

# Leading with Leaders Across Differences

The North Carolina Leadership Forum

# Our Problem

Previously, citizens have usually been able to come together to address common problems and to create opportunities in a broadly acceptable way. Today ... **that culture of civil cooperation is sorely tested.**

The tenor of the times is highly partisan, and both elected leaders and engaged citizens find themselves sharply divided.

Progressive and conservative leaders rarely talk to people with whom they disagree, access different media and social media, operate with different facts and beliefs, and too often assume the worst about others' motives.

For these reasons, our leaders are less willing and able to work together to create broadly embraced solutions and opportunities for our state and its people.

— From NCLF's 2017-18 report

# | *Our Response*

“The North Carolina Leadership Forum ... was established in 2015 to create **constructive engagement** between North Carolina policy, business and nonprofit leaders across party lines, ideologies, professional experiences, and regional perspectives.”

— *From NCLF's 2017-18 report*

# A Conversation Becomes a Cause

2014-15 Conception and Planning



2016-17 First Cohort: Income & Mobility



2017-18 Second Cohort: Energy & Environment



2019 Third Cohort: School Choice



# | Our Objectives

“Our first aim was to provide an opportunity for leaders to engage in frank and civil discourse that would help them better understand, build greater trust of and **constructively engage with each other**. The second aim was to provide an opportunity for them to learn together about a significant issue facing North Carolina and its potential solutions and, to the extent possible, to **find common ground** on some of those solutions.”

— *From NCLF's 2017-18 report*

# Our Model



## Preparation

- Steering committee chooses topics & participants, designs & leads NCLF programs.



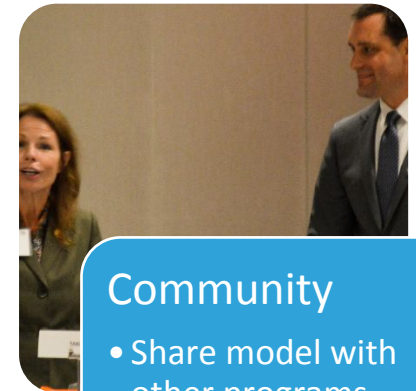
## Program

- Hold four two-day meetings over the course of a year.
- Stage “buddy” conversations and other gatherings.



## Report

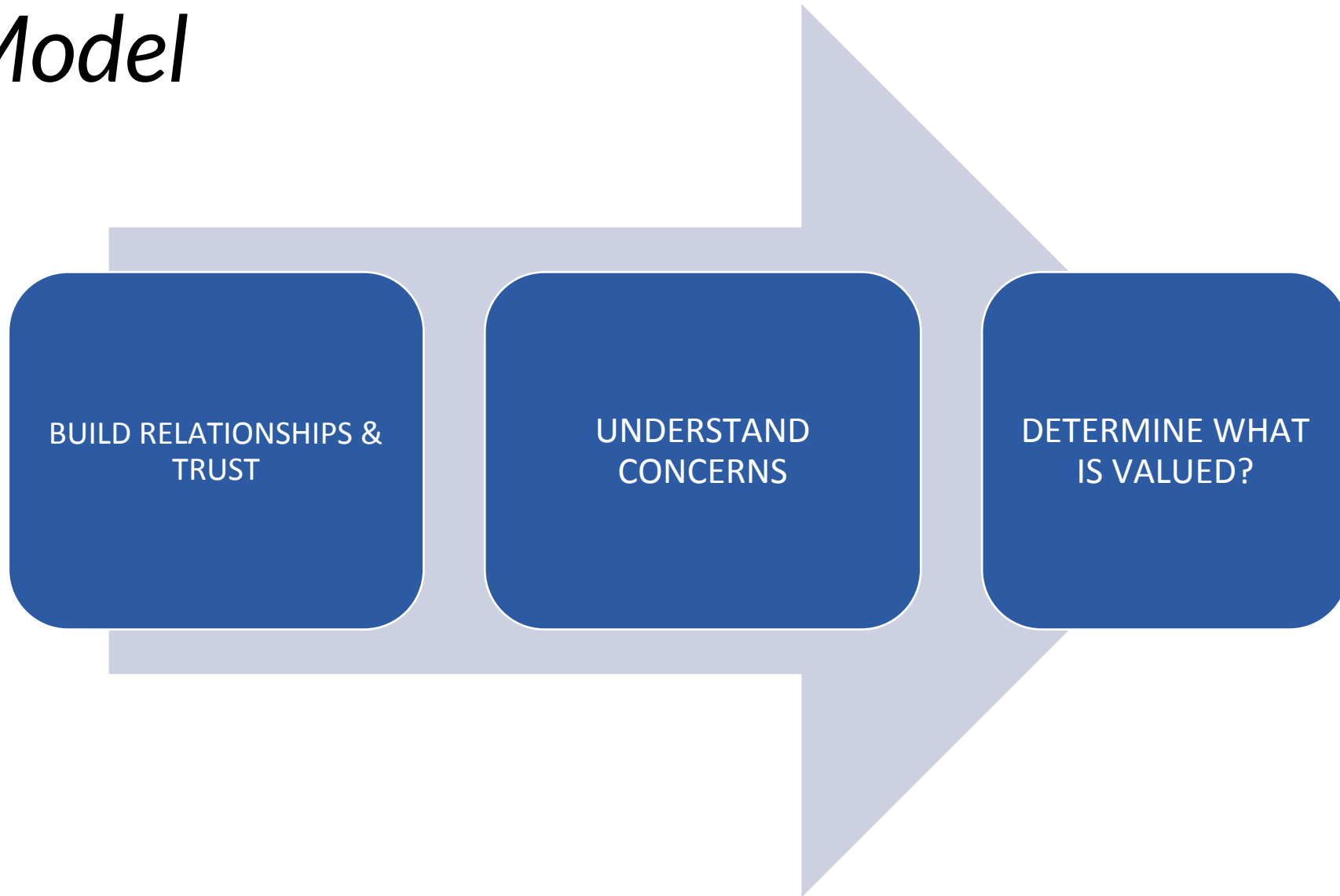
- Participants fashion a report of proceedings and findings.
- Distribute via print, web, media.



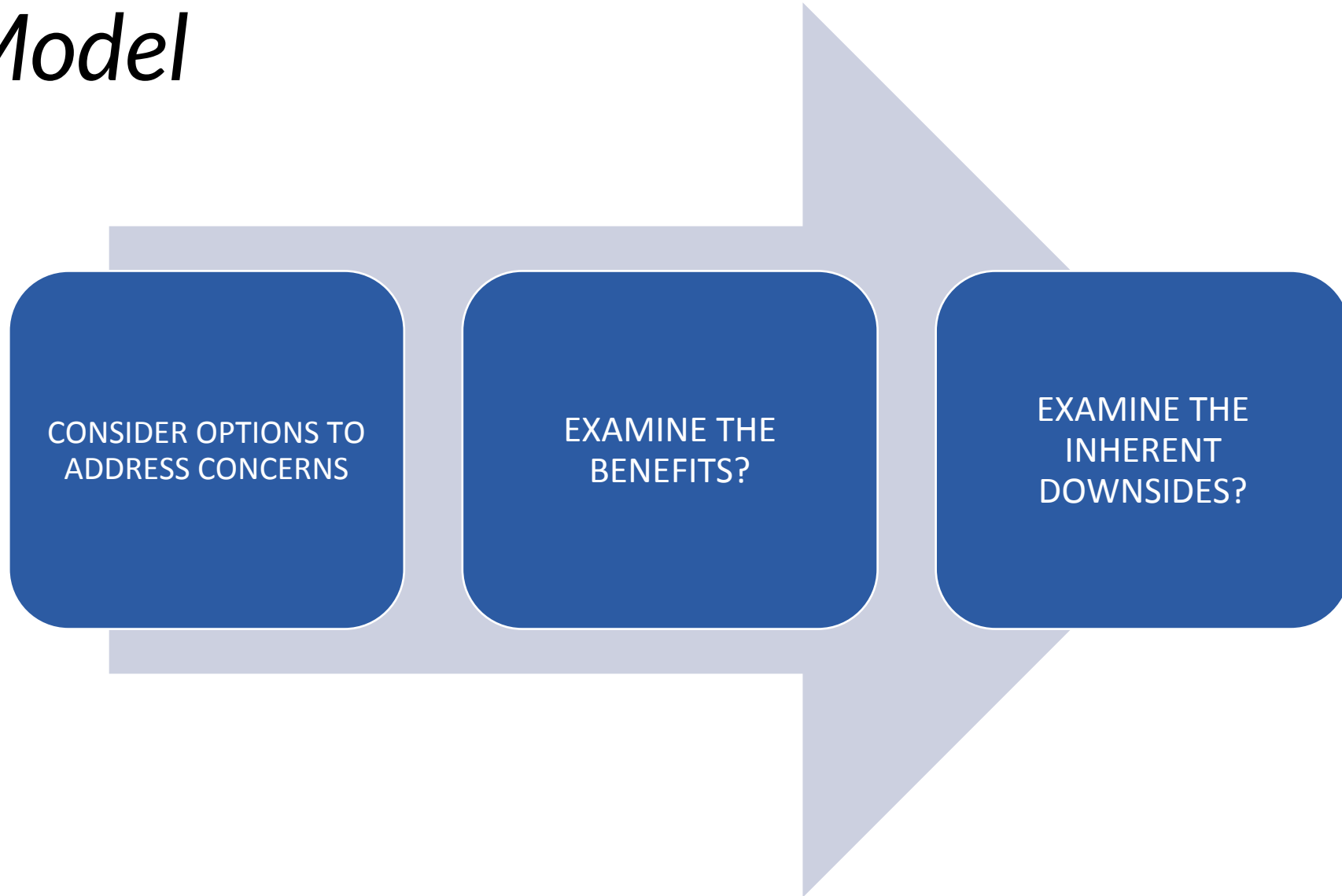
## Community

- Share model with other programs, broader political community.
- Foster ongoing engagement.

# *Our Model*

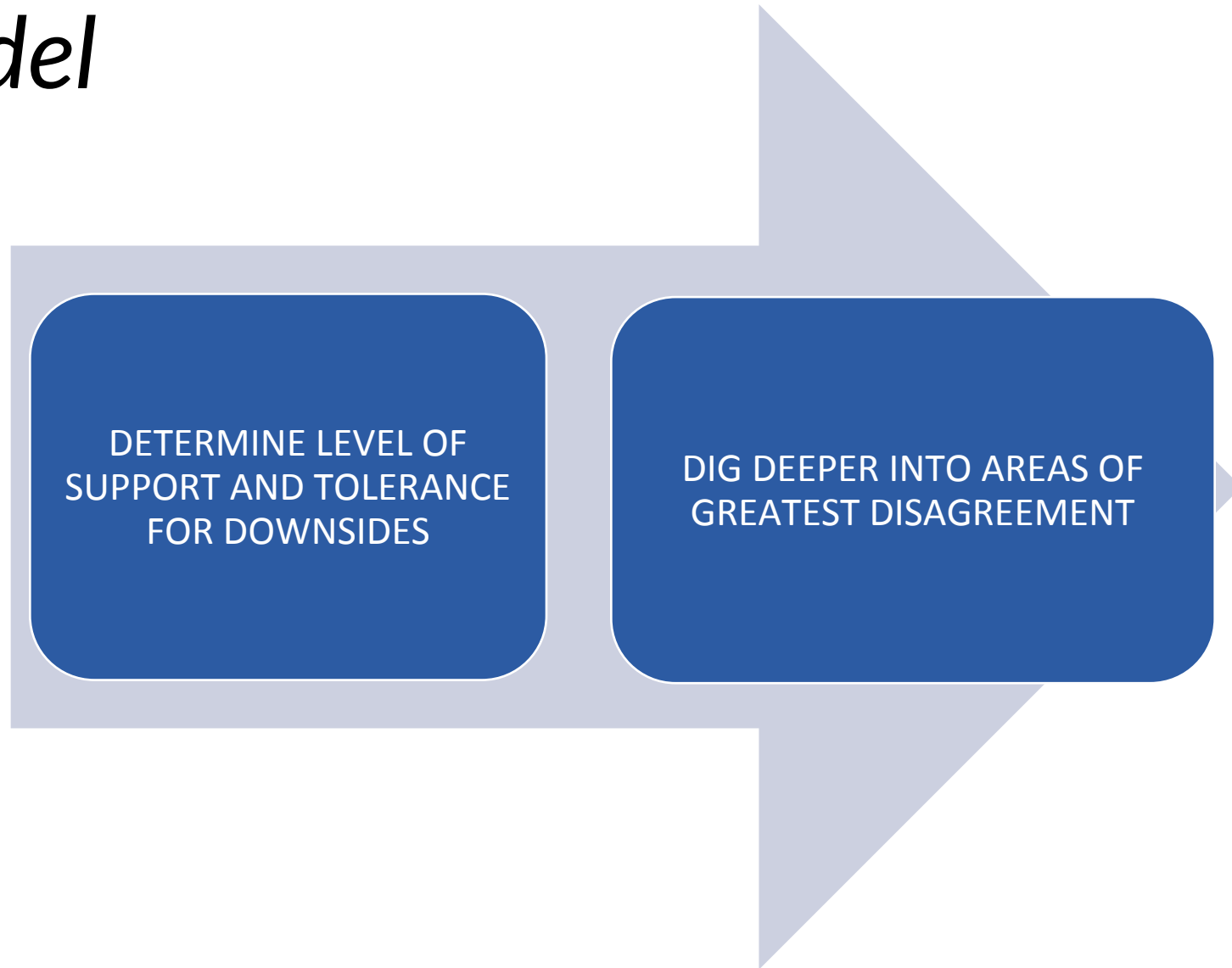


# *Our Model*





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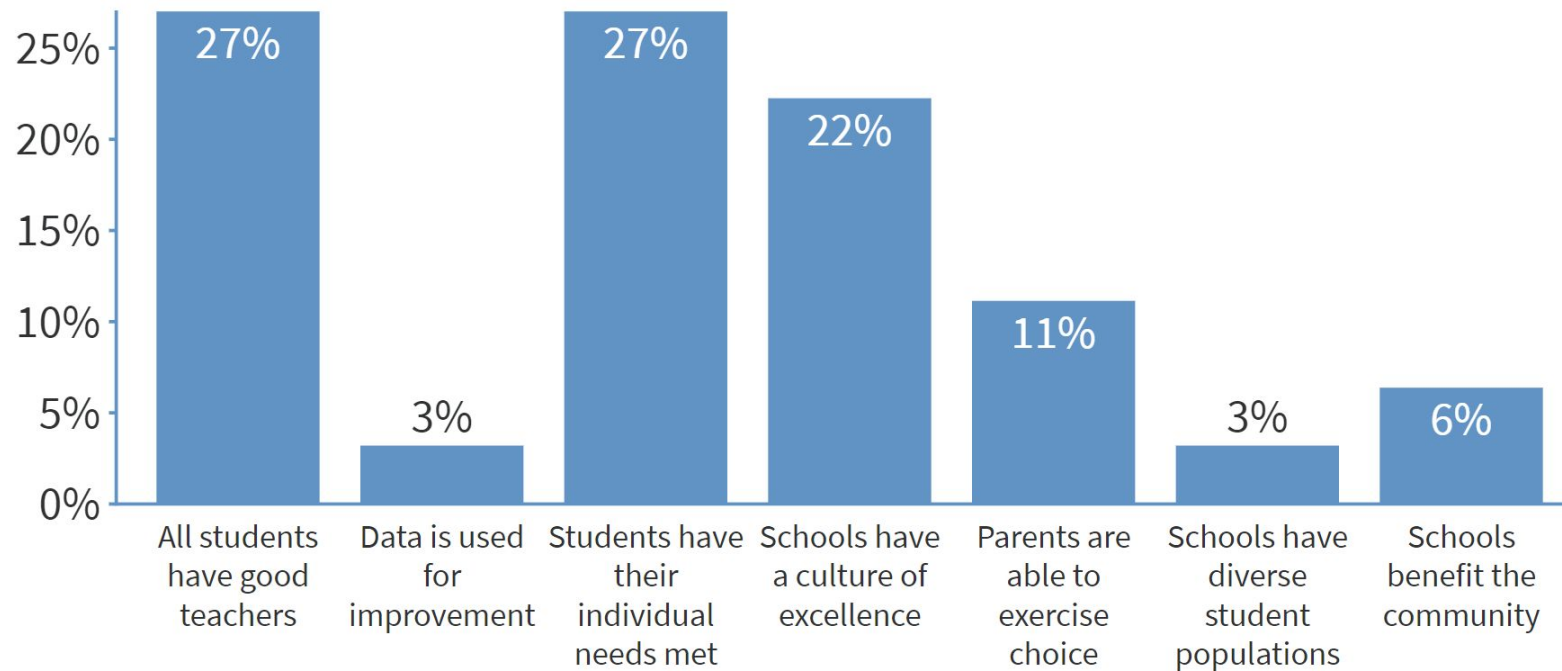
# Application: School Choice (2019)

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# Values Session at Second Meeting (Mar 28-29, 2019)

**Q1: Please select the TWO values clusters you consider the MOST important  
(choose two)**

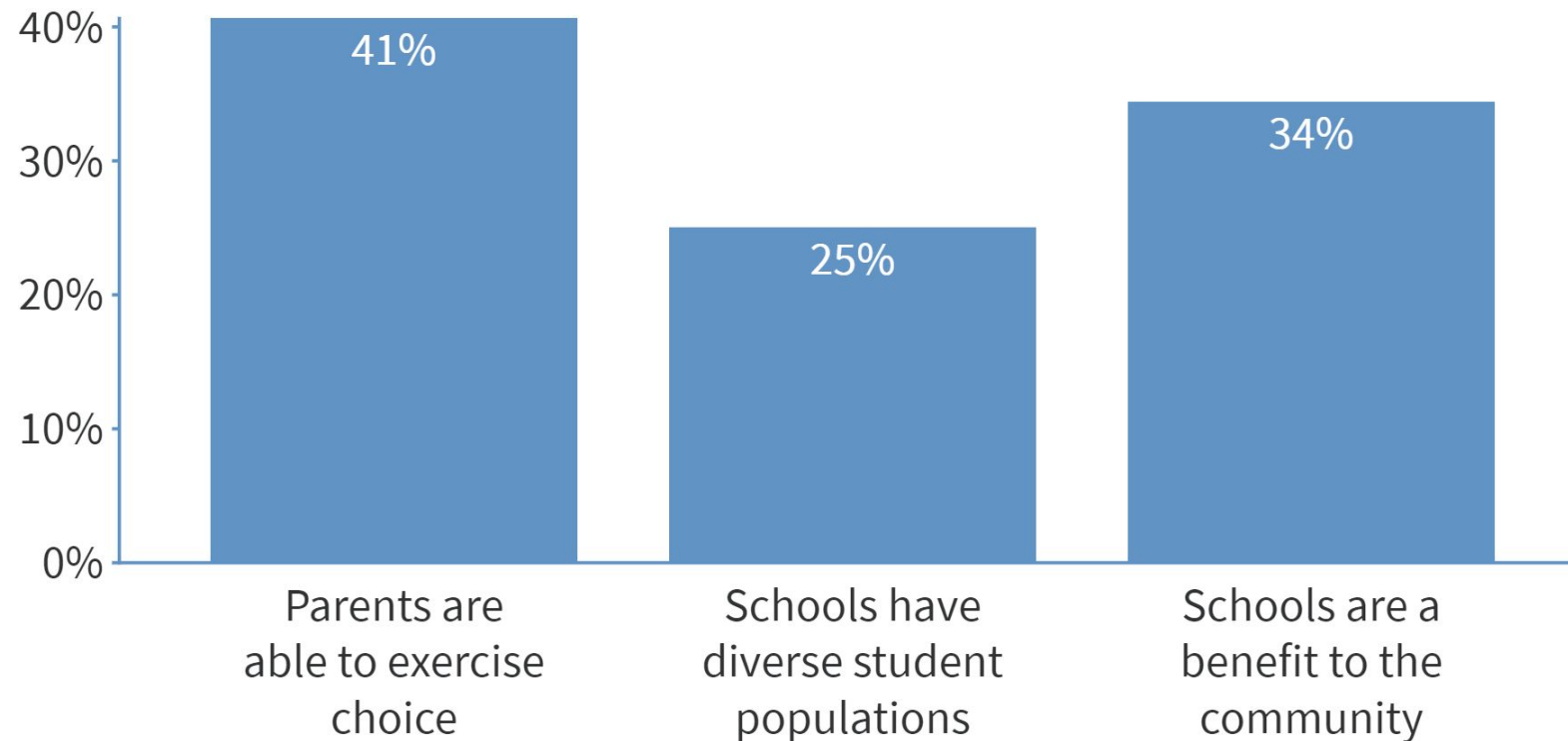
Respond at [PollEv.com/landynclf](https://poll-ev.com/landynclf)



# Values Session at Second Meeting (Mar 28-29, 2019)

**Q4: Please choose the MOST important value from the below list (choose one)**

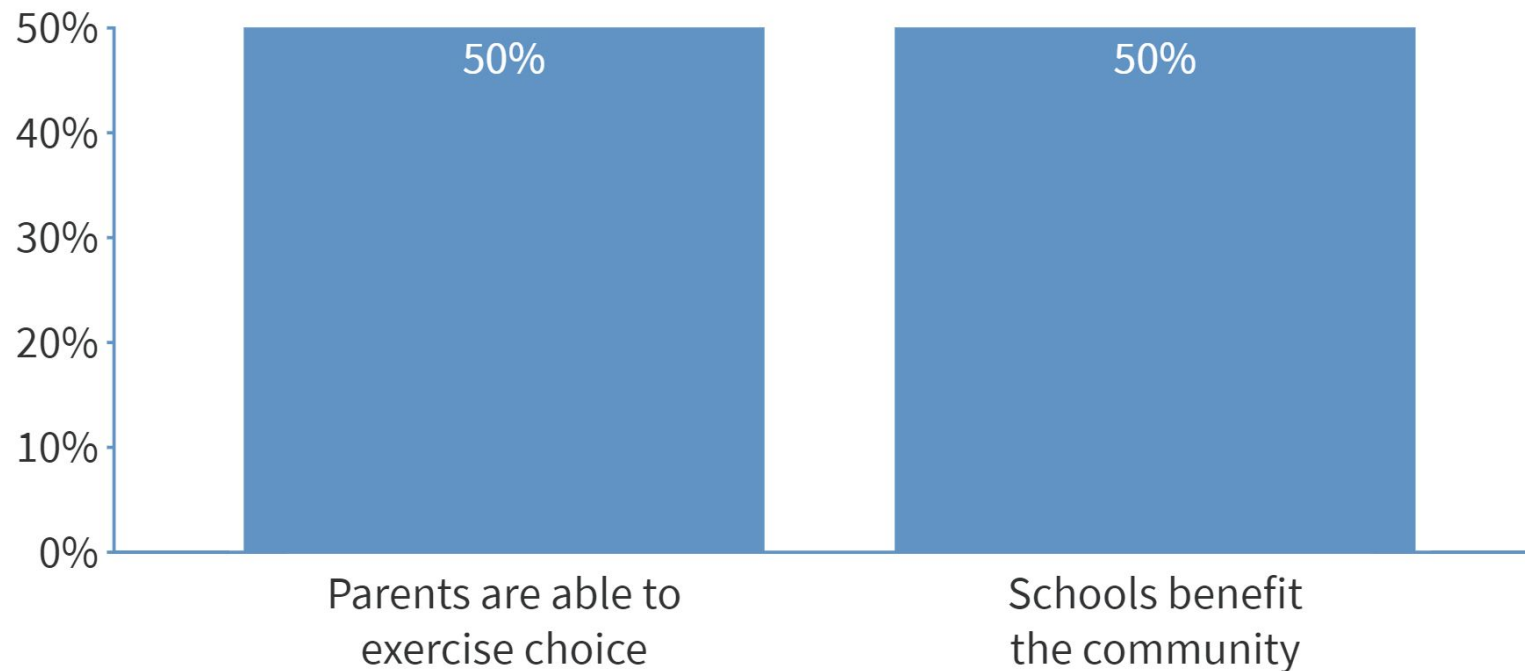
Respond at [PollEv.com/landyncf](https://poll-ev.com/landyncf)



# Values Session at Second Meeting (Mar 28-29, 2019)

**Q7: When considering the following two values, which do you consider to be MOST important?**

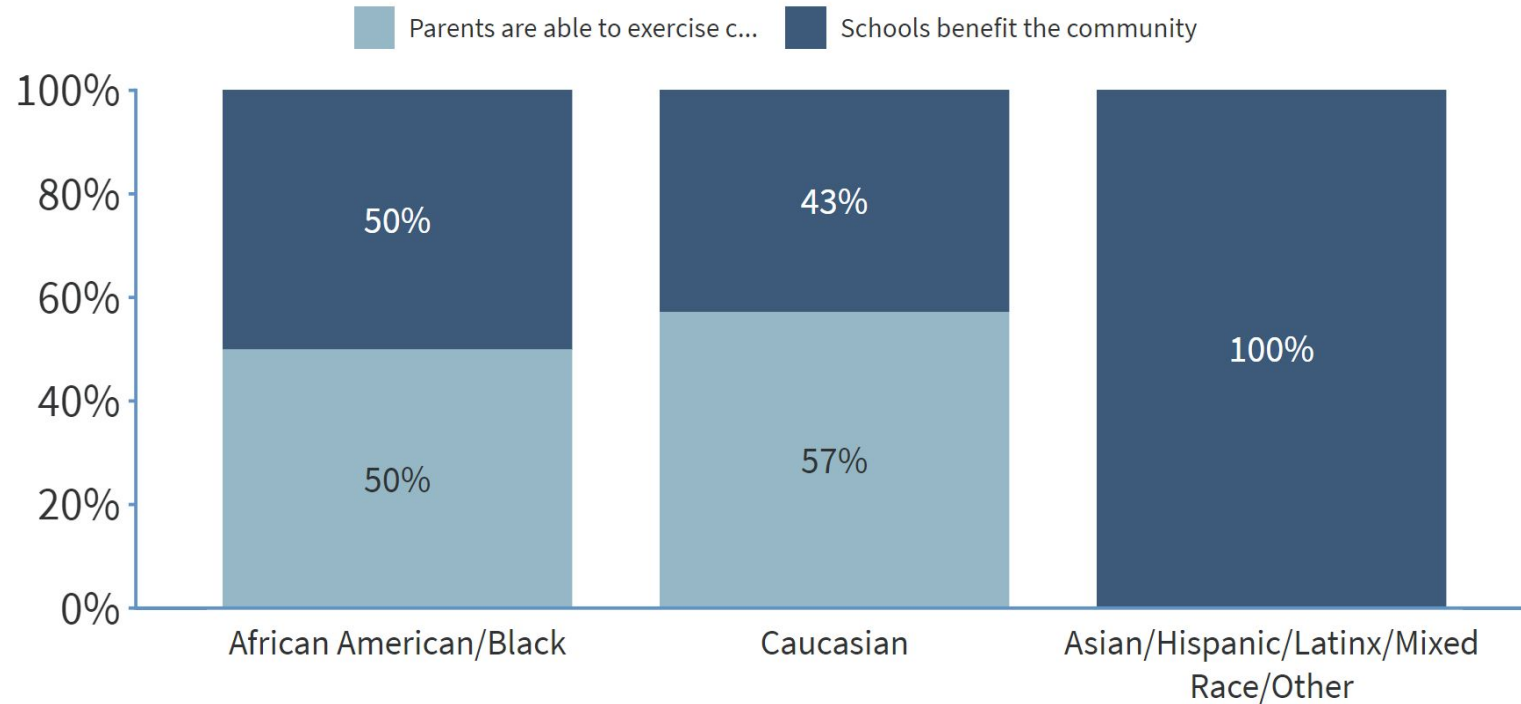
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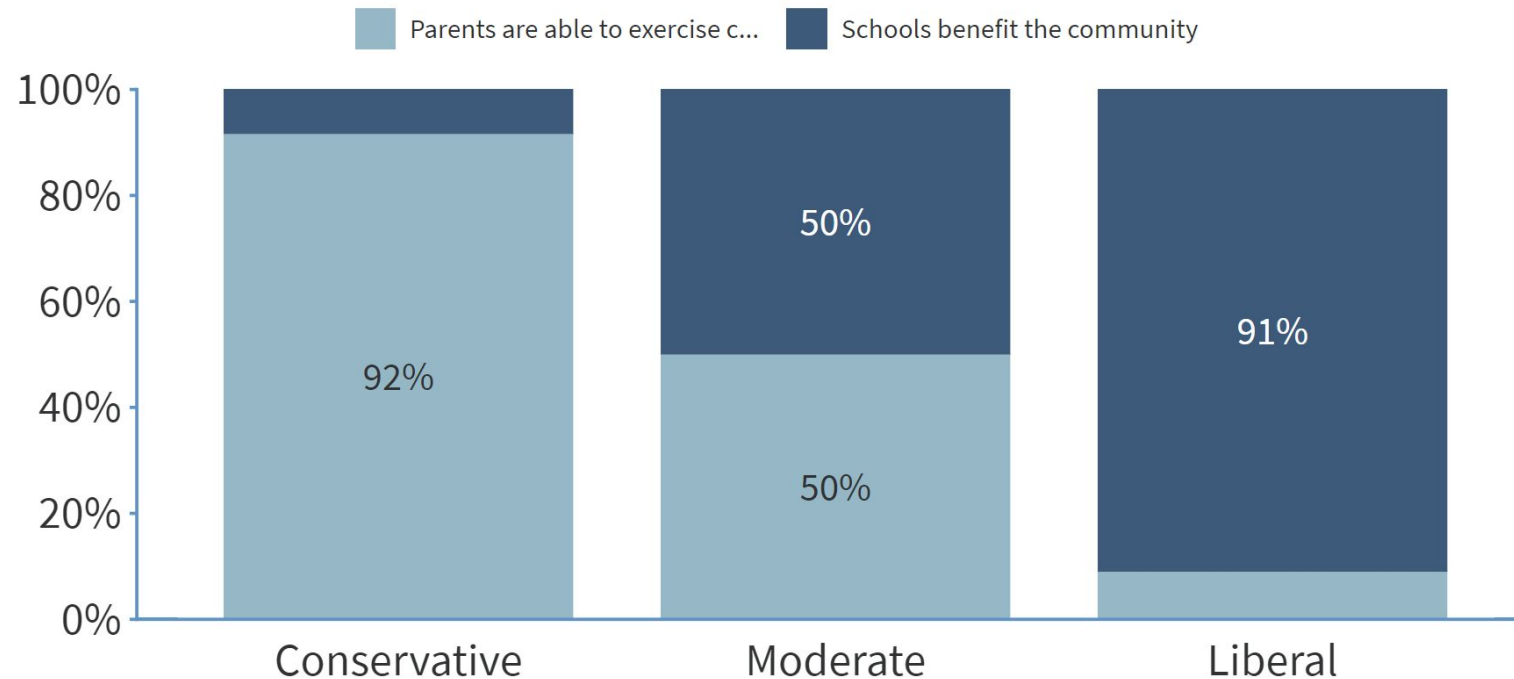
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Q7: When considering the following two values, which do you consider to be **MOST** important?

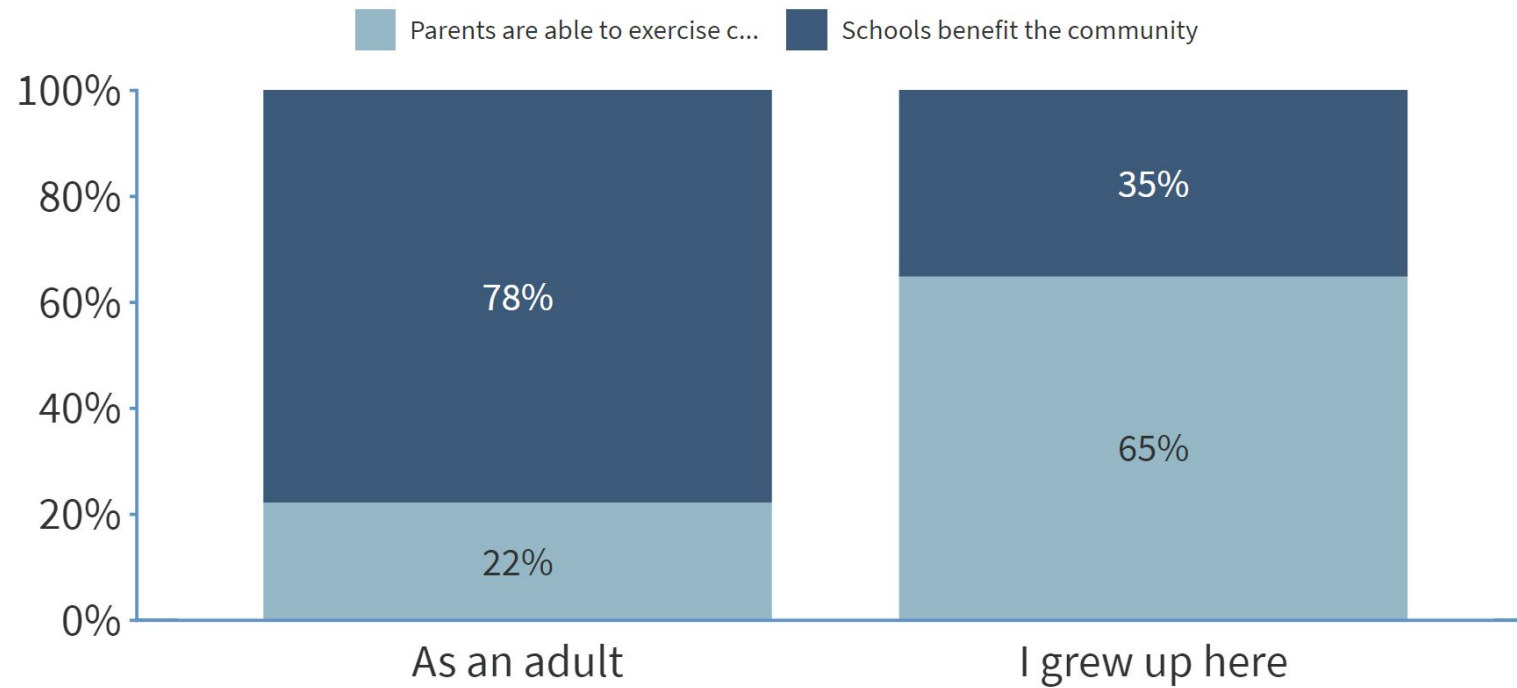
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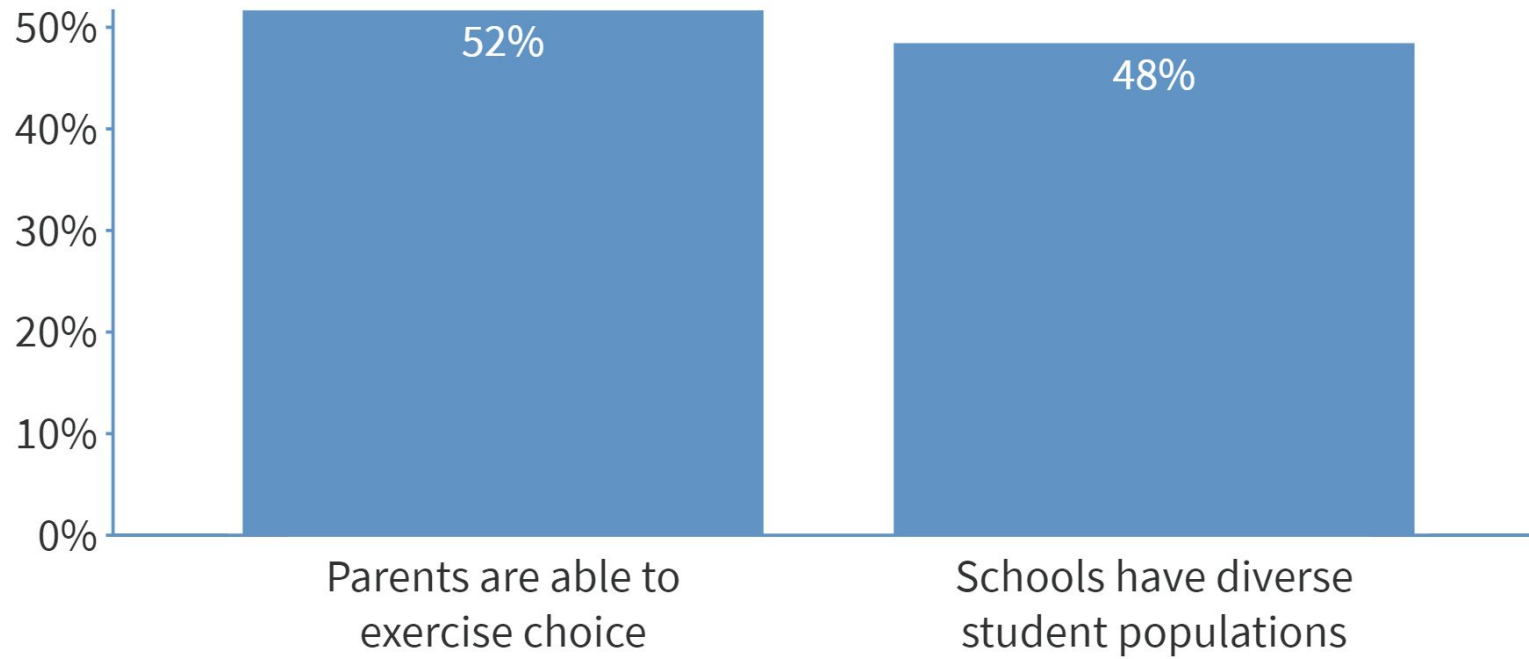




# Values Session at Second Meeting (Mar 28-29, 2019)

**Q8: When considering the following two values, which do you consider to be MOST important?**

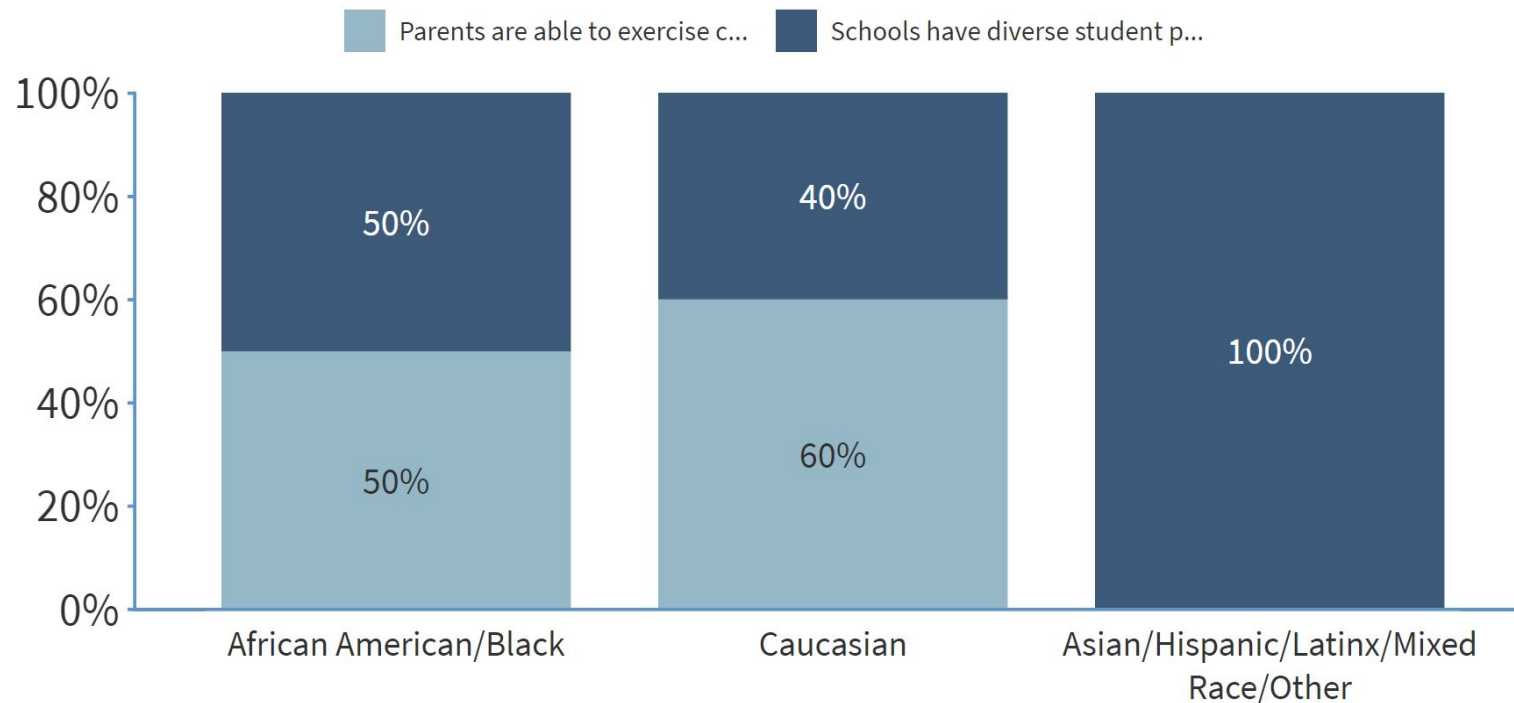
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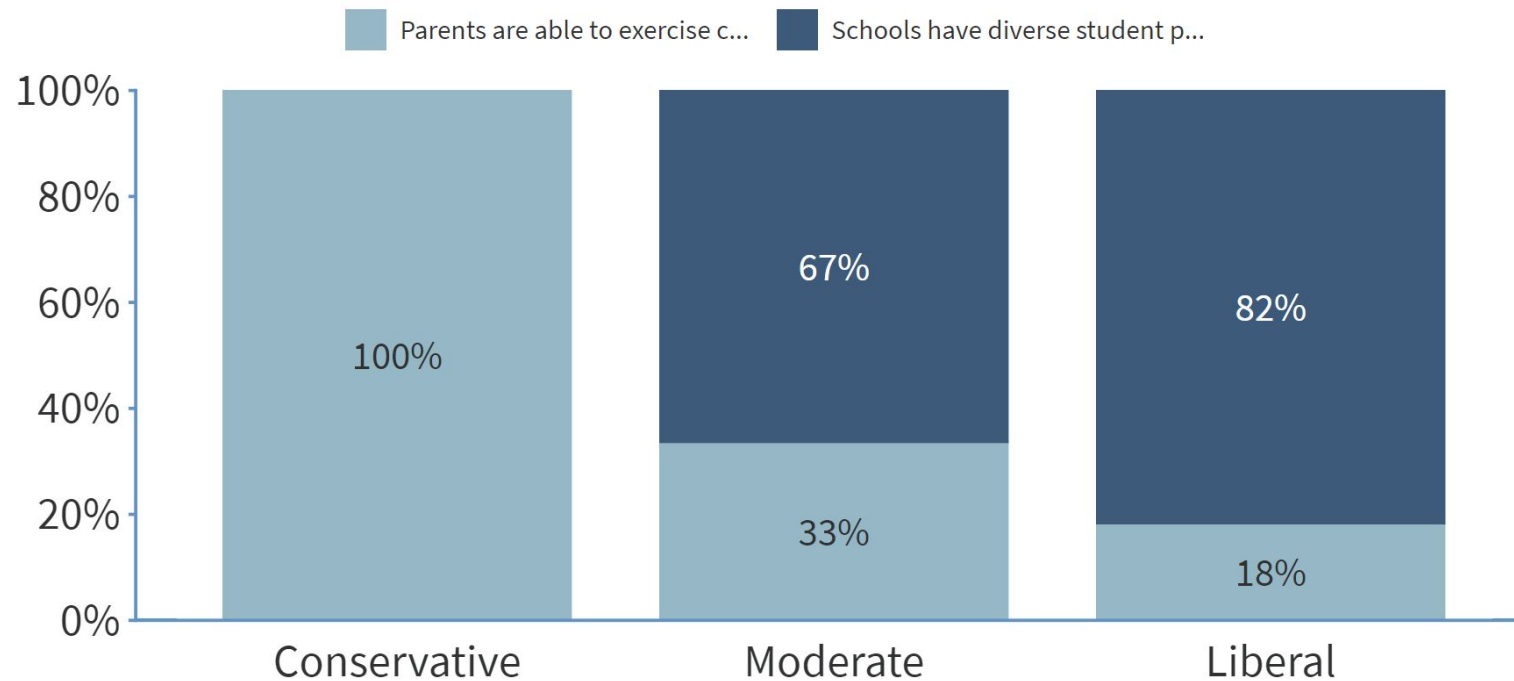
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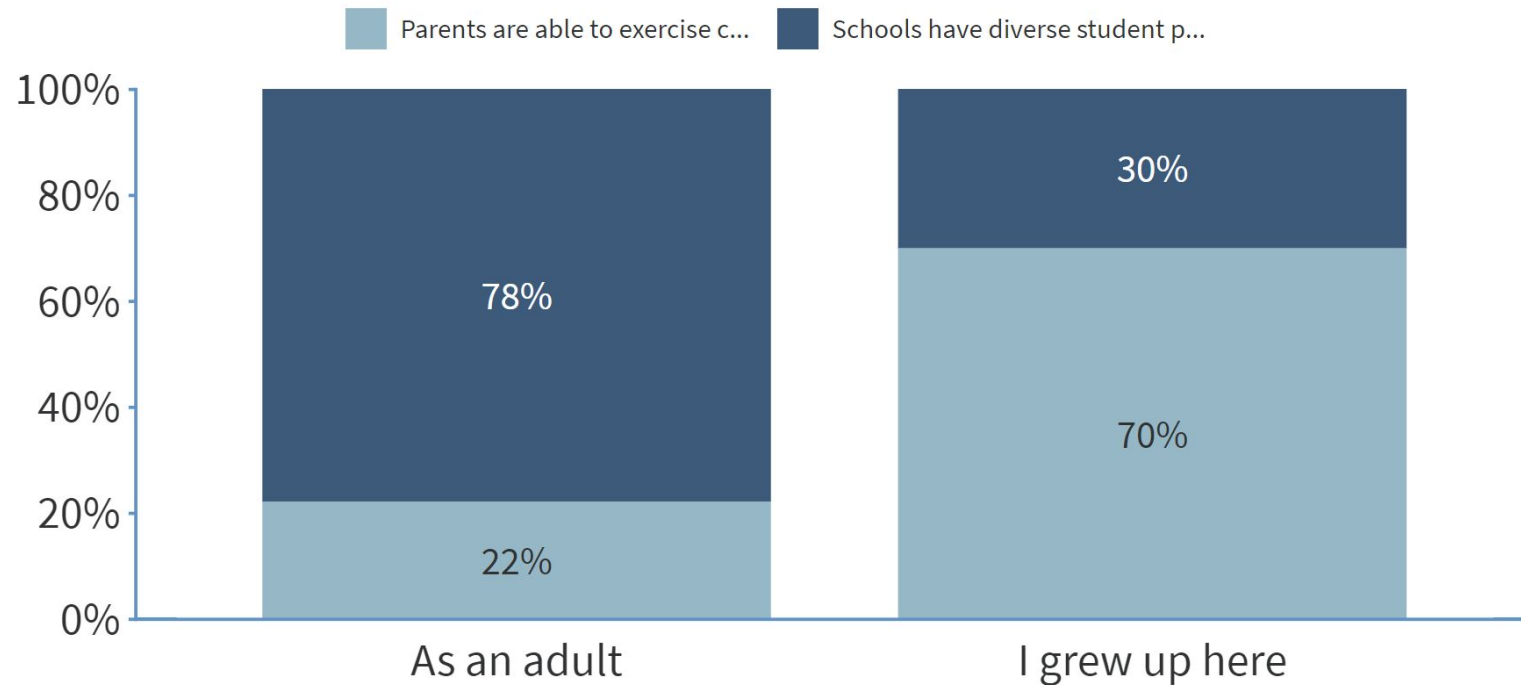
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# The Questions

- Do you think we are living in more polarized times?
- How is that preventing us from finding common ground on pressing public problems?
- What can we do in response?