

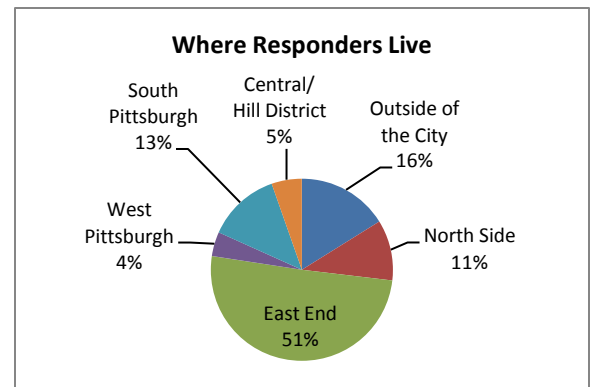
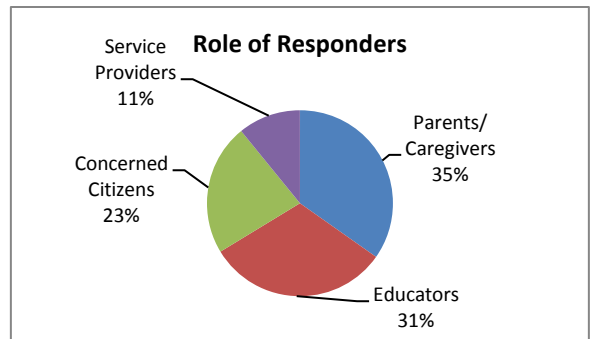
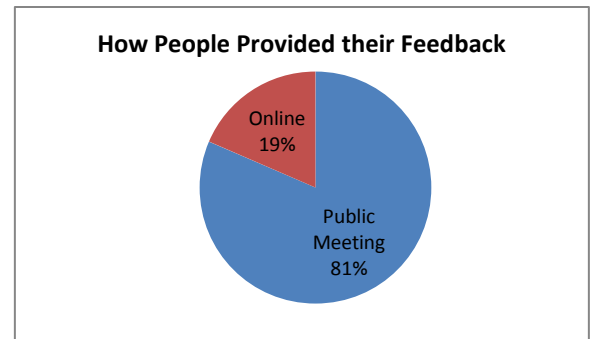
## Community Budget Priorities for Pittsburgh Public Schools

### Introduction

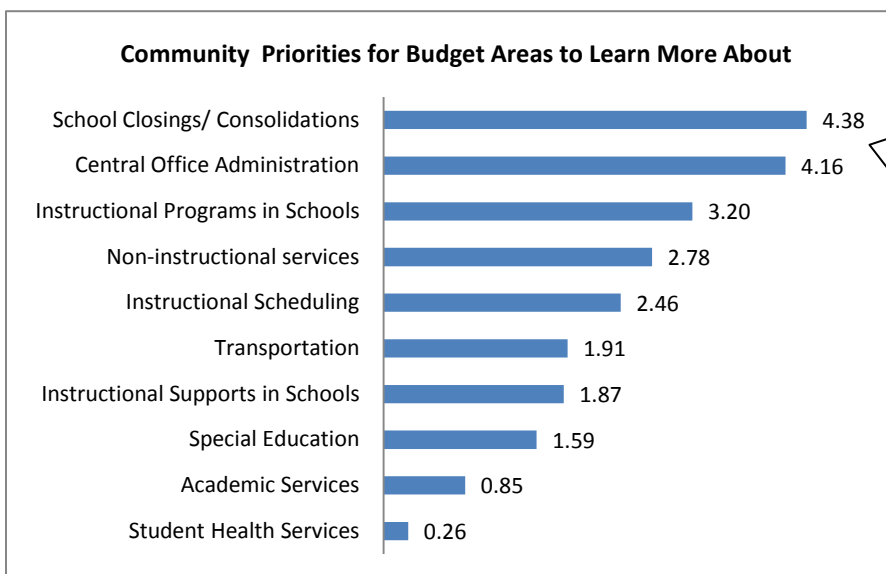
As almost every other school district in Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh Public Schools will be receiving a reduction in state funds over the next few years. Changes will have to be made in order to establish financial stability while still building a strong school system that effectively serves students. A+ Schools believes that the public has an important responsibility to understand what's happening and provide input into these very important budget decisions.

On May 19<sup>th</sup>, A+ Schools hosted a community meeting where Dr. Lane presented the district's challenge and community members were able to learn about the budget and weigh in. Through attending a public meeting or watching a video posted online and responding to a survey, 102 people heard Dr. Lane's presentation and voiced their priorities for what they would like to know more about, what they felt could be cut or changed and what they felt should be preserved. The charts to the right describe the way in which people voiced their priorities, their role in the community and where they lived.

The charts below and on the next page describe the priorities of those that responded. The number in the chart reflects priority of that item according to those that responded. A priority rank of 5 or more tells us that at least half of the people who were surveyed felt that specific item was one of their top 3 choices.



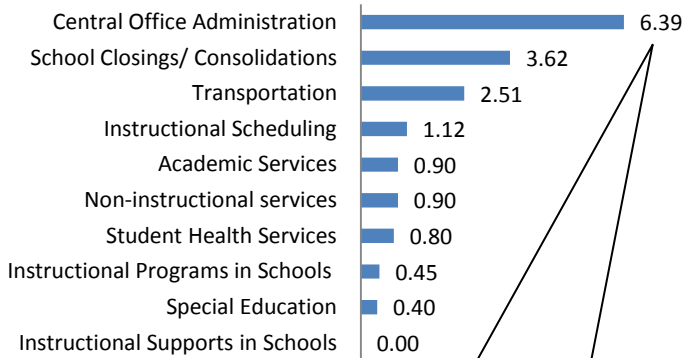
### Community Priorities



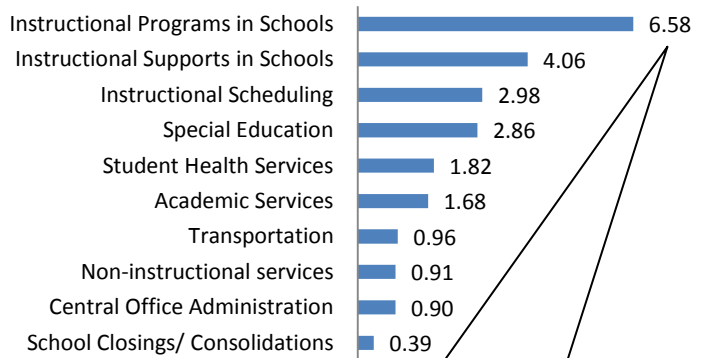
**What does this mean?**

A priority rank of 5 or higher would have told us that at least half of the room chose that area as one of their top 3 choices. Numbers lower than 5 tell us that the community would like more information on a variety of topics, with the most people prioritizing learning more about the costs related to school closings and central office.

**Community Priorities for Budget Areas to Cut, Change or Consolidate**



**Community Priorities for Budget Areas to Remain Unchanged**



**What does this mean?**

At least half the responders felt as though making budget changes related to central office should be a top priority.

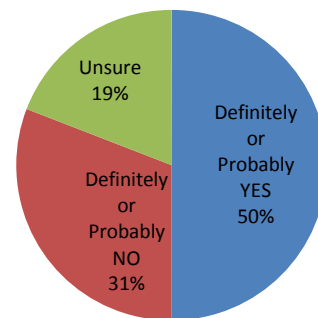
**What does this mean?**

At least half the responders felt as though they would be least likely to support making changes to instructional programs in schools.

**What does this mean?**

Increasing taxes to fill the budget gap may be supported, but not by an overwhelming majority of Pittsburgh residents.

**Would you support a tax increase?**  
(Responses below are from Pittsburgh residents only)



**Next Steps**

The May 19<sup>th</sup> community meeting and follow-up online survey are just the beginning steps for gathering community input. A+ Schools will be hosting a follow up meeting **on June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at the Pittsburgh Federation of Teachers from 5:30-8:00** to continue this important discussion. The public will get to learn more about the areas they've prioritized and discuss the costs related to the services and support that students need. Again, the community will get to weigh in on potential cost savings and communicate priorities for how children should be served.