

Survey Results: May, 2011

1. Which of the following age categories do you fall in?

	answered question		142
	skipped question		0
		Response Percent	Response Count
a-	under 25	0.0%	0
b-	26 - 35	4.9%	7
c-	36 - 45	15.5%	22
d-	46 - 55	30.3%	43
e-	56 - 65	43.0%	61
f-	Over 65	6.3%	9

2. How would you best describe where you live?

	answered question		142
	skipped question		0
		Response	Response

2. How would you best describe where you live?

	Percent	Count
a- Urban	16.9%	24
b- Suburban	62.7%	89
c- Small Town	14.8%	21
d- Rural	5.6%	8

3. If you are a public school teacher (retired okay), do (did) your children go to

	answered question		141
	skipped question		1
		Response Percent	Response Count
a-	public school	61.7%	87
b-	private school	11.3%	16
c-	some public and some private	12.8%	18
d-	I have no children	14.2%	20

4. What is your gender?

	answered question		142
	skipped question		0
		Response Percent	Response Count
Male		51.4%	73
Female		48.6%	69

5. At what kind of school do you work or did you work if now retired?

	answered question		140
	skipped question		2
		Response Percent	Response Count
a- Traditional public		90.7%	127
b- Charter		2.1%	3
c- Private		0.0%	0
d- Other		7.1%	10

5. At what kind of school do you work or did you work if now retired?

Other (please specify)
Show replies

17

6. How many years have you been an educator?

answered question

142

skipped question

0

	Response Percent	Response Count
a- 1-4	1.4%	2
b- 5-9	8.5%	12
c- 10-20	46.5%	66
d- over 20	43.7%	62

a- 1-4

1.4%

2

b- 5-9

8.5%

12

c- 10-20

46.5%

66

d- over 20

43.7%

62

7. With which grade level(s) do you, or if retired, did you primarily interact?

answered question

140

skipped question

2

7. With which grade level(s) do you, or if retired, did you primarily interact?

	Response Percent	Response Count
a- Pre-K	0.7%	1
b- Kindergarten	0.0%	0
c- Elementary	37.9%	53
d- Middle School/Junior High School	22.9%	32
e- High School	33.6%	47
f- Post-secondary	5.0%	7

8. Do your political views most closely reflect those of a:

	answered question	141
	skipped question	1
	Response Percent	Response Count
a- Democrat	8.5%	12

8. Do your political views most closely reflect those of a:

b- Libertarian	14.2%	20
c- Republican	57.4%	81
d- Other Party Affiliation	1.4%	2
e- Independent/No Party Affiliation	18.4%	26

9. Regarding union status - are you (or if retired, were you at the time of your retirement)

	answered question		141
	skipped question		1
		Response Percent	Response Count
a - a Full dues payer.		61.0%	86
b - an Agency fee payer.		31.9%	45
c - a Religious objector.		3.5%	5
d - in a district that is non-unionized.		3.5%	5

10. At least 30% of union dues go toward some kind of political spending. Which statement best describes your feelings about this?

	answered question	Response Percent	Response Count
	answered question		137
	skipped question		5
a- It's fine because I think the union has my best interests at heart.		5.8%	8
b- I really don't give it much thought.		0.0%	0
c- I don't think the union should be spending any of my dues on politics, but I am still a member.		49.6%	68
d- I don't think the union should be spending any of my dues on politics and I have resigned from the union because of that.		28.5%	39
e- Other		16.1%	22
Other (please specify) Show replies			39

11. While the overwhelming amount of union political spending goes to liberals and liberal causes, teachers are very mixed politically, typically mirroring the community in which they live. Which statement best sums up your thoughts?

	answered question		136
	skipped question		6
		Response Percent	Response Count
	a- The union giving dues money to exclusively liberals is fair.	2.2%	3
	b- My dues money should only go to candidates and causes that I agree with.	9.6%	13
	c- My dues money should not go to any candidates and causes.	76.5%	104
	d- I don't really care.	0.7%	1
	e- Other	11.0%	15
	Other (please specify) Show replies		23

12. California is a non-Right To Work state. That means that joining a union is a condition of employment. Which statement most closely represents your thoughts?

12. California is a non-Right To Work state. That means that joining a union is a condition of employment. Which statement most closely represents your thoughts?

	answered question	skipped question
	142	0
	Response Percent	Response Count
a- If you want to teach in CA, joining a union should be mandatory.	2.8%	4
b- Teachers should have a choice as to whether or not they join a union.	75.4%	107
c- Teachers should have to join a local union, but not a state and national union.	9.9%	14
d- I don't think that teachers should be allowed to unionize.	12.0%	17

13. How often do you go to non-school based union meetings, events, protests, etc.

	answered question	skipped question
	142	0

13. How often do you go to non-school based union meetings, events, protests, etc.

	Response Percent	Response Count
a- Every chance I get.	1.4%	2
b- Several events every year.	8.5%	12
c- Rarely - maybe a few every year.	30.3%	43
d- Never.	59.9%	85

14. During the months leading up to an election, teachers' unions frequently send a representative to schools to advise teachers who the union thinks they should vote for. Which statement best sums up your feelings about this?

	answered question		140
	skipped question		2
		Response Percent	Response Count
a- I think it is a good idea.		4.3%	6
b- I wish they'd be more objective and present both sides.		29.3%	41

14. During the months leading up to an election, teachers' unions frequently send a representative to schools to advise teachers who the union thinks they should vote for. Which statement best sums up your feelings about this?

c- I don't think unions should be doing this type of thing at all.	64.3%	90
d- I really don't care.	2.1%	3

15. If you were satisfied that there was a fair way to evaluate teachers, do you think these evaluations should be

	Response Percent	Response Count
answered question		139
skipped question		3
a- kept between principal and teacher.	46.8%	65
b- Answer a + available to parents of children at the school where you work.	23.0%	32
c- Answer a and b and available to the general public.	20.9%	29
d- There can be no fair way to evaluate a teacher's work.	9.4%	13

16. If you were satisfied that there was a fair way to evaluate teachers, do you think teachers with better evaluations should be paid more than teachers with poorer evaluations?

	answered question	135
	skipped question	7
	Response Percent	Response Count
a- Yes.	54.8%	74
b- No.	23.7%	32
c- I think that schools should be the determinant of performance pay and all teachers at high performing schools should be paid more.	3.7%	5
d- Other	17.8%	24
Other (please specify) Show replies		32

17. Charter schools are public schools that have more control over their own budget, staff, and curriculum, and are exempt from many existing public school regulations. In general, do you favor or oppose this idea?

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	answered question		141
	skipped question		1
		Response Percent	Response Count
a- Strongly Favor		48.9%	69
b- Somewhat Favor		33.3%	47
c- Somewhat Oppose		9.9%	14
d- Strongly Oppose		7.8%	11

18. Teachers cannot control the circumstances of a student prior to entering their classrooms. As test-based accountability systems are put into place, many states are considering a growth model or a value-added model that would take into account important student characteristics such as eligibility for special education services, free and reduced lunch status, discipline issues, school attendance, and other factors beyond a teacher's control so that there is a more fair method to evaluate educators who teach similar students. The value-added model ensures that teachers and schools get credit not only for leading their students to achieve high absolute levels of academic success, but also for ensuring students continue to make positive academic gains each year, even though those students may not be proficient at that grade level. Would you support incorporating a value-added model into student achievement assessment if student test scores were part of your evaluation as an effective teacher?

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	answered question		138
	skipped question		4
		Response Percent	Response Count
a- Yes		76.8%	106
b- No		23.2%	32

19. If student academic achievement was required to be used in your evaluation, what percentage of your evaluation should be based on student academic achievement? Please assume that student academic achievement equates to test scores and the use of a growth model/value-added model as stated above.

	answered question		136
	skipped question		6

19. If student academic achievement was required to be used in your evaluation, what percentage of your evaluation should be based on student academic achievement? Please assume that student academic achievement equates to test scores and the use of a growth model/value-added model as stated above.

	Response Percent	Response Count
a- 20%	29.4%	40
b- 33%	22.8%	31
c- 50%	14.0%	19
d- 75%	10.3%	14
e- Other	23.5%	32
Other (please specify) Show replies		41

20. There is an ongoing national discussion about the merits of teacher tenure. (Teacher tenure is referred to as "continuing contracts" in some states.) For example, a proposal was considered in Florida that would have ended the state's tenure system for educators hired after June 30, 2010. Teachers hired before that time would not have been affected. We'd like to learn more about your opinions regarding tenure. Which of the following options best matches your position?

answered question	137
skipped question	5

20. There is an ongoing national discussion about the merits of teacher tenure. (Teacher tenure is referred to as "continuing contracts" in some states.) For example, a proposal was considered in Florida that would have ended the state's tenure system for educators hired after June 30, 2010. Teachers hired before that time would not have been affected. We'd like to learn more about your opinions regarding tenure. Which of the following options best matches your position?

	Response Percent	Response Count
a- I have tenure and I support the tenure system.	31.4%	43
b- I have tenure and I do not support the tenure system.	60.6%	83
c- I do not have tenure and I support the tenure system.	0.0%	0
d- I do not have tenure and I do not support the tenure system.	8.0%	11

21. "Achieving tenure indicates an effective teacher." Do you agree or disagree with this statement?

answered question		142
skipped question		0
	Response Percent	Response Count

21. "Achieving tenure indicates an effective teacher." Do you agree or disagree with this statement?

a- Agree	14.8%	21
b- Disagree	85.2%	121

22. In California, tenure is awarded to teachers after two years of satisfactory evaluations. Do you agree or disagree that tenure awarded after two years is awarded too early in an educator's career?

	answered question		139
	skipped question		3
		Response Percent	Response Count
a- Agree		62.6%	87
b- Disagree		18.0%	25
c- I don't believe teachers should awarded seniority.		19.4%	27

23. Due to budget cuts, teacher layoffs have been prevalent across the country. Many newer teachers have been laid off despite their effectiveness as educators. Do you agree with the policy, "Last hired, first fired?"

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	answered question		140
	skipped question		2
		Response Percent	Response Count
a- Yes		26.4%	37
b- No		73.6%	103