

Arizona Charter Schools Association Survey Results October, 2008

This report provides data from a survey, both mailed and available for completion on-line through SurveyMonkey, of 455 charter schools. We received 162 responses for a response rate of 36 percent, our highest response rate yet. The survey inquired mainly about services and programs the Association could provide to its members and member satisfaction.

General Information

73% of charter schools responding to the survey are start-up schools.

55% of charter schools responding to the survey have a waiting list for the 2008-2009 school year.

37% of charters schools responding to the survey provide transportation to their students.

The majority of charter schools responding to the survey have a general curriculum focus.

Data-Driven Decision Making

98% of charter schools responding to the survey use student data to monitor student growth.

93% of charter schools responding to the survey conduct pre- and post- assessments to tack student growth.

The majority of charter schools responding to the survey are interested in Association services related to helping them with data-driven decision making to improve student level growth.

Lunch Services for Schools

52% of charter schools responding to the survey provide lunch services for students.

80% of charter schools responding to the survey are satisfied with their lunch services provider.

82% of charter schools responding to the survey offer physical education classes at their schools.

Membership Offerings and Enhancements

Staff and Leadership Professional Development

65% of charter schools responding to the survey would be interested in having staff attend professional development offerings in the evenings.

64% of charter schools responding to the survey would be interested in having staff attend professional development meetings on Saturdays.

75% of charter schools responding to the survey would be interested in one-two day retreats for school leaders.

Membership Benefits Enhancements Interest

- Student data analysis (83%)
- Regulatory and compliance calendar (82%)
- School policy manual (77%)
- Marketing and public relations consulting (67%)
- Online discussion forums monitored by industry experts (57%)

Professional Teachers Network with Potential Offerings Interest

- Online resource library including lesson plans, website links, and leading research (93%)
- Discounted life, auto, and home owners insurance (78%)
- Job board and resume bank (78%)
- Online discussion forums (66%)
- Quarterly teacher-focused Saturday lunch and learns (65%)
- Financial services (58%)
- Pre-paid legal services (49%)

Association Sponsored Group Purchasing Program Interest

- Teacher recruitment database (73%)
- School fundraising programs (67%)
- Student assessment technology (65%)
- Information technology support services (62%)
- Parent notification/messaging system (58%)
- Website development (56%)
- Print and promotional products (56%)
- Student accident insurance programs (55%)
- School furniture (53%)
- Career and college counseling (51%)
- Playground equipment (49%)
- Food service provision (45%)
- Transportation services (44%)
- Pre-paid legal services (43%)

Satisfaction with Association

50% of charter schools responding to the survey felt that the Association website is a useful source of information.

83% of charter schools responding to the survey felt that the Association provides programs and services that meet their needs.

63% of charter schools responding to the survey overall were satisfied or very satisfied with the Association as an organization.

The findings in this report are useful in identifying general information about charter schools and in identifying ways in which the Association can continue to improve and meet the needs of our charter schools. This is the third survey sent out by the Association.