



# Florida Education Association: Poll Executive Summary

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# Executive Summary

Using a national survey research center, Clearview Research conducted interviews with two samples: one of 800 likely Florida voters balanced by statewide party demographics, and one of 1,000 likely Republican Florida voters balanced by statewide Republican demographics. The poll was conducted from Wednesday, August 11<sup>th</sup> to Thursday, August 19<sup>th</sup>.

Demographic Subgroup		Targets
<b>Gender</b>		
Male	47%	50%
Female	53%	50%
<b>Age</b>		
18-29	16%	12%
30-39	15%	12%
40-49	14%	12%
50	55%	64%
<b>Race</b>		
White/Caucasian	62%	81%
Black/African-American	13%	1%
Hispanic of Cuban	10%	7%
Hispanic NOT of Cuban	7%	6%
Other	8%	5%
<b>Party</b>		
Democrat	36%	--%
Republican	37%	100%
Other	27%	--%
<b>Region</b>		
Dade-Broward/WPB	31%	23%
SW-W	30%	33%
E Cen	21%	21%
N FL/Panhandle	18%	23%

Based on the above, the weighted sample is both random and representative, yielding a general response set with a margin of error of  $\pm 3.0\%$  at the 95% confidence level.

## Overall findings

Clearview Research conducted a live call survey with two samples: one of 800 likely Florida voters balanced by statewide party demographics, and one of 1,000 likely Republican Florida voters balanced by statewide Republican demographics.

Respondents were asked to report how important and favorable (or unfavorable) they found the FEA's priorities, and a strong majority agreed these messages were important and favorable, even across party lines.

The following list shows a three-tier ranking of those messages, starting with resoundingly popular ones, those that were very favorable, and those that were generally positive, but not as moving as the preceding items. These findings clearly indicate that the voting public – across all political parties – strongly favor the priorities of the Florida Education Association. They clearly want our schools adequately funded, want our teachers to be paid more and want our teachers the ability to enter into long-term contracts so our state can retain the best of the profession.

### \* **Concepts that resonate very strongly across all demographics:**

- ▶ Ensuring we have highly qualified and certified teachers: **All parties 92% / GOP-only 93%**
- ▶ We need to pay our teachers more so Florida can have stronger and better schools: **All parties 89% / GOP-only 82%**
- ▶ We need to give qualified, experienced teachers the opportunity to enter into long term contracts so that the best teachers stay in our schools and don't go seek jobs elsewhere: **All parties 85% / GOP-only 78%**
- ▶ Teachers who are rated as effective or highly effective should automatically be kept on for at least another year: **All parties 91% / GOP-only 89%**
- ▶ Ensuring public schools are funded so that we have the strongest schools in the nation: **All parties 87% / GOP-only 87%**
- ▶ Retaining professional teachers by ensuring they receive fair pay: **All parties 87% / GOP-only 85%**

\* **Concepts that resonate strongly across all demographics:**

- ▶ Raising the salaries of experienced teachers and not just brand-new ones: **All parties 82% / GOP-only 77%**
- ▶ Investing in public school employees: **All parties 81% / GOP-only 74%**
- ▶ Making classroom sizes smaller: **All parties 76% / GOP-only 73%**

\* **Concepts that are generally popular:**

- ▶ Strengthening the retirement system for teachers and professional educators: **All parties 79% / GOP-only 71%**
- ▶ Strengthening the Florida Retirement System without having to spend more money: **All parties 75% / GOP-only 77%**
- ▶ Increasing the salaries of all teachers: **All parties 76% / GOP-only 65%**
- ▶ Prioritizing teacher-led assessments and learning over mandated standardized tests: **All parties 66% / GOP-only 63%**