

Question 1 - The biggest problem facing AUSD is:

	Strongly Disagree		Disagree		Neutral		Agree		Strongly Agree		
State Budget Crisis	5.88%	7	9.24%	11	10.92%	13	28.57%	34	37.82%	45	2.88
Renewal of Measure A Parcel Tax	18.49%	22	10.92%	13	27.73%	33	22.69%	27	10.08%	12	2.11
Renewal of Measure H Parcel Tax	21.85%	26	12.61%	15	22.69%	27	23.53%	28	10.92%	13	2.11
Attracting and Retaining Quality Teachers	5.88%	7	12.61%	15	21.01%	25	38.66%	46	15.13%	18	2.59
Balancing Enrollment for Elementary Schools	3.36%	4	13.45%	16	31.93%	38	32.77%	39	10.08%	12	2.46
Running More Efficient Operations	0.84%	1	9.24%	11	21.01%	25	26.89%	32	37.82%	45	3.03
Regaining Trust of Community after Adoption of LGBT Curriculum	10.92%	13	13.45%	16	14.29%	17	8.40%	10	49.58%	59	2.89

Question 2 - Which options do you support for raising revenues?

	Strongly Do Not Support		Do Not Support		Neutral		Support		Strongly Support		
Increase enrollment by attracting out of District students	31.90%	37	22.41%	26	20.69%	24	14.66%	17	7.76%	9	1.84
Increase enrollment by creating magnet programs	6.90%	8	5.17%	6	23.28%	27	36.21%	42	25.00%	29	2.78
Parcel Tax based on Square Footage	35.34%	41	11.21%	13	21.55%	25	17.24%	20	12.93%	15	1.99
Parcel Tax based on Type of Parcel	39.66%	46	5.17%	6	20.69%	24	21.55%	25	10.34%	12	1.95

Question 3 - Which options do you support for reducing expenses?

	Strongly Do Not Support		Do Not Support		Neutral		Support		Strongly Support		
Eliminating non-academic programs	24.56%	28	33.33%	38	16.67%	19	14.04%	16	7.89%	9	1.81
Shifting support of athletics to community foundation	11.40%	13	17.54%	20	26.32%	30	28.07%	32	14.04%	16	2.36
Shifting support of music to community foundation	15.79%	18	28.95%	33	20.18%	23	21.05%	24	9.65%	11	2.04
Shifting support of arts to community foundation	14.91%	17	27.19%	31	22.81%	26	21.93%	25	9.65%	11	2.09
Shorten the School Year by Five Days	19.30%	22	15.79%	18	19.30%	22	29.82%	34	12.28%	14	2.21
Reduce electives at high schools	23.68%	27	30.70%	35	14.91%	17	17.54%	20	7.89%	9	1.83
Eliminate the seventh period at the middle school	14.04%	16	26.32%	30	30.70%	35	14.91%	17	7.02%	8	1.94
Increase class size for K-3	32.46%	37	20.18%	23	16.67%	19	15.79%	18	11.40%	13	1.86
Increase class size for 4-12	25.44%	29	27.19%	31	16.67%	19	15.79%	18	11.40%	13	1.91
Close elementary schools	27.19%	31	21.93%	25	18.42%	21	14.91%	17	14.04%	16	1.96
Close middle schools	28.95%	33	20.18%	23	19.30%	22	15.79%	18	7.89%	9	1.76
Establish one comprehensive high school	17.54%	20	12.28%	14	32.46%	37	16.67%	19	16.67%	19	2.21

Question 4 - What is your opinion of the following:

	Strongly Do Not Support		Do Not Support		Neutral		Support		Strongly Support		
Convert to Washington to a Magnet Program	2.70%	3	3.60%	4	49.55%	55	27.93%	31	12.61%	14	2.48
Convert Chipman to a Charter School	2.70%	3	4.50%	5	48.65%	54	30.63%	34	12.61%	14	2.56
Convert Wood to a Charter School	5.41%	6	5.41%	6	52.25%	58	25.23%	28	9.01%	10	2.38
Convert Lincoln to a Charter School	8.11%	9	8.11%	9	53.15%	59	21.62%	24	7.21%	8	2.28
Convert Encinal High School to a Charter School	5.41%	6	8.11%	9	50.45%	56	22.52%	25	9.91%	11	2.33
Convert Alameda High School to a Charter School	9.91%	11	12.61%	14	52.25%	58	16.22%	18	7.21%	8	2.18

Question 5 - If you did not attend a previous workshops, you can still provide your opinion.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree						
The 20 minute presentation by the Superintendent is the right amount of time.	1.01%	1	12.12%	12	41.41%	41	36.36%	36	6.06%	6	2.16
Forty minutes for questions and answers to the Superintendent is the right amount of time.	3.03%	3	19.19%	19	28.28%	28	41.41%	41	6.06%	6	2.14
Time should be allowed for participants to talk among themselves.	5.05%	5	12.12%	12	34.34%	34	40.40%	40	6.06%	6	2.15
Meetings should end by 8pm.	4.04%	4	28.28%	28	38.38%	38	16.16%	16	6.06%	6	1.80
Meetings should end by 9pm.	3.03%	3	10.10%	10	32.32%	32	42.42%	42	12.12%	12	2.33

Question 6 - What is the best method to get feedback from the community regarding the Master Plan?

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree						
Conduct monthly Board workshops	5.77%	6	12.50%	13	25.96%	27	42.31%	44	9.62%	10	2.28
Create a community task force	5.77%	6	15.38%	16	19.23%	20	38.46%	40	17.31%	18	2.34
Create an internal District task force	16.35%	17	21.15%	22	24.04%	25	25.96%	27	7.69%	8	1.91
Provide online forums	0.96%	1	2.88%	3	18.27%	19	50.00%	52	25.96%	27	2.73
Conduct surveys	0.00%	0	4.81%	5	13.46%	14	57.69%	60	22.12%	23	2.73
Conduct smaller meetings with business, civic and education groups	3.85%	4	5.77%	6	22.12%	23	37.50%	39	28.85%	30	2.62

Question 7 - What additional information do you need to better participate in the AUSD Master Plan process?

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree						
Explanation of the District Finances	0.00%	0	5.61%	6	11.21%	12	47.66%	51	31.78%	34	2.83
Information on Charter Schools Impact	0.00%	0	1.87%	2	10.28%	11	49.53%	53	35.51%	38	2.95
Information on Magnet Schools	0.00%	0	0.93%	1	8.41%	9	49.53%	53	40.19%	43	3.06
Information on Closing Schools	0.93%	1	2.80%	3	14.02%	15	44.86%	48	34.58%	37	2.88
Information on Increasing Class Size	0.93%	1	10.28%	11	18.69%	20	36.45%	39	28.97%	31	2.64
Information on Extra Curricular Activities	0.00%	0	7.48%	8	16.82%	18	49.53%	53	23.36%	25	2.73
Information on Eliminating Non-Core Programs	0.93%	1	6.54%	7	19.63%	21	43.93%	47	26.17%	28	2.72
Student Demographic Information	3.74%	4	14.02%	15	24.30%	26	32.71%	35	21.50%	23	2.46
Facilities Master Plan Information	1.87%	2	2.80%	3	14.02%	15	46.73%	50	28.97%	31	2.74

What additional things can we do to improve the Master Plan process?

Community input is overrated. Most people know very little about school finance, curriculum, and district management. Most people are concerned with their little piece: their job, their child, their neighborhood schools. That's why we hire professionals to lead, to look at the big picture.

1 I do think it's important for district leadership to be clear what is and is not possible (AUSD can't, for example, given the state of funding, have all it wants). And to make basic facts clear: AUSD has lowest admin expenses in the county, AUSD has low per student funding, AUSD can't do everything.

But not all ideas are good ones--most aren't. And most people aren't anything close to experts. So the leaders of this master planning process need to present a real, frank, assert and reality-based assessment of where we are and where we might go.

Also: the community does know about visible waste in the district. Whenever employees are lounging around, whether it's in clerical jobs or gardeners out at the school, people hear and see and know about it. This is one small town. Accordingly, every step toward

I support a parcel flat parcel tax that is the same for all parcel of properties, with exemptions for the elderly.

Also, suggesting a parcel tax based on sq ftg seems to be perilously close to inviting another lawsuit if passed. Make the parcel tax structure simple and avoid litigation.

2 Also, if you want to heal the community after the polarization that took place on the LBGT you need to address: 1) AUSD accountability, 2) Board accountability.

eg, most school boards have posted policy and a list of how board members have voted. We have none.

Alamedeans want a school district that is accountable.

Although I like surveys, in order to obtain the type of information desired, I do not think they are the best UNBIASED way to collect information.

Surveys which allow for more narratives(such as this item#8) are useful as they allow for comments not addressed in the usual survey format.

3 I appreciate your efforts to keep the public informed, but it would be nice if each board member also took the time to contribute.

I would like to see the Master Plan committee expanded to include reps from all of our employee groups, selected by those group members.

I believe that mini-task forces working on specific tasks could generate other ideas.

4 Better analysis on the specific administration positions and their role in supporting actual education of youth. What are we getting for our money. How many "administrative" support people do we really need? Many business and industries are surviving with less of these types of positions. Evaluate "what" administrators are being sucked into doing support for the "unions" outside of the AUSD, but AUSD is paying for those individual's salaries. Are the unions reimbursing AUSD for these hours?

5 Have a serious discussion about why the community is terrified of the single comprehensive high school concept. Why is there no public discussion on this matter and why is there never been any financial analysis on this matter since it was last proposed 20 years ago?

6 Encourage broader involvement from all stakeholders by providing time/meetings to solicit ideas and concerns from the community rather than relying on inside task group to be the provider of ideas for the public to react to. Many of the questions for response here have never been discussed in public, so whose ideas are they? How do some ideas get the traction to be surveyed at this point? It makes it look like there is already an agenda that we are not aware of.

7 Get the PTA Council involved to share info with each school. They can add info onto school newsletters. The homeowners Associations can add info into their newsletters as well. Flyers at the libraries and parent online newgroups are another way to inform people.

8 Is there any ongoing effort to lobby for equalization of the state funding for various districts?
Educating the public is a daunting task, and as such, needs to be a large scale operation. Multiple meetings and lots of outreach with the accommodations for feedback are a necessity.

9 Specific applicable statistics would also help (like enrollment numbers per grade, budgets for each school, projected income for each school, etc) and how these #'s would change under different circumstances (charter, busing students, etc.). I think the process has gotten off to a good start but there is lots of room for improvement. Informational meetings every 2 weeks maybe, since the master plan has to be decided on by September. Or a dedicated website that is updated at least once a week.

10 ~~interest tends to go in waves, it seems to peak around big meetings, then fade. I don't know how to keep people current without~~ overwhelming them, but... there ya go. Drama, but not too much drama. Passion is hard to sustain. There's also the question of laypeople espousing ideas and not thinking them through to their logical outcome (I am sometimes in this category). So if - then

I understand that the issue is what we can afford. These are uncertain times, and it may take 3-4 years before the financial health of the state is better. However, do we have to reinvent the wheel? Can we learn from other communities/cities/counties/states/countries in how to build up a strong educational infrastructure? Even if we spend half of the amount of a Connecticut school district, does the percentages of where they/we spend differ. What provides better learning for the students - 20 kids with one teacher, or 35 kids with one teacher and a 1/2 teacher's aide? Why do some districts have teacher's aides, and other's don't? It cannot all be paid by foundations and pta's. I don't think all people understand that most jobs have evolved including the tools we all use to do our jobs. 50 years ago, teachers, police, fireman, nurses and administrators did not use as much technology as we do today. Perhaps chalk and a blackboard is all what was needed, but that is not where we are today. To create the smart, savvy workforce of tomorrow, we need the best teachers and tools we can have. I think there are many people who don't understand what it takes to run a successful enterprise. I honestly don't know what can be cut from the school district budget. Is it possible to have a meeting on a weekend? Could there be a joint task force with business owners, parents, higher education, retirees and the school district about what can and needs to be done for our community.

11 Provide links with additional information so that participants can provide a more informed opinion

12 Charter schools like magent school need a "drawing card." How can we draw up three "specialities" for the middle schools or two for the high schools?

13 There was a K12 Task Force comprised of teachers, District, and community members that met for a year and investigated several issues. The Board should reconvene that group and ask for their continued feedback.

We need more info before decisions are made. Thank you for your efforts now.

Local newspapers should carry more information, at least to point to websites discussing AUSD topics. Sun editor at Measure H meeting said she would do all in her power to support schools. Most citizens care about schools so such informative articles would increase readership.

16 The (2) public meetings already held were much too "shallow"; topics deserve to be discussion themes, not short meetings. The 1st meeting did not examine options for living within means, (this is huge issue with many options) the 2nd meeting did not discuss all the ways Charter schools can operate on smaller budgets. Charters can also protect schools from board decisions that could harm schools such as the number of non-Alameda students in our schools, moving students from school to school.

AUSD must look harder at 'self-teaching', web & computer based curriculum for middle and high school except at lower level or beginner's courses. (The same can be said for adult and ROP education.) See National Standards for Quality Online Teaching. As a parent, I want to know the District is doing its best to provide the best possible education for my child. I don't feel we have an obligation to educate children who do not reside in our district. If we need to close schools so we can have less schools that are all excellent, let's do that.

17 I'm tired of the "political elite" in Alameda calling all the shots. We pay our taxes and these are our children. They don't have any right to indoctrinate our children with their views on sexual behavior nor do they have any right to continue spending money on school sites that don't make fiscal sense.

Why do you bother asking? Will you really take into consideration what the community tells you? You must first fix Safe Schools

18 Lesson 9 before I lend my support to any of the above issues. You must be deaf, dumb and blind to not see what a division the Board of Education has caused by approving this curriculum. You need to work overtime to regain the trust of this parent.

19 If task forces/groups/committees are created - allow for representative sample. All processes/decisions/decisions to be - made public/put online/all in central place. Create more forums for parents of underrepresented groups (mainly hispanic and black populations) to speak if they cannot afford time to attend town meetings as more socioeconomically able families can.

20 After the awful way the school board handled the LGBT issue, they have a long way to go to earn back parents trust. Isn't it ironic that they spent so many dollars and hours adopting a controversial program and now several good families are leaving the district when we could use the support.

Parent's need to be better notified about programs or curriculum that will affect our children. Even this survey, I found out about it accidentally by stumbling upon it. This shouldn't be the case. There needs to be better communication between the board the parents.

21 Please consider how the parents can be better informed about decisions that are being implemented. Thank you so much for all your hard work!

22 Remember that you are voted in the position to serve all of the citizens of Alameda not promote a "protected class" of citizens. We are all citizens. If you under perform you will be removed from office. Nothing personal, it just the future of our families at stake. Please be sober minded in decisions and forthcoming.

23 When it comes to discussing whether charter schools or magnets are attractive options, it's all in the details. You are more likely to get clear support or disagreement if you can provide more specifics - for example, about what a magnet would look like, and more detail about the type of charter you are considering and who would manage it.

Give the populace information about ideas considered and ample opportunity to have the ideas of the populace heard and considered.
24 Accept the rights of the people to be informed of possible negative impact on their children and allow them to not participate in such negative curriculum.

25 AUSD just told the majority of parents and others who tried to get involved in school issues that they are bigots and that their beliefs are not only unimportant, but will be contradicted in the schools with the LGBT curriculum. I think AUSD should expect those people to vote against funding, to work to unseat board members, and to not trust AUSD because of it's pro-gay bias. No justice, no peace. If you want to improve this process, reconsider your decision on Lesson 9. The majority of your stakeholders don't trust you or think
26 you listen to them because you ignored them when they made the effort to participate in the process re. Lesson 9 for elementary schools.

AUSD, Kirsten Vital, and the Board should not bother asking for input from parents and the community if they will not consider it. The approval of the LGBT curriculum disregarded all the opposition from the parents and community. You have lost the trust and faith
27 from parents and the community.

As for budget cuts, you can start by cutting Vital's \$200K salary.

In reviewing the reduction of expenses, it was difficult to choose without know what the cost savings would be.

28 As to public input, after the LGBT fiasco, why would I believe that my opinion mattered anyway. The majority of the speakers were clearly not in favor of the curriculum but those opinions didn't seem to make a difference in the final decision.

The best way to increase student enrollment is to regain the trust of the community after the introduction of the LGBT curriculum.

29 Many of my friends are pulling (or have already pulled) their children out of AUSD schools and put them into private schools because of this curriculum. As the curriculum stands right now, I too, will be schooling my children elsewhere when they come of age. Drawing enrollment from other cities will only make Alameda parents less willing to school their children in AUSD. If you want to increase enrollment, fix what is driving your own enrollment away.

30 Would be interested in seeing a creation of a well-represented task force that would address the needs of the school district community ESPECIALLY the West End which has been historically disenfranchised due to socio-economic, racial factors.

31 more informamtion from every family member is the district and include the business community.

Teachers salaries, and what the benefits are. The cost breakdown for each school, cost to run, maintain, salaries teacher/nonteacher, students, what they offer, how are the kids fairing (test scores) per grade. Map of boundry lines, and getting rid of open enrollement.

32 Freezing all salaries until this the problem is fixed, and changing raises to merit based instead of mandatory. Getting rid of the very poor teachers and there are some. Also quit using the students as a means to get raises for the teachers that is disgusting to use children in that manner, and when you state that 92% to 94% is used for salaries that is what you are using the kids for.

33 Keep the process open.

I would like to see more outreach in the community and education as to how funding is sent to the school system. I also am interested in salaries for our district and also other districts in comparison. I am not in favor of more taxes, the business community is very important to Alameda and the feelings have been tainted towards the school district and property owners. A large number of voters in Alameda are renters and they should pay as well for our schools via a door tax or renters tax possibly added to their personal income tax. Many business have closed recently and will continue to as the economy continues to tank. We are a water town with numerous marinas that are being taxed unfairly due to measure H. Example: Legacy Partners \$350,000.00 per year for measure H while more than half of their properties are not being leased.

Listen to parents, consider what's best for the end-user (Student and teachers) versus administration needs (reduce the bureaucracy), and evaluate what is essential to be taught based on the finances available and eliminate all non-essential (reading, writing, arithmetic, the arts, sports, and music) curriculum. This would mean eliminating curriculum that doesn't teach essential academic subjects like various history months, earth day, so-called sensitivity training, anti-bullying, and LGBT curriculum.

Explain assumptions - are you trying to keep AUSD jobs because the decline in enrollment is temporary due to demographics or you losing kids due to LGBT and other objectionable material etc.? Why would we poach from other districts instead of reducing our overall school district size? Use market forces for a master plan - become more efficient.

Allow teachers to be more involved in the planning process. Teachers are the experts and should be treated as professionals who can help to create solutions. Superintendent should not be allowed to hand pick task force and oversight committees.

Kathy Morhing should be banned from any more committees or task forces etc. enough already.

Mike McMahon should show more respect for speakers and not roll his eyes and nod his head in disgust when he hears something he does not agree with.

reduce administration and all salaries
Parcel tax = EQUAL COST PER PARCEL
REDUCE Employee Costs, regular employee's work 2,000 hours per year, teachers are much below that.

Stop teaching LGBT, or social control items - stick to reading, writing and math/science for K-12. Support the working teachers, not the union thugs and Sacramento pol's controlling too much of public education.
Home schooling turns out excellent students for much less cost

Talk to business organizations before passing tax measures such as Measure H which is unfair
Eliminate administrative waste - way too top heavy. Get the money to the classrooms. Stop teaching unnecessary, stupid programs with LGTB agendas and get back to reading, writing and arithmetic!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Stop graduating children who cannot read and write. Whatever happened to common sense?

Get back to the basics. Seems like only the "public" schools struggle to educate children. I'd suggest there are plenty of successful patterns to emulate.

Is anyone really ready to make the tough smart business decisions or do we have to drown in consensus building community meetings forever?

Do not put the burden on property owners. Commercial property owners are now taxed at an extremely high rate with the passage of Prop. A. I fear that by taxing them more, these owners and businesses will leave our city and further deplete funds to the schools. We need to look internally at expenses at the school district level and cut there.

- 46 You can go after the Redevelopment money that the city - read Leslie Little and Lena Tam - are continually refusing to give to the city.
1.class sizes increase to 25.
- 47 2.remove bad teachers,
3.freeze teacher and administrative salaries til financial crisis ends.
4. stop looking toward only property owners for money for schools, all residence should have to pay, includes renters
- 48 ESTABLISH AN OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE TO REVIEW NON-PRODUCTIVE SCHOOL DISTRICT POSITIONS THAT DO NOT DIRECTLY SUPPORT STUDENT LEARNING PROGRAMS; EG., SECRETARIES, CUSTODIANS, NON-ESSENTIAL ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT STAFF. PROMOTE PARENT INVOLVEMENT IN SCHOOL CURRICULUM REVIEW AND CHOICES.
Have administration (Princ,Vice Princ, sprnd more time outside the office so they can see what is really going on in there schools.
- 49 They will know what teachers get to school on time then leave 15 to 30 min after they show up. why do they need so much Maint. people when little gets done.
These are hard times for everyone and the school system is not exempt. Like everyone, the school board has to look at ways to cut back on expenses, quit adopting more non-academic programs, concentrate on the basics, eliminate excess layers of management. You can't keep bleeding the tax payer, and especially small businesses. The city used to respect small businesses, but now small businesses can't afford to hire more people, who in turn pay taxes, because you're bleeding small businesses into bankruptcy. Your last measure H was so cruel to small business. And you knew you would not pass that measure unless you exempted the larger chains at the shopping centers. And after talking to residents in Alameda, they were shocked to hear you exempted the larger shopping center stores and put the burden on small business owners here in Alameda. Quit turning to higher taxes to pay for things. Live within your budgets like the rest of us!!! Cut out the fat!
BTW - whoever put this survey together needs to go back to school. There are so many spelling errors and grammar errors.
- 51 Meritocracy for teachers.
- 52 Provide quality education, eliminate non-essential programs, increase science education programs.
provide the community with a comprehensive budget plan. Use money more efficiently. I am tired of teachers complaints concerning
- 53 class size and funds. Most funds are wasted at administrative levels. class size has little impact on results, past history dispels that theory. We have reduced class size and are still turning out below average students in california
- 54 Neighborhood meetings outside of school facilities.
- 55 Make the taxation fair - don;t penalize merchants for doing business in Alameda
Plan ahead for funding by educating the public about bonds.
- 56 Raising property taxes will only upset the public during during these hard economic times. People can not afford the taxes they are currently paying adding an additional tax burden will not help any one.
- 57 this survey should come up with ideas OTHER THAN TAXING!!!!
Maybe some large businesses could adopt a school program that otherwise would be cancelled????