



I'm calling from OTR, a national opinion research firm. This is not a sales call, and I won't ask you for a contribution or donation. We're talking with people like yourself today about important issues in your area, and we'd like to ask you a few questions on a confidential basis.

1. Are you at least 18 years old and registered to vote at this address?
With which political party are you registered to vote?

REGISTERED-Democrat	71%
REGISTERED-Republican	20
REGISTERED-Independent.....	7
REGISTERED-Other.....	2
No	-
VOL: (Don't know/Refused)	-

X1. Do you currently work for an elected official or candidate for political office in any capacity?

Yes	-
No	100
VOL: (Don't know/Refused)	-

X2. Do you currently work as a member of the news media?

Yes	-
No	100
VOL: (Don't know/Refused)	-

2. In general, would you say that things in your area of Pennsylvania are headed in the right direction or would you say things are off on the wrong track?

Right direction.....	35%
Wrong track	44
VOL: (Neither).....	14
VOL: (Don't know/Refused)	8

3. What would you say is the most important problem facing your area of Pennsylvania today that you would like state and local officials to work on?

Taxes	20%	Declining morals	2
Schools/education	13	The environment.....	2
Traffic/Transportation	12	Immigration/migrant workers	1
Crime/Drugs	10	Campaign finance reform	1
Health care/hospitals.....	8	Overdevelopment/land use/zoning	*
Jobs/unemployment	7	Terrorism	*
Economy generally.....	5	Security/Safety	*
High cost of living	3	(Other)	9
Iraq/The war	2	(Don't know/Refused)	3

4. How would you rate the job the state legislature in Harrisburg is doing as a whole? Do you approve or disapprove of the way it is handling its job?

Strongly approve	9%
Somewhat approve.....	33
Somewhat disapprove.....	22
Strongly disapprove.....	27
VOL: (Don't know/Refused)	9
NET APPROVE	42%
NET DISAPPROVE	49

Now I'm going to read you the names of some public figures and groups. For each, please tell me if you have a strongly favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable or strongly unfavorable opinion of them. If you haven't heard of them, please tell me and we'll move

	FAVORABLE		UNFAVORABLE		(Heard of, can't rate)	(NH)	(DK/Ref.)	NET		
	Strong	Some	Some	Strong				FAV	UNFAV	FAMILIAR
• Jay Costa.....	23%	39	4	6	17	8	1	63%	11	73
• Ed Rendell.....	20%	40	12	21	6	1	*	61%	33	93
• Sean Logan	23%	23	2	4	17	28	3	46%	6	52
• Paul Costa.....	16%	29	4	5	22	22	2	45%	10	55
• Mark Gergely.....	12%	13	4	2	19	48	2	26%	5	31
• Bill Kortz.....	5%	9	3	1	19	59	4	14%	4	18

11. Overall, based on what you know, how would you rate the public schools in your community on the quality of education they provide to students? Would you say they do an excellent job, a good job, only a fair job, or a poor job?	Excellent.....	8%
	Good.....	34
	Only fair.....	33
	Poor.....	19
	VOL: (Don't know/Refused).....	7
	NET GOOD.....	42%
	NET BAD.....	51
12. Please tell me which of the following two statements you agree with most. STATEMENT A: We cannot afford higher taxes, and Pennsylvania already spends enough on education if it would just get spent more wisely. OR STATEMENT B: Schools are too important, so we need to invest more money in education even if it means higher taxes.	Statement A - Strongly.....	56%
	Statement A - Somewhat.....	11
	Statement B - Strongly.....	17
	Statement B - Somewhat.....	9
	VOL: (Neither/Both equally).....	4
	VOL: (Don't know/Refused).....	1
	NET STATEMENT A.....	68%
	NET STATEMENT B.....	27
13. How familiar are you with the situation involving the Duquesne School District possibly closing? Are you very familiar, somewhat familiar, not too familiar, or not familiar at all?	Very familiar.....	14%
	Somewhat familiar.....	36
	Not too familiar.....	15
	Not familiar at all.....	32
	VOL: (Don't know/Refused).....	3
	NET FAMILIAR.....	50%
	NET NOT FAMILIAR.....	47
14. As you may know, the Duquesne school district can no longer continue operating the way it does now. There are options to solve the problem but any option will require some or all of the Duquesne students to be merged into another school district, and the state department of education will provide funding to help pay for some of the increased costs. Please tell me which of the following two statements you agree with most. STATEMENT A: I believe children in Duquesne deserve a quality education, and I support my school district taking them in if Duquesne schools close. OR STATEMENT B: I do not support allowing Duquesne students to attend my schools if Duquesne schools close.	Statement A - Strongly.....	42%
	Statement A - Somewhat.....	14
	Statement B - Strongly.....	28
	Statement B - Somewhat.....	4
	VOL: (Neither/Both equally).....	4
	VOL: (Don't know/Refused).....	8
	NET STATEMENT A.....	56%
	NET STATEMENT B.....	33
15. For which of the following reasons do you not support allowing Duquesne students to attend your schools if Duquesne schools close:	Concerned about increased school violence.....	35%
	Concerned about increased class sizes.....	25
	Concerned about higher property taxes.....	15
	VOL: (Other).....	21
	VOL: (Don't know/Refused).....	4
16. Which of the following do you think is most at fault for Duquesne schools declining so badly?	Parents and citizens of Duquesne.....	25%
	Duquesne school board.....	17
	The state legislature.....	15
	The Pennsylvania Department of Education.....	10
	VOL: (Don't know/Refused).....	33

17. Based on what you know, should the entire Duquesne school district be closed or should they start off by just closing the high school?	Close the entire district - Strongly	10%
	Close the entire district - Somewhat.....	6
	Close just the high school - Strongly	24
	Close just the high school - Somewhat	14
	VOL: (Don't know/Refused)	46
	NET ENTIRE DISTRICT.....	16%
	NET HIGH SCHOOL	38

18. If they close the entire Duquesne school district, which of the following three options would you most support:	Requiring West Mifflin, McKeesport, East Allegheny and Woodland Hills each to absorb some of the 726 students	49%
	Allowing a Federal Court to decide where the students should attend school.....	23
	Requiring West Mifflin to absorb all 726 students	22
	VOL: (Don't know/Refused)	6

19. If they close the Duquesne high school, which of the following three options would you most support:	Requiring West Mifflin, McKeesport, East Allegheny and Woodland Hills each to eacg absorb some of the 130 high school students.....	56%
	Requiring West Mifflin to absorb the 130 high school students	38
	VOL: (Don't know/Refused)	6

20. Please tell me which of the following two statements you agree with most. STATEMENT A: Because consolidating school districts will result in my school property taxes being lowered, I don't mind Duquesne being merged with my school district. OR STATEMENT B: My school district is too important to me and regardless of lower property taxes, I don't want the possible disruption a merger with Duquesne could cause my school district.	Statement A - Strongly	32%
	Statement A - Somewhat	12
	Statement B - Strongly	30
	Statement B - Somewhat	9
	VOL: (Neither/Both equally).....	8
	VOL: (Don't know/Refused)	10
	NET STATEMENT A	44%
	NET STATEMENT B	39

Now just a few final questions for statistical purposes only.

D100. Gender	Male	48%
	Female.....	52

D101. What is your age?	18-24	1%
	25-34	7
	35-44	9
	45-54	18
	55-64	20
	65+	42
VOL: (Refused).....	2	

D102. What is the last grade that you completed in school?	Some grade school.....	1%
	Some high school	9
	Graduated high school	32
	Technical/Vocational	6
	Some college.....	17
	Graduate college	20
	Graduate professional	14
VOL: (Refused).....	1	

D110. What is your current marital status?	Married	46%
	Not married, but living with partner.....	*
	Single, never married	21
	Divorced or separated	10
	Widowed.....	21
	VOL: (Refused).....	2

D111. Do you have any children under the age of 18 living at home with you?	Yes	18%
	No	80
	VOL: (Refused).....	2
D112. Does your child or do your children attend public schools, private or parochial schools, or both?	Public school	21%
	Private or parochial school	7
	Both	3
	VOL: (Neither).....	62
	VOL: (Refused).....	6
D300. And just to make sure we have a representative sample of voters, could you please tell me your race?	Black/African-American	10%
	White/Caucasian	86
	Hispanic/Latino	-
	Asian-American	*
	Other	1
	VOL: (Refused).....	3
D301. Do you consider yourself a Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish-speaking American?	Yes	2%
	No	98
	VOL: (Refused).....	*
D400. Region	East Allegheny.....	12%
	Woodland Hills.....	44
	West Mifflin	20
	McKeesport	25