

OVERRIDES: PARACHUTES FROM THE FISCAL CLIFF

MASC/MASS Joint Conference November 6, 2024

Peter Light, Superintendent, Acton-Boxborough Regional Schools Keith Taverna, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Administration, Andover Public Schools Rich Mathieu, former Director of Finance and Operations, Dudley-Charlton Regional Schools Dan Gale, Director of Finance and Operations, Hudson Public Schools



LEARNING OUTCOMES

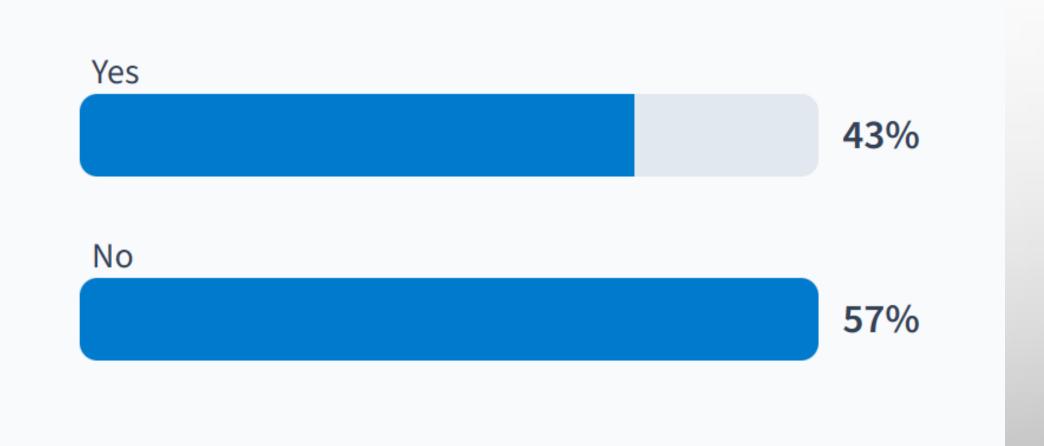
- What was learned in the process.
- Future improvements to process-engagement strategies with the community.
- Relationship building with Select Board and Finance Committee + relationships among tri-boards (School Committee, Select Board, and Finance Committee).

Did your district pursue an override for FY25 or plan to pursue one for FY26?



Due to technical difficulties, this poll did not take place during the session through the use of technology and instead through raising of hands

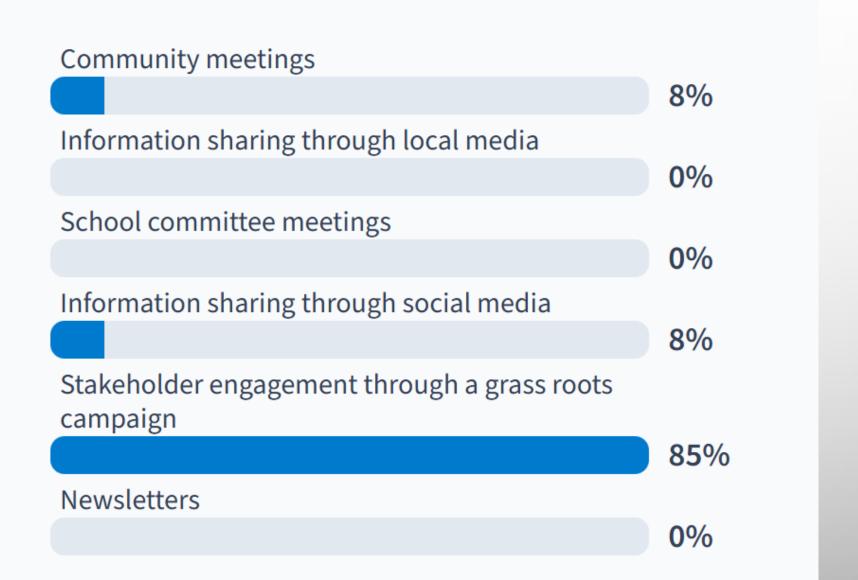
If your district did pursue an override, were you successful?



What do you think is the most common reason overrides fail?

Taxpayer Concern About Higher Taxes	
	31%
Economic Conditions and Financial Pressures	
	8%
Lack of Trust in Government Spending	
	38%
Lack of Clear Justifications	
	0%
Opposition Campaigns	
	0%
Perceived Non-Essential Spending	
	23%

What do you think is the highest leverage engagement strategy to successfully pass an override?





GENERAL OVERRIDE RESOURCES



- > Prop 2 ½ Overrides and Exclusions (MA): https://www.mass.gov/info-details/proposition-2-12-overrides-exclusions
- ➤ Prop 2 ½ Ballot Questions, Requirements and Procedures: https://www.mass.gov/doc/proposition-2-12-ballot-question-requirement-and-procedure/download
- Prop 2 ½ Override and Underride Votes (DLS):
 <a href="https://dlsgateway.dor.state.ma.us/reports/rdPage.aspx?rdReport=Votes.Prop2_5.OverrideUnderride&tblProp2_5Votes-PageNr=1&rdDataCache=2794640710&rdShowModes=&rdSort=&rdNewPageNr=True1&rdRequestForwarding=Form</p>
- > Tax Calculator (DLS): https://dlsgateway.dor.state.ma.us/reports/rdPage.aspx?rdReport=Analysis.TaxImpactCalc
- *A Practical Guide" (KP Law): https://k-plaw.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Proposition-2-1-2-Part-I-A-Practical-Guide.pdf
- "Contingent Appropriations (KP Law): https://k-plaw.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Proposition-2-1-2-Part-II-
 Contingent Appropriations.pdf





- Acton information
 - Town site https://www.acton-ma.gov/813/FY2025-Override-Information
 - Yes campaign https://togetherforacton.org/
 - No campaign https://actonoverride.com/
- Braintree information
 - Yes campaign https://www.voteyesbraintree.com/

PRESENTER CONTACT INFO



- > Peter Light, Superintendent, Acton-Boxborough Regional Schools: plight@abschools.org
- Keith Taverna, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Administration, Andover Public Schools:
 <u>keith.taverna@andoverma.us</u>

➤ Rich Mathieu, former Director of Finance and Operations, Dudley-Charlton Regional Schools (now in Concord-Carlisle): rmathieu@concordps.org

> Dan Gale, Director of Finance and Operations, Hudson Public Schools: djgale@Hudson.k12.ma.us