

**WORTHINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT
CITIZEN SATISFACTION SURVEY**

10/4 – 10/7/2011

N=301, +/- 5.64%

Registered Voters

(percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding)



www.FallonResearch.com

Q. 1. Generally speaking, would you say that your community is going in the right direction, or has it gotten off onto the wrong track?

63.5% Right direction
18.3 Wrong track
2.2 Mixed/both (volunteered)
16 Unsure/no answer

Q. 2. Thinking about the Worthington School District that serves your community, would you say that it is generally going in the right direction, or has it gotten off onto the wrong track?

59.2% Right direction
20.7 Wrong track
2.5 Mixed/both (volunteered)
17.6 Unsure/no answer

Q. 3. What do you think should be the top priority for the Worthington School District to work on during the next two years?

23.2% Stay within budget/finances
12.1 Quality curriculum/education
6.3 Quality of teachers
6 Test scores/student performance
4.3 Focus on academic core subjects
2.2 Special education
2.3 Parental/community involvement
2.6 Preparation/training for post-school
2.1 Buildings/facilities
1.5 Offer more types of classes
1.2 Issue 2
1.4 Discipline of students
1.5 Gifted programs
1.6 Stable/adequate funding
1.5 Crime/safety of children
1.6 Equality among schools
6.8 Other

21.6 Unsure/no answer

Thinking more about the Worthington School District...

Q. 4. Overall, how would you rate the quality of education being provided by the Worthington School District? Would you say it is...(sequentially rotated)...excellent, good, fair, poor or very poor?

88.6% TOTAL POSITIVE RATING

45.9 Excellent

42.7 Good

3.6% Fair

1.3% TOTAL NEGATIVE RATING

.9 Poor

.4 Very poor

6.6% Unsure/no answer

Q. 5. Over the past two years, do you think that the quality of education has...(sequentially rotated)...gotten better, stayed about the same or gotten worse?

13.1% Better

56.8 About the same

12.4 Worse

17.7 Unsure/no answer

Q. 6. Generally speaking, do you approve or disapprove of the work being done by the classroom teachers who teach at Worthington School District schools? Follow-up: Would you say that you strongly approve/disapprove, or just somewhat approve/disapprove?

77.1% TOTAL APPROVE

46.3 Strongly approve

30.8 Somewhat approve

1.3% TOTAL DISAPPROVE

1.3 Somewhat disapprove

0 Strongly disapprove

21.6% Unsure/no answer

Turning to another subject...

Q. 7. Generally speaking, would you say that property taxes in your community are...(sequentially rotated)...too high, mostly pretty fair or too low?

34.6% Too high
57.9 Pretty fair
.8 Too low
6.7 Unsure/no answer

Q. 8. Based on what you know, would you say that being in the Worthington School District has helped...(rotated)...increase or decrease...(ended rotation)...property values for homes in the community, or do you think it has had no effect?

66.3% Increase
1.7 Decrease
25.1 No effect
7 Unsure/no answer

Q. 9. In your opinion, how would you rate the job the Worthington School District has done spending its money in an effective and responsible manner? Would you say it is...(sequentially rotated)...excellent, good, fair, poor or very poor?

55.5% TOTAL POSITIVE RATING

9.7 Excellent
45.8 Good

25.6% Fair

10.3% TOTAL NEGATIVE RATING

8.8 Poor
1.5 Very poor

8.5% Unsure/no answer

Q. 10. Over the past two years, do you think that the job the Worthington School District has done spending its money in an effective and responsible manner has...(sequentially rotated)...gotten better, stayed about the same or gotten worse?

12.4% Better
66.3 About the same
9.6 Worse
11.8 Unsure/no answer

Q. 11. Would you generally say that the salaries being paid to teachers by the Worthington School District are...(sequentially rotated)...too high, mostly pretty fair, too low...(ended rotation)...or, are you unsure?

10.7% Too high
41.3 Pretty fair
10.3 Too low
37.7 Unsure/no answer

Q. 12. I would like to read you two things people have said about taxes being paid for local public schools and education in your community. When I am done, please tell me which opinion comes closest to yours...(rotated)...

...(Some/other) people say that it is more important to have an excellent school system, even if taxes have to be raised to provide the best education possible...

...(Other/some) people say that it is more important to have a good school system with lower taxes, even if it does not provide the best education possible...

Which opinion comes closest to yours?

75% Excellent/even if taxes raised
16.4 Good/lower taxes
8.6 Unsure/no answer

Q. 13. Prior to this survey, were you aware that the Worthington School District has recently lost tax dollars and funding because of changes in tax laws that have reduced the amount businesses and corporations are required to pay?

52.2% Yes
46.5 No
1.3 Unsure/no answer

Q. 14. Prior to this survey, were you aware that the Worthington School District has made \$3 million dollars in spending cuts and reductions in services over the past two years?

54.7% Yes
44.5 No
.9 Unsure/no answer

Thinking more about this...

Q. 15. Do you think that over the past year, the Worthington School District has

cut...(sequentially rotated)...too much, about the right amount or too little?

15.7% Too much
48.6 Right amount
14.4 Too little
21.3 Unsure/no answer

Q. 16. Do these recent cuts and cost savings make your opinion of the Worthington School District more favorable, less favorable or does it make no difference to you?

26.2% More favorable
12 Less favorable
55.8 No difference
6 Unsure/no answer

Q. 17. As you may know, because of future state budget cuts, and inflation, the Worthington School District will be facing an operating deficit within the next couple of years.

As a result, do you think that the School District should...(rotated)...make more cuts and reductions, so they do not need any more money...or...seek approval for an operating levy; to maintain current staffing and service levels?

33% Make more cuts
52.8 Seek approval for levy
5.3 Both/combination (volunteered)
8.9 Unsure/no answer

Thinking more about finances...

Q. 18. Does the fact that the State Auditor's office gave it a 98% efficiency rating for its financial management, make your opinion of the Worthington School District more favorable, less favorable or does it make no difference to you?

52.5% More favorable
4.7 Less favorable
40.4 No difference
2.4 Unsure/no answer

Q. 19. Does the fact that there has been an on-going effort to get private donations to fund extracurricular programs and facilities, such as the renovations and improvements to the Thomas Worthington athletic field, make your opinion of the Worthington School District more favorable, less favorable or does it make no difference to you?

59.2% More favorable
8.5 Less favorable
31.7 No difference
.5 Unsure/no answer

Turning to information you get from the District...

Q. 20. How do you get most of your information about the Worthington School District? It is by...

(randomly rotated)

41.8% Reading the weekly *Suburban News* or *This Week* newspapers
10 Reading the daily *Columbus Dispatch*
10.7 Reading school and district literature and publications
11.3 Talking with parents of kids who attend the schools
11.4 Talking with teachers that work at the schools...or...
2.8 Visiting the web site
6.4 Other (volunteered)
5.7 Unsure/no answer

Q. 21. How often do you visit the Worthington School District's web site? Would you say that you visit it...(sequentially rotated)...very frequently, somewhat frequently, not very frequently, not at all or only on special occasions?

5.8% Very
9.9 Somewhat
16.3 Not very – skipped next question
49.3 Not at all – skipped next question
18.7 Only on special occasions – skipped next question
0 Unsure/no answer – skipped next question

Q. 22. How do you rate the quality and usefulness of the information on the Worthington School District's web site? Would you say it is...(sequentially rotated)...excellent, good, fair, poor or very poor?

n=47*

70.4% TOTAL POSITIVE RATING

15.9 Excellent
54.5 Good

28% Fair

1.6% TOTAL NEGATIVE RATING

1.6 Poor
0 Very poor
0% Unsure/no answer

** (caution should be taken when interpreting results with small sample sizes because of greater random variance due to a larger margin of sampling error)*

Q. 23. Do you currently use any of the social networking web sites and technology, such as Twitter, Facebook and blogs?

56% Yes
43.7 No
.3 Unsure/no answer

Finally, I have a few short questions for statistical purposes...

Q. 24. I would like to read you a list of age groups. Please stop me when I get to the one you are in.

12% 18 to 29
26.5 30 to 44
33.8 45 to 59
27.5 60 and older
0 Refused
.3 Unsure

Q. 25. Which of the following do you consider to be your ethnicity or main race? Is it...

91.4% White
2.5 African-American
1.1 Hispanic/Latino
3.3 Asian
1.4 Or, something else
0 Refused
.3 Unsure

Q. 26. Do you have any children currently enrolled in a Worthington School District public school?

29.3% Yes
70.7 No
0 Unsure/no answer

Q. 27. Do you own or rent the home that you currently live in?

82% Own
12.2 Rent
5.9 Other (volunteered)
0 Unsure/no answer

Gender:

45.9% Men
54.1 Women
