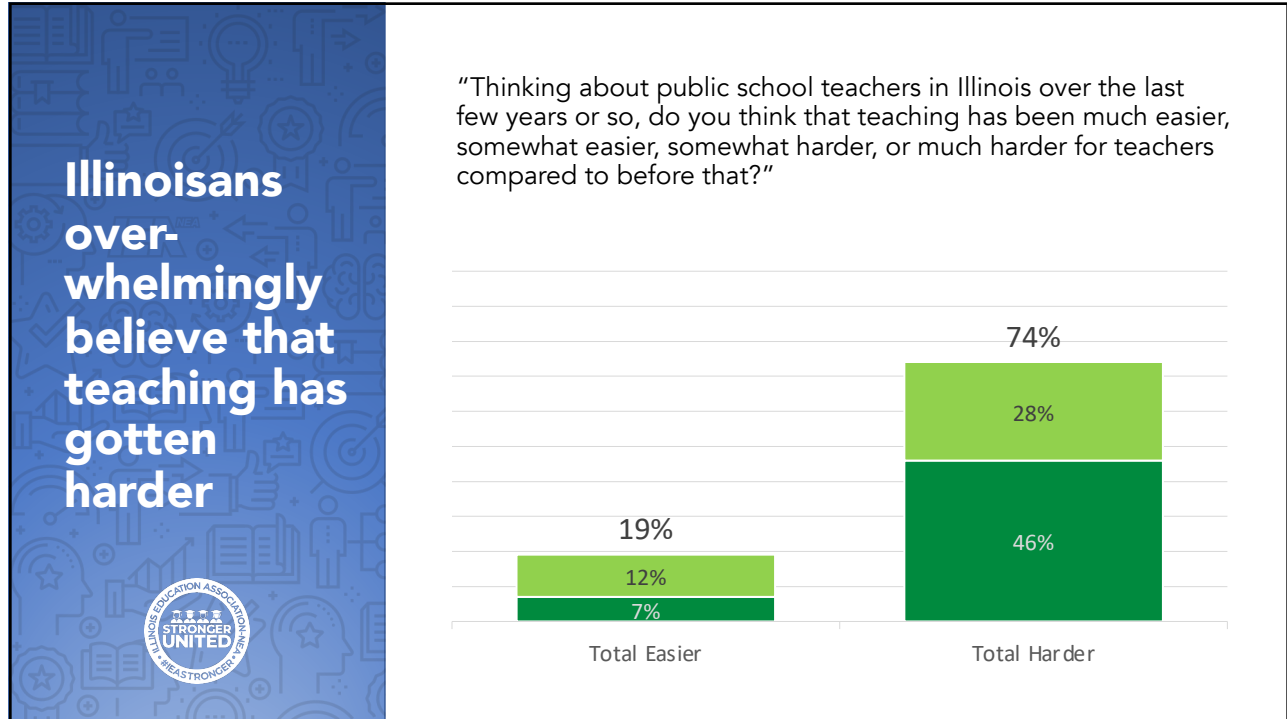


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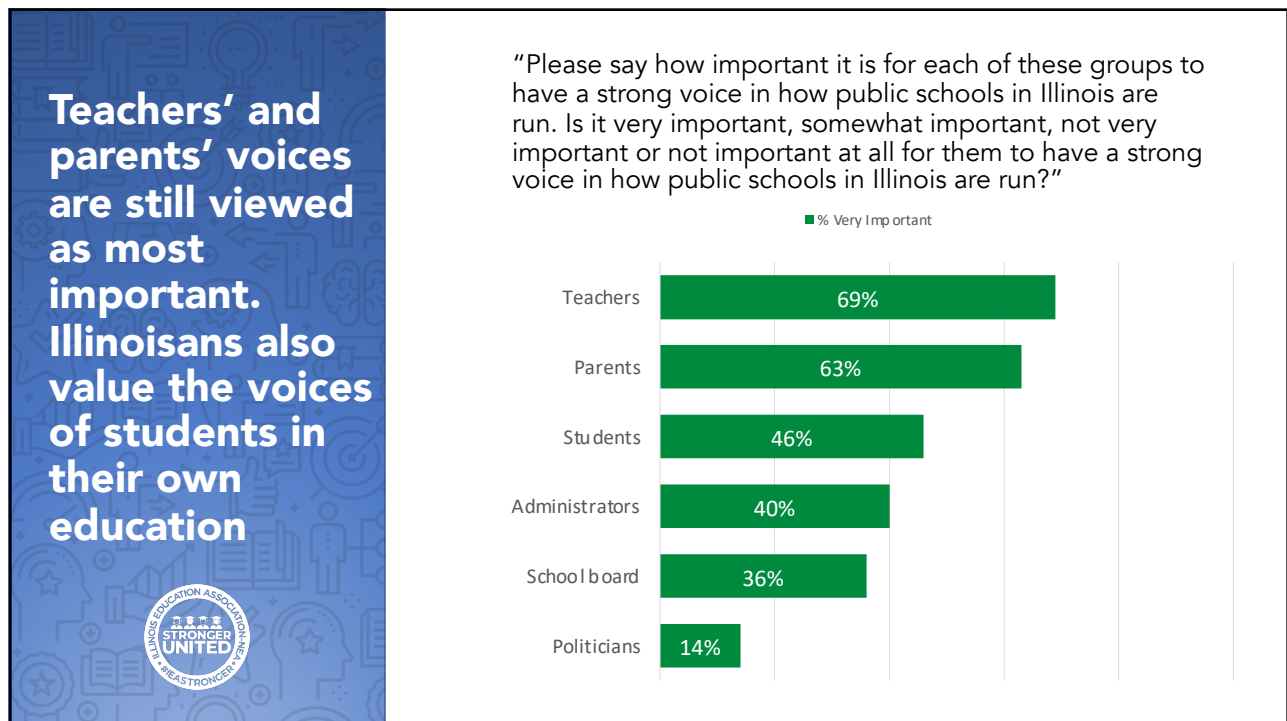
**Illinoisans believe parents and teachers should have the largest say in how schools are run and believe education funding should increase**



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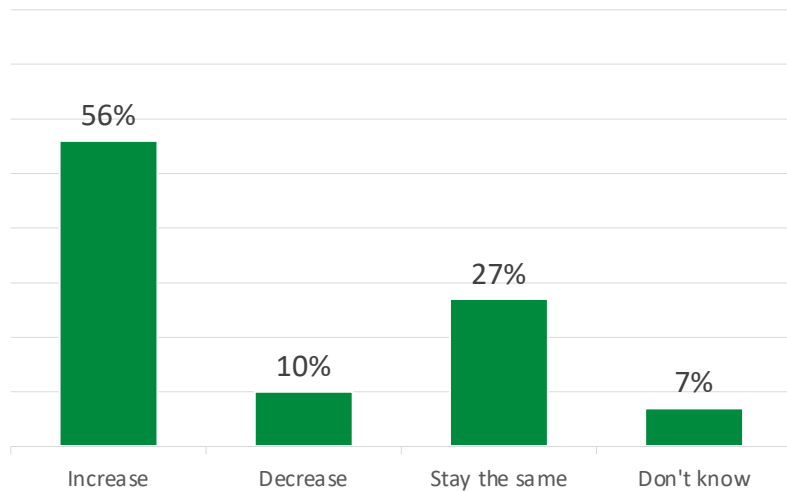
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## The public continues to support increases in education spending



Do you think funding for public schools in Illinois should increase, decrease or stay about the same?

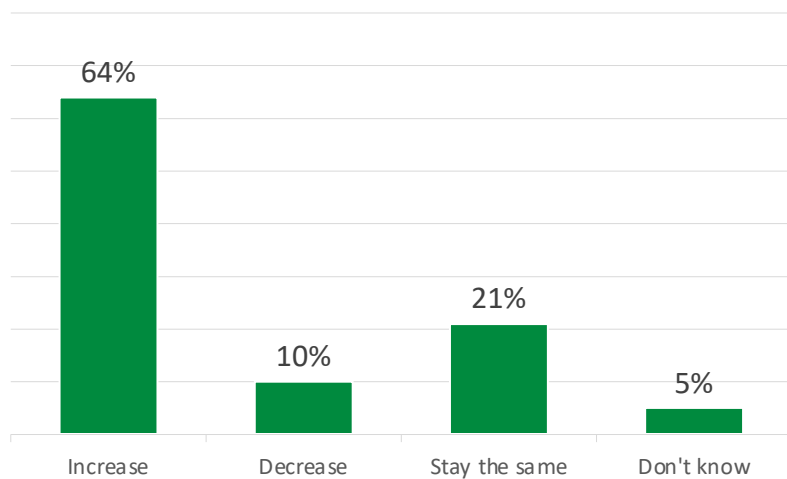


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## When they know that more than 4 in 5 Illinois schools are underfunded, support for more money goes way up



"As you may know, five years ago Illinois passed a law with a new minimum funding requirement for public schools. Right now, 83% percent of Illinois school districts do not meet that minimum standard, meaning more than four out of five school districts are underfunded. Having heard that, do you think funding for public schools in Illinois should increase, decrease, or stay about the same?"



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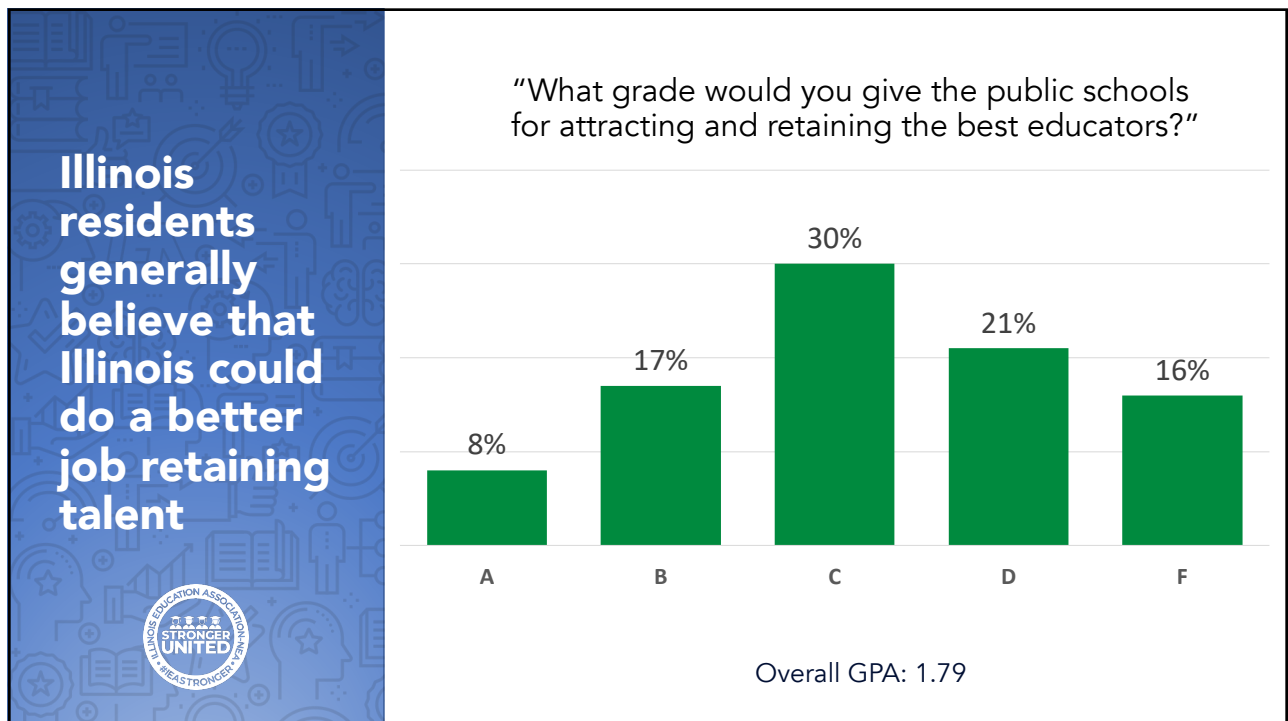
# The public supports policies that will help attract and retain educators and support staff, which could help combat the teacher shortage



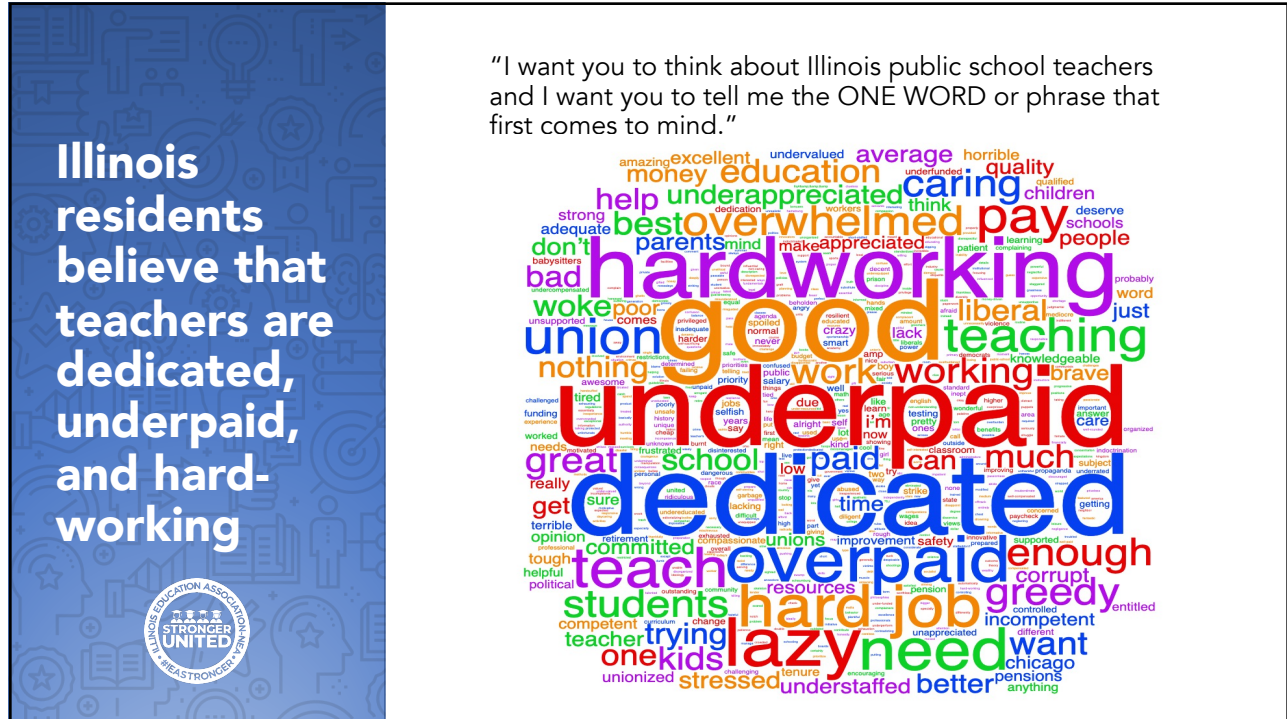
**IEA** ILLINOIS EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

ILLINOIS EDUCATION ASSOCIATION STRONGER UNITED

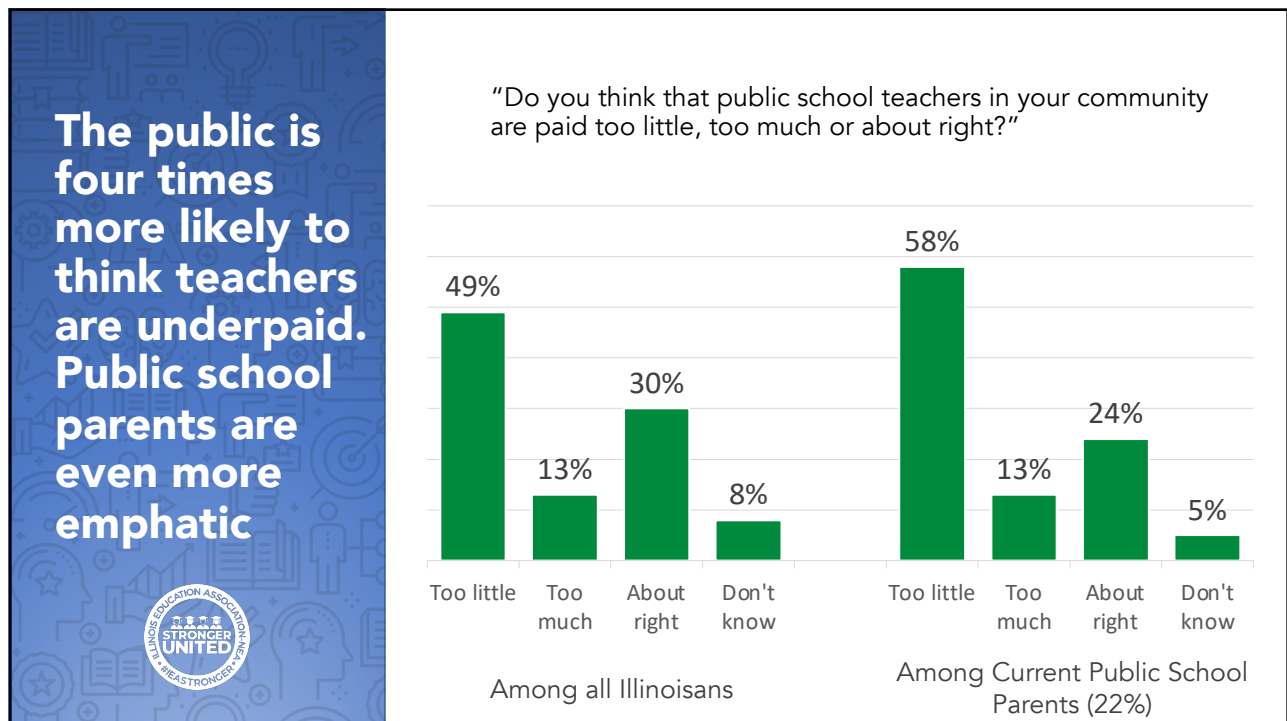
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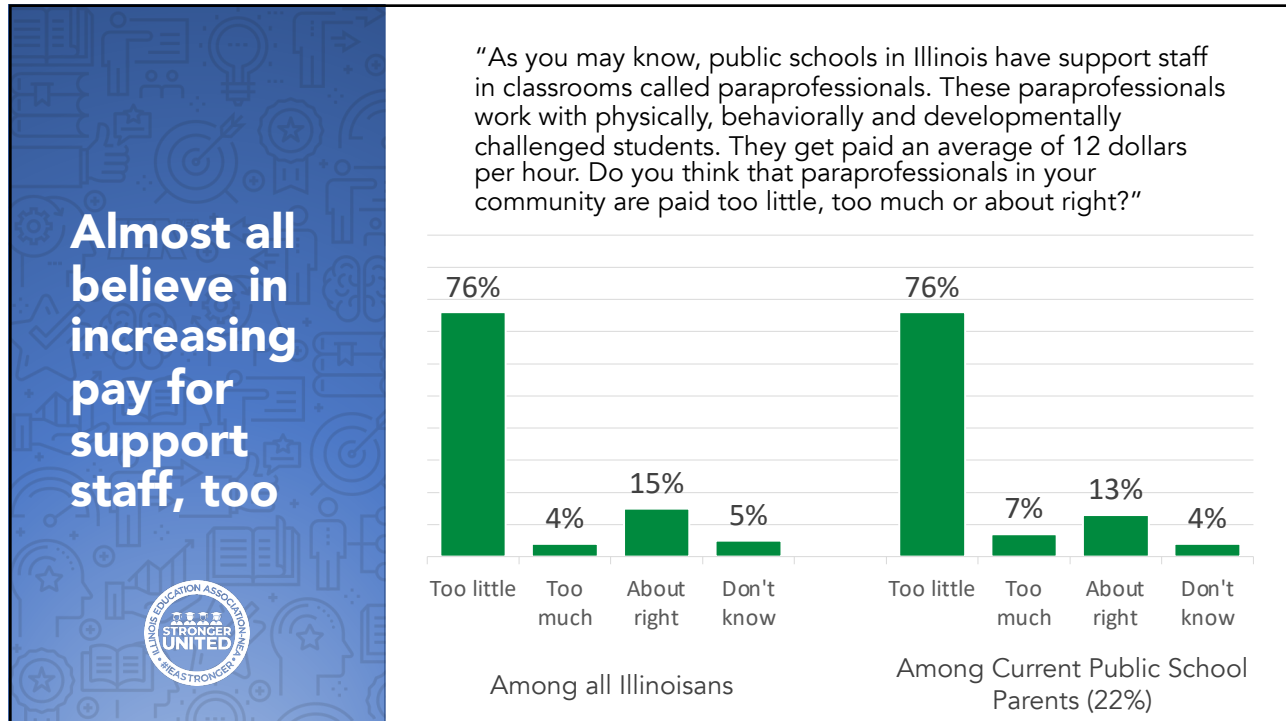
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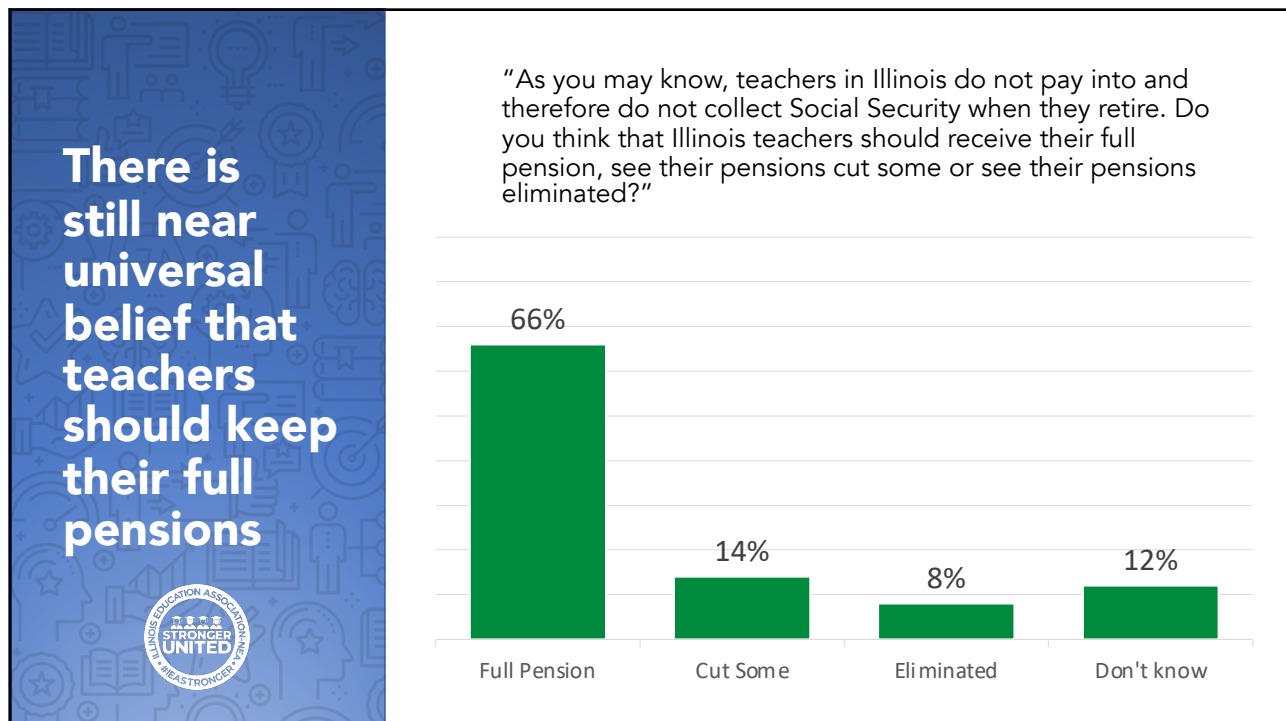
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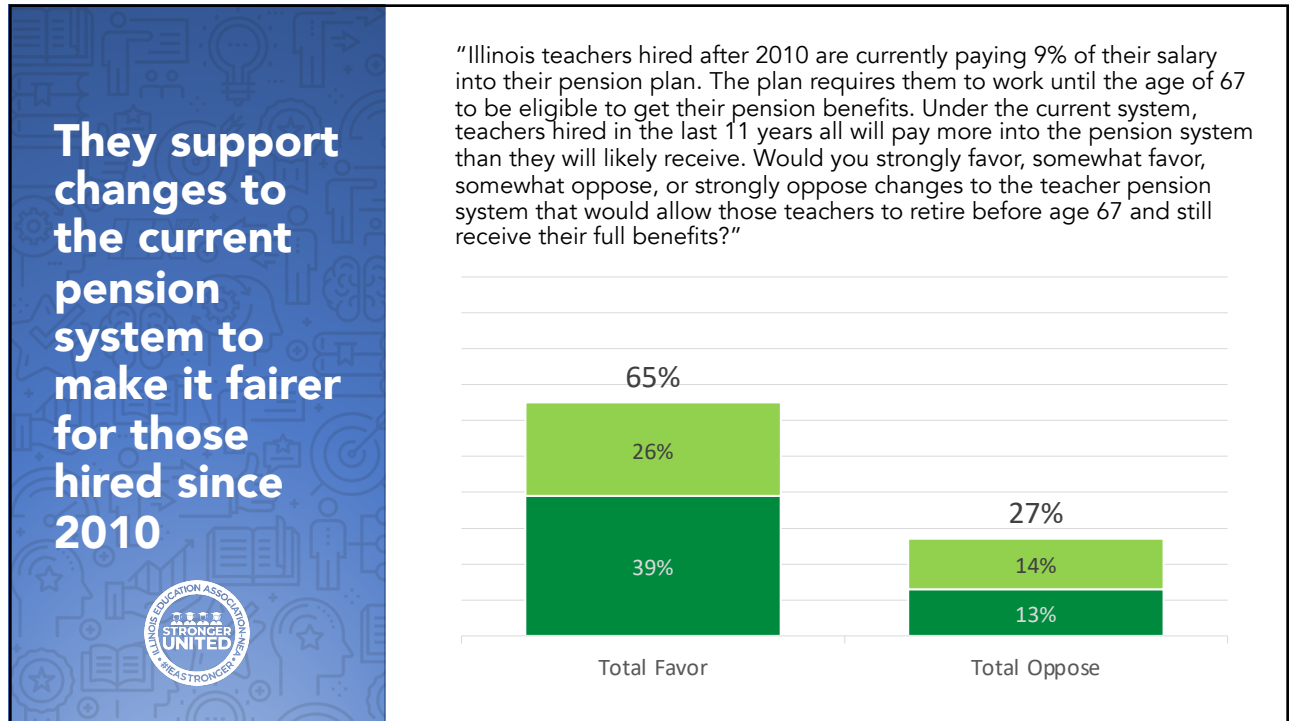
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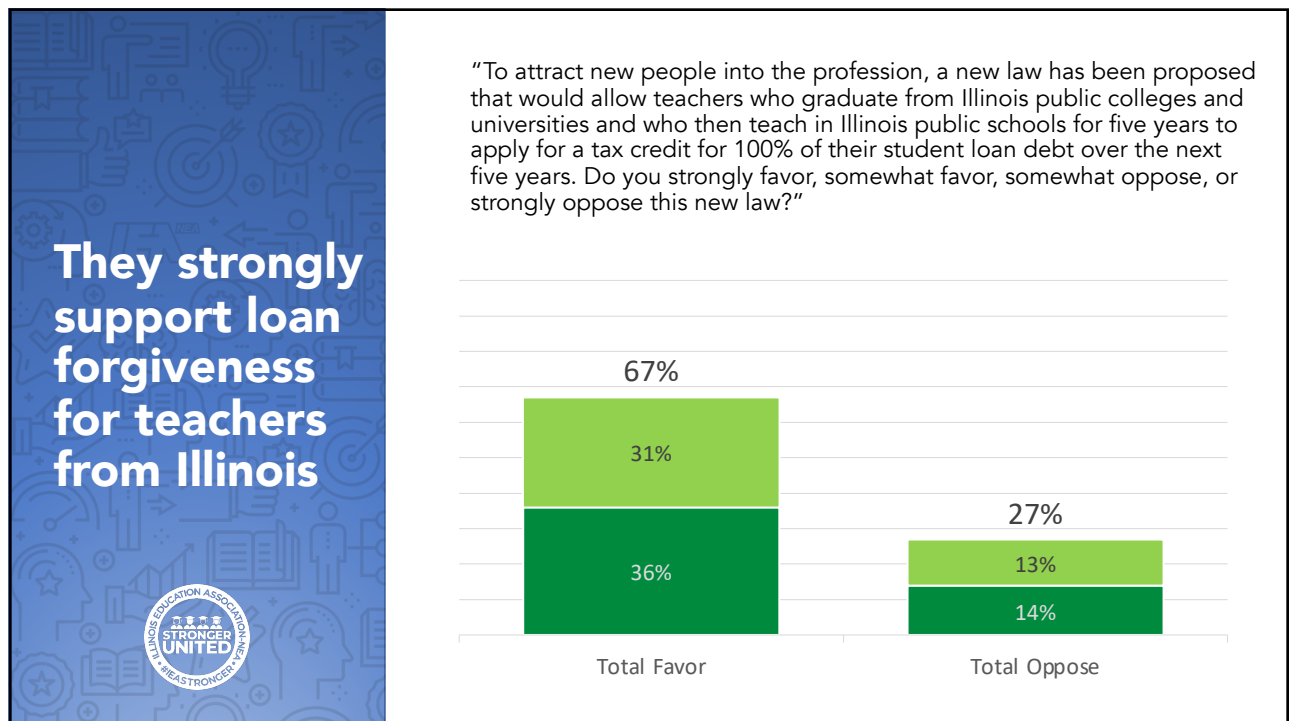
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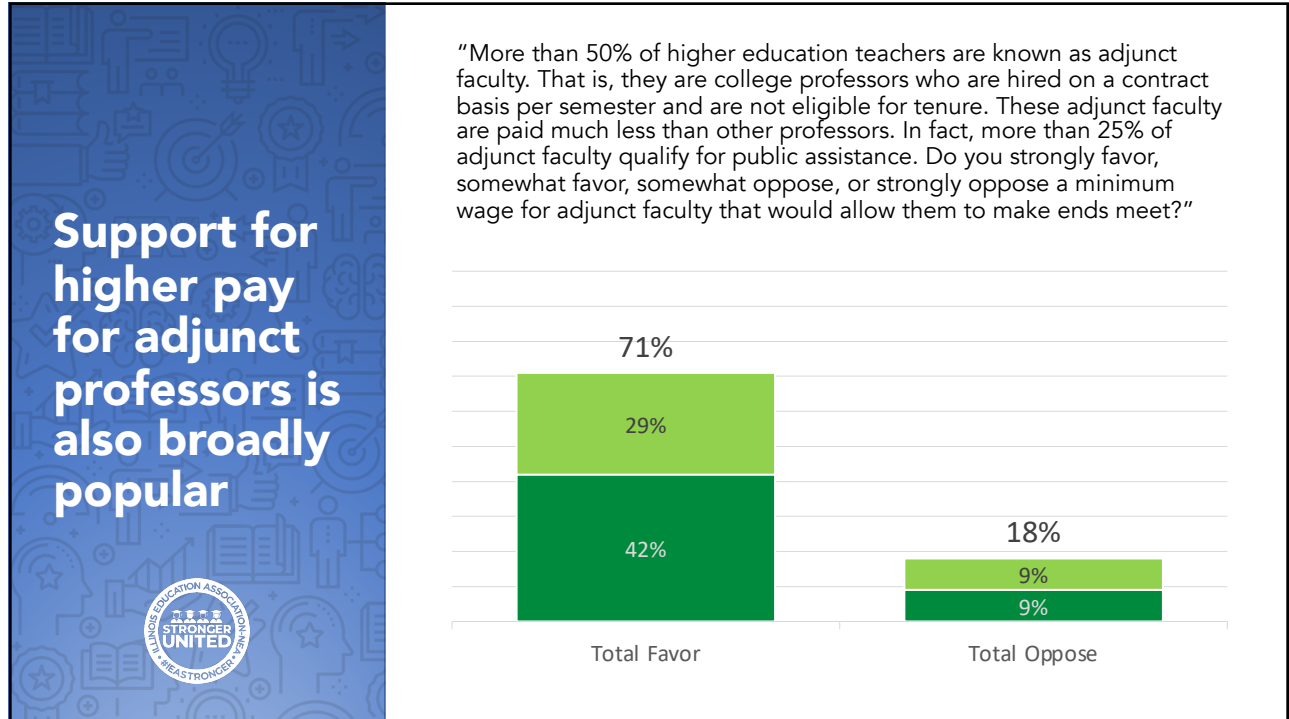


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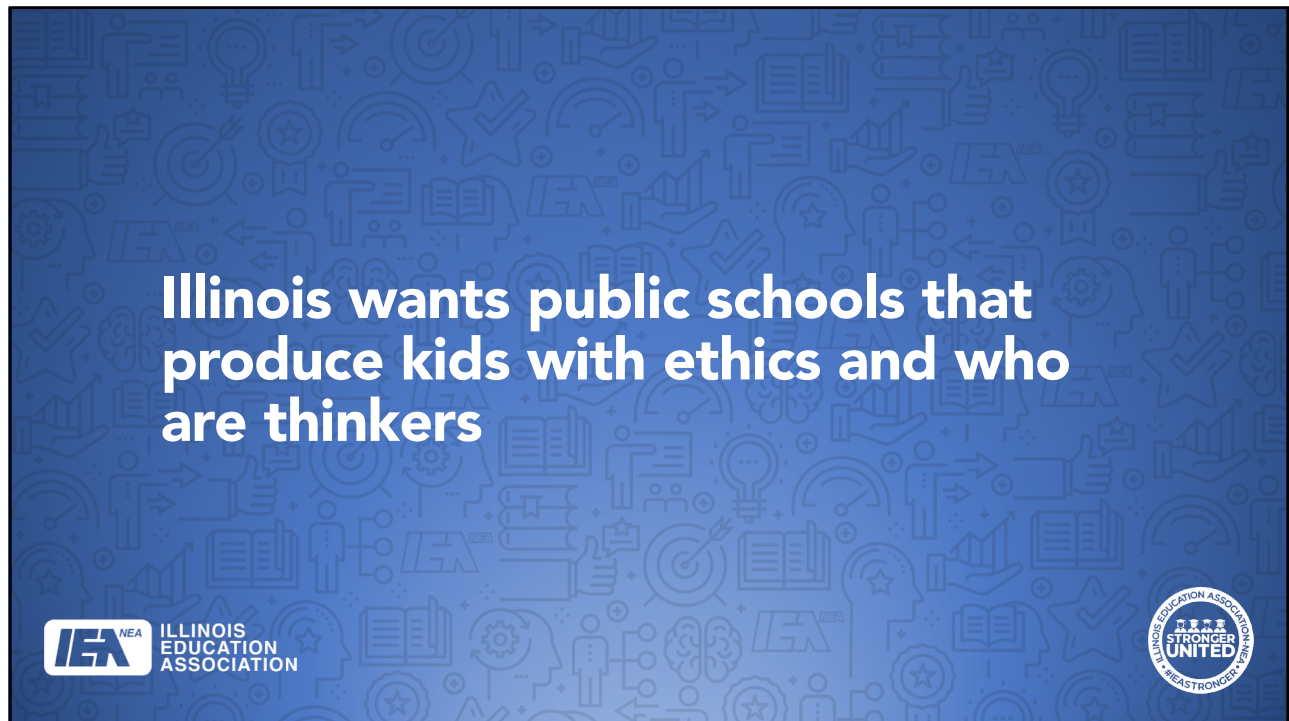


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**We also asked Illinoisans about contentious school board meetings, teaching a true history of our country and other items. Please see the webpage for those results.**

[ieanea.org/iea-state-of-education/](http://ieanea.org/iea-state-of-education/)


IEA NEA ILLINOIS EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

ILLINOIS EDUCATION ASSOCIATION  
STRONGER UNITED  
NEA STRONGER

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The logo is a circular emblem. The outer ring contains the text "ILLINOIS EDUCATION ASSOCIATION-NEA" at the top and "#IEASTRONGER" at the bottom. Inside the ring, there are four graduation caps (mortarboards) arranged in a row. Below the caps, the words "STRONGER UNITED" are written in a bold, sans-serif font.

ieacommunications@ieanea.org

The logo consists of the letters "IEA" in a stylized font, with "NEA" in smaller letters to the right.

ILLINOIS  
EDUCATION  
ASSOCIATION

FOLLOW US

A row of six circular icons representing social media platforms: Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube, Messenger, and Snapchat.