National Parents Union Survey
N=1508 parents of public school students in grades kindergarten through 12th grade
Online survey - Sample from Cint/Lucid sample exchange
Field Dates: August 29–September 2, 2024
Margin of error: ± 2.6 percentage points

<div style="background-color:#4472C4;color:white;">

QUESTIONS ABOUT SPECIFIC CHILD'S SCHOOL

</div>

IF HAS TWO OR MORE CHILDREN IN GRADES K-12 [QKidNum=2-6], INSERT:
[ParentIntroText] For the following questions, please respond regarding your [INSERT FIRST/SECOND/ETC] child in birth order from oldest to youngest, who is in <INSERT RESPONSE FOR APPROPRIATE CHILD FROM QKidGrade>.
[RANDOMIZE WHICH CHILD IS ASKED ABOUT, SPLITTING EVENLY BASED ON NUMBER OF CHILDREN. FOR EXAMPLE, FOR PARENTS OF TWO CHILDREN, ASK 50% ABOUT FIRST CHILD (IN BIRTH ORDER FROM OLDEST TO YOUNGEST) WHO ATTENDS K-12 SCHOOL, 50% ABOUT SECOND CHILD WHO ATTENDS K-12 SCHOOL. PROGRAM FOR UP TO SIX CHILDREN.]

1. **[QSupportSuccess] If your child's school were to ask what they could do to support your child's success this year, what do you think would be MOST helpful for your child? [OPEN-END - TEXT]**

2. **[QBTS - Back to School Battery] With the new school year starting, [SHOW IN SAME ORDER AS RESPONSE OPTIONS: do you feel that your child's school is doing enough to accomplish each of the following, or do you wish your child's school was doing more?] [DISPLAY AS GRID] [RANDOMIZE ITEM ORDER] [RANDOMIZE RESPONSES 1-2]**

	1. Their school is doing enough	2. Wish their school was doing more	3. Unsure
Make your child feel welcome at school	69%	28%	3%
Communicate and connect with you as a parent	59%	39%	3%
Support your child's academic needs	56%	41%	3%
Support your child's mental health needs	52%	42%	7%

3. **[QWantAttend] Does your child usually want to attend school, or not? [RANDOMIZE 1-2]**

Usually wants to attend	69%
Usually does NOT want to attend	9%
About half and half - Half the time wants to, half the time does not	21%
Unsure	*%

[IF SAYS CHILD USUALLY DOES NOT WANT TO ATTEND OR ABOUT HALF AND HALF (QWantAttend-2-3), ASK:]

4. **[QChildTalked] Has your child talked to you about why they sometimes don't want to attend school? [RANDOMIZE 1-2]**

	(n=468)
Yes, my child has talked to me about this	85%
No, my child has not talked to me about this	15%

[IF CHILD HAS TALKED TO THEM ABOUT WHY THEY DON'T WANT TO ATTEND SCHOOL (QChildTalked=1), ASK:]

5. **[QWhyDoesNotWant] What are the main reasons your child says they don't want to attend school?**
    [OPEN-END]

6. **[QSF - School Focus Battery] How important would you say it is that your child's school focuses on each of the following this school year? [DISPLAY AS GRID, 4 PER PAGE] [RANDOMIZE ITEM ORDER] [RANDOMIZE SCALE 1-4, 4-1]**

1. One of the MOST important things they should focus on	2. Important, but not one of the most important to focus on	3. Not too important to focus on	4. They should not focus on this at all	5. Unsure

	1. One of the MOST import. things	2. Import., but not one of the most import.	3. Not too import.	4. Should not focus on this at all	5. Unsure
Supporting students' academic needs	75%	20%	3%	1%	1%
Preventing and addressing bullying	73%	22%	3%	1%	1%
Ensuring the school is prepared for emergency situations	72%	23%	3%	1%	1%
Communicating with parents about how their children are doing in school	72%	23%	3%	1%	1%
Ensuring all students feel welcome at school	72%	23%	2%	2%	1%
Supporting students' mental health needs	71%	25%	2%	2%	1%
Preparing students for future careers	66%	27%	4%	2%	1%
Offering experience-based learning opportunities outside of the classroom (e.g., educational field trips)	47%	43%	7%	2%	1%
Asking parents for input on school policies, programs, and budgets	44%	43%	9%	2%	1%
Offering extracurriculars (e.g., school sports teams, band, choir, theater)	42%	47%	8%	2%	1%
Ensuring school facilities are prepared for the effects of climate change (e.g., stronger storms or extreme heat waves)	42%	40%	11%	5%	1%
Figuring out how to use AI technology to support education	27%	36%	25%	9%	3%

7. **[QActAb - Actions to Address Absenteeism Battery] Please indicate whether or not your child's school has done each of the following this school year. [DISPLAY AS GRID] [RANDOMIZE ITEM ORDER] [RANDOMIZE RESPONSES 1-2]**

	1. Yes, their school has	2. No, their school has not	3. Unsure
Communicated about the importance of daily school attendance	82%	14%	4%
Shared attendance policies regarding excused vs. unexcused absences	82%	13%	5%
Offered resources to help address challenges that might prevent students from attending school (e.g., transportation services)	63%	28%	9%
Offered resources to help you motivate your child to attend school	58%	32%	9%
Asked parents for input on how the school could improve student attendance	54%	38%	8%

8. **[QChildCell] Does your child have their own cell phone? [RANDOMIZE 1-2]**
    Yes   68%
    No   32%

[IF CHILD HAS CELL PHONE (QChildCell=1), ASK]

9. **[QTakeToSchool] Does your child take their cell phone to school with them? [RANDOMIZE 1-2]**

                                                                          (n=1018)
    Yes   76%
    No   24%

10. **[QSchoolCellPol] Which of the following best describes your child's school's policy about students using cell phones at school? [RANDOMIZE SCALE 1-3, 3-1]**
    Students are allowed to use their cell phones anytime, with no limits   4%
    Students are sometimes allowed to use their cell phones   42%
    Students are banned from using their cell phones, unless they have a
    medical condition or disability for which they need to use a cell phone   46%
    Unsure   8%

[IF SAYS STUDENTS ARE BANNED FROM USING THEIR CELL PHONES (QSchoolCellPol=3), ASK]

11. **[QBanExtent] You indicated that students at your child's school are banned from using their cell phones unless they have a medical condition or disability for which they need to use a cell phone. Is student cell phone use at your child's school . . . [RANDOMIZE 1-2]**

                                                                           (n=703)
    Banned during class and academic instruction, but allowed at certain
    times outside of class   62%
    Banned at all times, even outside of class   38%

12. **[QParentInputCell] Has your child's school asked parents for input or feedback on the school's cell phone policy? [RANDOMIZE 1-2]**

Yes	30%
No	70%

13. **[QCellPolicyView] Do you think the current cell phone policy at your child's school is [SHOW IN SAME ORDER AS RESPONSE OPTIONS: too restrictive, about right, or not restrictive enough?] [RANDOMIZE SCALE 1-3, 3-1]**

Too restrictive	12%
About right	71%
Not restrictive enough	9%
Unsure	8%

14. **[QCP - What Cell Policy Is Doing Battery] Do you think the cell phone policy at your child's school is or is not currently doing each of the following? [DISPLAY AS GRID] [RANDOMIZE ITEM ORDER] [RANDOMIZE RESPONSES 1-2]**

1. Is doing this   2. Is NOT doing this   3. Unsure

	1. Is doing this	2. Is NOT doing this	3. Unsure
Preventing cell phones from distracting students during instruction time	76%	11%	13%
Accommodating students who need to use their cell phones due to a medical condition	65%	12%	23%
Handling violations of the cell phone policy appropriately	63%	13%	23%
Giving enough consideration to reasons students may need to use their cell phone to communicate with their parents during the school day	61%	21%	18%

[IF CHILD TAKES CELL PHONE TO SCHOOL (QTakeToSchool=1), ASK]

15. **[QReasonsHavePhone] As a parent, are there specific reasons you want your child to take their cell phone to school? Select all that apply, if any. [SELECT MULTIPLE] [RANDOMIZE 1-5]**

	(n=775)
So that your child can use their phone if there is an emergency at school	78%
So that you can get in touch with your child or find out where they are when needed	58%
To coordinate transportation to and from school	48%
To communicate with you about their mental health or other needs during the day	45%
To communicate about appointments that they need to leave school for during the day (e.g., doctor's appointments)	42%
Other reason(s)	2%
No, there are not any specific reasons	3%
Unsure	1%

[TRANSITION TEXT - SHOW AT TOP OF PAGE ABOVE NEXT BATTERY: *Now, shifting to a different topic . . .* **]**

16. **[QPP - Policy Priorities Battery] How much of a priority do you think each of the following should be for policy makers in the next 12 months? [DISPLAY AS GRID, 4 PER PAGE] [RANDOMIZE ITEM ORDER] [RANDOMIZE SCALE 1-4, 4-1]**

	1. Top priority	2. Important but lower priority	3. Not too important	4. Should not be done	5. Unsure

	TOP PRIORITY/ IMP.	NOT TOO IMP./ SHOULD NOT BE DONE	1. Top priority	2. Imp. but lower priority	3. Not too important	4. Should not be done	5. Unsure
Making groceries and essential household goods more affordable	93%	5%	76%	17%	3%	1%	2%
Making health care more affordable	93%	5%	72%	21%	4%	1%	2%
Making housing more affordable	93%	5%	72%	22%	3%	2%	2%
Improving the job market for American workers	92%	6%	69%	23%	4%	1%	2%
Expanding access to mental health care	92%	6%	66%	27%	4%	1%	2%
Making college more affordable	91%	7%	65%	26%	6%	1%	2%
Increasing funding for K-12 public schools in low-income communities	90%	7%	64%	26%	5%	2%	2%
Increasing food assistance for low-income families (e.g., SNAP, WIC, free school meals)	89%	9%	61%	27%	6%	3%	2%
Supporting a wider variety of career and college pathways for public high school students to help them prepare for the future	91%	6%	59%	32%	5%	1%	2%
Holding corporations accountable for price gouging	87%	10%	59%	28%	7%	3%	3%
Expanding the Child Tax Credit to lower taxes for parents	87%	9%	57%	30%	7%	2%	3%

Expanding access to affordable preschool programs	**87%**	**10%**	54%	33%	8%	2%	3%
Expanding access to tutoring programs for public school students	**90%**	**7%**	53%	37%	6%	1%	2%
Implementing open enrollment programs that allow kids in low-income communities to attend high-quality K-12 public schools outside of their community	**87%**	**10%**	50%	37%	7%	3%	3%
Supporting public school choice policies that give parents more options about where to send their child to school	**85%**	**12%**	48%	37%	9%	3%	3%
Expanding access to programs that help people learn digital literacy and technology skills	**88%**	**10%**	47%	41%	9%	2%	2%
Expanding access to affordable broadband internet service	**83%**	**15%**	46%	37%	13%	2%	2%
Dealing with the issue of immigration	**81%**	**16%**	46%	35%	13%	3%	3%
Increasing funding for summer learning programs to allow more public school students to attend	**84%**	**13%**	44%	40%	11%	2%	3%
Dealing with abortion policy issues	**77%**	**20%**	40%	37%	15%	5%	4%
Updating community and public school infrastructure to better handle the effects of climate change and extreme weather	**79%**	**18%**	39%	40%	15%	4%	3%

17. **[QLit - Literacy Policies Battery] Would you support or oppose the government doing each of the following related to public school students' literacy? [DISPLAY AS GRID, OVER TWO PAGES] [RANDOMIZE ITEM ORDER] [RANDOMIZE SCALE 1-4, 4-1]**

1. Strongly support	2. Somewhat support	3. Somewhat oppose	4. Strongly oppose	5. Unsure

	STRONG./ SOME. SUPPORT	STRONG./ SOME. OPPOSE	1. Strongly support	2. Some. support	3. Some. oppose	4. Strongly oppose	5. Unsure
Require schools to regularly monitor students' progress in reading and provide updates to their parents	**89%**	**8%**	62%	26%	5%	3%	3%
Require more transparent, public reporting of how different public schools are doing at teaching students to read and overall assessments of progress made at each school	**88%**	**7%**	53%	35%	4%	3%	5%
Provide more funding and resources to public schools to support struggling readers	**87%**	**10%**	61%	25%	5%	5%	3%
Require schools to teach kids to read using evidence-based methods	**82%**	**10%**	50%	32%	5%	5%	8%
Set a national goal for all public school students to be able to read at grade level by the time they are in third grade, referred to as "right to read"	**83%**	**12%**	56%	27%	6%	6%	5%

Now I would like to ask you some questions for statistical purposes . . .

28. **[QBirthYear] Which range of years includes the year you were born? [TERMINATE IF MORE THAN 1 YEAR OFF RANGE INDICATED BASED ON QAGE]**

1903 – 1927	-
1928 – 1945	-
1946 – 1964	2%
1965 – 1980	39%
1981 – 1996	56%
1997 – 2012	3%

29. **[QPartyID] Do you consider yourself a…? [RANDOMIZE 1-2]**

Republican	32%
Democrat	40%
Independent	23%
Member of another party	*%
Unsure	5%

[IF REPUBLICAN (QPartyID=1), ASK]
30. **[QPartyGOP] Would you say you are…? [RANDOMIZE 1-2]**

	(n=494)
Firmly a Republican	71%
Not firmly a Republican	29%

[IF DEMOCRAT (QPartyID=2), ASK]
31. **[QPartyDem] Would you say you are…? [RANDOMIZE 1-2]**

	(n=595)
Firmly a Democrat	74%
Not firmly a Democrat	26%

[IF INDEPENDENT, MEMBER OF ANOTHER PARTY, OR UNSURE (QParty=3-5), ASK]
32. **[QPartyLeanView] Even if neither political party perfectly represents your views, who do you agree with more often on issues that are important to you? [RANDOMIZE 1-2]**

	(n=419)
Republicans	19%
Democrats	26%
Both equally often	29%
Unsure	26%

[QPartyConsolidated] QPartyID and QPartyLeanView

Total Republican+Republican-leaning Independents	38%
Total Democratic+Democratic-leaning Independents	47%
Total Independent	15%

33. **[QIdeology] Regardless of how you typically vote, would you say you consider yourself to be…? [RANDOMIZE SCALE 1-5, 5-1]**

VERY/SOMEWHAT CONSERVATIVE	28%
VERY/SOMEWHAT LIBERAL	25%
Very conservative	12%
Somewhat conservative	16%
Moderate	42%
Somewhat liberal	12%
Very liberal	12%
Unsure	5%

34. **[QEmployment] What is your current employment status?**

Employed full-time	65%
Employed part-time	9%
Freelance, contract, or temporary work	2%
Unemployed and looking for work	6%
Unemployed and not currently looking for work	2%
Stay-at-home parent or caregiver	11%
Full time student	1%
Retired	2%
Something else (Please specify)	2%
Prefer not to say	*%

35. **[QIncomeHH] Which range includes your total annual household income, before taxes?**

Less than $30,000 per year	21%
$30,000 to $49,999 per year	18%
$50,000 to $74,999 per year	22%
$75,000 to $99,999 per year	15%
$100,000 to $124,999 per year	10%
$125,000 or more per year	13%
Prefer not to say	1%

36. **[QState] In what state do you live?**

[DROPDOWN MENU WITH 50 STATES]

States in the Northeast	15%
States in the Midwest	18%
States in the South	41%
States in the West	26%

37. **[QUrbanRural] How would you describe the area in which you live? [RANDOMIZE SCALE 1-4, 4-1]**

City	36%
Suburb near a city	37%
Small town not near a city	9%
Rural or country area	18%

38. [QMarital] What is your current marital status?

Single, never married	22%
Married	50%
Living with a partner	13%
Separated	3%
Divorced	9%
Widowed	2%
Prefer not to say	*%

18. **[QAge] What is your age?**
    [OPEN-END] [TERMINATE IF UNDER 18]
    18-34   20%
    35-49   63%
    50-64   17%
    65+   *%

19. **[QIndustry] Do you or does anyone in your household work in any of the following industries? [SELECT MULTIPLE] [RANDOMIZE 1-8]**
    Technology   5%
    Sales   6%
    Healthcare   11%
    Education or early childhood development   6%
    Journalism or the media   TERMINATE   -
    Food service or the restaurant industry   9%
    Market research   TERMINATE   -
    Public relations   TERMINATE   -
    None of these   70%

20. **[QRegVote] Are you currently registered to vote? [RANDOMIZE 1-2]**
    Yes   89%
    No   11%
    Unsure   1%

21. **[QParentalScreener] Are you the parent or guardian of a child or children in any of the following groups? Select all that apply, if any. [SELECT MULTIPLE]**
    A child in preschool or younger (not yet in kindergarten)   16%
    A child in grades kindergarten through 12th grade   100%
    A child who has already completed high school   16%
    I do not have any children in those groups   TERMINATE   -
    Prefer not to say   TERMINATE   -

[IF DOES NOT HAVE A CHILD IN GRADE SCHOOL [Option 2 NOT selected on QParentalScreener], TERMINATE.]

22. **[QGender] Do you describe yourself as a man, a woman, or in some other way? [RANDOMIZE 1-2]**
    Man   45%
    Woman   55%
    Some other way   *%

23. [QRace] What is your race or ethnicity? [SELECT MULTIPLE] [RANDOMIZE 1-6]

White	62%
Black or African American	14%
Hispanic or Latino	23%
Asian	7%
Native American or Alaska Native	3%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	1%
Other race or ethnicity	1%

24. [QEducation] What is the highest level of education you have completed?

High school or less	33%
Some college	18%
Associate degree	12%
Bachelor's degree	22%
Graduate degree	15%
Prefer not to say	*%

25. [QKidNumber] How many children do you have who are <u>currently in grades kindergarten through 12th grade</u>?

0	TERMINATE	-
1		52%
2		30%
3		12%
4		4%
5		1%
6		*%
7		*%
8		*%
9		*%
10 or more		*%

26. [QHomeScreener] Where do your children who are in grades kindergarten through 12th grade live?

Full-time with me in my home		91%
Split between my home and the home of another parent or family member		9%
Not with me	TERMINATE	-

27. [QPublicScreener] What type of school do your children who are in grades kindergarten through 12th grade attend?

Public school		100%
Private school	TERMINATE	-
Homeschool	TERMINATE	-
Prefer not to say	TERMINATE	-

28. [IF HAS ONE CHILD IN K-12, ASK]: In which grade level is your child who is in grade school (K-12)?
[SHOW GRADES LIST]

[IF HAS TWO OR MORE CHILDREN IN K-12, ASK]: Please select the current grade level of each of your children who are in grade school (K-12), in order from oldest to youngest.
First Child (Oldest child in K-12) [SHOW IF QKidNumber=2-10]
Second Child [SHOW IF QKidNumber=2-10]
Third Child [SHOW IF QKidNumber=3-10]
Fourth Child [SHOW IF QKidNumber=4-10]
Fifth Child [SHOW IF QKidNumber=5-10]
Sixth Child [SHOW IF QKidNumber=6-10]
Seventh Child [SHOW IF QKidNumber=7-10]
Eighth Child [SHOW IF QKidNumber=8-10]
Ninth Child [SHOW IF QKidNumber=9-10]
Tenth Child [SHOW IF QKidNumber=10]

[SHOW GRADES LIST FOR EACH CHILD]

Kindergarten	14%
1st grade	11%
2nd grade	13%
3rd grade	13%
4th grade	14%
5th grade	15%
6th grade	14%
7th grade	11%
8th grade	13%
9th grade (Freshman)	13%
10th grade (Sophomore)	15%
11th grade (Junior)	11%
12th grade (Senior)	12%

METHODOLOGY

Echelon Insights conducted a survey on behalf of the National Parents Union to understand K-12 parents' views on current topics related to public education. This survey was fielded online from August 29–September 2, 2024 in English among a sample of 1,508 parents of public school students in grades kindergarten through 12th grade nationwide using non-probability sampling.

The sample was drawn from the Cint/Lucid sample exchange based on gender, age, race/ethnicity, and education quota targets for parents of public school students derived from the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) American Community Survey - Education Tabulation, a tabulation of 5-year data from the US Census Bureau's American Community Survey.

Measures taken to ensure data quality included measures to prevent duplicate responses, questions designed to disqualify inattentive respondents, and the removal of respondents from the data file who answered more than one-third of the questions they were asked in less than one-third of the median response time per question.

The sample was weighted to population benchmarks for parents of public school students derived from the American Community Survey - Education Tabulation on gender, age, race/ethnicity, education, and region, as well as on the following interactions derived from American Community Survey data on parents of school-age children: gender by education (college / non-college), gender by race (white / non-white), and race (white / non-white) by education (college / non-college). The sample was also weighted on gender among those who self-identified as registered voters to reflect benchmark data on voter registration among parents of school-age children from the US Census Bureau's November 2022 Current Population Survey Voting and Registration Supplement.

Calculated as it would be for a random sample and adjusted to incorporate the effect of weighting, the margin of sampling error is ± 2.6 percentage points. This estimate of precision does not account for other potential sources of error that can occur in online surveys with non-probability samples, such as non-coverage due to the survey being conducted online.