

Central Bucks Community Survey
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FINAL

Thank you for taking part in this important survey. Future Research Consulting, an area market research firm, is conducting this survey to better understand the attitudes of parents and community members living within the Central Bucks School District.

The survey will take about 10 minutes to complete. The information you provide is strictly confidential.

- S1. First, what is your current age?
[Drop down box of individual ages]
Under 18- **[Terminate]**
18 to 24 – **[Skip to S2]**
25 to 34 – **[Skip to S2]**
35 to 44 – **[Skip to S2]**
45 to 54 – **[Skip to S2]**
55 to 64 – **[Skip to S2]**
65 and above – **[Skip to S2]**
Prefer not to answer

Ask S1a if S1=Prefer not to Answer

- S1a. Are you over 18 years old?
Yes
No- **[Terminate]**

- S2. What is your home zip code?
- 18901
18902
18914
18925
18929
18938
18947
18976
Other (Specify) - **[5 digit] [Terminate]**

S3. In which of the following areas do you live?

Chalfont Borough
Doylestown Borough
New Britain Borough
Buckingham Township
Doylestown Township
New Britain Township
Plumstead Township
Warrington Township
Warwick Township
Other- **[Terminate]**

S4. What is your gender?

Male
Female

S5. What is your marital status?

Married
Single, never married
Divorced or Separated
Widowed
Prefer not to answer

S6. How many children age 18 or under do you have living in your household?

0 – **[Skip to S11][Quota= Non-parent, Non District Parent]**

1
2
3
4
5+

ASK S7 IF HAVE CHILDREN IN HH (S6=1+), else skip to S11

S7. Are you a parent of any of these children?

Yes
No

Ask S8 if YES IN S7, ELSE SKIP TO S11

S8. How many children fall into each of the following age groups?

Age 5 or less	Record Exact [Range 0 – S6]
Ages 6-12	Record Exact [Range 0 – S6]
Ages 13-15	Record Exact [Range 0 – S6]
Ages 16-18	Record Exact [Range 0 – S6]
	Total must sum to QS6

S9. Which of the following types of schools do your children attend? (SELECT ALL THAT APPLY)

Public school (Central Bucks School District)
Private school – [Skip to S11]
Catholic school – [Skip to S11]
Other – [Skip to S11]

ASK S10 IF PUBLIC SCHOOL IN S9, else Skip to S11

S10. Which of the following schools does your child (children) attend in the Central Bucks School District?

Barclay ES
Bridge Valley ES
Buckingham ES
Butler ES
Cold Spring ES
Doyle ES
Gayman ES
Grovelond ES
Jamison ES
Kutz ES
Linden ES
Mill Creek ES
Pin Run ES
Titus ES
Warwick ES
Unami MS
Tohickon MS
Holicong MS
Tamanend MS
Lenape MS
CB East HS
CB South HS
CB West HS

Other
None of these

ASK ALL

S11. Are you a parent of any children age 19 or older who have graduated from the Central Bucks School District?

- Yes
- No

S12. Did you, personally, graduate from the Central Bucks School District?

- Yes
- No

MAIN SURVEY

1. Based on what you know, how would you rate the Central Bucks School District overall? Please use a scale of 1 to 10, where 1 means the district is poor and 10 means the district is excellent. You can use any number between 1 and 10.

2. Over the past 5 years, do you feel the quality of education in the Central Bucks School District has improved, fallen off, or stayed about the same?

- The quality of education has improved
- The quality of education has stayed about the same
- The quality of education has fallen off

3. Why do you say that **[INSERT Response from Q2]? (open-end)**

4. Over the next 5 years, do you expect the quality of education in the Central Bucks School District to improve, fall off, or stay about the same?

- The quality of education will improve
- The quality of education will stay about the same
- The quality of education will fall off

5. Why do you say that **[INSERT Response from Q4]? (open-end)**

6. In the past 12 months, what have you heard, if anything, about the Central Bucks School District? **(open-end)**

7. In the past 12 months, do you recall hearing about any of the following related to the Central Bucks School District?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Randomize

- Privatization of school buses
- Adjustments to middle school class schedule
- Increases in local school taxes
- Retirement of current superintendent
- Search for new superintendent
- District budget running a deficit
- District dipping into “rainy day” fund to make up deficit
- Loss of state funding for public education
- School construction projects
- Building of new stadium at Central Bucks East high school
- Declining school enrollment

IF “ADJUSTMENTS TO MIDDLE SCHOOL CLASS SCHEDULE” IN Q7, ASK

8. What have you heard about adjustments to the middle school class schedule?
(open-end)
9. In February, 2012, the Central Bucks School District announced that it would be making changes to the middle school class schedule. This change would involve a reduction in the number of classes from seven to six, and an increase in the length of “core” classes (math, science, social studies, world language) from 46 to 56 minutes. Separate computer classes will be cut entirely and other “special” classes (music, art, Family Science, Tech Education, physical education/health, PEN) will be cut in half. Have you heard about this change?

- Yes
- No
- Don’t know

10. Whether or not you have heard about this change, based on what you know, which of the following best describes your feelings?

- I strongly agree with this plan
- I somewhat agree with this plan
- I do not feel strongly either way
- I somewhat disagree with this plan
- I strongly disagree with this plan

- 10a. Why do you say that **(INSERT RESPONSE FROM Q10)? (open-end)**

IF YES IN Q9, CONTINUE. IF NO/DON’T KNOW, SKIP TO Q13.

11. How would you rate the district’s handling of the implementation of this plan to date? Please use a scale of 1 to 10, where 1 means the district has done a poor job and 10 means the district has done an excellent job. You can use any number between 1 and 10

12. Based on what you know, which of the following reasons, if any, have been put forward by the district’s leadership for this change? (SELECT ALL THAT APPLY) Which do you, personally, feel are the reasons for the change? (SELECT ALL THAT APPLY)

Randomize

	District	Personal
Reduce costs		
Improve scores on standardized tests		
Increase learning time in core areas (math, science, social studies, world language)		
Reduce stress on students		
Eliminate teaching staff		
Increase knowledge in core areas (math, science, social studies, world language)		
Educational innovation		
None of the Above	[Mutually Exclusive]	[Mutually Exclusive]

13. Which of the following do you think should happen (SELECT ONE)?

ROTATE 1-3, NO OPINION ALWAYS LAST

- The district should implement this change for the 2012-2013 school year
- The district should table the plan for at least one year and conduct further study
- The district should keep the schedule that is currently in place
- No opinion

14. Who do you think should have been involved in the decision making process to change the middle school schedule? Select all that apply.

Randomize

- School board
- Superintendent
- Assistant superintendants
- Middle school principals and administrators
- Teachers
- Parents of children in the school district
- Students
- Community members who do not have children in the district

15. How strongly do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? Please use a 10-point scale, where 10 means you strongly agree, and 1 means you strongly disagree. You can use any number between 1 and 10.

Randomize

The quality of education in district middle schools will improve as a result of the schedule change

The district will save money by implementing the schedule change

There is a direct relationship between the quality of education and the property values of homes in the district

I would be willing to pay increased school taxes in order to maintain the current level of education provided by the district

The district's leaders (superintendents, board members) do not need to consult with others (teachers, parents, students, other community members) when making changes to school schedules, curriculum, building construction, etc.

The school board does a good job of representing the views of the community

The district's administration (superintendent and assistant superintendents) acts in the best interests of students

The district's leadership is open to ideas presented by members of the community

16. The current superintendent, Dr. Robert Laws, will be retiring in June, 2012. A nationwide search is underway for his replacement, which is expected to be in the position by Fall, 2012. Which of the following do you think would be best for the district? (SELECT ONLY ONE)

ROTATE 1-2, NO OPINION ALWAYS LAST

Promote an administrator who already works for the district

Hire an administrator from outside the district

No opinion

ASKI IF 1-2 IN Q16, ELSE SKIP TO Q18

17. Why do you say that the district should (INSERT RESPONSE FROM Q16)? (open-end)
18. How would you describe your level of confidence in the district's leadership (school board, superintendent) to make sound decisions with regard to the direction of the school district? Please use a scale of 1 to 10, where 1 means you have no confidence and 10 means you have complete confidence.
19. Are there any other comments you would like to make regarding the Central Bucks School District? If not, you may also skip to the next question. (open-end)[Not required]

To finish the survey, please answer a few questions about yourself.

20. About how many Central Bucks School Board meetings have you attended in:

ENTER NUMBER

	Regular Meeting	Committee Meeting
2012	Record Exact [Range 0 – 7]	Record Exact [Range 0 – 7]
2011	Record Exact [Range 0 – 21]	Record Exact [Range 0 – 21]
2010 or earlier	Record Exact [Range 0 – 99]	Record Exact [Range 0 – 99]

21a. Do you know when and where regular school board meetings are held?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

21. In the future, how likely are you to attend Central Bucks School Board meetings?

- Very likely
- Somewhat likely
- Not at all likely

22. What is the highest level of education you have completed? Select one response only.

- Less than high school
- High School
- A degree or certificate from a technical or vocational school
- Some college (including 2 years or an Associate's degree)
- An Undergraduate degree (4 years)
- Some graduate studies
- Master's degree
- Ph.D.
- Prefer not to answer

23. What is your household's annual income?
- Under \$10,000
 - \$10,000-\$19,999
 - \$20,000-\$29,999
 - \$30,000-\$39,999
 - \$40,000-\$49,999
 - \$50,000-\$74,999
 - \$75,000-\$99,999
 - \$100,000-\$149,999
 - \$150,000-\$199,999
 - Over \$200,000
 - Don't know
 - Prefer not to answer
24. Would you like to join the mailing list for Future Research Consulting? If you do, you may receive period surveys on matters of local interest. If yes, please enter your email address here. Note that you may unsubscribe from the list at any time.
[Question not required]

FINAL SCREEN

Thank you for taking time to complete this important survey!