

PDK Poll

50 YEARS OF AMERICAN VOICES

The pulse of America: The teaching profession

Americans trust and support teachers, but they draw the line at wanting their own children to join a profession they see as undervalued and low-paid.

Public school teaching as a career path has lost much of its allure. Fifty-four percent of parents would not like one of their children to take up teaching in the public schools as a career, a majority response to this question for the first time since PDK began asking the question in 1969.

Americans may not want their children to become teachers, but most (61%) say they have trust and confidence in teachers. Parents of school-age children have higher trust than those without children in school, 68% vs. 59%.

Read more at
pdkpoll.org

Key points from 2018 PDK poll

66% of Americans say teachers are underpaid; just 6% say teacher pay is too high

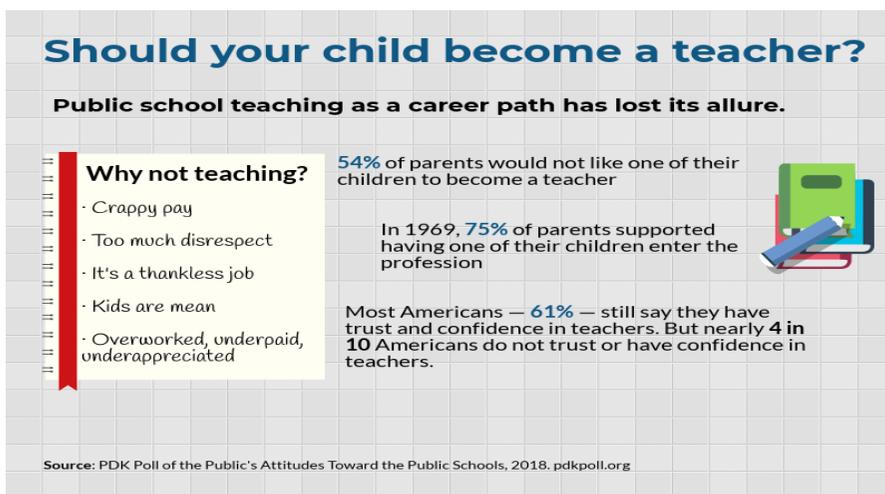
78% of public school parents would support teachers in their community if they went on strike for more pay

Those who think more highly of the public schools are more apt to like the idea of having their child become a teacher. 63% of those who give schools nationally an A or B grade would support a teaching career for their child.

Southerners (78%) are more likely than residents in the northeast (67%) to support a teacher strike for higher pay

67% of Hispanics would support having a child become a teacher, compared to 51% of blacks and 40% of whites.

Source: pdkpoll.org



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