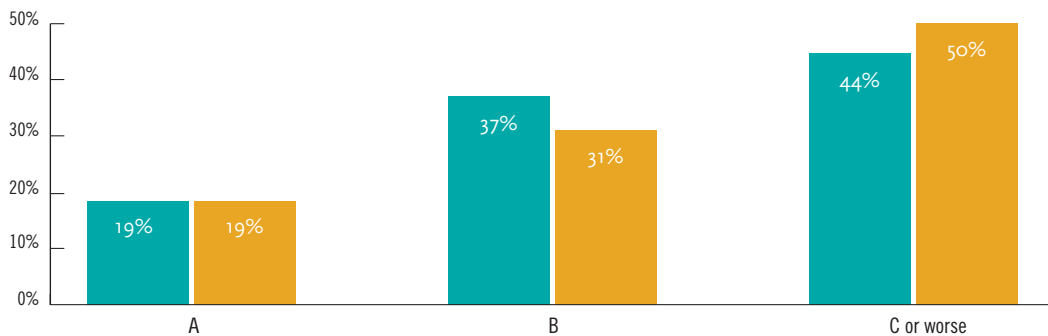


Voters Support the Changes to Accountability Envisioned by Gateway City Leaders.

Across Massachusetts, Gateway City leaders are working to create exceptional learning environments. It's a community-wide effort. By strategically marshalling available resources, Gateway Cities can provide the comprehensive supports and educational opportunities that will enable students to gain the full set of advanced skills today's economy requires. Achieving this vision calls for new approaches to state accountability. Findings from a recent public opinion survey show that voters in both Gateway Cities and other Massachusetts cities and towns embrace change: they want more information to reliably gauge the effectiveness of schools across multiple dimensions, coupled with flexibility at the local level to determine priorities for improvement.

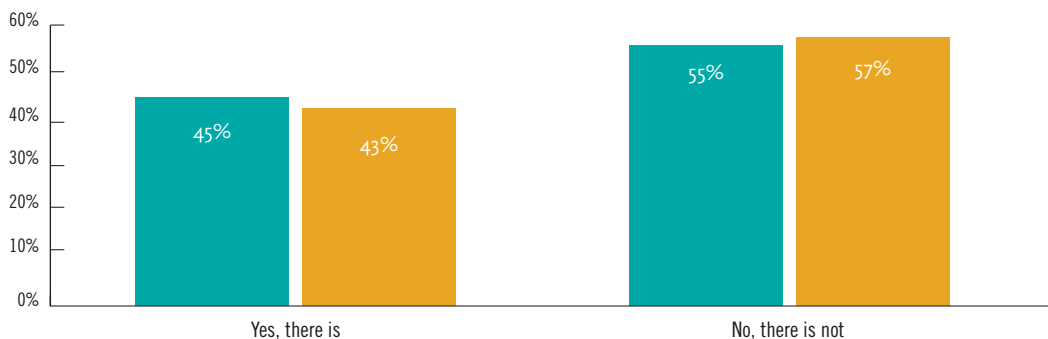
Gateway City voters feel their local schools aren't making the grade on preparing students for careers; voters in other Massachusetts communities hold similar opinions.

Other MA Communities
Gateway Cities



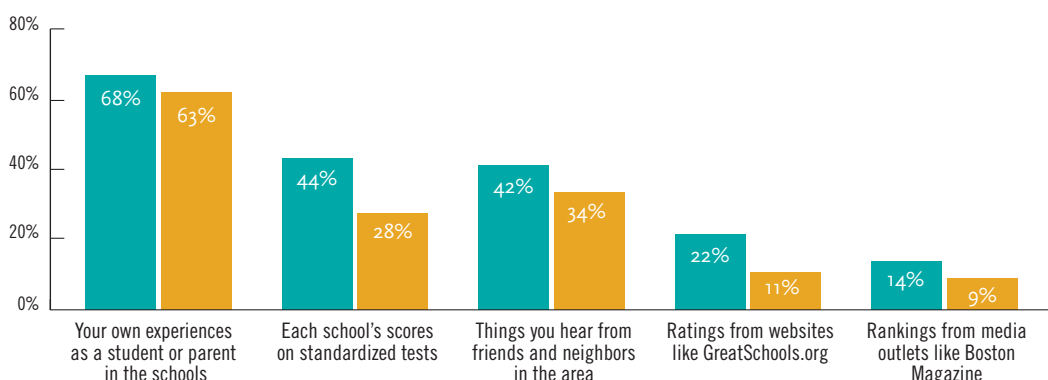
Q. How would you grade the K-12 system in your community in terms of preparing students for their eventual entry into the job market:

Most voters feel there isn't enough information to monitor how schools are doing.



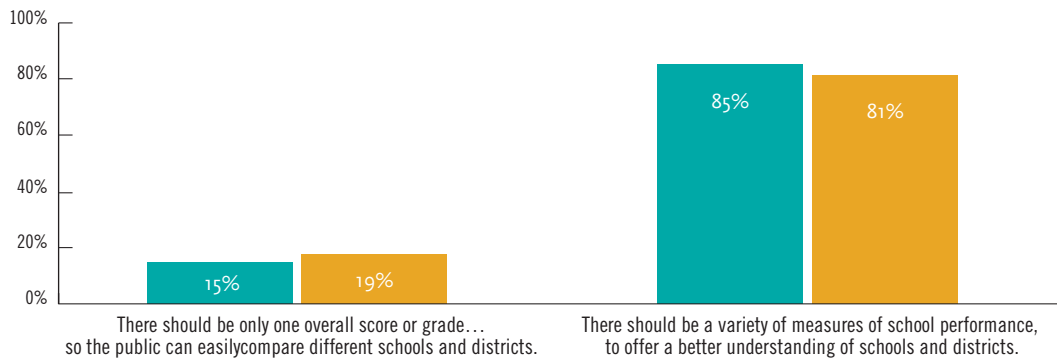
Q. Do you think there is enough information and data available to the public to offer a clear sense of how well your local public schools are doing, or not?

Voters rely heavily on their own experiences, standardized test scores, and what they hear from friends and neighbors to form opinions.



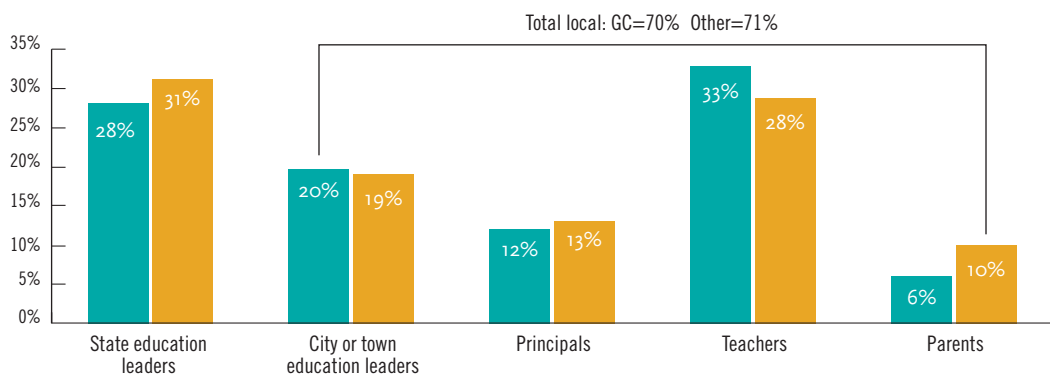
Q. In thinking about what you know about the quality of local schools, how important are each of the following sources of information? (percent responding "very important")

An overwhelming majority of voters say they want multiple pieces of reliable information to give them a more complete indication of school performance.



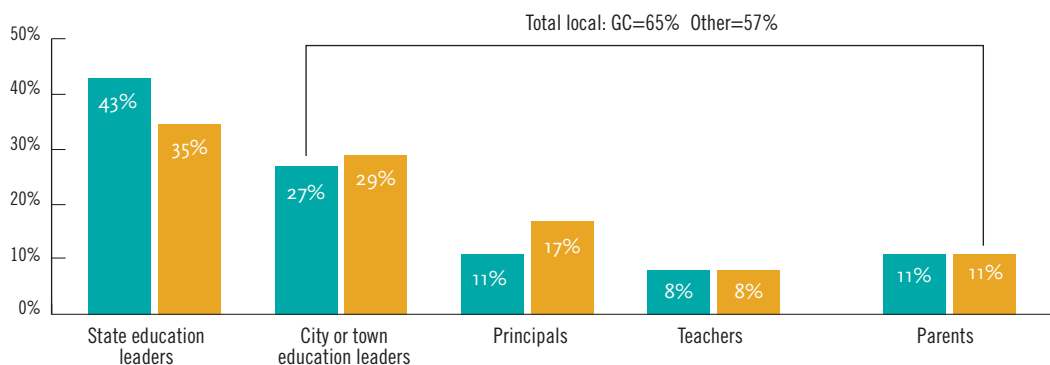
Q. Which of the following statements do you most agree with?

Voters want local leaders—especially teachers—to have a strong hand in driving innovation in education.



Q. Who is most responsible for developing new approaches to education?

Voters don't expect the state to be fully responsible for determining what works. The preference for locally-driven accountability is strong, particularly among Gateway City voters.



Q. Who is most responsible for measuring the performance of each school?

The data above are based on a MassINC Polling Group survey of 1,006 registered voters in Massachusetts, including 485 in the Gateway Cities. Live telephone interviews were conducted in November 28-December 2, 2016. For additional details, visit massinc.org. Figures exclude "Don't know/Refused" responses.