

**EPIC-MRA STATEWIDE POLL OF ACTIVE & LIKELY 2010 VOTERS**  
**[FREQUENCY REPORT OF SURVEY RESPONSES – 600 SAMPLE -- ERROR ±4%]**  
**Conducted from November 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

*Exclusive for*  
**DETROIT NEWS, WXYZ TV 7, WOOD TV 8, WILX TV 10, WJRT TV 12**

\_\_08. Overall, including all state and local funds, do you think your local public school district has too much, too little, or about the right amount of funding needed to provide a quality education? **[IF TOO LITTLE, ASK: ‘Would that be much or somewhat too little?’ AND CODE BEST RESPONSE]**

5%	Too much funding	
30%	About the right amount of funding	
24%	Somewhat too little funding	
36%	Much too little funding	<b>60% TOO LITTLE FUNDING</b>
5%	Undecided/Don’t know/Refused	

\_\_09. Thinking specifically about the pay in salary and wages that teachers currently receive, do you think teachers are paid too much, too little, or about the right amount? **[IF TOO MUCH/TOO LITTLE, ASK: “Would that be much or somewhat?” AND CODE BEST RESPONSE]**

2%	Much too much	<b>10% TOTAL TOO MUCH</b>
8%	Somewhat too much	
48%	About right	<b>48% ABOUT RIGHT</b>
22%	Somewhat too little	
13%	Much too little	<b>35% TOTAL TOO LITTLE</b>
7%	Undecided/ Don’t know/Refused	

\_\_10. Thinking specifically about the health insurance benefits teachers receive, do you think teachers receive too much, too little, or about the right amount? **[IF TOO MUCH/TOO LITTLE, ASK: “Would that be much or somewhat?” AND CODE BEST RESPONSE]**

9%	Much too much	<b>21% TOTAL TOO MUCH</b>
12%	Somewhat too much	
45%	About right	<b>45% ABOUT RIGHT</b>
4%	Somewhat too little	
5%	Much too little	<b>9% TOTAL TOO LITTLE</b>
25%	Undecided/ Don’t know/Refused	

\_\_18. Thinking about the current economic conditions in Michigan and the state budget situation, do you feel that state funding for local public schools **SHOULD BE CUT**, just as other parts of the state budget are cut, or, do you feel that state funding for education **SHOULD NOT BE CUT**?

18%	State funding for education <b>SHOULD BE CUT</b>
79%	State funding for education <b>SHOULD NOT BE CUT</b>
3%	Undecided/ Don’t know/Refused

\_\_19. Overall, based on what you know, how much do you think that the budgets for local public school districts in Michigan can continue to be cut be over the next year or so – a lot, some, only a little or not at all?

3%	A lot	
16%	Some	<b>19% TOTAL A LOT/SOME</b>
24%	Only a little	
54%	Not at all	<b>78% TOTAL A LITTLE/NOT AT ALL</b>
3%	Undecided/ Don't know/Refused	

\_\_20. How much do you think that the budget of the local public school district where you live can be cut – a lot, some, only a little, or not at all?

4%	A lot	
14%	Some	<b>18% TOTAL A LOT/SOME</b>
22%	Only a little	
57%	Not at all	<b>79% A LITTLE/NOT AT ALL</b>
3%	Undecided/ Don't know/Refused	

\_\_21. Thinking about the state and local taxes that you pay which are currently invested in funding public education, would you say that the taxes you pay to fund education are too high, too low, or about right? [IF TOO HIGH, ASK: "Would that be much or somewhat?" AND CODE BEST RESPONSE]

10%	Much too high	
13%	Somewhat too high	<b>23% TOTAL TOO HIGH</b>
60%	About right	
12%	Too low	
5%	Undecided/ Don't know/Refused	

\_\_23. Has your local public school district already had to make cuts in their local school budget because of the need to absorb state budget cuts, or, has your local public school district been able to avoid making local budget cuts?

62%	Already had to make budget cuts
19%	Has been able to avoid making budget cuts
19%	Undecided/ Don't know/Refused

\_\_24. Have budget cuts in your local public school district resulted in the layoff of teachers, the layoff of support staff such as bus drivers, custodians, secretaries and food staff workers, the layoff of both teachers and support staff, or were other budget cuts made?

5%	Teachers
10%	Support staff
30%	Both
20%	Other budget cuts
23%	Combination of all of the above ( <b>VOLUNTEERED</b> )
12%	Undecided/Don't know/Refused

\_\_25. If there is not new revenue in next year's state budget, do you think that your local public school district will have to make new budget cuts or more budget cuts because of the need to absorb state cuts, or, do you think your local public school district will be able to avoid making local budget cuts?

- 64% Will have to make budget cuts next year
- 22% Will be able to avoid making budget cuts
- 14% Undecided/ Don't know/Refused

\_\_26. Next year, do you think that budget cuts in your local public school district will require the layoff of teachers, the layoff of support staff such as bus drivers, custodians, secretaries and food staff workers, the layoff of both teachers and support staff, or, do you think that other budget cuts will be required?

- 3% Teachers
- 8% Support staff
- 37% Both
- 16% Other budget cuts required
- 26% Combination of all of the above (**VOLUNTEERED**)
- 10% Undecided/ Don't know/Refused

If cuts are needed to balance the budget for your local public school district... **[ROTATE]**

\_\_27. Should teachers be laid off, or, should the layoff of teachers be avoided?

- 17% Yes, teachers should be laid off
- 79% No, the layoff of teachers should be avoided
- 4% Undecided/ Don't know/Refused

\_\_28. Should bus service be cut and if necessary eliminated, or, should cuts in bus service be avoided?

- 29% Yes, bus service should be cut or eliminated
- 68% No, cuts in bus service should be avoided
- 3% Undecided/ Don't know/Refused

\_\_29. Should sports programs be cut and if necessary eliminated, should parents be required to pay a fee to play to reduce costs, or, should cuts in sports programs and requirements for pay to play fees be avoided?

- 8% Sports programs should be cut or eliminated
- 53% Parents should be required to pay a fee to play to reduce costs
- 32% Cuts in sports programs and pay to play requirements should be avoided
- 7% Undecided/ Don't know/Refused

\_\_30. Should programs such as music, band, art, and other extra-curricular activities be cut and if necessary eliminated, should parents be required to pay a fee for their children to participate to reduce costs, or, should cuts in sports programs and requirements for paying a fee to participate be avoided?

- 7% Music, band, art and other extra-curricular activities should be cut or eliminated
- 43% Parents should be required to pay a fee to participate to reduce costs
- 45% Cuts in music, band, art and other extra-curricular activities, and pay to participate requirements should be avoided
- 5% Undecided/ Don't know/Refused

\_\_31. If your local public school district needs to lay off teachers and increase class size to balance their school budget, what do you feel is the largest number of students that should be allowed in each class in elementary, middle or high school classes? **[IF UNDECIDED/REFUSED, CODE '99']**

**Write in largest number of students: 28.8 MEAN**

- 10% 20 or less**
- 27% 21 to 25**
- 42% 26 to 30**
- 14% 31 to 35**
- 7% 36 or more**

\_\_32. How important do you feel it is for your local public school district to protect current class size when making budget cuts to balance the local school district budget -- very important, somewhat important, only a little important or not really important at all?

- 56% Very important
- 30% Somewhat important      **86% TOTAL IMPORTANT**
- 7% Only a little important
- 5% Not really important at all      **12% TOTAL NOT IMPORTANT**
- 2% Undecided/ Don't know/Refused