

McLAUGHLIN & ASSOCIATES
NEW YORK STATEWIDE
MARCH 11, 2012

1. ARE YOU OR IS SOMEONE IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD CURRENTLY A TEACHER AT A PUBLIC SCHOOL IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK?

Total	500
YES, I AM	100.0

2. ARE YOU CURRENTLY A TEACHER AT A PUBLIC SCHOOL IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK?

Total	500
YES, I AM	100.0

3. NOW, I AM GOING TO READ YOU A LIST OF NAMES. WILL YOU PLEASE TELL ME IF YOU HAVE A FAVORABLE OR UNFAVORABLE OPINION OF EACH PERSON OR ORGANIZATION? IF YOU HAVE NO OPINION OR HAVE NEVER HEARD OF THE PERSON OR ORGANIZATION, JUST SAY SO.

"ANDREW CUOMO"

(Net Difference = FAVORABLE-UNFAVORABLE)

Total	500
FAVORABLE	31.6
VERY	6.8
SOMEWHAT	24.8
UNFAVORABLE	51.6
SOMEWHAT	21.8
VERY	29.8
NO OPINION	16.4
NEVER HEARD OF	0.4
Net Difference	-20.0

4. NOW, I AM GOING TO READ YOU A LIST OF NAMES. WILL YOU PLEASE TELL ME IF YOU HAVE A FAVORABLE OR UNFAVORABLE OPINION OF EACH PERSON OR ORGANIZATION? IF YOU HAVE NO OPINION OR HAVE NEVER HEARD OF THE PERSON OR ORGANIZATION, JUST SAY SO.

"MICHAEL BLOOMBERG"

(Net Difference = FAVORABLE-UNFAVORABLE)

Total	500
FAVORABLE	24.6
VERY	4.8
SOMEWHAT	19.8
UNFAVORABLE	50.2
SOMEWHAT	18.4
VERY	31.8
NO OPINION	24.8
NEVER HEARD OF	0.4
Net Difference	-25.6

5. NOW, I AM GOING TO READ YOU A LIST OF NAMES. WILL YOU PLEASE TELL ME IF YOU HAVE A FAVORABLE OR UNFAVORABLE OPINION OF EACH PERSON OR ORGANIZATION? IF YOU HAVE NO OPINION OR HAVE NEVER HEARD OF THE PERSON OR ORGANIZATION, JUST SAY SO.

"NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION"

(Net Difference = FAVORABLE-UNFAVORABLE)

Total	500
FAVORABLE	73.0
VERY	37.6
SOMEWHAT	35.4
UNFAVORABLE	5.6
SOMEWHAT	4.8
VERY	0.8
NO OPINION	14.2
NEVER HEARD OF	7.2
Net Difference	67.4

6. NOW, I AM GOING TO READ YOU A LIST OF NAMES. WILL YOU PLEASE TELL ME IF YOU HAVE A FAVORABLE OR UNFAVORABLE OPINION OF EACH PERSON OR ORGANIZATION? IF YOU HAVE NO OPINION OR HAVE NEVER HEARD OF THE PERSON OR ORGANIZATION, JUST SAY SO.

"NEW YORK STATE UNITED TEACHERS"

(Net Difference = FAVORABLE-UNFAVORABLE)

Total	500
FAVORABLE	80.2
VERY	50.0
SOMEWHAT	30.2
UNFAVORABLE	5.0
SOMEWHAT	3.6
VERY	1.4
NO OPINION	8.8
NEVER HEARD OF	6.0
Net Difference	75.2

7. NOW, I AM GOING TO READ YOU A LIST OF NAMES. WILL YOU PLEASE TELL ME IF YOU HAVE A FAVORABLE OR UNFAVORABLE OPINION OF EACH PERSON OR ORGANIZATION? IF YOU HAVE NO OPINION OR HAVE NEVER HEARD OF THE PERSON OR ORGANIZATION, JUST SAY SO.

"UNITED FEDERATION OF TEACHERS"

(Net Difference = FAVORABLE-UNFAVORABLE)

Total	500
FAVORABLE	83.6
VERY	55.2
SOMEWHAT	28.4
UNFAVORABLE	6.2
SOMEWHAT	5.2
VERY	1.0
NO OPINION	8.8
NEVER HEARD OF	1.4
Net Difference	77.4

8. IN YOUR OPINION WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE FACING NEW YORK'S PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS TODAY?

Total	500
FUNDS/BUDGET/RESOURCES	22.8
NEW EVALUATIONS	16.2
CLASS SIZE	8.0
LACK OF RESPECT/SUPPORT	7.8
STANDARDIZED TESTING	5.6
THE STUDENTS	5.2
PARENTAL INVOLVMENT	5.0
POLITICIANS	4.8
TEACHERS/QUALITY	3.6
RETIRMENT/PENSION	3.0
OVERWHELMING PAPERWORK	2.0
APPR	1.6
UNREALISTIC EXPECTATIONS	1.6
COMMON CURRICULUM	1.4
TEACHERS UNION	1.4
TENURE	1.4
JOB SECURITY	1.4
ADMIN.	1.2
LOW SALARIES	1.0
GAP LIMITATION PROGRAMS	1.0
MORE DISCIPLINE	0.8
CLOSING SCHOOLS	0.8
MORE SAFETY	0.6
OVERPAID	0.4
DECLINED ENROLLMENT	0.2
INNER CITY CULTURE	0.2
DON'T KNOW	1.0

9. AS A PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHER, WHICH ONE OF THE FOLLOWING ISSUES IS THE MOST IMPORTANT TO YOU?

Total	500
CLASS SIZE	30.0
WORKING CONDITIONS	21.8
STANDARD EVALUATION	19.2
PENSION	9.4
HEALTH CARE BENEFITS	7.2
SALARY	4.6
TENURE	4.4
VACATION DAYS	0.2
DK/REFUSED	3.2

10. HOW MUCH ATTENTION HAVE YOU BEEN PAYING TO THE ISSUES AND NEWS ABOUT THE PENSION FUND FOR NEW YORK'S PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS? WOULD YOU SAY...

Total	500
PAY ATTENTION	80.8
PAY MOST ATTENTION	50.0
A GREAT DEAL	22.0
QUITE A BIT	28.0
SOME	30.8
VERY LITTLE	16.4
NONE	2.8
DK/REFUSED	-

11. HOW FAMILIAR ARE YOU WITH THE WAY A NEW YORK PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHER'S DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN WORKS?
(Net Difference = FAMILIAR-UNFAMILIAR)

Total	500
FAMILIAR	84.2
VERY	26.2
SOMEWHAT	58.0
UNFAMILIAR	15.6
NOT REALLY	12.4
NOT AT ALL	3.2
DK/REFUSED	0.2
Net Difference	68.6

12. NOW, THINKING ABOUT OTHER RETIREMENT PLANS, HOW FAMILIAR ARE YOU WITH THE WAY A DEFINED CONTRIBUTION RETIREMENT PLAN WORKS?
(Net Difference = FAMILIAR-UNFAMILIAR)

Total	500
FAMILIAR	58.6
VERY	18.2
SOMEWHAT	40.4
UNFAMILIAR	41.0
NOT REALLY	25.2
NOT AT ALL	15.8
DK/REFUSED	0.4
Net Difference	17.6

13. NOW I'M GOING TO TALK ABOUT A DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN. IN A DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN, THE EMPLOYER PROMISES A SPECIFIED MONTHLY BENEFIT ON RETIREMENT THAT IS PREDETERMINED BY A FORMULA BASED ON THE EMPLOYEE'S EARNINGS HISTORY, TENURE OF SERVICE AND AGE. EMPLOYEES TYPICALLY ARE NOT FULLY "VESTED" IN THEIR PLAN AND OWN FULL BENEFITS UNTIL THEY HAVE WORKED FOR 10-YEARS. PUBLIC EMPLOYEES CAN'T STAY IN THE PENSION SYSTEM IF THEY MOVE TO ANOTHER STATE OR TAKE A PRIVATE SECTOR JOB. IN GENERAL, DO YOU THINK A DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN IS A GOOD OR BAD RETIREMENT PLAN?
(Net Difference = GOOD-BAD)

Total	500
GOOD	68.2
VERY	28.8
SOMEWHAT	39.4
BAD	21.0
SOMEWHAT	12.4
VERY	8.6
DK/REFUSED	10.8
Net Difference	47.2

14. NOW, I'M GOING TO SWITCH AND TALK ABOUT A DEFINED CONTRIBUTION RETIREMENT PLAN. IN A DEFINED CONTRIBUTION RETIREMENT PLAN, EMPLOYEES CONTRIBUTE A PREDETERMINED PORTION OF THEIR SALARY BEFORE TAXES TO AN INDIVIDUAL RETIREMENT ACCOUNT. THE EMPLOYERS ALSO CONTRIBUTE A PREDETERMINED PERCENTAGE TO THE EMPLOYEES' INDIVIDUAL RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS. EMPLOYEES CAN BE FULLY "VESTED" IN THEIR PLAN AND OWN THEIR ENTIRE ACCOUNT AFTER JUST ONE YEAR ON THE JOB. THE INDIVIDUAL EMPLOYEE CONTROLS HOW THE MONEY IN THEIR ACCOUNT IS INVESTED AND THE ACCOUNT IS PORTABLE SO THEY CAN TAKE IT WITH THEM TO OTHER JOBS. RETIREMENT BENEFITS IN A DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PLAN ULTIMATELY DEPEND ON HOW MUCH IS SAVED IN AN EMPLOYEE'S PLAN AND ON HOW MUCH THEIR INVESTMENTS HAVE EARNED. IN GENERAL, DO YOU THINK A DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PLAN IS A GOOD OR BAD RETIREMENT PLAN?

Total	500
GOOD	63.2
VERY	25.4
SOMEWHAT	37.8
BAD	28.6
SOMEWHAT	17.4
VERY	11.2
DK/REFUSED	8.2
Net Difference	34.6

15. BASED ON WHAT YOU HAVE SEEN, READ OR HEARD, WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING BEST DESCRIBES THE CURRENT SITUATION WITH NEW YORK'S PENSION FUNDS?

Total	500
PROBLEM	68.8
IN CRISIS	11.8
FACING PROBLEMS	57.0
FINE AS IS	25.6
DK/REFUSED	5.6

16. PLEASE TELL ME WHETHER YOU AGREE OR DISAGREE WITH THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT? "NEW YORK'S CURRENT DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION SYSTEM FOR GOVERNMENT WORKERS AND TEACHERS IS SUSTAINABLE OVER THE LONG-TERM."
(Net Difference = AGREE-DISAGREE)

Total	500
AGREE	66.4
STRONGLY	29.0
SOMEWHAT	37.4
DISAGREE	26.6
SOMEWHAT	18.2
STRONGLY	8.4
DK/REFUSED	7.0
Net Difference	39.8

17. WOULD YOU SUPPORT OR OPPOSE REQUIRING GREATER TRANSPARENCY IN NEW YORK'S PENSION ACCOUNTING SO THE PUBLIC CAN EASILY FIND AND SEE THE COSTS OF PENSION BENEFITS?
(Net Difference = SUPPORT-OPPOSE)

Total	500
SUPPORT	60.0
STRONGLY	25.0
SOMEWHAT	35.0
OPPOSE	33.6
SOMEWHAT	17.6
STRONGLY	16.0
DK/REFUSED	6.4
Net Difference	26.4

18. THINKING ABOUT NEW YORK'S PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHER PENSION SYSTEM, WOULD YOU SUPPORT OR OPPOSE EACH OF THE FOLLOWING PROPOSALS THAT WOULD ONLY APPLY TO FUTURE TEACHERS, NOT CURRENT TEACHERS?
"GIVING FUTURE PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS THE CHOICE OF HAVING EITHER A DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN OR A DEFINED CONTRIBUTION RETIREMENT PLAN."
(Net Difference = SUPPORT-OPPOSE)

Total	500
SUPPORT	71.0
STRONGLY	34.6
SOMEWHAT	36.4
OPPOSE	23.0
SOMEWHAT	9.0
STRONGLY	14.0
DK/REFUSED	6.0
Net Difference	48.0

19. THINKING ABOUT NEW YORK'S PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHER PENSION SYSTEM, WOULD YOU SUPPORT OR OPPOSE EACH OF THE FOLLOWING PROPOSALS THAT WOULD ONLY APPLY TO FUTURE TEACHERS, NOT CURRENT TEACHERS?

"REQUIRING ALL FUTURE PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS TO JOIN A DEFINED CONTRIBUTION RETIREMENT PLAN."

(Net Difference = SUPPORT-OPPOSE)

Total	500
SUPPORT	41.2
STRONGLY	14.4
SOMEWHAT	26.8
OPPOSE	50.8
SOMEWHAT	19.6
STRONGLY	31.2
DK/REFUSED	8.0
Net Difference	-9.6

20. THINKING ABOUT NEW YORK'S PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHER PENSION SYSTEM, WOULD YOU SUPPORT OR OPPOSE EACH OF THE FOLLOWING PROPOSALS THAT WOULD ONLY APPLY TO FUTURE TEACHERS, NOT CURRENT TEACHERS?

"RAISING THE AMOUNT FUTURE TEACHERS HAVE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THEIR PENSION PLAN."

(Net Difference = SUPPORT-OPPOSE)

Total	500
SUPPORT	42.2
STRONGLY	12.2
SOMEWHAT	30.0
OPPOSE	52.4
SOMEWHAT	26.0
STRONGLY	26.4
DK/REFUSED	5.4
Net Difference	-10.2

21. THINKING ABOUT NEW YORK'S PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHER PENSION SYSTEM, WOULD YOU SUPPORT OR OPPOSE EACH OF THE FOLLOWING PROPOSALS THAT WOULD ONLY APPLY TO FUTURE TEACHERS, NOT CURRENT TEACHERS?

"INCREASING THE RETIREMENT AGE FOR FUTURE TEACHERS TO RECEIVE PENSION BENEFITS."

(Net Difference = SUPPORT-OPPOSE)

Total	500
SUPPORT	20.0
STRONGLY	4.2
SOMEWHAT	15.8
OPPOSE	77.6
SOMEWHAT	14.8
STRONGLY	62.8
DK/REFUSED	2.4
Net Difference	-57.6

22. THINKING ABOUT NEW YORK'S PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHER PENSION SYSTEM, WOULD YOU SUPPORT OR OPPOSE EACH OF THE FOLLOWING PROPOSALS THAT WOULD ONLY APPLY TO FUTURE TEACHERS, NOT CURRENT TEACHERS?
 "INCREASING THE VESTING PERIOD FOR FUTURE TEACHERS, WHICH IS THE NUMBER OF YEARS A TEACHER HAS TO WORK BEFORE THEY HAVE A RIGHT TO THE FULL AMOUNT IN THEIR PENSION."
 (Net Difference = SUPPORT-OPPOSE)

Total	500
SUPPORT	31.8
STRONGLY	9.8
SOMEWHAT	22.0
OPPOSE	63.4
SOMEWHAT	17.0
STRONGLY	46.4
DK/REFUSED	4.8
Net Difference	-31.6

23. THINKING ABOUT NEW YORK'S PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHER PENSION SYSTEM, WOULD YOU SUPPORT OR OPPOSE EACH OF THE FOLLOWING PROPOSALS THAT WOULD ONLY APPLY TO FUTURE TEACHERS, NOT CURRENT TEACHERS?
 "CREATING A HYBRID RETIREMENT PLAN FOR FUTURE TEACHERS THAT COMBINES A DEFINED BENEFIT AND DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PLAN TOGETHER. THE DEFINED BENEFIT PORTION WOULD GIVE TEACHERS A SMALLER GUARANTEED PENSION BENEFIT THAN THEY RECEIVE NOW BUT TEACHERS WOULD ALSO HAVE A DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PLAN THAT THEY CONTRIBUTE TO AND THE GOVERNMENT ALSO CONTRIBUTES A CERTAIN PERCENTAGE. IN THE DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PLAN'S ACCOUNT THE INDIVIDUAL GETS TO CONTROL HOW THEIR MONEY IS INVESTED AND THE

Total	500
SUPPORT	57.2
STRONGLY	16.2
SOMEWHAT	41.0
OPPOSE	36.4
SOMEWHAT	16.2
STRONGLY	20.2
DK/REFUSED	6.4
Net Difference	20.8

24. IF YOU WERE GIVEN THE OPTION OF CHOOSING A DEFINED CONTRIBUTION RETIREMENT PLAN WHEN YOU WERE HIRED AS A PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHER, WOULD YOU HAVE...

Total	500
CHOSE IT	26.4
DEFINITELY	12.6
PROBABLY	13.8
CONSIDERED IT	43.6
PROBABLY	12.2
DEFINITELY	14.2
NOT HAVE CHOSE IT	26.4
DK/REFUSED	3.6

25. CURRENTLY EMPLOYEES OF THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK ARE OFFERED THE OPTION OF CHOOSING A DEFINED CONTRIBUTION RETIREMENT PLAN. OVER THE YEARS, THOUSANDS OF SUNY EMPLOYEES HAVE RETIRED UNDER THIS PLAN. OVER 70% OF SUNY EMPLOYEES AND FACULTY VOLUNTARILY CHOOSE A DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PLAN. THEY HAVE THE BENEFIT OF A PLAN THAT OFFERS FULL PORTABILITY, A RANGE OF PROFESSIONALLY MANAGED INVESTMENT CHOICES, AND FULL VESTING AFTER JUST ONE YEAR. KNOWING THIS, IF PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS HAD BEEN GIVEN THE OPTION OF CHOOSING A DEFINED CONTRIBUTION RETIREMENT PLAN LIKE THE SUNY EMPLOYEES, WOULD YOU HAVE...

Total	500
CHOSE IT	28.4
DEFINITELY	11.2
PROBABLY	17.2
CONSIDERED IT	48.2
PROBABLY	10.4
DEFINITELY	10.2
NOT HAVE CHOSE IT	20.6
DK/REFUSED	2.8

26. REGARDLESS OF THE TYPE OF RETIREMENT PLAN YOU PREFER, WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT A DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PLAN, LIKE THE ONE OFFERED TO SUNY EMPLOYEES?

Total	500
FULL PORTABILITY	47.2
CONTROL OVER INVESTMENTS	24.0
FULL VESTING/ONE YEAR	21.2
DK/REFUSED	7.6

27. IF YOU WERE TO LABEL YOURSELF, WOULD YOU SAY YOU ARE A LIBERAL, A MODERATE, OR A CONSERVATIVE IN YOUR POLITICAL BELIEFS?

Total	500
LIBERAL	30.0
VERY	11.8
SOMEWHAT	18.2
MODERATE	42.8
SOMEWHAT	16.2
VERY	6.4
CONSERVATIVE	22.6
DK/REFUSED	4.6

28. WITH WHICH POLITICAL PARTY ARE YOU REGISTERED?

Total	500
REPUBLICAN	23.2
DEMOCRAT	48.8
CONSERVATIVE	0.2
WORKING FAMILIES	0.8
INDEPENDENCE	9.2
OTHER	0.6
UNAFFILIATED	12.6
DK/REFUSED	4.6

29. THINKING ABOUT FISCAL ISSUES LIKE SPENDING AND TAXES, WOULD YOU SAY YOU ARE FISCALLY LIBERAL, MODERATE, OR CONSERVATIVE?

Total	500
LIBERAL	16.0
VERY	4.6
SOMEWHAT	11.4
MODERATE	51.4
SOMEWHAT	19.4
VERY	9.8
CONSERVATIVE	29.2
DK/REFUSED	3.4

30. THINKING ABOUT SOCIAL ISSUES LIKE ABORTION AND MARRIAGE, WOULD YOU SAY YOU ARE SOCIALLY LIBERAL, MODERATE, OR CONSERVATIVE?

Total	500
LIBERAL	47.4
VERY	29.8
SOMEWHAT	17.6
MODERATE	24.6
SOMEWHAT	13.4
VERY	12.0
CONSERVATIVE	25.4
DK/REFUSED	2.6

31. HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN A PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHER IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK?

Total	500
LESS THAN 10 YRS	24.6
LESS THAN 5	4.2
5-9 YEARS	20.4
OVER 10 YRS	74.8
10-14 YEARS	28.4
15-19 YEARS	20.6
MORE THAN 20 YRS	25.8
DK/REFUSED	0.6

32. ARE YOU A FULL-TIME, PART-TIME OR SUBSTITUTE TEACHER?

Total	500
FULL-TIME	97.2
PART-TIME	1.2
SUBSTITUTE	0.8
DK/REFUSED	0.8

33. WHAT IS YOUR CURRENT MARITAL STATUS? ARE YOU ...

Total	500
SINGLE, NEVER MARRIED	15.8
MARRIED	73.6
SEPARATED	1.2
DIVORCED	5.4
WIDOWED	1.6
DK/REFUSED	2.4

34. WHAT IS YOUR ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME - IS IT UNDER \$20,000; BETWEEN \$20,001 & \$40,000; BETWEEN \$40,001 & \$60,000; BETWEEN \$60,001 & \$100,000; OR OVER \$100,000?

Total	500
UNDER \$20k	-
\$20k-\$40k	0.8
\$40-\$60k	11.4
\$60-\$100k	38.4
OVER \$100k	40.0
DK/REFUSED	9.4

35. ARE YOU OR IS A MEMBER OF YOUR HOUSEHOLD FROM A HISPANIC, LATINO OR SPANISH-SPEAKING BACKGROUND?

Total	500
YES	10.6
NO	87.2
DK/REFUSED	2.2

36. WHAT IS YOUR RACE?

Total	500
HISPANIC	10.6
ASIAN	9.6
AFRICAN-AMER.	1.6
WHITE	70.8
OTHER	4.0
REFUSED	3.4

37. WHAT IS YOUR AGE? ARE YOU BETWEEN...

Total	500
18-29	3.8
30-40	30.0
41-55	45.0
56-65	17.2
OVER 65	1.6
REFUSED	2.4
Mean	45.65

38. GENDER:

Total	500
MALE	25.0
FEMALE	75.0

39. AREA:

Total	500
NEW YORK CITY	29.8
BRONX COUNTY	4.4
KINGS COUNTY	8.8
NEW YORK COUNTY	3.2
QUEENS COUNTY	10.6
RICHMOND COUNTY	2.8
LONG ISLAND	16.6
NASSAU COUNTY	8.6
SUFFOLK COUNTY	8.0
MID-HUDSON REGION	12.8
ROCKLAND/WESTCHESTER	6.6
REST OF MID-HUDSON REGION	6.2
CAPITAL/NORTH	8.8
CAPITAL REGION	5.8
NORTH COUNTY REGION	3.0
WESTERN NEW YORK	32.0
SOUTHERN TIER REGION	6.0
MOHAWK VALLEY REGION	3.0
CENTRAL NEW YORK REGIONS	5.2
FINGER LAKES REGION	7.8
WESTERN NEW YORK REGION	10.0

41. AREA:

Total	500
DOWNSTATE	53.0
UPSTATE	47.0

42. AREA:

Total	500
NEW YORK CITY	29.8
NEW YORK CITY SUBURBS	23.2
REST OF STATE	47.0

43. MEDIA MARKET:

Total	500
ALBANY/SCHENECTADY/TROY	6.6
BUFFALO	10.4
NEW YORK CITY	59.2
BINGHAMTON	1.6
SYRACUSE	5.8
ELMIRA	2.8
BURLINGTON/PLATTSBURGH	1.0
UTICA	3.4
WATERTOWN	2.0
ROCHESTER	7.2