



Possible 6th Grade Move Parent Forum

Tuesday January 21, 2025

Mission Statement (Goals)

The Mission of the Catskill Central School District is to provide students with a comprehensive, tailored education that prepares them to be productive members of a diverse society.



Vision Statement (Impact on Students)

The vision of the Catskill Central School District is to empower students, through an educational environment that has multiple pathways, to become successful global citizens and good people embodying our core values of integrity, perseverance and compassion.



Purpose of this Presentation

- Transparency
- Provide information
- Allowing conversation with stakeholders
- Feedback



Index Cards

- Questions
- Comments



Timeline

- **December 4, 2024:** Initial presentation of the proposal to the Board of Education.
- **December 16, 2024:** Distribution of a survey to 5th-grade parents to gather their feedback.
- **January 3, 2025:** Meet with the 6th-grade teaching team to discuss potential movement and gather input.
- **January 6, 2025:** Meet with secondary CTA members to discuss potential movement and gather input.
- **January 8, 2025:** Meet with elementary CTA members to discuss potential movement and gather input.
- **January 21, 2025:** Host a parent forum at Catskill Elementary School Library (moved to MS Auditorium) to provide information and hear from families.
- **January 28, 2025:** Two-hour early dismissal, Meet with CSEA members to discuss potential movement and gather input, followed by additional meetings and/or surveys with staff in each building.
- **December-February 2025:** Administrators are drafting possible schedules, reviewing facilities usage, and exploring staffing implications for the transition.
- **March 5, 2025:** Present the final proposal to the Board of Education.



Why Explore

- **Increasing Programming and Opportunities for Students**
 - Potential smaller class sizes at CES
 - Creating more targeted electives on Secondary Campus
- **Curriculum Alignment**
- **Creating Space for New Opportunities**
 - Special Education Programing
 - CTE Programing
 - Building Stronger Community Partnerships
- **Fiscal Responsibility**
 - Consolidation of Resources
 - Potential to Increase Revenues



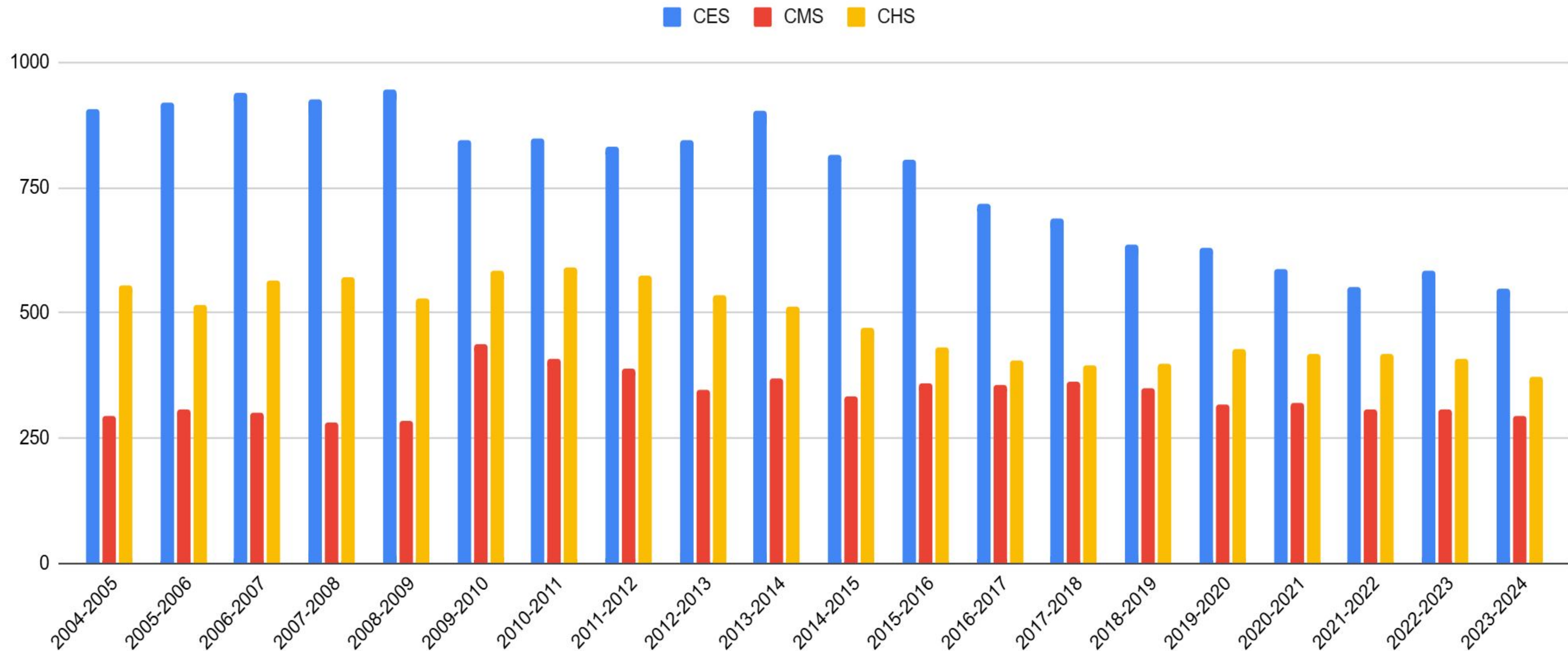
Declining Enrollment

	Largest Enrollment	Current Enrollment	Projected Enrollment	Difference from Largest	Difference 25-26 from 24-25
CES	946 <small>(08-09)</small>	550	650	396/296	+100
CMS	439 <small>(09-10)</small>	293	195	146/244	-98
CHS	591 <small>(10-11)</small>	372	375	219/216	+3



Declining Enrollment

CES, CMS and CHS



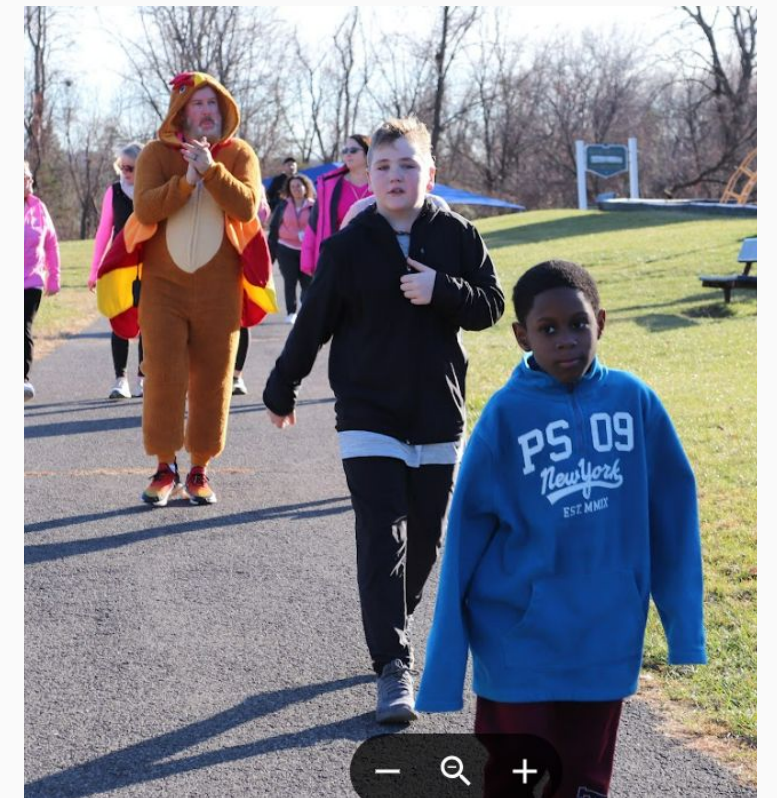
5th Grade Parent Survey

- 50 Families Replied
- 90% of Families believe that this change would benefit their child.
 - Potential of smaller class sizes
 - Having all elementary certified staff in one location
 - Increase focus on social emotional development
 - Keeping 6th grade with younger students and waiting another year to transition.
 - Access to playground
 - Transportation (Not walking to school)



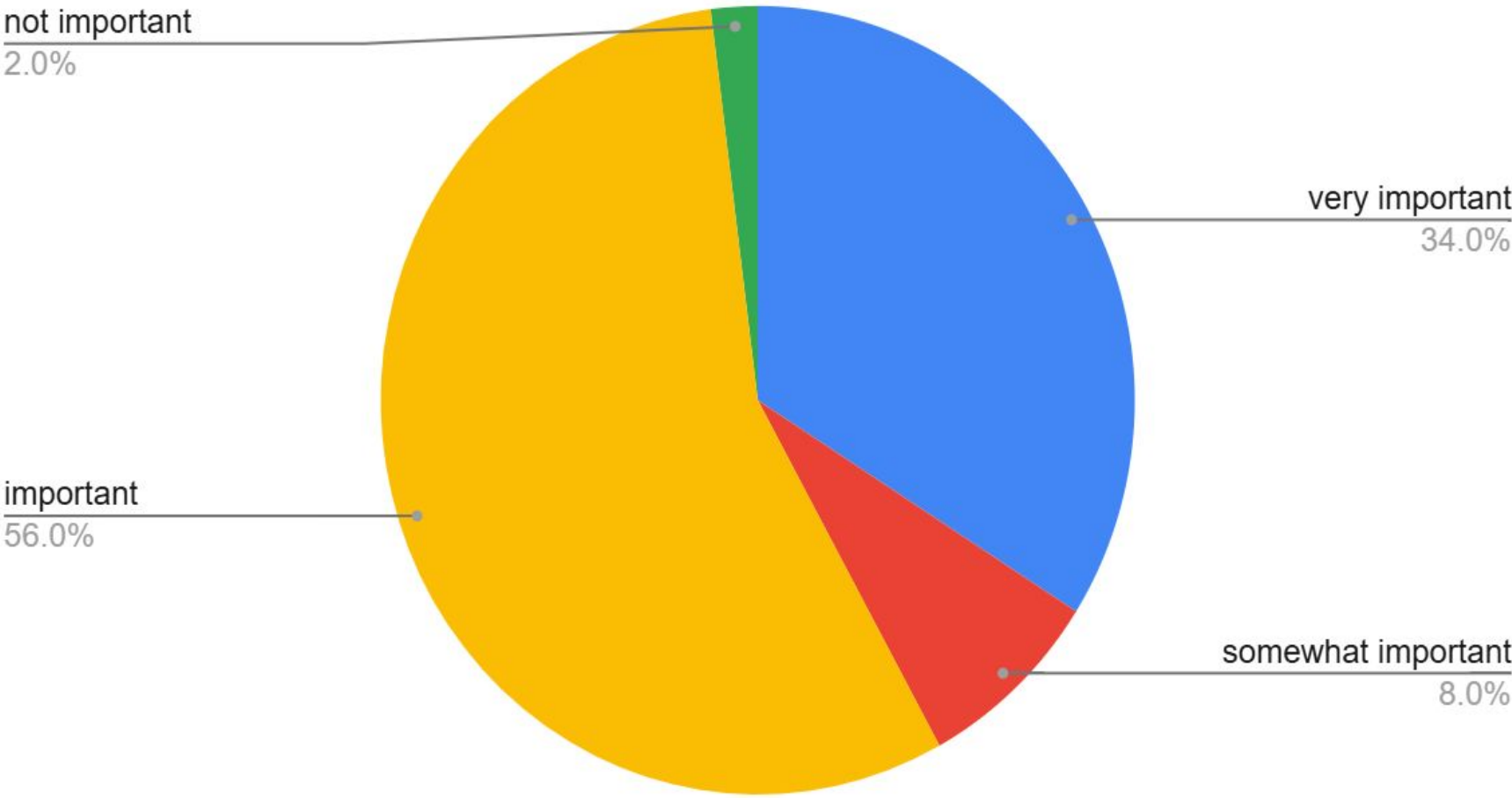
5th Grade Parent Survey

- 50 Families Replied
- 10% of Families believe that this change would not benefit their child.
 - Social Dynamics
 - Keeping 6th grade with younger students
 - Waiting another year to transition.
 - Limited Access to Middle School Activities
 - Sports (Modified Sports Start in 7th Grade)

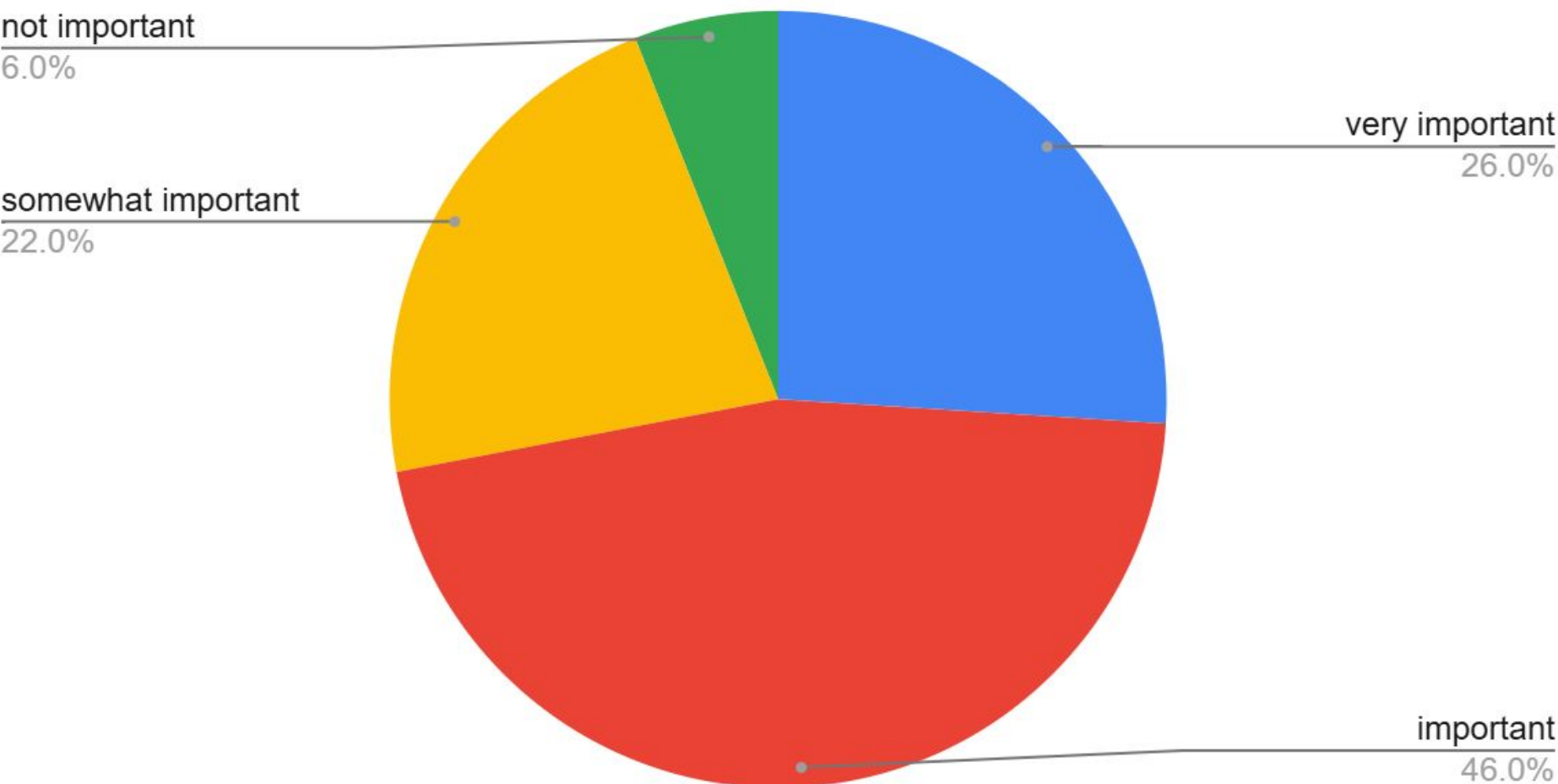


5th Grade Parent Survey

Count of If this change were to occur, how important would the following be to you? [improved curricular alignment]

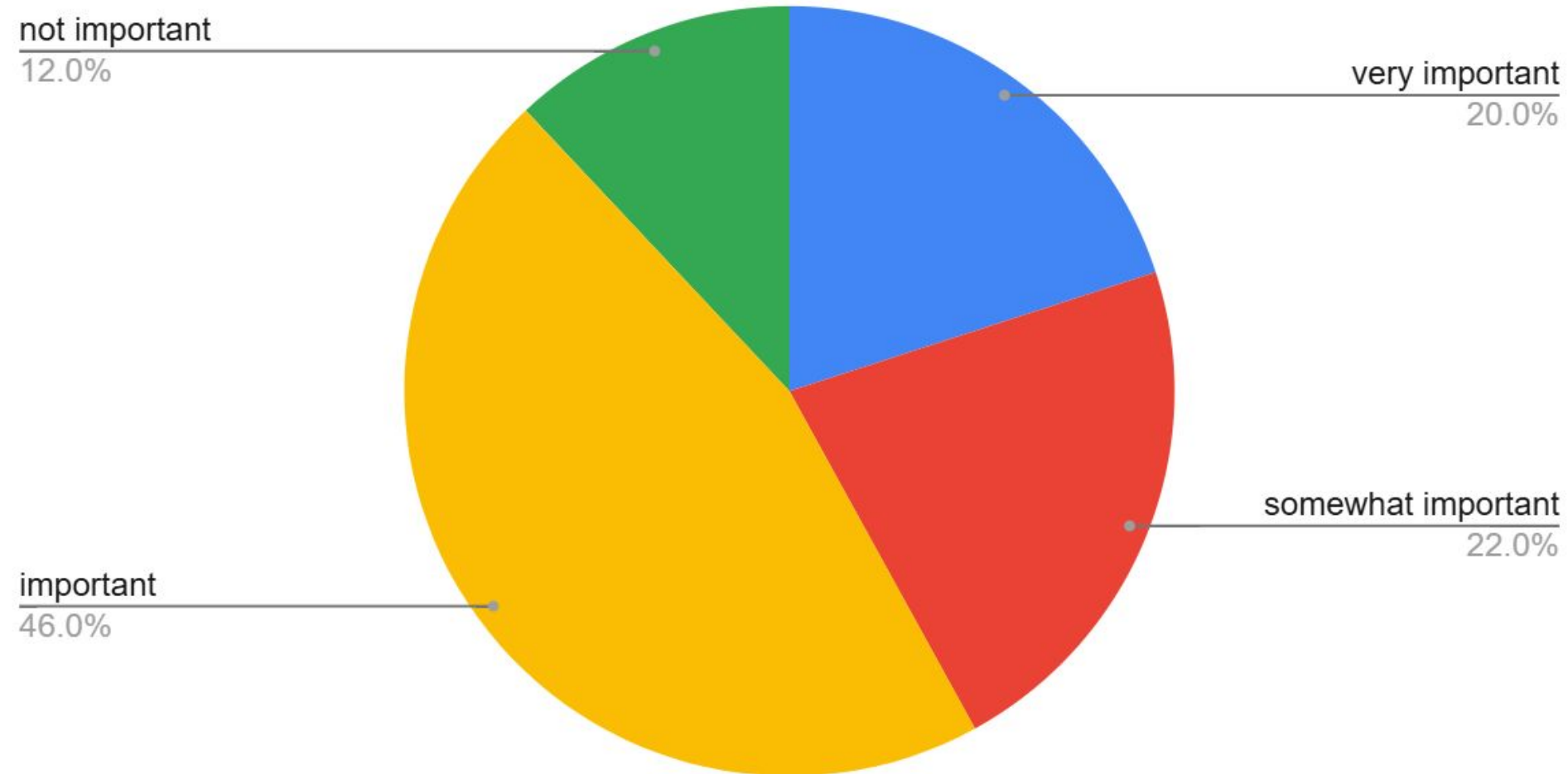


Count of If this change were to occur, how important would the following be to you? [extracurricular activities]

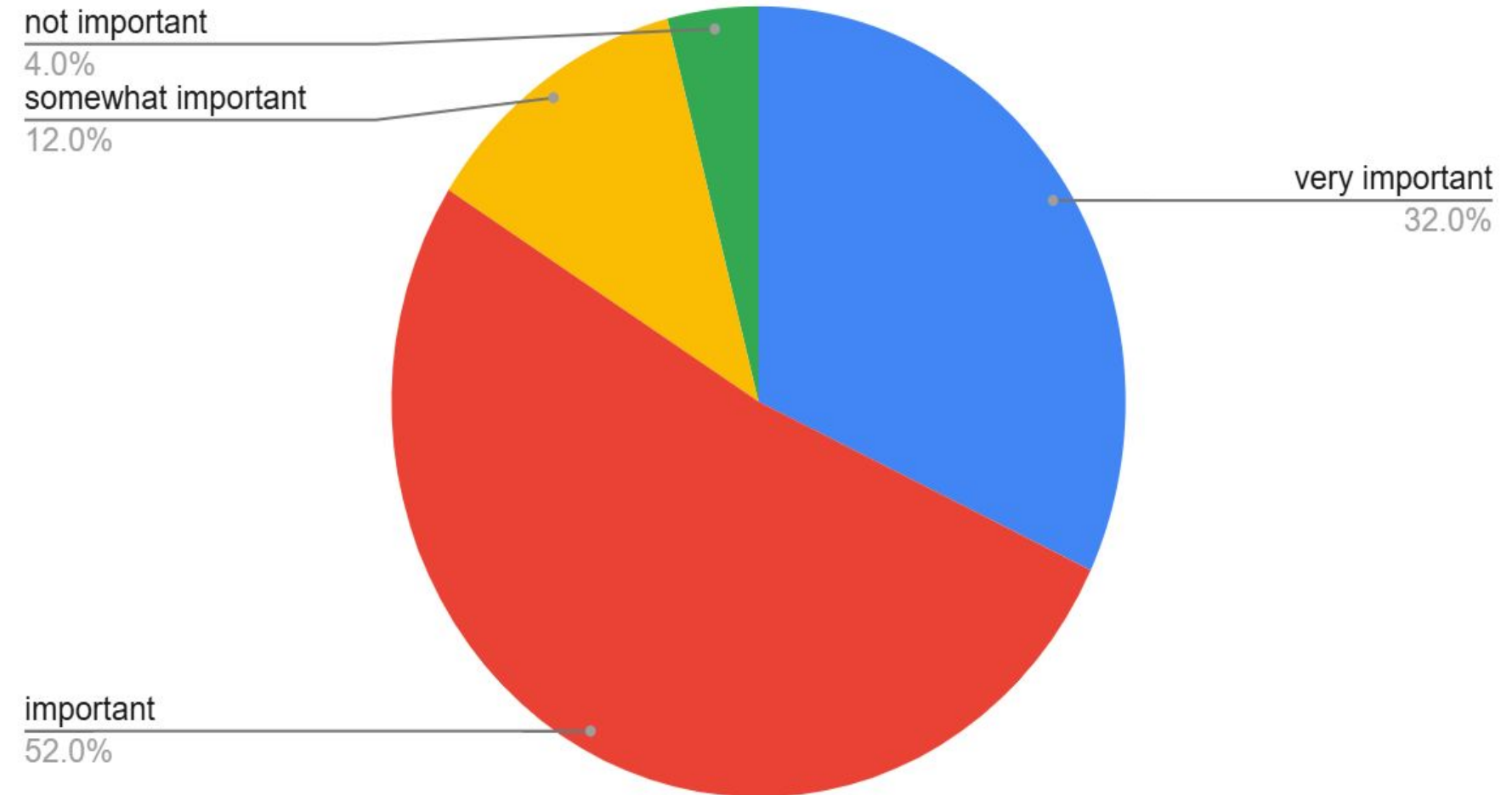


5th Grade Parent Survey

Count of If this change were to occur, how important would the following be to you? [teacher training]

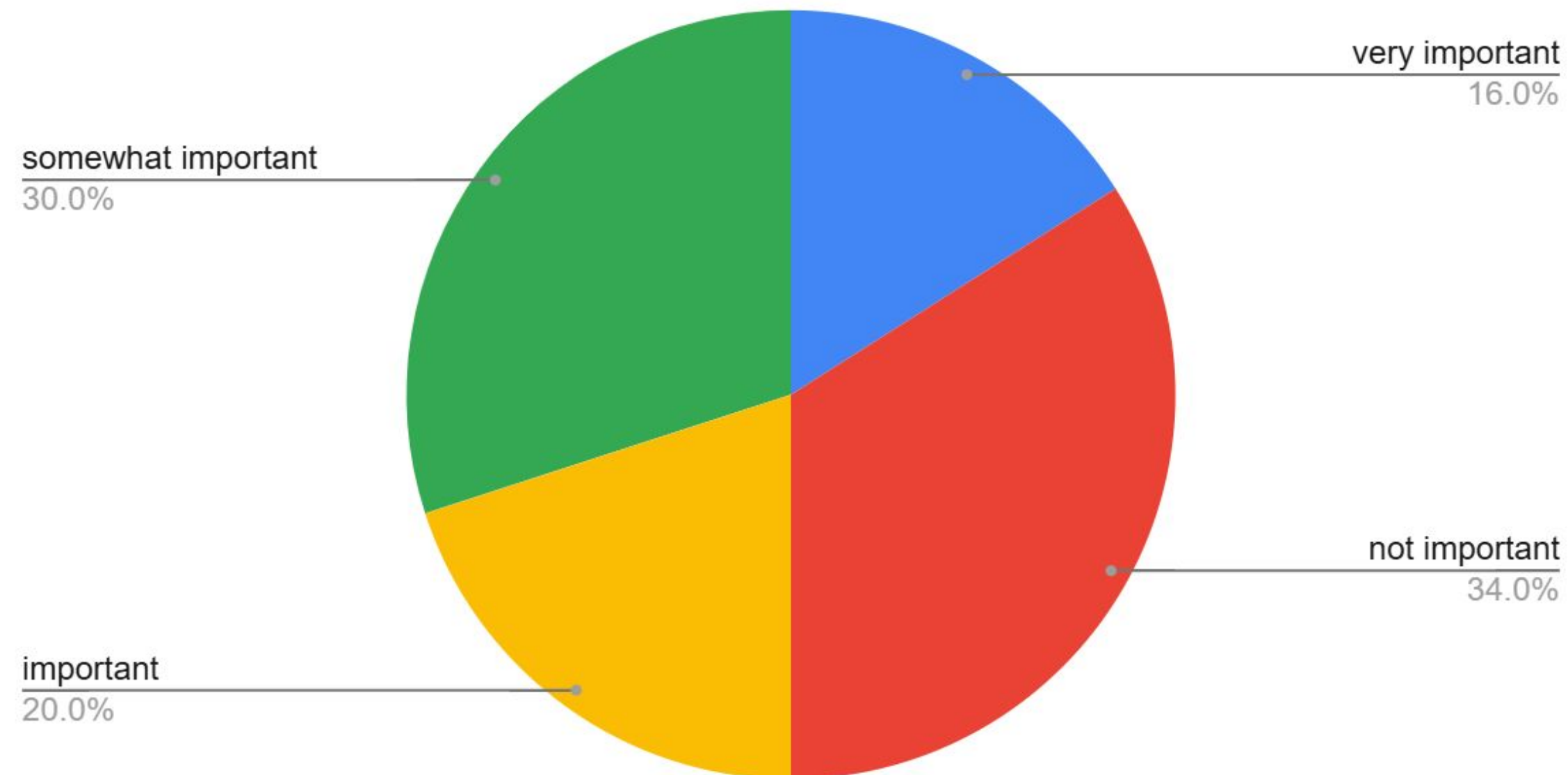


Count of If this change were to occur, how important would the following be to you? [social-emotional development]



5th Grade Parent Survey

Count of If this change were to occur, how important would the following be to you? [transportation]



Teacher Workshop

- Benefits
- Challenges
- Social & Behavioral Considerations
- Curriculum & Programs
- Staffing
- Long Term Impact
- Structure
- Professional Development



Teacher Workshop

Benefits

- Department Work (curriculum)
- Consistency in expectation both teaching and discipline
- Student acceleration and/or extra support
- Smaller class sizes at CES
- Maturity level of 6th graders is appropriate for an elementary school

Challenges

- Staff Movement
- Maturity Level of Students
- Grade Level Expectations
- Morning supervision
- Interactions between younger and older elementary students in the halls
- Scheduling common planning time for grade level teachers

Teacher Workshop

Social & Behavioral Considerations

- Older elementary students could buddy with younger students (reading buddies/mentors)
- Need consistency of expectations for students throughout the building
- Need for adult presence in halls and unstructured times

Curriculum & Programs

- Flexibility in scheduling and course offering
- FCCLA is an organization with students 7-12. In the correct environment this can work and the HS students can become role models.
- Are there enough interventions and other support personnel?

Teacher Workshop

Staffing

- Ensure adequate staffing to cover specials
- More general education teachers would lead to smaller class sizes
- Ensure that there is plenty of support staff

Long Term Impact

- Curriculum alignment K-6 and 7-12
- Let students be kids longer
- What happens if student enrollment increases?

Teacher Workshop

Structure

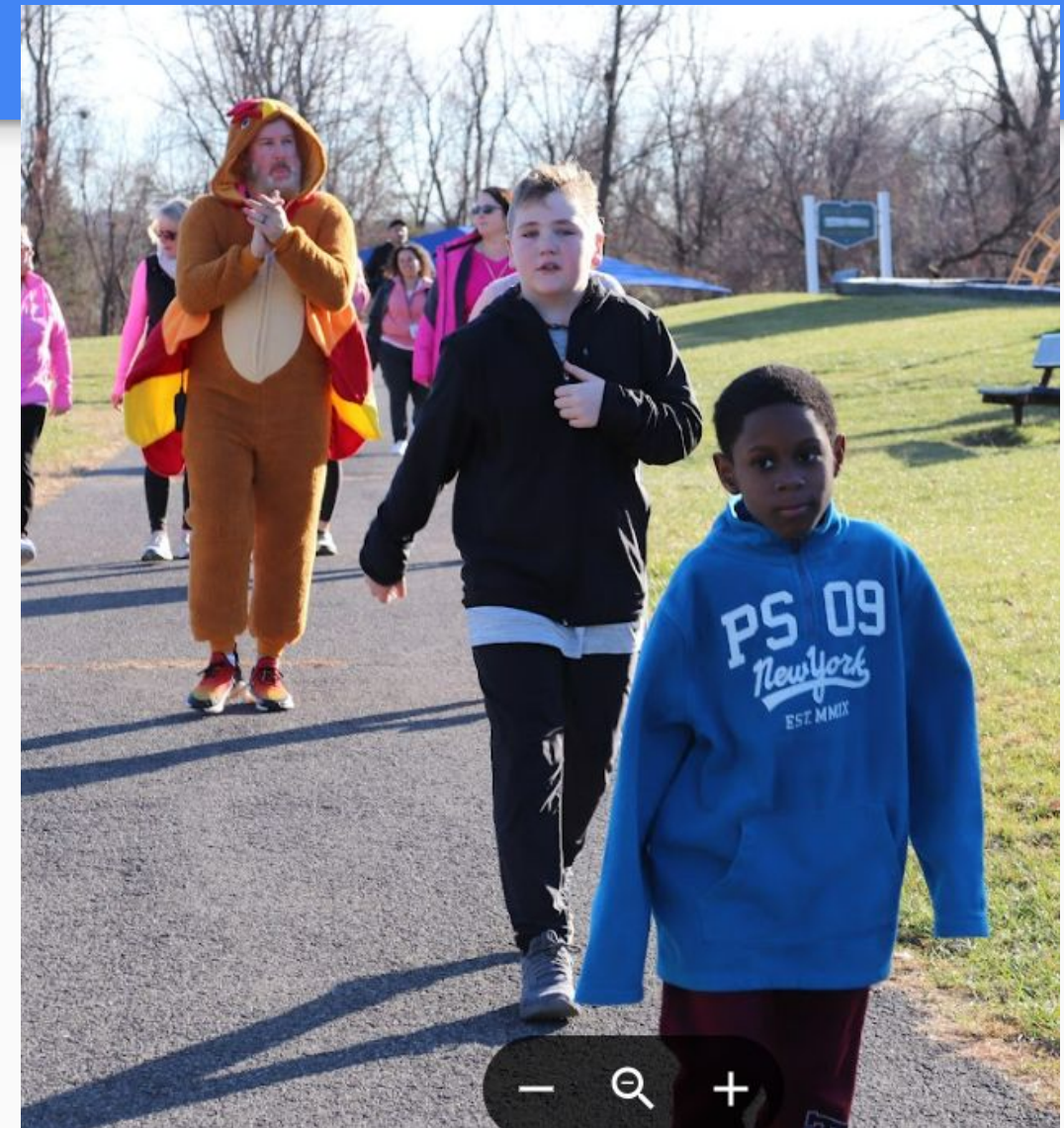
- Need more time to plan (Start 26-27)
- Keep MS/HS students separate or separate by courses
- Building structure might not work for supervision
- Furniture—same chairs don't work for 6th grade and PreK
- Morning Arrival - students sitting in the hall for up to 20 minutes

Professional Development

- Social Emotional Learning/Addressing Behaviors
- Keeping Common Planning Time
- Training and common expectations for policies, procedures and programs
PikMyKid, Benchmark, transition from elementary to secondary, etc

Potential Program Structure

- Catskill Elementary School
 - Grades Pre-K through 6
 - Pre-K will be full day
- Catskill Secondary School
 - Grades 7-12



Questions

