

Vancouver School Board

Educational Facilities Review—UBC to Dunbar St. Study Area



VSB

- Summary of the Responses from the Educational Facilities Review Feedback Form
- Summary of the Themes from the Individual Written Submissions
- Summary of the Themes from the School Representative Group Submissions
- Summary of the Themes from the Public Meetings

1. **Summary of Responses from the EFR Feedback Form**
 - **Objectives and Methodology**
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Objectives and Methodology

- As part of its public consultation process, the Vancouver School Board (VSB) Educational Facilities Review (EFR) Committee sought public feedback on the proposals for the UBC to Dunbar Street Study Area.
- NRG Research Group, an independent research company, developed the feedback form, tabulated the feedback and analyzed the responses.
- The form collected basic demographic information and asked respondents to rate the effectiveness of each proposal. The first four proposals were assessed on a 4-point scale:
 - Very ineffective use of educational resources
 - Somewhat ineffective use of educational resources
 - Somewhat effective use of educational resources
 - Very effective use of educational resources
- Respondents were also asked to choose their preference for programming options following the seismic upgrading of Jules Quesnel Elementary and Queen Elizabeth Elementary.
- Respondents also commented on the benefits and drawbacks of the proposals. These comments were content-coded. Two coders independently coded a subset of comments to ensure the reliability of the coding process.

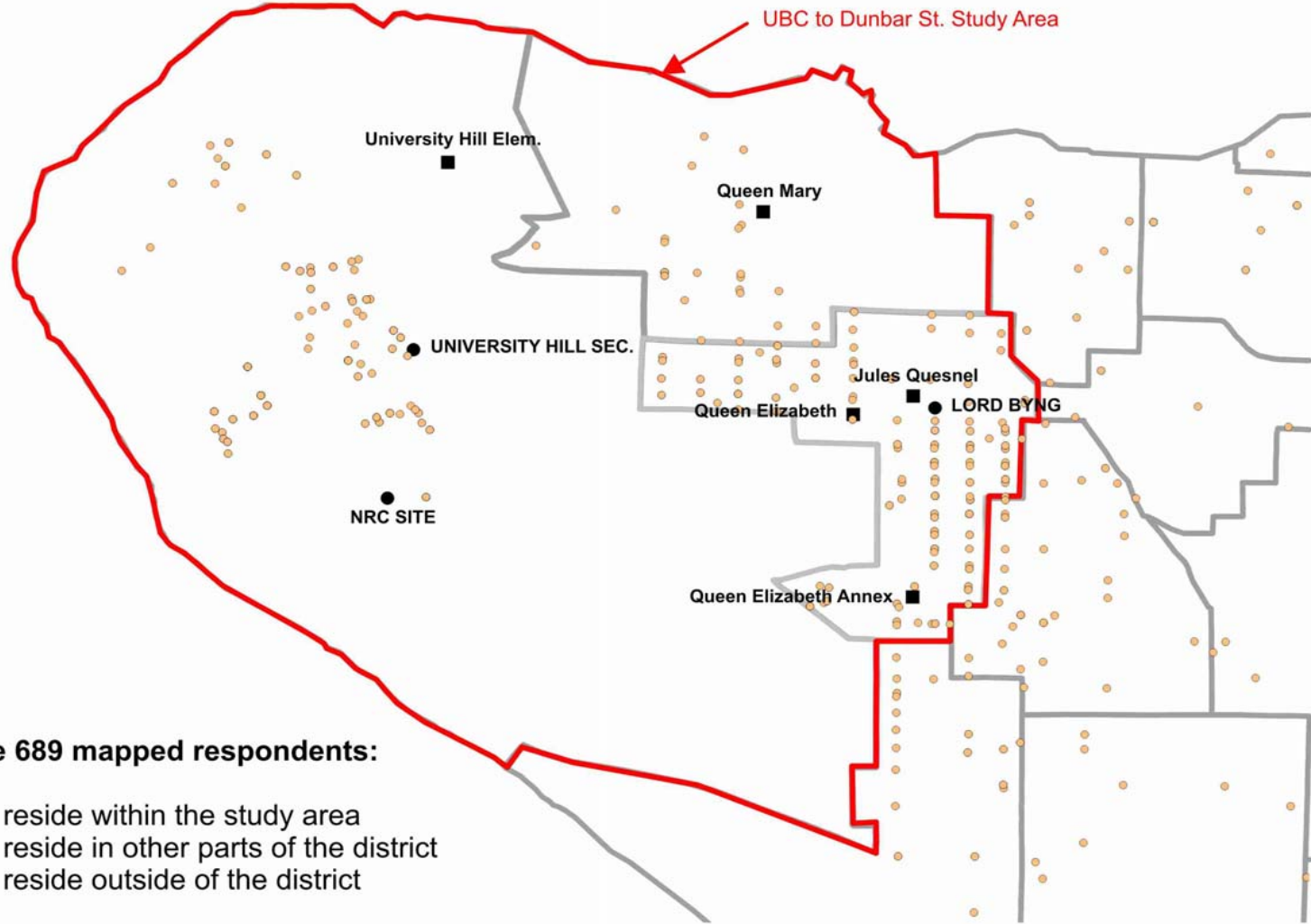
- The form was made available from January 14 to February 15 2008 through four channels:
 - At VSB public consultation meetings (Jan 14, 15, 16, 17, 21, 22, 29 and Feb 6 in 2008)
 - Through VSB elementary and secondary schools
 - Online feedback form available at VSB website
 - VSB education centres

- The form was translated into Chinese and Korean. The English version of the form is in the appendix to this report.

- A total of 704 forms were returned to VSB by February 15, 2008.

- The majority of responses were received from residents living in all elementary and secondary school catchment areas within the UBC to Dunbar Street Study Area (see Slide 6).

Scattergraph of Survey Respondents



Of the 689 mapped respondents:

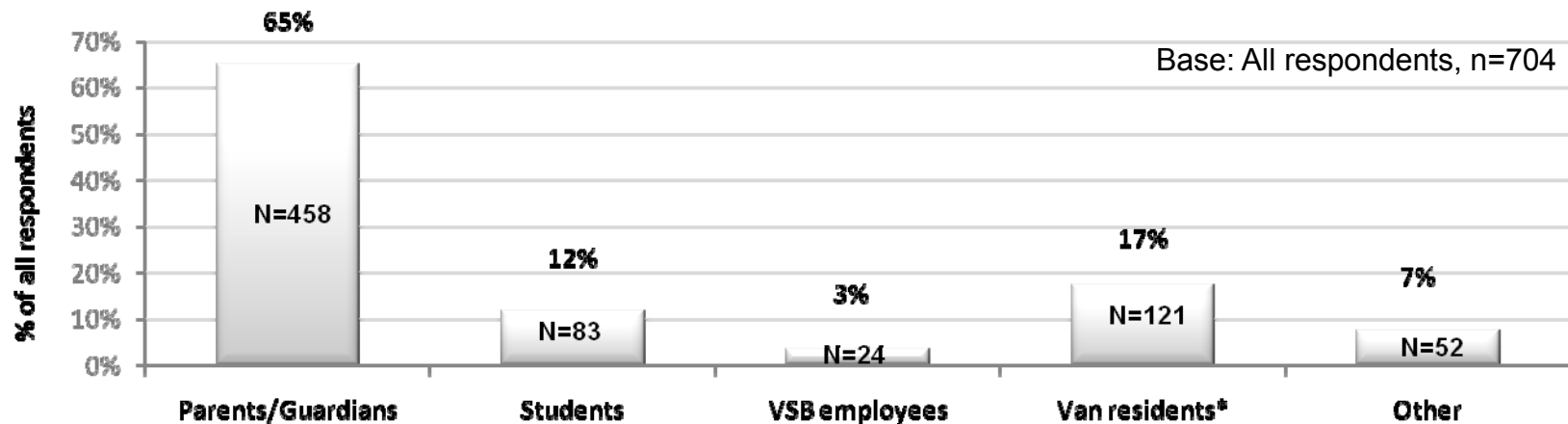
- 518 reside within the study area
- 163 reside in other parts of the district
- 8 reside outside of the district

Note: Of the total 704 respondents, 689 provided postal codes that could be mapped.
Dots represent postal codes where respondents reside - in some cases, one dot may represent multiple respondents



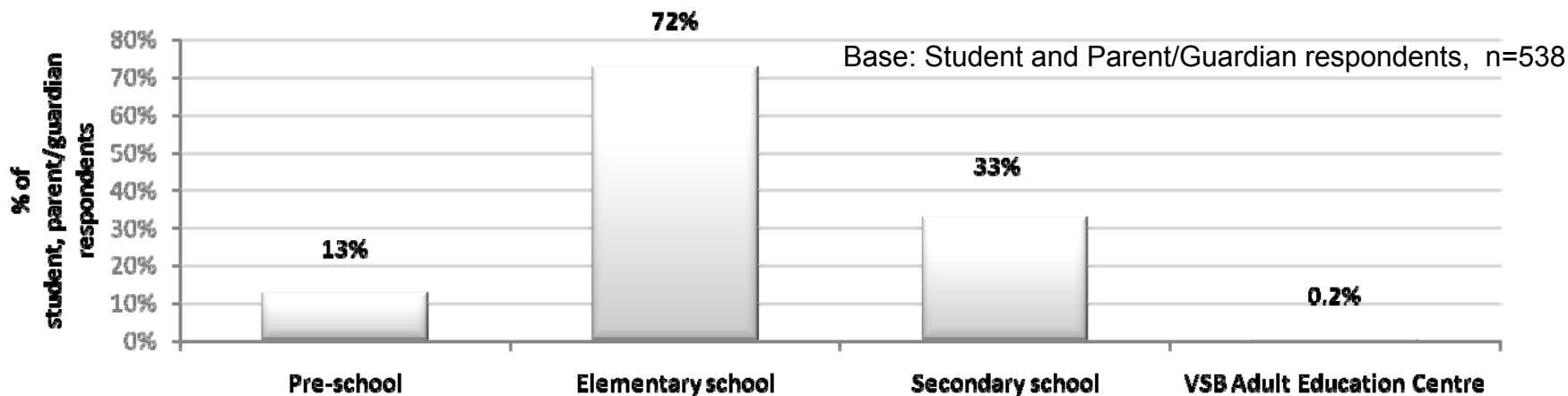
Participant Characteristics

Q1: Which of the following categories describe you?



* Those who currently do not have a child attending a Vancouver public school

Q4. Does your child/children attend a... / Q6. What grade are you in?



Note: respondents could choose more than one category. Therefore, the percentages do not add to 100%.

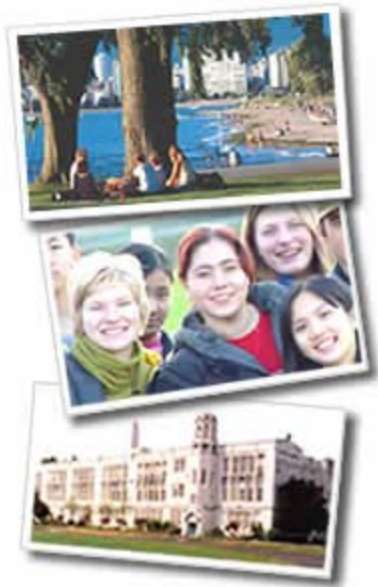
VSB Educational Facilities Review — Participant Characteristics

Q5. What school do you attend? / Q7. What school does your child/children attend?

SCHOOL	% of participants	Enrolment	SCHOOL	% of participants	Enrolment
Queen Elizabeth Elementary	25.5%	415	Prince of Wales	0.7%	1251
University Hill Secondary	20.1%	513	Immaculate Conception Catholic Sch.	0.6%	n/a
Queen Elizabeth Annex	18.1%	129	Kerrisdale Annex	0.6%	122
University Hill Elementary	14.8%	515	Lord Kitchener	0.6%	482
Jules Quesnel	9.4%	429	Evergreen Montessori	0.4%	n/a
Lord Byng	4.3%	1203	General Gordon	0.4%	366
Other Preschool	4.3%	n/a	Southlands Elementary	0.4%	199
Queen Mary	2.6%	475	St. George's School	0.4%	n/a
Kitsilano Secondary	1.8%	1352	Magnussen	0.4%	n/a
UBC Daycare	1.8%	n/a	Trafalgar Elementary School	0.4%	503
Tom Thumb Preschool	1.5%	n/a	York House	0.4%	n/a
Other Elem. or Secondary	1.5%	n/a	Bayview	0.2%	294
Crown Preschool	1.3%	n/a	Creative Kids Montessori	0.2%	n/a
Acadia Park Preschool	1.1%	n/a	Garibaldi Annex	0.2%	41
Kerrisdale Elementary	0.7%	581	University Hill Preschool	0.2%	1251

Base: Student and Parent/Guardian respondents, n=541

Note: respondents could choose more than one category. Therefore, the percentages do not add to 100%.



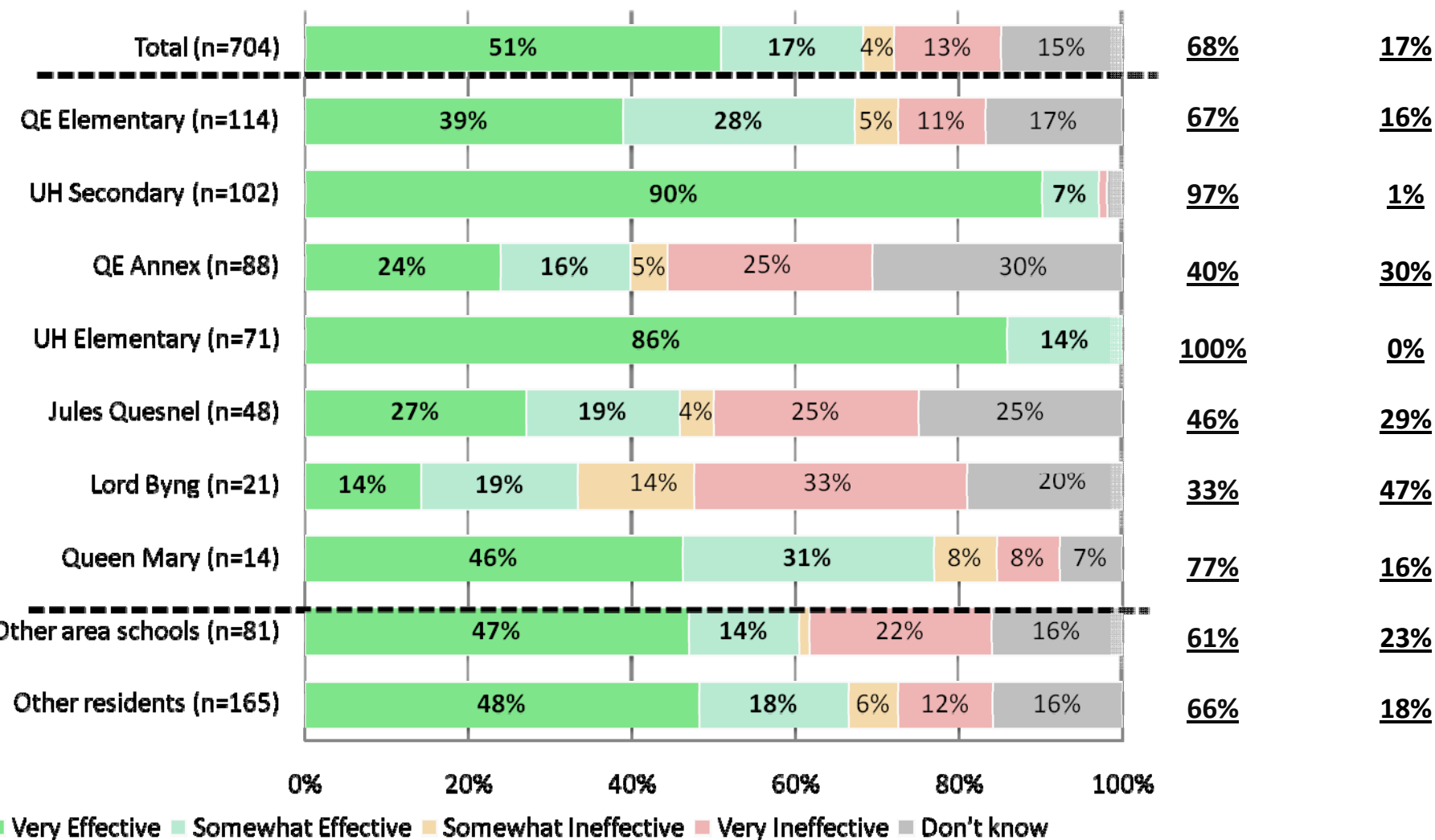
Feedback on Proposals

VSB Educational Facilities Proposals

Q8. Renovate and convert the currently empty National Research Council (NRC) facility at UBC into a replacement secondary school for University Hill. The renovated NRC facility could accommodate 675 students (with potential for future expansion).

Somewhat or Very effective

Somewhat or Very ineffective

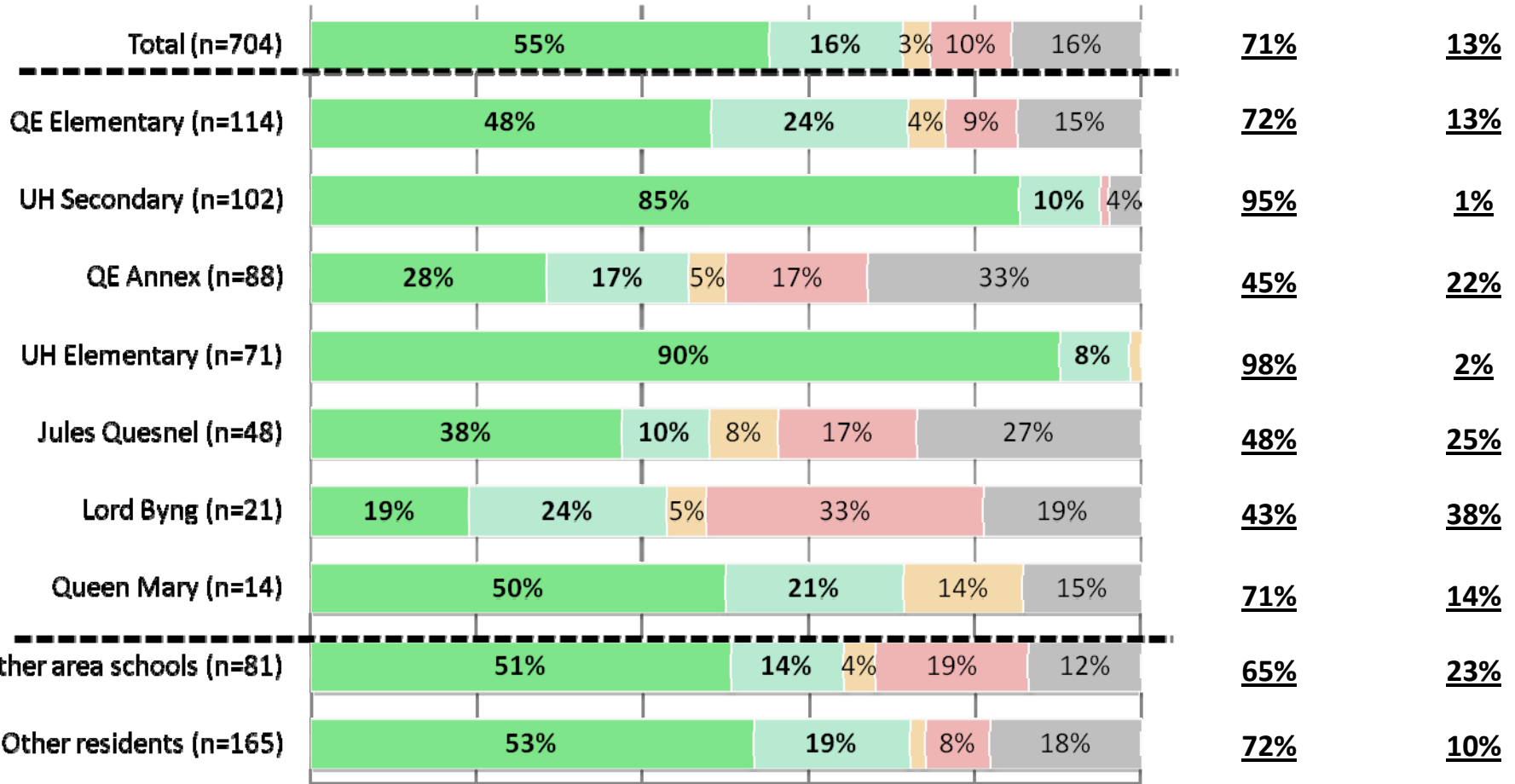


VSB Educational Facilities Proposals

Q9. Convert the existing University Hill Secondary building into a new elementary school at UBC. This new elementary school would have a capacity of 450-500 student spaces.

Somewhat or Very effective

Somewhat or Very ineffective



0% 20% 40% 60% 80% 100%

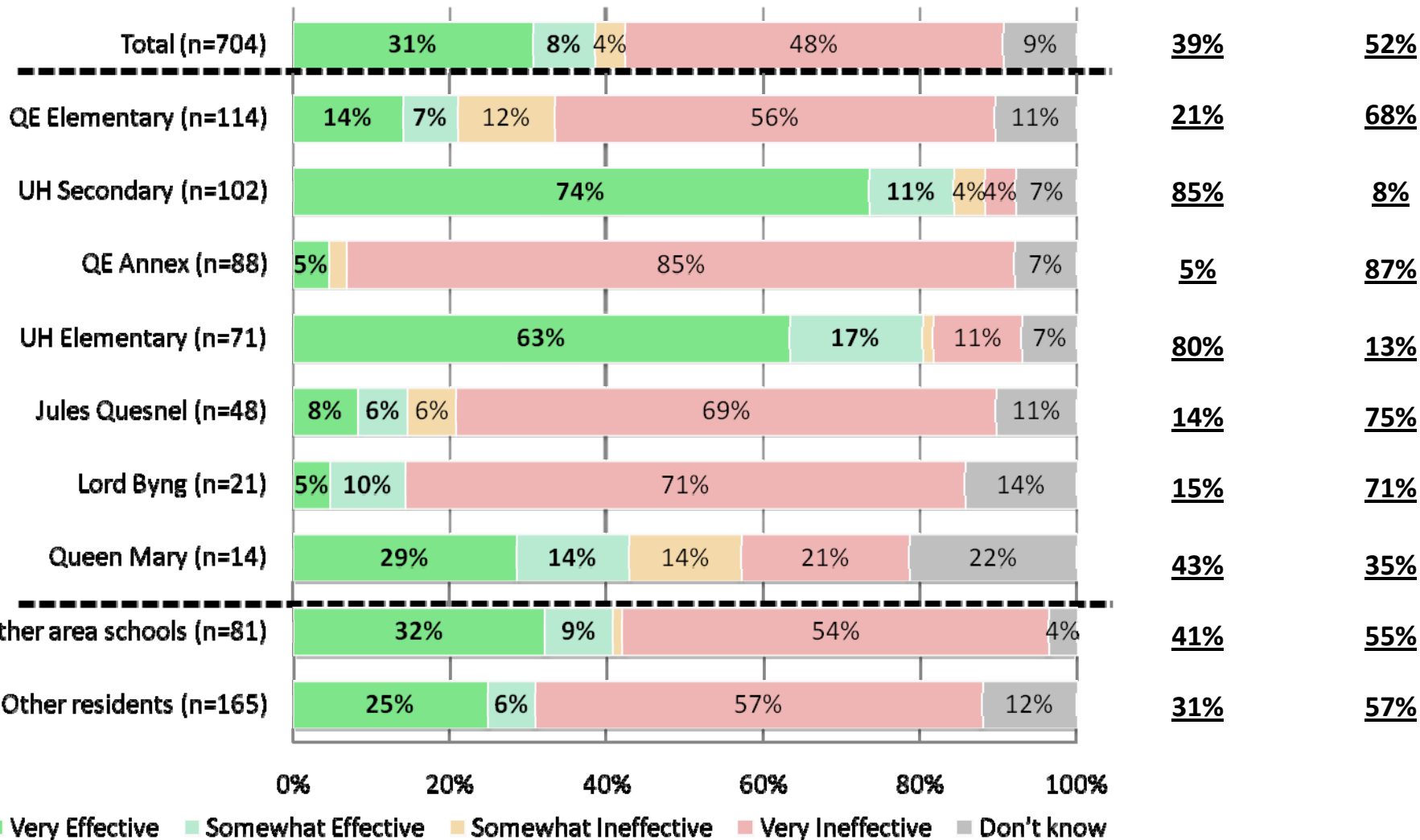
Very Effective Somewhat Effective Somewhat Ineffective Very Ineffective Don't know

VSB Educational Facilities Proposals

Q10. Close the QE Annex, and combine the QE Annex Regular and French Immersion programs with the QE and JQ programs. This property would be sold and the proceeds would be used to fund school renovations to meet the growing population at UBC.

Somewhat or Very effective

Somewhat or Very ineffective

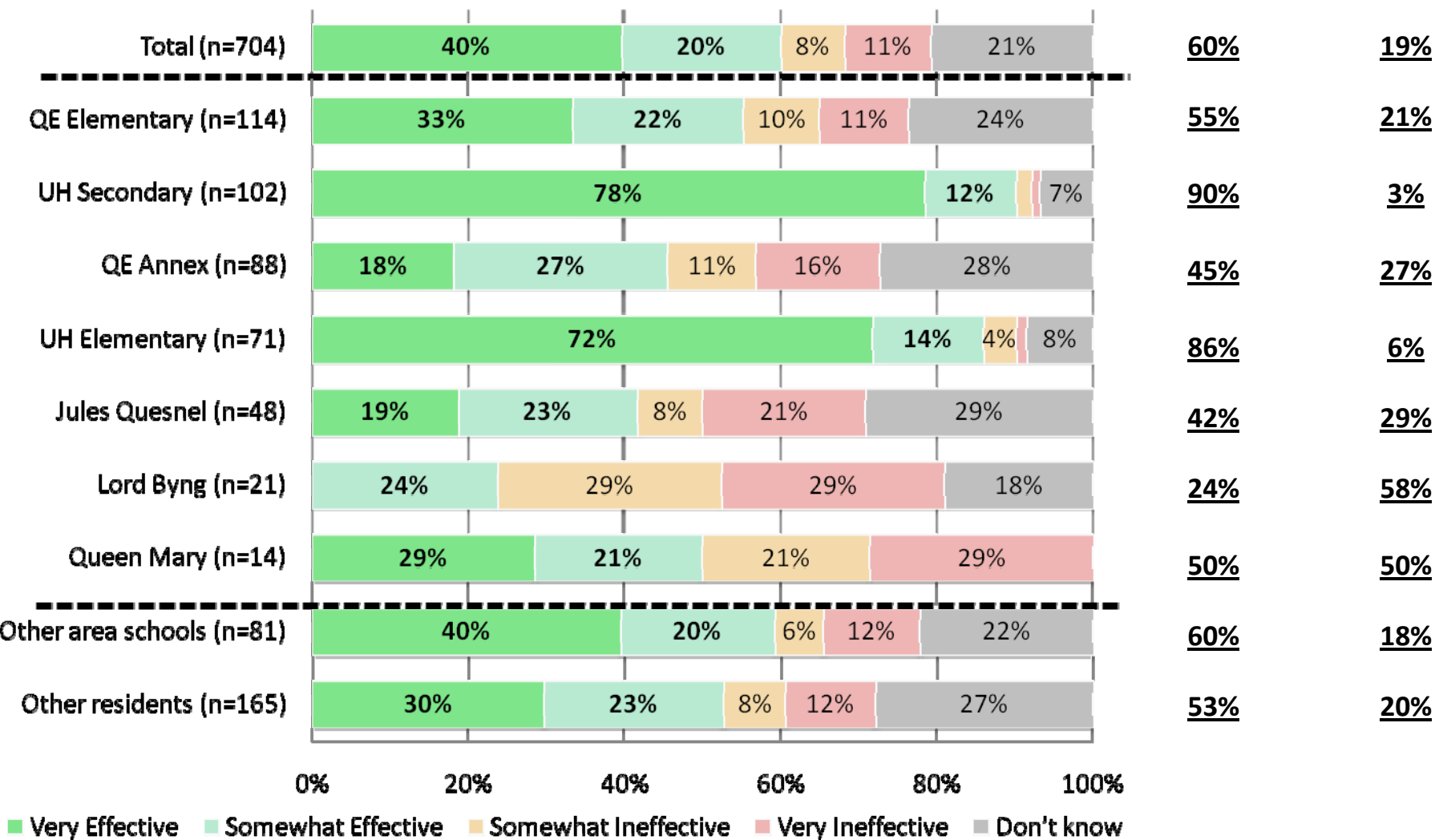


VSB Educational Facilities Proposals

Q11. Seismically upgrade Queen Mary Elementary school. Students residing at UBC would be accommodated at the new UBC elementary school. Following the seismic upgrading, QM would be sized to match the in-catchment student population of approximately 275 to 325 student spaces.

Somewhat or Very effective

Somewhat or Very ineffective

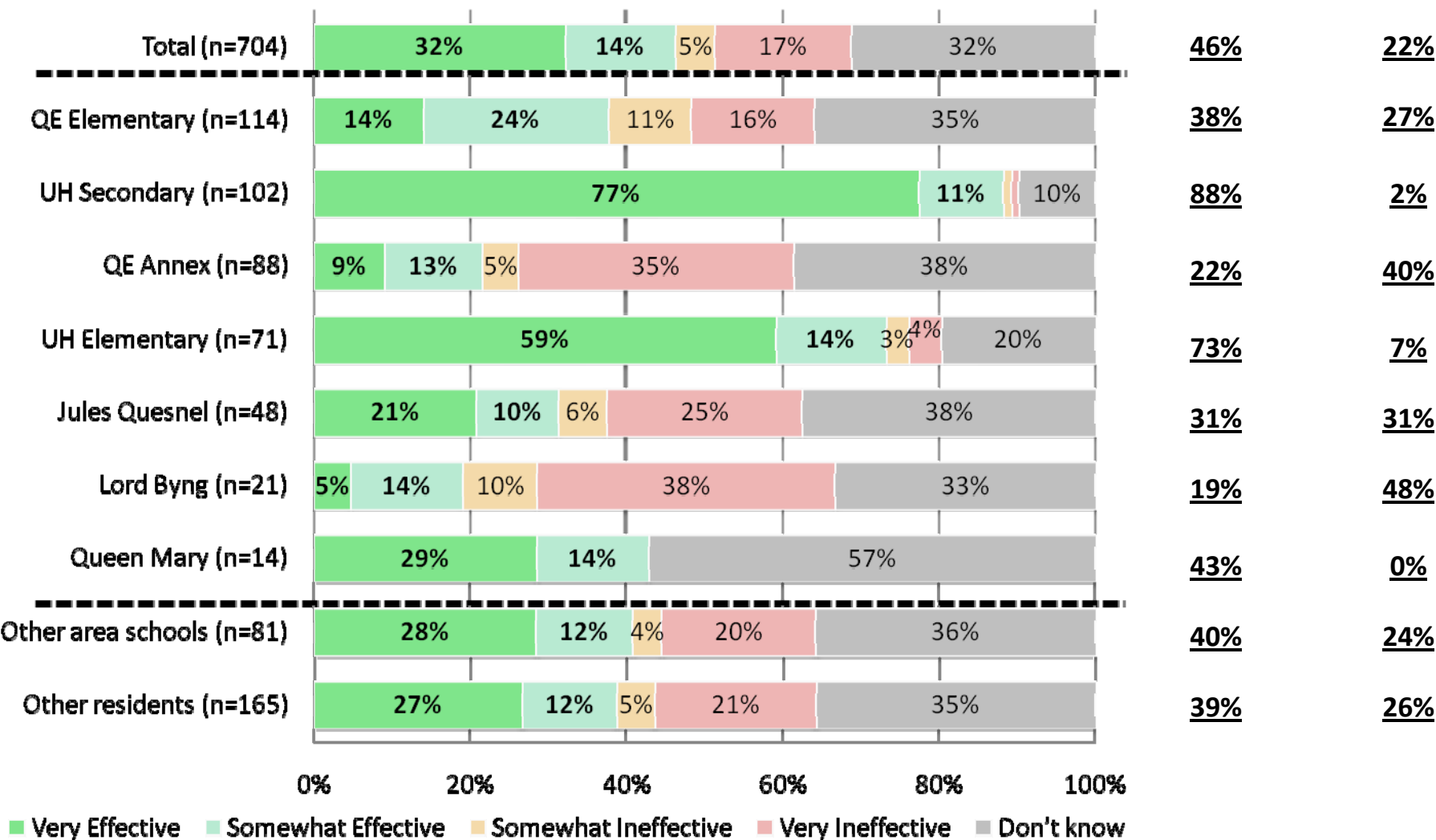


VSB Educational Facilities Proposals

Q12. Provide broadened opportunities for learning and greater access to programs for all students through the creation of an expanded “neighbourhood of learning” within a city-wide “network of learning”.

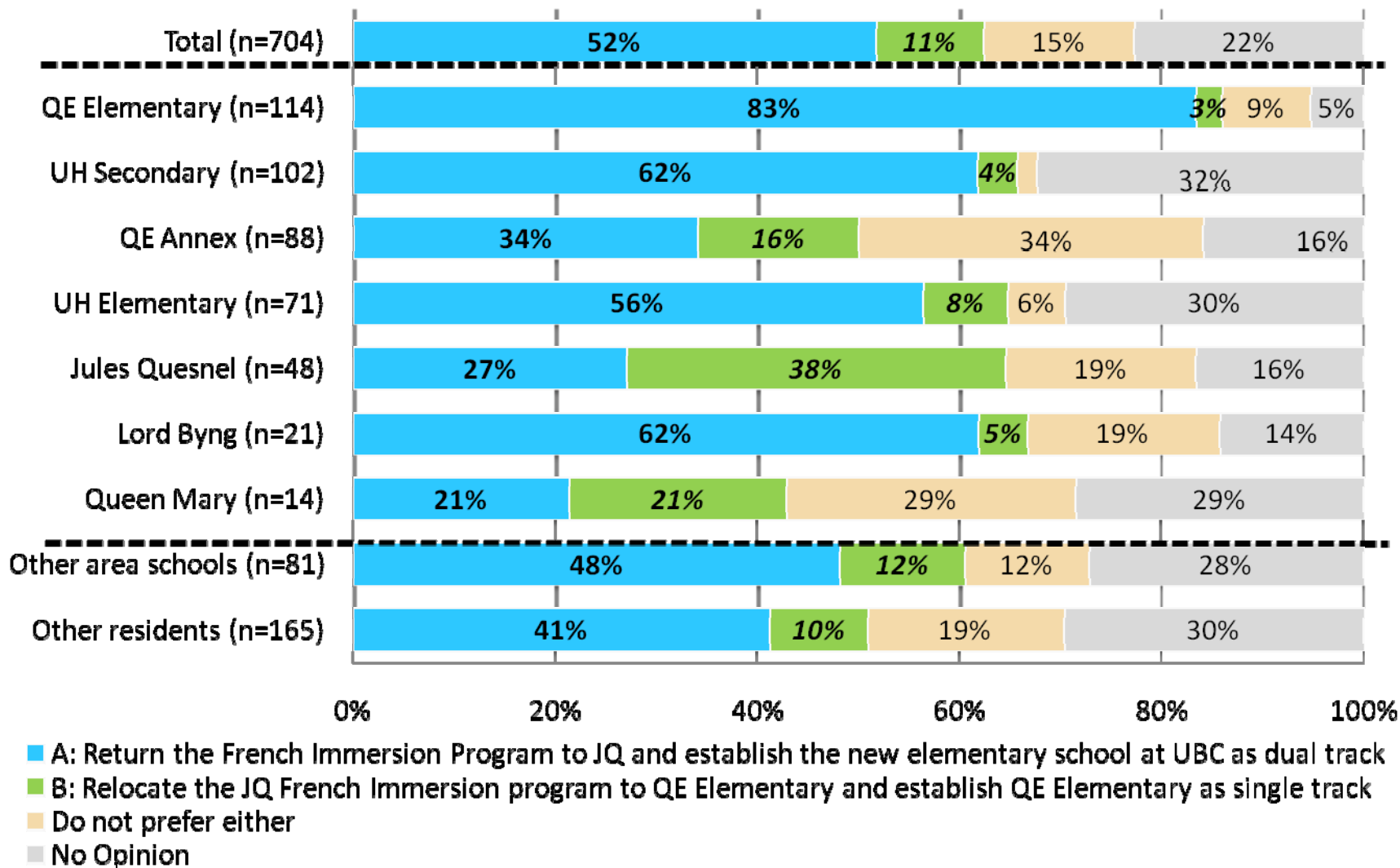
Somewhat or Very effective

Somewhat or Very ineffective



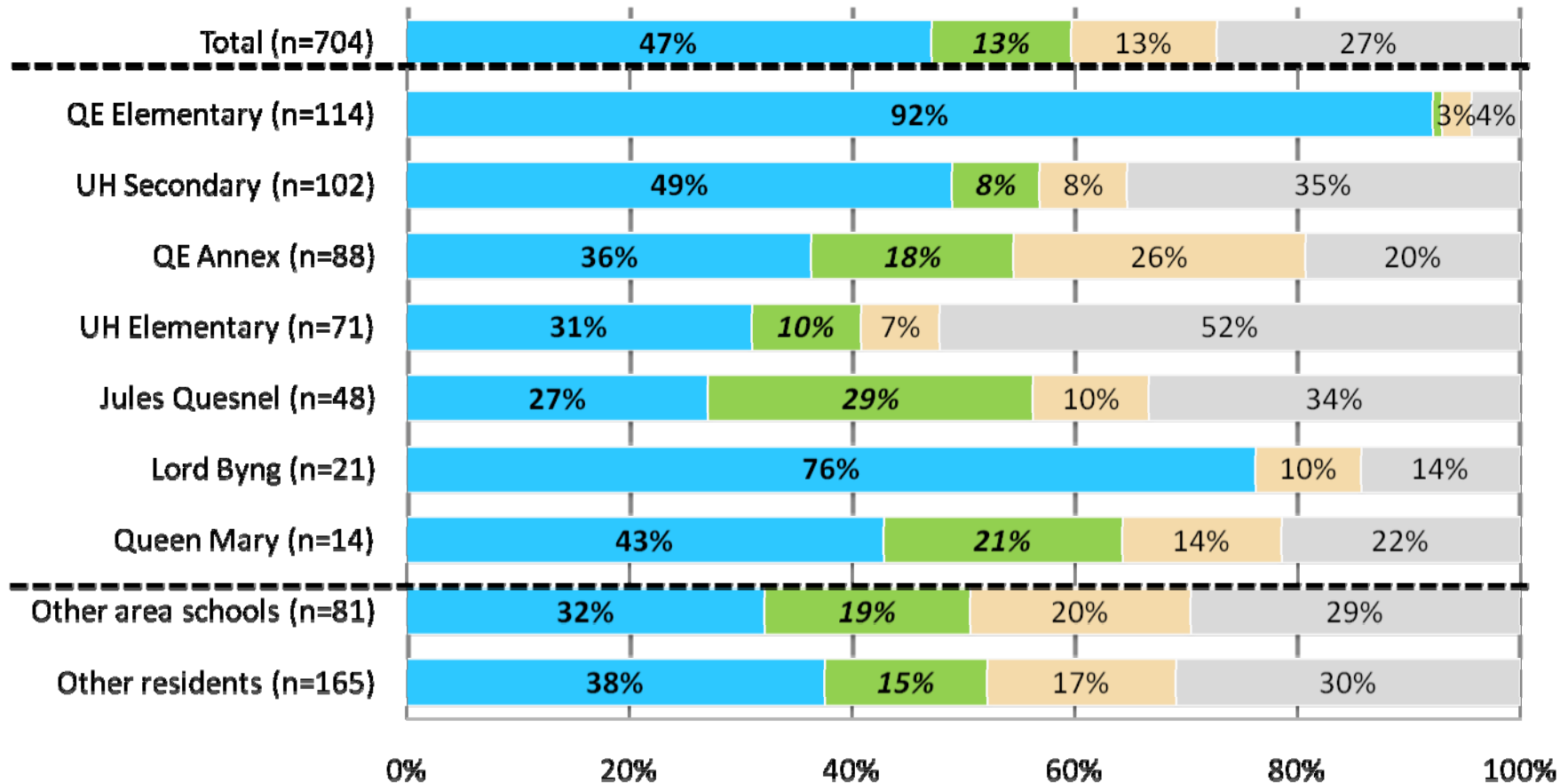
VSB Educational Facilities Proposals

Q13. In order to perform the necessary seismic upgrading to Jules Quesnel Elementary School, the JQ French Immersion would be temporarily relocated to the new elementary school at UBC. After the seismic upgrading at Jules Quesnel is completed, there are two programming proposals:



VSB Educational Facilities Proposals

Q14. There are two programming proposals under consideration for Queen Elizabeth Elementary following seismic upgrading:



- **A: Maintain QE Elementary school as Regular track. After upgrading, the capacity of the school would be 325 to 375**
- **B: Relocate the QE English program to Jules Quesnel building and relocate Jules Quesnel French Immersion to QE site**
- **Do not prefer either proposal**
- **No Opinion**

VSB Educational Facilities Proposals

Q15. From your perspective, what benefits and/or drawbacks do you see with the UBC to Dunbar St. study area proposals:

DRAWBACK	COUNT	%
The plan is financially unsound, should not sell valuable assets to fund new facilities.	78	15.9%
Don't close QE Annex.	72	14.7%
Selling QE Annex may leave insufficient capacity for future needs.	71	14.5%
The consultation process is rushed.	54	11.0%
UBC should contribute financially.	50	10.2%
Negative impact of the loss of facilities/programs at QE Annex	48	9.8%
Relocation of students, travel distances at QE Annex	25	5.1%
UBC properties developers should contribute financially.	18	3.7%
Relocation of students, travel distances at QE Elementary	17	3.5%
Negative impact of the loss of facilities/programs at QE Elementary	16	3.3%
Relocation of students, travel distances at Jules Quesnel	10	2.0%
UBC residents should contribute financially.	7	1.4%
The NRC building is not appropriate for a school.	5	1.0%
The plan will create overcrowding at QE Elementary.	3	0.6%
Loss of facilities/programs at Queen Mary	2	0.4%
"Neighborhood of Learning" and "Network of Learning" proposals too vague	2	0.4%

Base: Respondents who answered the question, n=491

VSB Educational Facilities Proposals

Q15. From your perspective, what benefits and/or drawbacks do you see with the UBC to Dunbar St. study area proposals:

BENEFIT	COUNT	%
Overcrowding at University Hill Secondary/ Elementary is resolved.	50	10.2%
The sale of QE Annex to fund new facilities is an effective use of resources.	31	6.3%
The plan will deal with overflow in the UBC area.	23	4.7%
Seismic upgrades can proceed.	19	3.9%
Expanded programs/facilities available to former QE Annex students at new schools.	9	1.8%

Base: Respondents who answered the question, n=491

VSB Educational Facilities Proposals

Q16. Are there other options or factors the VSB should consider as part of its review of the educational facilities in the UBC to Dunbar St. study area?

OPTION/FACTOR	COUNT	%
VSB should consider alternatives to selling the QE Annex land.	94	24.0%
VSB should pressure UBC to fund the construction of schools in the UBC area.	90	23.0%
The consultation process is too rushed. VSB should re-consider the process.	52	13.3%
VSB should consider the importance of keeping students in their local communities and minimizing travel distances to school.	50	12.8%
VSB should pressure the province for more funding to build schools in the UBC area.	39	9.9%
VSB should pressure the UBC developers to fund schools in the UBC area.	30	7.7%
VSB should consider the potential for future growth in student enrollment.	26	6.6%
VSB should consider expanding QEA instead of closing it.	25	6.4%
VSB should consider the negative impact of disrupting existing school communities.	23	5.9%

Base: Respondents who answered the question, n=392

UBC Proposals

- The proposals to convert the existing University Hill Secondary building into a new elementary school at UBC and to convert the NRC facility into a secondary school to replace University Hill Secondary received the strongest support from respondents:
 - **71%** of respondents rated the conversion of the existing University Hill Secondary building into a new elementary school at UBC as an effective use of educational resources.
 - **68%** of respondents rated the conversion of the NRC site into a secondary school to replace University Hill Secondary as an effective use of educational resources.
 - Respondents from University Hill Secondary and University Hill Elementary were near-unanimous in their support for the above two proposals.

Queen Elizabeth Annex Closure Proposal

- Overall, 52% of respondents did not support the proposal that would entail the closure and sale of Queen Elizabeth Annex, the transfer of current Queen Elizabeth Annex students to Queen Elizabeth Elementary or Jules Quesnel, and the use of the sales proceeds to fund school renovations at UBC.

Proposed Seismic Upgrades & Future Capacity for Queen Mary

- Overall, 60% of respondents supported re-sizing Queen Mary Elementary to match the in-catchment student population after seismic upgrading.

Proposed Neighbourhood of Learning within a Network of Learning

- VSB’s vision of an expanded “neighbourhood of learning” within a city-wide “network of learning” generally did not receive strong endorsement from respondents (with the exception of UBC respondents). This lack of strong endorsement is due likely to respondents not having enough specific details about what this vision entails. Across most respondent groups, well over a third said that they were not sure how to respond to this item.

Proposed Future Locations of Queen Elizabeth and Jules Quesnel Programs

- When presented with two programming options following seismic upgrading at Queen Elizabeth and Jules Quesnel, respondents expressed strong preference for retaining the programs at their current sites. There was little support for switching the programs between schools.



Themes from the Individual Written Submissions

- **In total, 209 individual written submissions were received by mail or email.**
- **VSB EFR Committee forwarded the submissions to NRG Research Group.**
- **NRG Research Group analyzed and coded the content of the submissions independently. Key themes from the submissions are summarized in the following slides.**

UBC Proposals

Over-capacity and over-crowding issues experienced at University Hill Elementary and University Hill Secondary

Inadequate facilities and educational options at University Hill Secondary

Immediate action is needed at UBC.

Students should be able to attend schools in their local community.

Queen Elizabeth Annex Closure Proposal

UBC should provide funds for new schools at UBC, not from sales proceeds of Queen Elizabeth Annex.

Provincial Government/ Ministry of Education should provide funding.

Consultation timeline is too short.

Queen Elizabeth Annex is an outstanding school.

VSB should consider the negative impact of disrupting existing school communities.

Closing Annex French Immersion program does not make sense given demand.

Closure of Queen Elizabeth Annex will cause significant disruption to students and families.

Closing the school is short-sighted; Dunbar area will become more densely populated.

Selling asset does not make good financial sense.

Closing Queen Elizabeth Annex will have negative environmental impacts.

Do not tie the decision to close QEA with new facilities for UBC

Proposed Options for Locating Programs at Jules Quesnel and Queen Elizabeth Elementary

The Queen Elizabeth facility addresses the needs of special needs students.

The school culture and programs are tied to the physical space (e.g., open area design).

Queen Elizabeth Elementary is ranked highly among BC elementary schools.

Queen Elizabeth Elementary offers multiple enrichment programs.



Themes from the School Representative Group Submissions

UBC Proposals

A new elementary school will resolve the overcrowding issue at University Hill Elementary.

A new secondary school would address the existing overcrowded facility at UBC.

The conversion of the NRC building offers many advantages.

Children will be able to return to their neighbourhood schools.

VSB proposals can result in a better school community at UBC.

Need further consultation regarding choice of program at new UBC elementary school

Queen Elizabeth Annex Closure Proposal

Queen Elizabeth Annex is a successful dual track school with waitlists annually.

Closure will have a negative impact on the other neighbourhood schools.

Closure means net loss of French Immersion spaces for the school district.

Queen Elizabeth Annex is needed to accommodate long-term population growth in the area.

The cost of operating QEA is not as high as estimated.

Queen Elizabeth Annex can offer swing space for schools undergoing seismic upgrades.

Queen Elizabeth Annex may be needed to support full day kindergarten classes.

Queen Elizabeth Annex is a valuable public asset.

Don't sell Queen Elizabeth Annex; lease it or find an alternative use for the long term.

Queen Elizabeth Annex should not be sold before other land holdings are sold.

Selling land to obtain lease-hold property does not make financial sense.

Maintain QEA until upgrades of JQ are completed to accommodate students from QEA

Proposed Options for Locating Programs at Jules Quesnel and Queen Elizabeth Elementary

Current Queen Elizabeth facility has several distinct strengths that cannot be replicated in Jules Quesnel (e.g., facilities for students with special needs, ESL program, string music and theatre program)

Retaining programs at their current sites is least disruptive to both schools.

Switching programs leads to loss of the before and after school program.

Relocating French Immersion program from JQ to QE will have little effect (only 10 more FI intakes per grade).

VSB should consider a new French Immersion program school to be built at 16th Ave and Discovery with a student intake of three classes at the kindergarten level.

Proposal for Downsizing Queen Mary

Downsizing Queen Mary to match in-catchment population is contradictory to neighbourhood of learning (by restricting inter-school movement of students).

Downsizing means loss of many programs and valuable school resources (e.g., district MACC program, ½ librarian)

Downsizing will not accommodate the future needs of growing student population.

VSB should consider alternative use of the school structure, instead of downsizing.

VSB should consider using the open space created by downsizing for a new French Immersion program.



Themes from the Public Meetings (facilitated by Kirk & co. Consulting Ltd.)

Key Themes

Want to be assured that the proposed changes at UBC will be carried out smoothly

Support expressed for UBC proposals

Concern that VSB will sell an asset to fund improvements at a leased property

Is the NRC site appropriate for a high school with capacity for 675 students—and more in the future?

Can UBC contribute more money to the capital cost for the schools?

Process seems rushed--can the deadline for feedback and a Board of Trustee decision be extended?

Opposition expressed to the closure of Queen Elizabeth Annex

Queen Elizabeth Annex should be considered for swing space as seismic and other changes occur.

How does the VSB know that the demographic projections in the proposal are accurate?

Concern that students will have to move schools too many times during upgrading

Concern expressed regarding the 'down-sizing' of Queen Mary Elementary

The importance of maintaining the multi-age cluster class (MACC) program at Queen Mary was emphasized.

Stressed the importance of being flexible regarding the sale of schools so that VSB has land available to build schools in the future

Queen Mary Elementary is important to preserve as a heritage building.

Key Themes

Clarification sought on the relationship between UBC and UBC Properties Trust

Desire for UBC and UBC Properties Trust to contribute to the school renovations

Have other properties been considered for sale rather than the Queen Elizabeth Annex?

Clarification sought regarding how capacity is calculated and represented

Emphasized the importance of looking at growth rates beyond 2015

Desire for VSB to put more pressure on UBC to provide funding for schools

Emphasized the long wait lists that currently exist for French Immersion

Concern expressed that Queen Elizabeth Elementary could lose athletic and extracurricular programs

The School Board, UBC and the Province should review other alternatives.

UBC needs new schools immediately.

Alternative financing mechanisms should be explored to fund new UBC schools.

Appendix—Feedback Form



Educational Facilities Review UBC to Dunbar St. Study Area Proposals

Feedback Form

Thank you for sharing your views with the Vancouver School Board (VSB). Educating the diverse student population in Vancouver is calling for review and change in a number of areas. Utilizing our educational resources and facilities most effectively is one of these areas.

In determining the most effective use of educational facilities, the Board of School Trustees will consider options that balance the educational needs of students, the need to ensure the safety of school buildings and the need for financial sustainability. Also, consistent with public feedback collected by the VSB in the spring of 2007, Trustees will consider options that give students access to schools in their neighbourhoods, as well as access to a broader network of schools and programs in the district.

The VSB is reviewing all of the district's facilities in phases. The first phase will focus on the schools in the UBC to Dunbar St. Study Area—Jules Quésnel Elementary, Queen Elizabeth Elementary, Queen Elizabeth Annex, Queen Mary Elementary, University Hill Elementary and University Hill Secondary. This is the first area of focus given the opportunities that exist with the schools in this area at this particular time.

Your feedback will help the VSB make decisions that take the views of the community into account. All feedback you provide is strictly confidential and anonymous. This form should take about 5 minutes to complete. Summary results from the feedback forms will be made available to the public. More background information about the first phase of the review is available at www.vsb.bc.ca.

Please return this form to either:

1. Your school administration office
2. Vancouver School Board – Attn: Facilities Division, 1600 West Broadway, Vancouver, BC V6J 5K3
3. Or you can complete this form online at www.vsb.bc.ca

NOTE: All Submissions must be received by February 15, 2008 in order to be fully considered in the report to the Board of School Trustees.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Q1. Which of the following categories describe you? (Mark all that apply)
 Parent/Guardian of a student in a Vancouver public school
 Student at a Vancouver public school
 Vancouver School Board employee
 Vancouver resident (currently) do not have a student in a Vancouver public school
 Other: Please specify _____

Q2. What is your 6-digit postal code? | V | | | | | |

PARENTS / GUARDIANS ONLY – Answer Q3 and Q4

Q3. ~~Does~~ your child/children attend at: (please mark all that apply)

Preschool Elementary school Secondary school VSB Adult Education Centre

Q4. What school ~~does~~ your child/children attend? _____

STUDENTS ONLY – Answer Q5 and Q6

Q5. What grade are you in? Elementary, Grade _____

Grade 8 Grade 9 Grade 10 Grade 11 Grade 12 Adult education

Q6. What school do you attend? _____

UBC TO DUNBAR ST. STUDY AREA PROPOSALS

The VSB has developed a set of proposals to address needs and maximize the effective use of educational resources and facilities in the UBC to Dunbar St. Study Area. Specifically, these proposals are designed to meet educational priorities, serve the financial sustainability of the district and make our schools seismically safe. We would like your feedback on these proposals.

More detailed information about the changes impacting the UBC to Dunbar St. Study Area and the proposals developed to address these changes is available in the report "The Educational Facilities Review: UBC to Dunbar St. Study Area Phase-1 Proposals and Consultation Framework" available at www.vsb.bc.ca.

Below are the Phase 1 proposals the VSB is considering. Given our need to maximize student access to educational programs and to make effective use of school facilities we would like you to rate the extent to which you feel each proposal is an effective use of educational resources. For each proposal, please mark the box on the right that best reflects your view. (You can provide written comments on these proposals in Question 13 and Question 14.)



UBC/Dunbar St. Area Proposals	Very Effective use of educational resources	Somewhat Effective use of educational resources	Somewhat Ineffective use of educational resources	Very Ineffective use of educational resources	Don't know / Not sure
Q7. To meet the growing educational needs in the UBC area, the VSB proposes to renovate and convert the currently empty National Research Council (NRC) facility at UBC into a replacement secondary school for University Hill. The renovated NRC facility could accommodate 275 students (with potential for future expansion).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Q8. To meet the growing educational needs in the UBC area, the VSB proposes to convert the existing University Hill Secondary building into a new elementary school at UBC. The new elementary school would have a capacity of 400 to 500 student places.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Q9. The VSB proposes to close the Queen Elizabeth Annex (proposed date of closure, June 30, 2009). The Annex Regular and French Immersion programs (125 students) would be combined with the Queen Elizabeth and Jules Quésnel programs. The property would be sold and the proceeds would be used to fund school renovations to meet the growing population at UBC.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Q10. The VSB proposes to seismically upgrade Queen Mary Elementary school. Students residing at UBC would be accommodated at the new UBC elementary school. Following the seismic upgrading, Queen Mary would be closed to meet the in-district student population of approximately 275 to 325 student places.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Q11. Within all of these proposals the VSB envisions providing broadened opportunities for learning and greater access to programs for all students through the creation of an extended "neighbourhood of learning" within a city-wide "neighbourhood of learning".	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Seismic upgrading will also be performed on Jules Quésnel Elementary and Queen Elizabeth Elementary. For each of these schools, there are two programming options that could be implemented after the seismic upgrading has been complete. After you read the options for each school, please indicate your preferred option.

Q12. In order to perform the necessary seismic upgrading to Jules Quésnel Elementary School, the Jules Quésnel French Immersion would be temporarily relocated to the new elementary school at UBC. After the seismic upgrading at Jules Quésnel is completed, there are two programming proposals. Please indicate which of these two programming proposals you prefer:

- A: Return the French Immersion Program to Jules Quésnel and establish the new elementary school at UBC as dual track—with Regular and French Immersion programs.
- B: Relocate the Jules Quésnel French Immersion program permanently to Queen Elizabeth Elementary and establish Queen Elizabeth Elementary as single-track French Immersion.
- Do not prefer either proposal.
- No opinion.

Q13. There are two programming proposals under consideration for Queen Elizabeth Elementary following seismic upgrading. Which of these two programming proposals do you prefer?

- A: Maintain Queen Elizabeth Elementary school as Regular single track. After seismic upgrading the capacity of the school would be 325 to 375.
- B: Relocate the Queen Elizabeth Regular English program to a fully renovated and seismically upgraded Jules Quésnel building. This proposal would enable the relocation of the Jules Quésnel French Immersion program to the Queen Elizabeth site.
- Do not prefer either proposal.
- No opinion.

Q13. From your perspective, what benefits and/or drawbacks, do you see with the UBC to Dunbar St. study area proposals?

Q14. Are there other options or factors the VSB should consider as part of its review of the educational facilities in the UBC to Dunbar Street study area?

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