

BUDGET SURVEY RESULTS ANALYSIS

The Budget Survey was available on-line for one month. The survey was intended to get an idea of the community's position on different areas in education that may be affected in the budget crisis facing Pinconning Area Schools and schools in the State. It was advertised in the Pinconning Journal, Bay City Times, Board meetings, website, and word of mouth.

Demographics

There were **378** individual responses to the survey with 90.2% completing the entire survey. The number of *respondents* represent approximately 4% of the District's population and compares to approximately 25% of the student population. 55% of the survey participants stated that they were residents of the School District. 24% were staff members, 26% were high school parents, 25% were elementary parents and 9% were middle school parents. 7% of the respondents were students. The overall results were very reflective of each of the groups.

Overall Ranking

The *main priority and focus* concluded that the top three areas of priority for our school district should be: **academics, quality facilities and quality electives.**

In the *transportation*, all categories had similar results, with over 69% of respondents supporting the elimination of **Pinconning city pickup** and over 64% saying **group rural pickup** would be supported. The **drop-off only** transportation was not supported by a majority.

Extra curricular or after school programs had a large majority supporting the **increase of pay-to-participate fees** followed by the reduction of **athletics** and the reduction of **fine arts**. The student population was the only group that supported, though not in the majority, first the reduction of fine arts before the reduction of athletics.

Non-Core Academics was the most volatile of the questions, however there were two areas that had over 60% support to eliminate, these were **volunteer programs** and **drama**. The non-core academics that received the most support were **technology, physical education, and library services.**

Building configuration was very consistent across all areas. A vast majority supported **combining 6th grade to the middle school**, as well as **closing one elementary**. Combining of **5th grade** had very low support of 35%.

New Reforms areas included the **state health care** coverage at an overall of 64.8% support. The **county wide dedicated millage** was supported 61.3% overall, with the majority of support coming from staff and students, however parents did support over 54%. **Reduced wages** came in at 57% support.

Summary

Based on survey results, it is clear that academics, quality facilities and electives are important to our residents. The survey also offers unique insight on a variety of important topics about our district.

Although we have received valuable input from the survey we must use caution and consider all factors when making decisions.

We also gathered valuable information from the comments that the respondents provided. Here are samples of the comments and suggestions we received: Ask staff to clean their own areas; having students eligible for free-reduced pay a minimal amount for pay-to-participate; employees paying a minimal amount for athletic events; look at instituting a pay-to-participate for fine arts or other extra-curricular if fundraisers do not cover; using elementary buildings or increasing pre-school opportunities; concern about the wages and number of administrators, career center busing with other districts; possibly eliminating Linwood city pick up.