2012 Survey of Plano Independent School District Residents

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The report is based on 500 telephone interviews that were completed with parents and residents in the Plano Independent School District. Interviews were conducted by the University of Houston Center for Public Policy Survey Research Center between November 27 and December 10, 2012. The error rate for this sample of respondents is +/- 4.4%**.** The survey sample included two populations: a school district provided sample of households with children currently enrolled in Plano ISD schools and another random sample of households in the Plano ISD. ~~Using~~Using these two samples 75% of the survey respondents have children currently enrolled in a Plano ISD school.

This report focuses on respondents' overall evaluation of the district's performance, evaluations of specific functions (e.g., staff, administrators, and physical plant), evaluations of specific academic programs (e.g., advanced placement, special needs, and dual credit). Respondents were also asked about the value of Plano schools to the local economy and property values. The analysis includes the frequencies for key survey questions and frequencies by subpopulation of respondents e.g., parents with children in a district school.

Overall Rating

The overall rating of the district was positive, with 91% responding that the district was "excellent" or "good."

What overall rating would you give the Plano Independent School District?	
Excellent	54%
Good	37%
Fair	7%
Poor	1%
Don't Know	4%

Respondents whose children currently or previously attended a Plano ISD school were more likely to rate the district's overall performance as “excellent” (55%) than those respondents who do not have children or whose children did not attend a Plano school (46%).

Overall rating for users of Plano ISD

	Children currently or previously attend Plano (N=427)	Children did not attend Plano (N=73)
Excellent	55%	46%
Good	36%	44%
Fair	7%	4%
Poor	1%	3%
Don’t Know	1%	3%

Correlates of overall rating

- Renters are more likely to rate the district's overall performance as excellent (59%) than homeowners (53%).
- Males are more likely to rate the district's overall performance as excellent (60%) than females (47%).
- There are *no* differences in the ratings of the district's overall performance by race and/or ethnicity.

Change in the Quality of Education in Plano ISD

More than a third of respondents believe the overall quality of education in the district improved over the three years. However, it is noteworthy that 13% of respondents did not know about changes in the quality of education in the district.

Over the last three years, would you say the overall quality of public education in Plano has improved, stayed the same, or gotten worse?

Improved	36%
Stayed the same	45%
Gotten worse	7%
Don’t Know/ Refused	13%

Ratings of Educational Services

Between 86% and 92% of respondents thought the quality of educational services, the teaching staff, the school principals and administrators, the school buildings and other facilities, and safety on the school grounds and in the classroom was “excellent” or “good”.

Ratings of Educational Services

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	DK/RF
Quality of educational services	45%	44%	8%	1%	2%
Teaching staff	43%	44%	8%	1%	3%
School principals and administrators	41%	45%	7%	2%	5%
School buildings and other facilities	48%	44%	5%	1%	2%
Safety on the school grounds and in the classroom	46%	43%	6%	2%	2%

Correlates of support for teaching staff

- Recent arrivals (i.e., five or fewer years in the district) to the district are more likely to rate the district's teaching staff as excellent (49%) than those who have lives in the district for more than five years (40%).

- Anglo (46%) and Asian (50%) respondents are more likely to rate the district's teaching staff as excellent than either African-American (30%) and Hispanic (42%) respondents. Almost all respondents regardless of race and ethnicity rate the District's teaching staff as excellent or good.

Ratings of District Performance

Between 74% and 87% of respondents believe the district is doing an "excellent" or "good" job in providing educational choices for students, meeting the educational needs of an academically diverse student population, dealing with the changing ethnic, cultural and economic make-up of Plano schools and responding to the needs of the community.

Ratings of District Performance

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	DK/RF
Meeting the educational needs of an academically diverse student population	33%	54%	8%	1%	4%
Ability to prepare students for success after graduation	33%	41%	8%	2%	16%
Dealing with the changing ethnic, cultural and economic make-up of Plano Schools	31%	54%	8%	2%	5%
Providing educational choices for students	37%	50%	8%	2%	4%
Responding to the needs of the community	26%	52%	12%	3%	7%

Correlates of district performance ratings

- A non-trivial 16% of respondents did not know whether the school district prepare their students for success after graduation.
- A greater proportion of Hispanic respondents (46%) rated the district's preparation of students for success after graduation as “excellent” than any other racial or ethnic group.
- A greater proportion of Hispanic respondents (37%) rated the district's efforts to meet the community's needs as “excellent” than any other racial or ethnic group.

Evaluation of Academic Programs

Respondents generally think that Plano ISD does a good job meeting the needs of students in the advanced placement program, special needs students, standard academic program, and the dual credit programs. With the exception of the standard academic program, between a quarter and half of the respondents reported that they did not know about the advanced placement, special needs and dual credit programs.

Evaluation of academic programs

	Advanced Placement Program	Special Needs Students	Dual Credit Program	Standard Academic Program
Excellent	35%	29%	18%	37%
Good	35%	26%	24%	47%
Fair	2%	8%	2%	9%
Poor	1%	1%	1%	0%
Don't Know	27%	35%	55%	7%

Belief that Plano ISD Enhances Property Values

Respondents were asked two questions about the impact of Plano schools on the local economy and property values. About and above 80% of the respondents believed that the school district enhanced their property values and contribute to the economy of the community.

ISD contribution to local economy

	Enhance property values	Contribute to local economy
Strongly Agree	38%	22%
Agree	46%	56%
Neutral	8%	11%
Disagree	4%	4%
Strongly Disagree	1%	1%
Don't Know/ Refused	3%	5%