

## Arizona Public Opinion Survey Conducted on behalf of Expect More Arizona – Dec. 10-12, 2018 600 Respondents (Likely Arizona Voters) \* Margin of Error +/- 4.0%

## **Summary of Results**

- Arizona voters continue to believe education is the #1 issue facing our state. (This marks the fourth consecutive year education is number one.)
  - Education issues 40%
  - Border issues/Illegal immigration 29%
  - Healthcare 8%
- Arizona voters want more funding for teachers and students
  - An overwhelming majority of voters say the salaries K-12 teachers receive in Arizona is too low 78% (64% Rep, 95% Dem, 75% Ind)
  - A majority of voters also say too little funding is going to K-12 schools in Arizona 73%
  - o When asked specifically to consider the top issue facing education in Arizona, voters said:
    - Teacher pay/support 25%
    - General lack of funding 24%
    - Concerns about curriculum/supplies 10%
- Voters surveyed were asked to rate a list of 10 items in terms of funding priorities for education. Here are the five highest rated, in rank order:
  - 1. Improving the performance of lower performing schools
  - 2. Increasing teacher salaries
  - 3. Making Arizona's public colleges and universities more accessible and affordable
  - 4. Maintaining funding for career and technical education
  - 5. Smaller class sizes
- Voters were also read a list of possible areas of investment and asked which one would be the most impactful in improving the quality of Arizona's P-20 education system overall. The top three are:
  - 1. Increased teacher compensation 28%
  - 2. Support for workforce development programs 19%
  - 3. Funding to support Arizona resident students at our public universities 12%
- Teacher pay also outpaced other P-20 education issues as the thing voters would be MOST willing to pay more in taxes to support. The top four are:
  - 1. Increasing pay for Arizona teachers 35%
  - 2. Making postsecondary education more accessible and affordable 23%
  - 3. Support for struggling students 12%
  - 4. Reading programs for Kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade 11%
- Additionally, Arizona voters are in strong agreement that:
  - Where a family lives, how much money they make, or their race or ethnicity should not dictate the quality of the education that a child receives.
  - Education impacts the strength of our communities, Arizona's economic prosperity and our individual quality of life.
  - Career and technical education programs are valuable for Arizona's students and our economy.
  - o It is important to provide schools the funding they need to attract and retain great teachers.