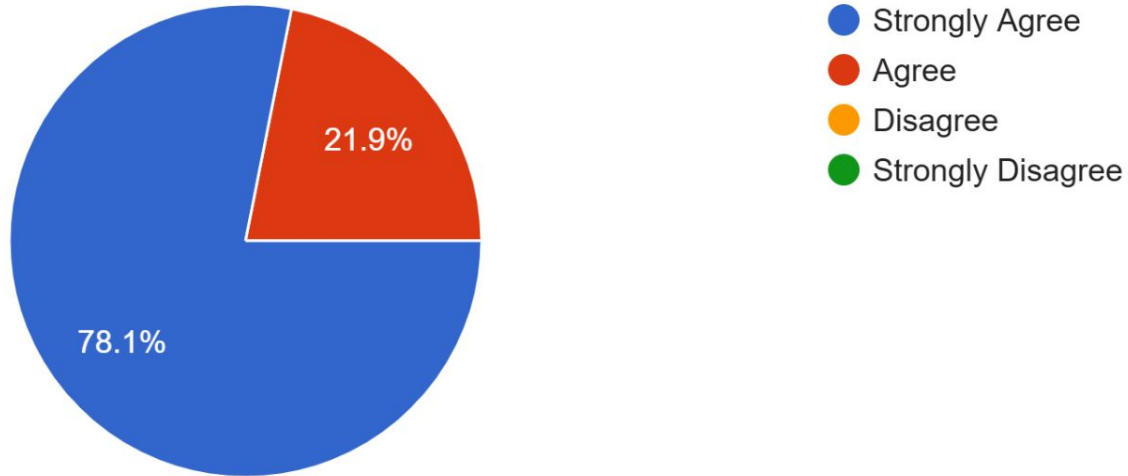


LEND 2026 Member Survey

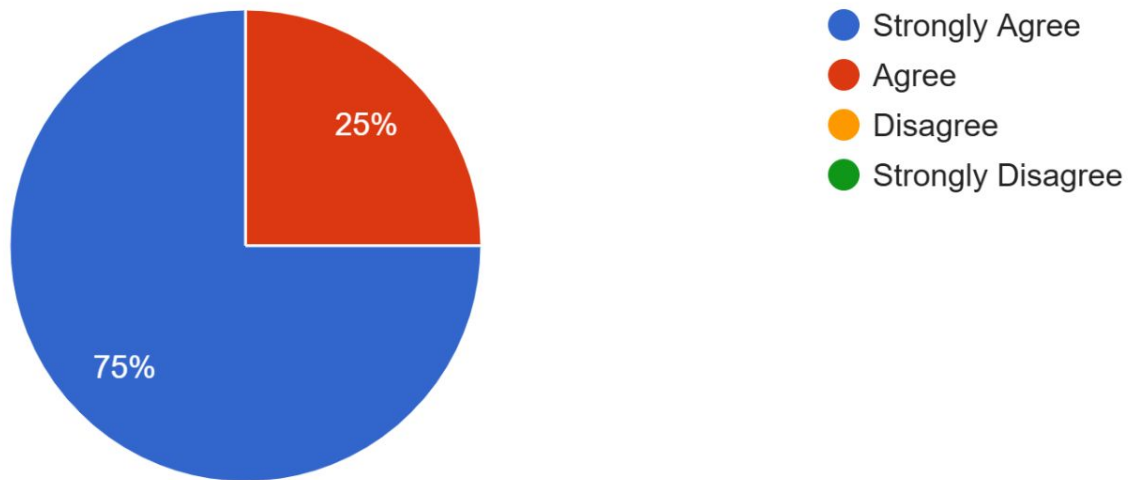
Jen Figurelli and Peg Agnos keep members current on legislation impacting DuPage County.

32 responses



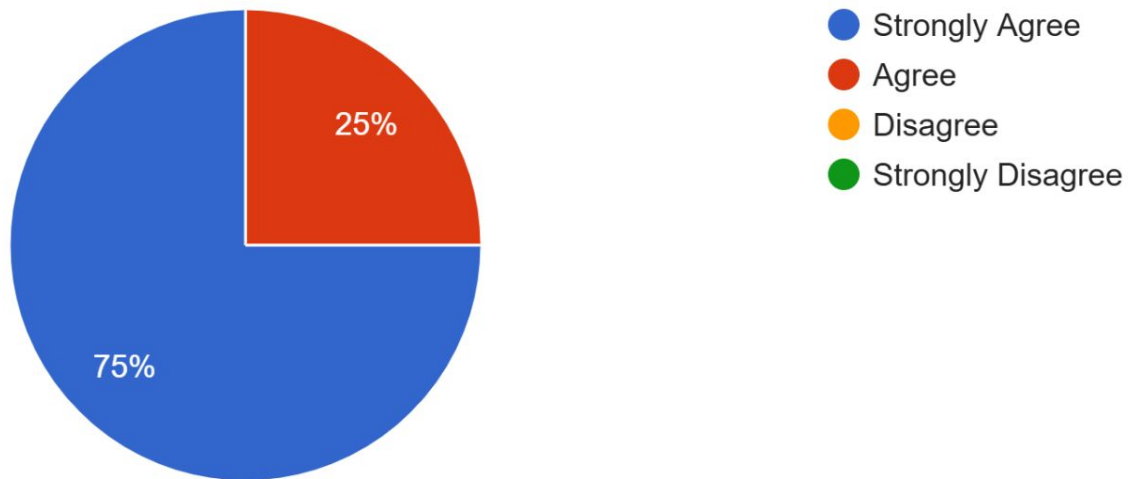
There was regular outreach to LEND members and educational experts on important legislation.

32 responses



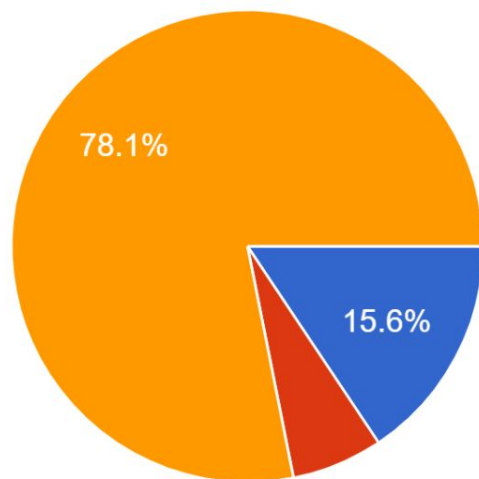
Ethekos Consulting (Jen Figurelli and Peg Agnos) manage LEND member concerns appropriate to the urgency of the legislative issue.

32 responses



We currently schedule two in-person meetings during the school year, with the rest of them being through Zoom. As we plan for next year, should we...

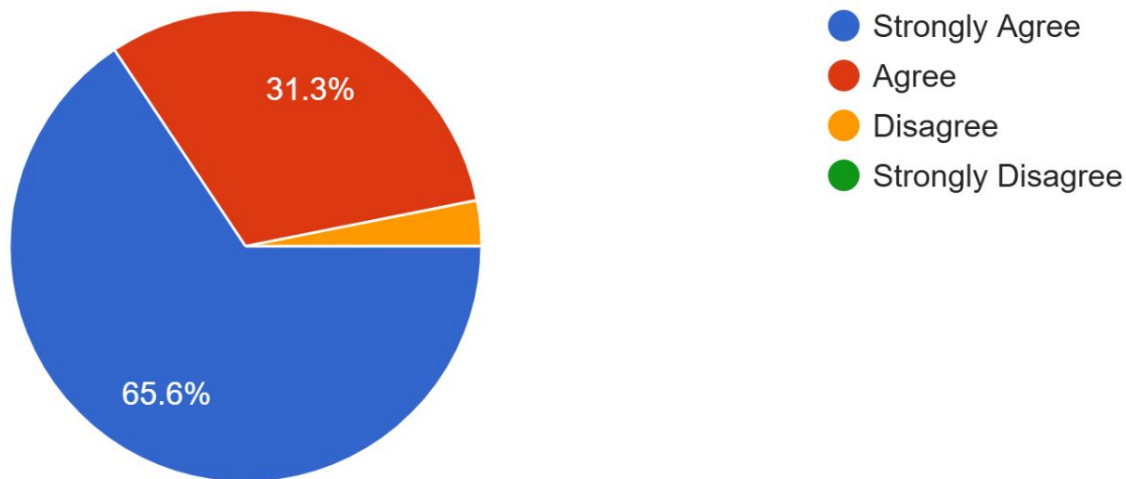
32 responses



- Add one more "in person" meeting
- Add two more "in person meetings
- Keep it the same

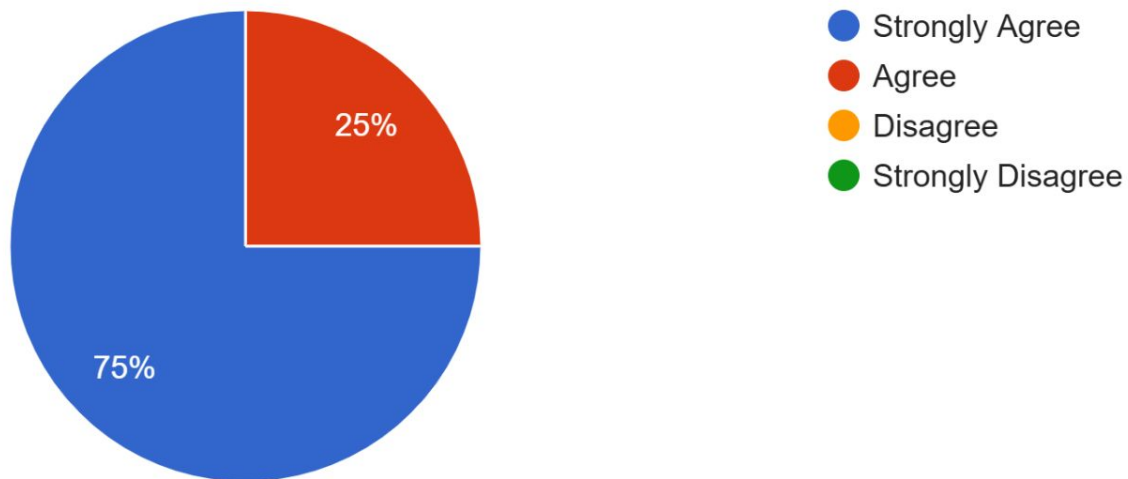
The beginning of the LEND year your team reached out to our member districts to rebuild our contact lists adding business managers and board ... stay connected and engaged in advocacy efforts.

32 responses



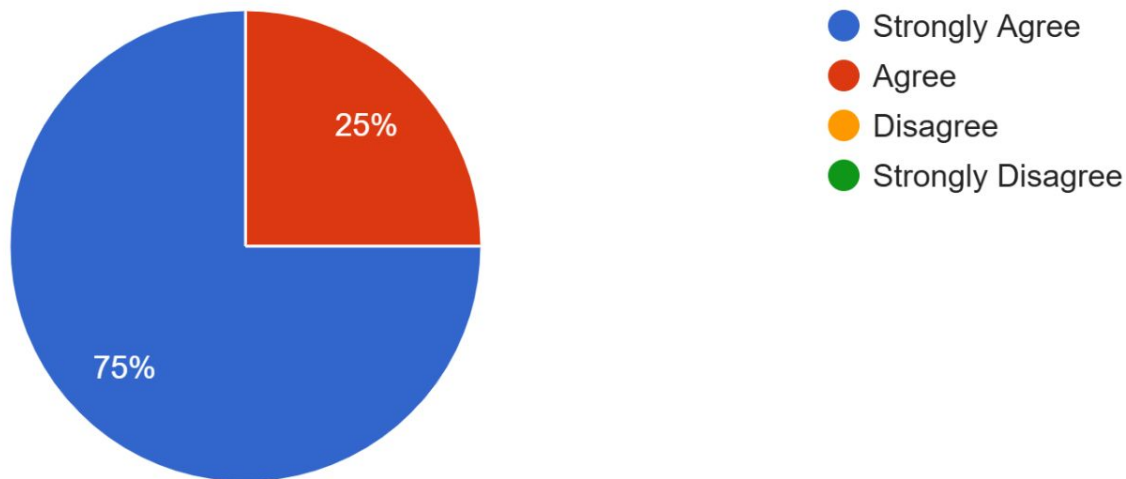
This year, LEND utilized the support of a number of sub-committees (Finance, Policy, and Federal Policy) to identify issues critical to LEND Members ...ittees in supporting the advocacy efforts of LEND.

32 responses



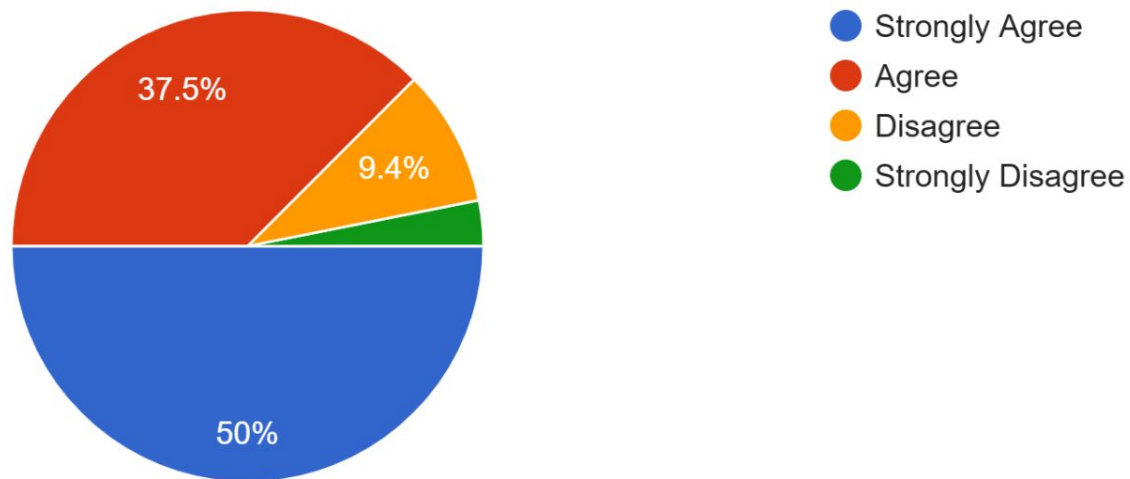
I appreciated the ability to communicate with our legislative Representatives directly in the fall LEND meeting that involved various breakout groups.

32 responses



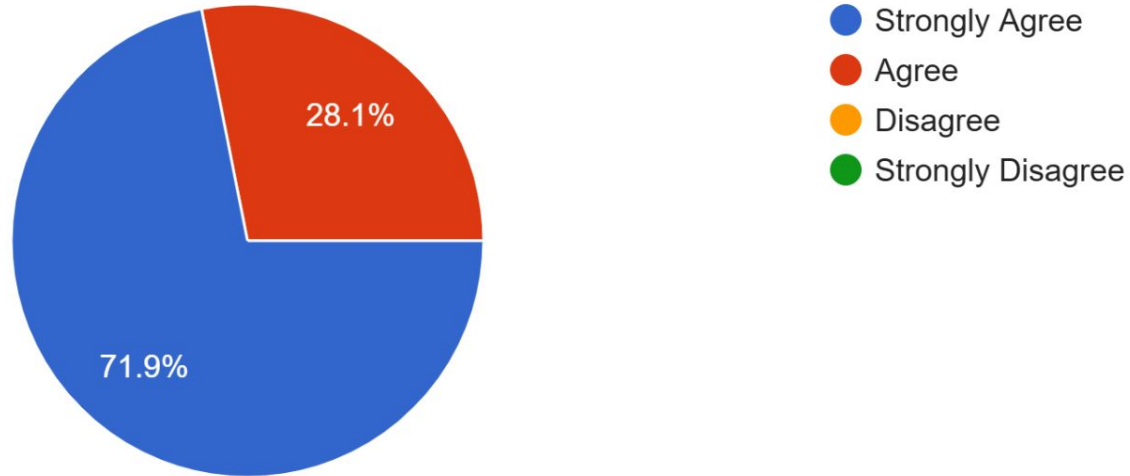
I value the opportunity to attend the LEND Breakfast as part of the annual Joint Conference this year.

32 responses



I am satisfied with the service provided by Ethechos Consulting, Inc.

32 responses



Summary of Comments

Logistical Feedback: The timing of the annual LEND breakfast is a point of contention, with one respondent finding it "extremely too early" and mentioning others wish they were "still sleeping," while another appreciates the breakfast but suggests replacing the social time with an "actual meeting."

Advocacy and Support: Multiple respondents expressed appreciation for the advocacy and information LEND provides, citing that partnering has been easy, productive, and helpful, especially in addressing legislative changes and prioritizing "hot topics."

General Positive Sentiment: LEND was praised for doing an "excellent job of advocating for, and communicating with, DuPage County School Districts," and one respondent is "very appreciative" of the partnership with Etheikos Consulting.

Membership and Personnel Questions: One new LEND contact inquired about where to get the password for the members-only section.

Summary of Suggestions for LEND for the coming year.

Legislative Priorities & Funding: A primary focus should be continuing to prioritize fully funding mandated categoricals, as the current lack of funding forces DuPage County districts to make cuts.

Communication and Advocacy: Suggested improvements include continuing to improve communications and outreach to school districts and enhancing advocacy efforts to impact proposed legislation through established channels and relationships.

Meeting Format and Attendance: There is conflicting feedback regarding meeting format, with one respondent preferring Zoom meetings and another requesting more in-person meetings. One respondent suggested adjusting or discontinuing the breakfast event due to cost and low attendance desire.

Training and Strategy: New members would benefit from training on how to fill out a witness slip, while more experienced members would benefit from key strategies for maintaining contact with their legislative team in Springfield (e.g., what works and what to avoid).

Specific Concerns: Specific issues raised include concerns about mergers and acquisition activity reducing competition and potentially driving up transportation costs, a request for controls on abusive FOIA requests, and the desire to submit district stories to the new School Code Mandate Reduction Council.