

**Oklahoma Commission on Educational Administration
Statewide Survey of Adults – 2009**

Frequency Report

1. Please tell me how much confidence you, yourself, have in Oklahoma’s education system. This includes Pre-kindergarten through grade 12 in public schools, the career technology system, and public colleges and universities:

<u>(N=500)</u>	<u>% responding</u>
Great deal	22.2
Quite a lot	34.6
Some	32.4
Very little	9.6
Don't know/NR	1.2

2. Students are often given the grades A, B, C, D and FAIL to denote the quality of their work. Suppose the public schools themselves, in your community, were graded in the same way. What grade would you give your public schools?

<u>(N=500)</u>	<u>% responding</u>
A	19.2
B	44.4
C	24.2
D	6.0
F	1.6
DK/NR	4.6

3. How serious a problem would you say each of the following is in the public schools in your community?

<u>(N=500)</u>	<u>very serious</u>	<u>fairly serious</u>	<u>not very serious</u>	<u>not at all serious</u>	<u>DK NR</u>
Financial support.....	29.4	37.4	17.2	10.6	5.4
Discipline in the classroom.....	18.6	26.0	25.6	12.0	17.8
Use of drugs.....	20.6	25.0	25.0	9.2	20.2
Students bullying other students...	17.0	26.2	26.8	10.6	19.4
High school drop-out rate.....	16.8	23.6	26.2	12.8	20.6
Difficulty recruiting good teachers or quality teachers.....	28.2	28.8	21.0	18.0	4.0
Building safety and cleanliness.....	6.2	9.2	17.6	62.2	4.8

4. In your opinion, is the Oklahoma legislature providing adequate funding for education in Oklahoma?

<u>(N=500)</u>	<u>% responding</u>
YES	32.2
NO	56.8
DK/NR	11.0

5. Do you favor or oppose allowing students and parents to use a voucher to attend a private school at the public's expense?

<u>(N=500)</u>	<u>% responding</u>
Favor	32.6
Oppose	55.2
DK/NR	12.2

6. Do you agree or disagree that Oklahoma schools should be ranked by their test scores?

<u>(N=500)</u>	<u>% responding</u>
Agree	47.6
Disagree	34.4
Not sure/DK	17.8
NR	.2

7. Do you agree or disagree that an Oklahoma school should be labeled as failing even if a majority of the students pass the skills proficiency test?

<u>(N=500)</u>	<u>% responding</u>
Agree	12.6
Disagree	57.8
Not sure/DK	29.0
NR	.6

8. How much do you favor capping the level of state funding for education in Oklahoma?

<u>(N=500)</u>	<u>% responding</u>
Strongly in favor	9.4
Somewhat in favor	23.8
Somewhat not in favor	6.4
Not at all in favor	56.4
No response	4.0

9. There are 539 pre-k to 12 school districts in Oklahoma. More than half of these districts serve less than 400 students. Would you favor or oppose the consolidation of some of Oklahoma's schools districts?

<u>(N=500)</u>	<u>% responding</u>
Favor	47.4
Oppose	37.8
Not sure/DK	14.8

10. Would you favor or oppose the consolidation of your school district with a neighboring one to balance funding and cut administrative costs?

<u>(N=500)</u>	<u>% responding</u>
Favor	31.8
Oppose	54.6
Not sure/DK	10.8
No response	2.8

11. I would like to read a list of proposals that have been made to improve the quality of the public schools. Please tell me how much you think each proposal would help.... a lot, some, a little or not at all.

<u>(N=500)</u>	<u>a lot</u>	<u>some</u>	<u>a little</u>	<u>not at all</u>	<u>DK NR</u>
Increase teacher salaries to recruit and retain quality teachers.....	56.0	30.8	6.6	6.4	.2
Reduce class sizes.....	48.6	27.8	10.4	10.8	2.4
Repair structural problems on older school buildings	47.2	29.8	11.8	10.0	1.2
Purchase more up-to-date instructional materials such as textbooks and classroom supplies.....	66.6	19.2	6.8	6.2	1.2
Expand programs for at-risk high school students to reduce drop-out rates.....	65.6	19.8	7.0	4.4	3.2
Supply more computers and technology for classrooms.....	68.8	17.0	6.0	6.2	2.0
Extend the school year by five days.....	32.8	15.0	6.0	42.0	4.2
Extend the length of the school day by one hour	23.0	12.6	6.8	54.2	3.4

12. As I read each of the following ways to fund education in the state, please tell me whether you favor or oppose that action.

<u>(N=500)</u>	<u>Favor</u>	<u>Oppose</u>	<u>Not sure DK</u>	<u>NR</u>
Reduce state spending for education.....	9.8	83.2	6.8	.2
Keep present level of education funding by making spending cuts in other areas of government.....	73.8	15.0	10.6	.6
Eliminate or reduce some extra-curricular activities at schools to save funds.....	33.0	60.2	6.4	.4

13. Would you be in favor of allowing public schools to pass bond issues requiring only a simple majority vote totaling only fifty-one percent rather than the current requirement of a super majority of sixty-one percent of the vote?

<u>(N=500)</u>	<u>% responding</u>
Yes/ favor	56.4
No/ oppose	35.2
Not sure/ DK	8.2
No response	.2

14. As a way to attract or retain teachers in Oklahoma, would you favor or oppose the state to pay the health benefits or insurance for the children of Oklahoma teachers?

<u>(N=500)</u>	<u>% responding</u>
Favor	59.2
Oppose	28.4
Not sure/ DK	12.2
No response	.2

15. Several salary programs have been discussed to increase pay to teachers. Please tell me how much each factor should be in determining a raise. Should teacher pay raises be based on..

<u>(N=500)</u>	<u>very major factor</u>	<u>somewhat major factor</u>	<u>minor factor</u>	<u>not a factor at all</u>	<u>DK NR</u>
Producing above average improvements based on classroom tests and grades.....	32.4	40.6	10.8	14.2	2.0
Fulfilling agreed upon professional development or teacher training goals	48.2	39.2	4.2	5.0	3.4
Earning a Master's or Doctorate degree in the subject they teach	57.0	21.2	9.8	10.2	1.8
Upon completion of a teacher's National Certification.....	60.0	20.6	7.4	7.6	4.4
Teaching in troubled or hard-to-staff schools.....	72.6	16.2	3.6	4.8	2.8
Longevity or the number of years they have taught school.....	46.4	25.0	13.8	12.4	2.4
Student's scores on the state standardized test.....	27.2	26.6	24.2	18.4	3.6

16. Are you in favor of the Oklahoma legislature providing additional funding for remediation or tutoring for children who fall behind in required testing?

<u>(N=500)</u>	<u>% responding</u>
Yes/ favor	74.6
No/ oppose	16.4
Not sure/ DK	8.8
No response	.2

17. Would you favor or oppose raising the funding of the teacher retirement system to the same level as other state funded pension plans?

<u>(N=500)</u>	<u>% responding</u>
Favor	80.2
Oppose	11.0
Not sure/DK	8.4
No response	.4

Demographics

18. Marital status:

<u>(N=500)</u>	<u>% responding</u>
Married	66.2
Single	17.2
Widowed	16.4
No response	.2

19. Education:

<u>(N=500)</u>	<u>% responding</u>
Some high school	8.6
High school graduate	23.6
Some college/associate	26.8
College graduate	21.2
Post graduate degree	17.2
Other training	1.0
No response	1.6

20. Age:

<u>(N=500)</u>	<u>% responding</u>
19-24	2.6
25-34	10.2
35-44	13.8
45-54	18.4
55-64	22.4
65-74	19.8
75+	12.0
NR	.8

21. Income:

<u>(N=500)</u>	<u>% responding</u>
Under \$25,000	16.2
\$25-49,999	30.8
\$50-74,999	20.2
\$75-100,000	10.8
Over \$100,000	11.4
No response	10.6

22. Children under 19 in home:

<u>(N=500)</u>	<u>% responding</u>
One	9.8
Two	14.2
Three	5.4
Four	.8
Five	.6
Six+	.2
None	68.6
NR	.4

23. Does your child or children attend a public school, private school or home school?

<u>(N=155)</u>	<u>% responding</u>
Public school	85.2
Private school	3.9
Both public and private	.6
Home schooled	.6
Not in school/ too young	9.0
No response	.6

24. Gender of respondent:

<u>(N=500)</u>	<u>% of interviews</u>
Male	35.2
Female	64.8