

Polling Highlights Education as Priority for City Hall

#### **Futuro San Antonio's Mission and Vision**

Futuro San Antonio is a coalition of education professionals, families, and advocates dedicated to ensuring every child in San Antonio has equitable access to high-quality public schools. By fostering innovation, collaboration, and equity, we strive to bridge gaps within the K-12 education system and expand access to transformative public school options—including both traditional public schools and public charters. We aim to create an inclusive and high-performing educational ecosystem that serves all students and families.

### **Purpose of the Poll**

In alignment with our mission, this polling initiative was designed to assess San Antonio residents' perspectives on educational quality, equity, and priorities ahead of the municipal elections in May of 2025. The survey seeks to understand public demand for enhancing and expanding access to diverse public school options, ensuring that families have the resources they need to choose the best educational pathways for their children.

#### Who Was Polled

The survey reached 564 San Antonio voters through live calls and SMS, including an oversample of 100 parents of school-age children, to amplify family perspectives. With a margin of error of ±4.13%, the results offer statistically significant insights into the community's attitudes toward public school options. Responses were weighted to reflect likely voter turnout in 2025, providing an accurate cross-section of San Antonio's electorate.

#### Why the Data Matters

Education is a top priority for San Antonio voters, with 84% emphasizing its critical importance in their voting decisions. The survey sheds light on community perspectives regarding the quality, accessibility, and safety of public schools - both traditional and public charter options. While the State and Federal government play a large role in education, local opinions of voters stress the need for local leadership. It highlights pressing disparities while identifying opportunities to strengthen collaboration and expand high-quality choices for families across the city.



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### San Antonio Expects City Leaders to Make Education a Priority

Among voters, **84**% rank public education as a top priority for city attention. Voters over 55 are even more emphatic, with 90% demanding education reforms. This indicates a powerful expectation for the city to champion improved educational outcomes.



## City Council is Urged to Play a Larger Role in Education Quality + Access

Only 15% of respondents believe the City Council is adequately supporting education. This reflects the community's demand for a more proactive role in ensuring equitable access to quality education from City Hall.



#### San Antonio Voters Demand Diverse, Accessible Public School Options

With 83% of voters supporting a variety of public school options, including strong sentiments from Hispanic families, there is clear public backing for flexible educational pathways that serve the diverse needs of San Antonio's communities.



### Widespread Concern Over Education Equity and Resource Allocation

Only 12% of voters feel that educational quality is consistent across the city. Younger voters and minority communities are especially concerned, highlighting a significant opportunity for the city to **prioritize equitable education access** and quality improvements.





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## Top Educational Concerns: High-Quality Academics, Safety, and Teacher Excellence

San Antonio residents' top priorities include improving academic quality (63%), enhancing school safety (53%), and supporting effective teachers (50%). These themes underscore the necessity of robust city support for initiatives that foster safe, high-performing schools.



## Strong Support for Localized Parental and Teacher Involvement

Voters place a high value on parental (71%) and teacher (60%) involvement in school governance. The community recognizes that effective educational outcomes are best achieved with strong local input, suggesting the city could promote initiatives that empower these stakeholders.



## High Demand for Safe Learning Environments, Particularly Among Young Families

While 64% of all respondents feel schools are safe, **younger residents and parents** are more concerned, with safety as a critical priority. These groups are calling for the city to support and enhance school safety measures.



## Consensus on the Need for Competitive Teacher Pay and Addressing Shortages

71% percent of respondents believe teacher pay should be increased, and 67% advocate for more teachers to address shortages. The community is unified in its support for city-backed measures that prioritize teacher recruitment, retention, and fair compensation.



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### **Growing Recognition of Mental Health Needs in Schools**

Mental health support is a priority for 36.9% of voters, particularly among younger generations and women. City resources to enhance school-based mental health services could provide critical support for students.



### Push for Equitable Funding and Resources to All San Antonio Schools

69% of voters, with particularly strong support from Hispanic and Black respondents, advocate for equitable funding. There is a clear mandate for city leaders to address funding disparities and improve resource allocation across districts.



### **Support for Comprehensive City Involvement**

Voters who rate K-12 education as a top priority for city attention overwhelmingly advocate for various roles for the city:

- providing equitable funding
- enhancing school safety
- ensuring access to quality teachers
- addressing district disparities

They are united in their call for the city to actively support, fund, and improve local public schools, including by partnering with diverse school options to meet San Antonio's educational needs.