

Salem-Keizer Public Schools

School Talk Summit

Combined Survey Results

October 21, 2009

1. Most parents give the Salem-Keizer School District high marks for its operation and performance.

- True
- False

	Responses
T	75%
F	25%

2. Most local residents learn about our school district by talking to one another.

- True
- False

	Responses
T	81%
F	19%

3. We give our students letter grades of A, B, C, D, and F to show how well they're doing in each class. Suppose we graded Salem-Keizer schools the same way. What letter grade would you give our local schools?

- A) A
- B) B
- C) C
- D) D
- E) F

	Responses
A	9%
B	61%
C	25%
D	4%
E	1%

4. Which source do you trust the most for accurate information about our school district?

- A) District/school employees
- B) News media
- C) District publications/Website
- D) Other citizens

	Responses
A	60%
B	6%
C	25%
D	9%

5. How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

The district makes wise decisions about educating our children.

- A) Strongly agree
- B) Somewhat agree
- C) Somewhat disagree
- D) Strongly disagree

	Responses
A	24%
B	63%
C	10%
D	3%

6. How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

The district makes wise decisions about spending money.

- A) Strongly agree
- B) Somewhat agree
- C) Somewhat disagree
- D) Strongly disagree

	Responses
A	16%
B	52%
C	25%
D	7%

7. How much of our budget is spent on salaries and other expenses directly related to classrooms?

- A) 50-60 percent
- B) 60-70 percent
- C) 70-80 percent
- D) 80-90 percent

	Responses
A	9%
B	24%
C	39%
D	28%

8. How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

The district always uses public input when it makes important decisions.

- A) Strongly agree
- B) Somewhat agree
- C) Somewhat disagree
- D) Strongly disagree

	Responses
A	15%
B	51%
C	26%
D	8%

9. How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

Our district is transparent about its problems.

- A) Strongly agree
- B) Somewhat agree
- C) Somewhat disagree
- D) Strongly disagree

	Responses
A	12%
B	48%
C	30%
D	10%

10. How strongly do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

The public is overloaded with information about schools that it does not understand.

- A) Strongly agree
- B) Somewhat agree
- C) Somewhat disagree
- D) Strongly disagree

	Responses
A	17%
B	44%
C	28%
D	11%

11. We made about \$27 million in budget cuts this year due to decreased state funding.

Based on what you know about the economy, what would you predict for next year's state funding for education as compared to this year?

- A) Increase over this year
- B) About the same
- C) Slight decrease
- D) Significant decrease

	Responses
A	7%
B	47%
C	32%
D	14%

12. If state funding decreases, we will likely make reductions in several areas. Which of these strategies should get the highest priority?

- A) Increase class size
- B) Further reduce purchases
- C) Further reduce reserves
- D) Further reduce compensation for administrators, teachers, classified staff

	Responses
A	9%
B	39%
C	47%
D	5%

13. The following were our priorities as we made budget cuts for this year.

Which one of these values is most important to you if we need to make further cuts next year?

- A) Minimize the impact on students
- B) Provide security for our employees by saving jobs as much as possible
- C) Position ourselves for future years (i.e. remain financially strong and optimize student achievement opportunities)
- D) Move forward in a way that brings us closer together

	Responses
A	54%
B	20%
C	18%
D	8%

14. In which area have you seen the most improvement in our district?

- A) Improving student achievement
- B) Effective organization to support student achievement
- C) Leadership development
- D) Public engagement

	Responses
A	27%
B	33%
C	10%
D	30%

15. In what way are you most likely to support our students?

- A) Volunteer my time
- B) Through my work
- C) Contribute financially
- D) Be an informed advocate for schools

	Responses
A	23%
B	54%
C	3%
D	20%

16. Please identify yourself under one of the following categories:

(if you are a district employee and a parent of S-K students, please choose A)

- A) District staff member
- B) Parent of student currently enrolled in our District
- C) Community member

	Responses
A	61%
B	32%
C	7%