



Highlights of the 2010

Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup Poll

What Americans Said About the Public Schools



#1 EDUCATION PRIORITY

Improving the quality of teachers should be the top national education priority. We should recruit the best teacher candidates, provide professional development to help current and prospective teachers use the best teaching practices, and do whatever we can to retain the best teachers while dismissing those who aren't skilled or suited for the job.



COLLEGE FOR ALL

A college education is necessary for today's students. I believe my children will go to college and should because that education will provide more job opportunities and a better income.



UNDERPERFORMING SCHOOLS

Fix poorly performing schools by providing comprehensive external support. We don't support firing teachers and principals without cause. We don't support converting underperforming schools to charter schools, and we don't support closing schools altogether.



CHARTER SCHOOLS

We like public charter schools more every year! We'd be happy to have new public charter schools in our communities and more throughout the United States.



SCHOOL FUNDING CRISIS

The current public school funding crisis is one of the top problems facing the public schools in my community.



ECONOMIC STIMULUS MONEY

Federal stimulus money saved 300,000 education jobs in America last year? Really? I didn't know that!



TEACHER PAY

Change the single salary schedule to pay public school teachers. Quality of work — including improvements in student learning — should determine how much teachers earn.



RESPECT FOR TEACHERS

We trust teachers! If my son or daughter became a teacher, that would be fine with me — but I'm not sure about becoming a teacher myself.



PAY TO LEARN

Don't pay students to read books, attend school, or try for better grades. That's not right!

The 2010 PDK/Gallup Poll results are available at www.pdkpoll.org. *Kappan's* digital edition includes all 2010 tables.

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