

# NYC – Citywide Education Poll

Nov 11-15, 2012

N=600 Registered Voters (452 Landline / 148 Cell)

## QA-C. Cell Usage

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Cell Phone Only .....	20%
Mostly Cell .....	22%
Both Equally .....	28%
Mostly Landline .....	14%
Landline Only .....	11%
[VOL] Don't Know .....	4%

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## Q1. Are you 18 or older and a resident of New York City?

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Yes .....	100%
No .....	0%
[VOL] Refused /Don't Know /Not Sure .....	0%

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## Q5. Are you registered to vote?

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Yes .....	100%
No .....	0%
[VOL] Refused/Don't Know/Not Sure .....	0%

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## Q6. I know it's a long way off, but what are the chances you will vote in the New York City mayoral election in 2013 - will you definitely vote, probably vote, are the chances 50-50, or will you probably not vote?

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Definitely vote .....	68%
Probably vote .....	20%
50-50 chance .....	8%
Probably not .....	3%
[VOL] Refused/Don't Know/Not Sure .....	1%

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**\*Q2/3 and 7 are in the demographics section**

**\*\* Due to rounding, "totals" of the individual components may differ by +/- 1.**

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Q8. And, thinking now about issues, which of the following would you say is the most important problem facing New York City today, that is, the one that you, yourself, are most concerned about?

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The economy and jobs .....	41%
Education .....	24%
Healthcare .....	16%
Crime .....	5%
Taxes .....	8%
Transportation .....	4%
[VOL] Other .....	2%
[VOL] Don't Know / Refused .....	1%

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Q9. And, thinking about public schools in New York City, over the last few years, do you believe that there has been significant progress, modest progress, not very much progress or no progress at all in improving the quality of education in public schools in the city?

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Significant progress .....	12%
Modest progress .....	31%
Not very much progress .....	26%
No progress at all .....	16%
[VOL] Don't Know .....	17%

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Q10. Now, I want you to think about what’s important in providing a quality public education... I'm going to read you a list and I'd like you to tell me whether believe it is important or not important in providing a quality public education using a scale that runs from zero to ten.

	<u>0-4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>DK</u>
B. Having a quality teacher in every classroom	3%	2%	1%	3%	8%	9%	<b>74%</b>	1%
A. Making sure students learn the skills they need to excel after graduation	3%	3%	2%	3%	11%	8%	<b>70%</b>	1%
C. Increasing student literacy rates and math and science performance	4%	3%	3%	6%	15%	10%	<b>60%</b>	1%
D. Increasing student graduation rates	8%	5%	3%	7%	12%	7%	<b>58%</b>	3%
G. Increasing funding for our public schools	11%	5%	4%	7%	13%	8%	<b>57%</b>	1%
F. Identifying struggling teachers and providing them with the tools they need to improve	5%	3%	3%	11%	15%	9%	<b>54%</b>	2%
J. Creating more quality schools and reducing the number of failing schools	13%	8%	4%	5%	13%	8%	<b>50%</b>	5%
E. Having smaller class sizes	9%	7%	3%	9%	16%	9%	<b>49%</b>	2%
I. Providing parents with more detailed information about the level of quality of their children's schools and teachers	8%	6%	4%	11%	17%	8%	<b>48%</b>	2%
K. Rewarding the most highly effective teachers so they stay in the classroom	7%	5%	4%	8%	20%	11%	<b>46%</b>	2%
H. Putting the interests of students ahead of the interests of adults in the school system	13%	6%	5%	10%	15%	10%	<b>42%</b>	5%
L. Increasing teachers' salaries	16%	7%	4%	12%	16%	9%	<b>40%</b>	3%

Q11. To your knowledge, does New York City have a teacher evaluation system in place or does New York City NOT have a teacher evaluation system in place?

Has a system in place .....	55%
Does not have a system in place .....	14%
[VOL] Don't Know / Refused .....	31%

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[Q12 ASKED OF THOSE REpondENTS WHO ANSWERED 'HAS A SYSTEM IN PLACE' IN Q11; N= 323]

Q12. Do you think New York City's current teacher evaluation system is working well or needs improvement?

Working well .....	13%
Needs improvement .....	77%
[VOL] Don't Know / Refused .....	10%

Q13. Would you support or oppose a new teacher evaluation system based on classroom observations by principals and other teachers in addition to test scores?

Strongly support .....	56%
Somewhat support .....	24%
<b>Total support .....</b>	<b>80%</b>
Somewhat oppose .....	7%
Strongly oppose .....	5%
<b>Total oppose .....</b>	<b>11%</b>
[VOL] Don't Know / Refused .....	9%

Q14. And would you support or oppose including feedback from students as part of a new teacher evaluation in addition to classroom observation and test scores?

Strongly support .....	44%
Somewhat support .....	32%
<b>Total support .....</b>	<b>75%</b>
Somewhat oppose .....	10%
Strongly oppose .....	9%
<b>Total oppose .....</b>	<b>19%</b>
[VOL] Don't Know / Refused .....	6%

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Q15. As you may know, Governor Cuomo and the State Legislature recently created a new teacher evaluation system in which teachers are rated as highly effective, effective, developing, or ineffective. Teachers are given feedback and help if needed, but teachers who are rated as ineffective for two consecutive years can be dismissed. Sixty percent of each teacher's evaluation score will be based on subjective measures like classroom observation, with the other forty percent based on student test scores and other measures of student performance. After hearing that, do you support or oppose this new teacher evaluation system?

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Strongly support .....	43%
Somewhat support .....	31%
<b>Total support .....</b>	<b>74%</b>
Somewhat oppose .....	8%
Strongly oppose .....	9%
<b>Total oppose .....</b>	<b>17%</b>
[VOL] Don't Know .....	9%

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Q16. As you may know, if New York City puts this new teacher evaluation system in place, City schools will receive three hundred million dollars in additional funding. After hearing that, do you support or oppose this new teacher evaluation system?

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Strongly support .....	53%
Somewhat support .....	25%
<b>Total support .....</b>	<b>78%</b>
Somewhat oppose .....	7%
Strongly oppose .....	8%
<b>Total oppose .....</b>	<b>15%</b>
[VOL] Don't Know / Refused .....	7%

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Q17. The law passed by the State Legislature and Governor Cuomo does not require that every district use the new teacher evaluation system. Instead, it will only be used in New York City if both Mayor Bloomberg and the United Federation of Teachers, the New York City teachers union, reach an agreement on technical details. If the Mayor and the teachers union fail to reach an agreement by January, the new teacher evaluation system will not go into effect in New York City, and City schools will lose three hundred million dollars in state funding that is attached to the new evaluation system. Let me give you a little more information about what supporters and opponents might say about the new system and get your reaction...

Opponents say that teacher evaluation systems force teachers to focus too much on test preparation and not enough on providing students with a rich education. Opponents say it's unfair to blame teachers for challenges like poverty and broken families, and that too much testing ends up punishing the teachers who take on the hardest challenges.

Supporters say quality teachers are the most important part of a good education, and we need a meaningful evaluation system to recognize and retain excellent teachers, help teachers who are struggling, and make sure kids get quality teachers every year. A strong evaluation system is good for students, and city schools will lose three hundred million dollars in state funding without it.

After hearing that, do you support or oppose this new teacher evaluation system?

Strongly support .....	44%
Somewhat support .....	25%
<b>Total support .....</b>	<b>69%</b>
Somewhat oppose .....	10%
Strongly oppose .....	12%
<b>Total oppose .....</b>	<b>21%</b>
[VOL] Don't Know .....	9%

Q18. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: State legislators and the governor created the new teacher evaluation system, and they have a responsibility to make sure that the city implements it, so that city schools don't lose three hundred million dollars.

Agree .....	71%
Disagree .....	21%
[VOL] Don't Know .....	8%

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Q19. And which of the following is closer to your opinion?

The teachers union shouldn't jeopardize three hundred million dollars in school funding by fighting against a teacher evaluation system, even if it means that some of its members will be moved out of the classroom ..... 50%

The teachers union has an obligation to protect its members and should hold out for the best possible deal on teacher evaluations, even if it jeopardizes three hundred million dollars for city schools ..... 36%

[VOL] Don't Know ..... 14%

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## QUESTIONS FOR CLASSIFICATION PURPOSES

### Q20. Sex

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Male .....	44%
Female .....	56%

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### Q21. Age

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18-34 .....	25%
35-49 .....	27%
50-64 .....	25%
65+ .....	20%
[vol] Refused .....	3%

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### Q2-3. Race

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White .....	41%
African American .....	26%
Hispanic / Latino .....	25%
[vol] Asian .....	5%
[vol] Middle Eastern .....	1%
[vol] Native American .....	0%
[vol] Other .....	0%
[vol] Mixed Race / Multi-racial .....	1%
[vol] Don't Know / Refused .....	1%

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### Q7. Do you consider yourself a Democrat, a Republican, or an Independent?

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Democrat .....	67%
Independent / lean Democrat .....	6%
Republican .....	10%
Independent / lean Republican .....	1%
Independent .....	12%
[VOL] Other / Don't Know .....	4%

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Q22. What was the last year of education you completed?

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Less than high school .....	4%
High school graduate .....	17%
Some college .....	20%
College graduate .....	32%
Post college .....	25%
[VOL] Refused .....	2%

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Q23. Are you married, separated, divorced, widowed, or have you never been married?

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Married .....	41%
Separated/ Divorced .....	15%
Widowed .....	8%
Never married/ Single .....	33%
[VOL] Refused/ Don't Know .....	3%

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[Q24-26 ASKED OF THOSE RESPONDENTS WHO ANSWERED 'HISPANIC/LATINO' IN Q2/3; N=182]

Q24. What language do you usually speak at home? Only Spanish, more Spanish than English, both equally, more English than Spanish, or only English?

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Only Spanish .....	1%
More Spanish than English .....	18%
Both equally .....	38%
More English than Spanish .....	19%
Only English .....	20%
[VOL] Other .....	1%
[VOL] Don't Know/Refused .....	3%

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Q25. Now, I want to ask you about you and your family's heritage. Are you Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Dominican, Salvadoran, or are you and your ancestors from another country?

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Mexican .....	6%
Puerto Rican .....	44%
Cuban .....	3%
Dominican .....	20%
Salvadoran .....	2%
[VOL] Other Caribbean .....	0%
[VOL] Other Central American .....	2%
[VOL] Other South American .....	4%
[VOL] Other Hispanic/Latino .....	2%
[VOL] Other .....	9%
[VOL] Refused .....	8%

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Q26. Were both of your parents born in the United States?

Yes .....	22%
No .....	74%
[VOL] Don't Know / Refused .....	4%

Q27. Are you the parent or guardian of a school-aged child?

Yes .....	28%
No .....	68%
[VOL] Don't Know .....	1%
[VOL] Refused .....	3%

**[Q28 ASKED OF THOSE RESPONDENTS WHO ANSWERED 'YES' IN Q27; N=168]**

Q28. And, does your child or children attend New York City Public Schools, or a private, religious or parochial school?

NYC Public Schools .....	67%
Private school .....	17%
Religious / Parochial school .....	7%
No .....	8%
[VOL] Home School .....	0%
[VOL] Refused .....	1%

Q29. And, at any point in your life, did you yourself attend a New York City Public School?

Yes .....	56%
No .....	41%
[VOL] Don't Know / Refused .....	3%

Q30. Do you, or does any member of your household, belong to a labor union, teachers association, or work for the state or local government?

Yes/Labor union .....	10%
Yes/Teacher's Association .....	9%
Yes/Govt. Employee .....	8%
No, None of these .....	67%
[VOL] Don't Know / Refused .....	5%

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Q31. And, is someone in your family a teacher?

Yes .....	31%
No .....	65%
[VOL] Don't Know / Refused .....	4%

Q34. Which of the following categories best describes your total family income?

Under \$50,000 .....	26%
\$50,000-\$75,000 .....	21%
\$75,000-\$100,000 .....	12%
\$100,000-\$150,000 .....	11%
\$150,000-\$250,000 .....	6%
Over \$250,000 .....	4%
Don't Know / Refused .....	19%

Q37. Borough

Manhattan - New York County .....	24%
Bronx - Bronx County .....	15%
Brooklyn - Kings County .....	31%
Queens - Queens County .....	24%
Staten Island - Richmond County .....	6%