

NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Strong majority thinks TDSB does a poor job running schools

Few think trustees are necessary to administer schools

TORONTO, January 25th, 2015 - In a random sampling of public opinion taken by The Forum Poll™ among 843 Toronto voters, fully 6-in-10 do not think the TDSB does a good job of running Toronto's schools (61%), while fewer than one fifth think a good job is being done (19%). A similar proportion do not share an opinion (20%). Belief the TDSB is dysfunctional is common to Gen X (parents 45 to 54 - 67%), the wealthy (\$80K to \$100K - 67%) and John Tory voters (65%).

Most think trustees unnecessary

The largest group of voters, close to one half (45%) say trustees are not necessary to administer Toronto's schools, while about 3-in-10 say they are (31%). One quarter don't offer an opinion (24%). Among those who are especially likely to think trustees are necessary are the least wealthy (less than \$20K - 37%, \$20K to \$40K - 40%), in North York (38%) and among Olivia Chow voters (40%).

"The recent coverage of the TDSB's woes, and that of its Education Director, have clearly sensitized voters to an issue they have long ignored, the background governance of Toronto's public schools," said Forum Research President, Dr. Lorne Bozinoff.

Lorne Bozinoff, Ph.D. is the president and founder of Forum Research. He can be reached at lbozinoff@forumresearch.com or at (416) 960-9603.

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TORONTO

January 25th, 2015

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Fully 6-in-10 do not think the TDSB does a good job of running Toronto's schools (61%), while fewer than one fifth think a good job is being done (19%).
- The largest group of voters, close to one half (45%) say trustees are not necessary to administer Toronto's schools, while about 3-in-10 say they are (31%).
- "The recent coverage of the TDSB's woes, and that of its Education Director, have clearly sensitized voters to an issue they have long ignored, the background governance of Toronto's public schools," said Forum Research President, Dr. Lorne Bozinoff.

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Methodology

The Forum Poll™ was conducted by Forum Research with the results based on an interactive voice response telephone survey of 843 randomly selected voters in Toronto, Ontario. The poll was conducted on January 24th and 25th, 2015.

Results based on the total sample are considered accurate +/- 3%, 19 times out of 20. Subsample results will be less accurate. Margins of error for subsample (such as age, gender) results are available at www.forumresearch.com/samplestim.asp

Where appropriate, the data has been statistically weighted by age, region, and other variables to ensure that the sample reflects the actual population according to the latest Census data.

This research is not necessarily predictive of future outcomes, but rather, captures opinion at one point in time. Forum Research conducted this poll as a public service and to demonstrate our survey research capabilities. Forum houses its poll results in the Data Library of the Department of Political Science at the University of Toronto.

With offices across Canada and around the world, 100% Canadian-owned Forum Research is one of the country's leading survey research firms. This Forum Poll™ and other polls may be found at Forum's poll archive at www.forumresearch.com/polls.asp

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TDSB: Doing a Good Job

‘Do you think the Toronto District School Board, or TDSB, does a good job of administering Toronto’s public schools or not?’

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	843	201	151	147	160	184	480	363
Think the TDSB does a good job	19	18	30	17	14	10	21	17
Do not think the TDSB does a good job	61	62	51	67	62	64	62	60
Don't know	20	20	19	16	25	27	17	23

Region

%	Total	Toronto or East York	North York	Etobicoke or York	Scarborough
Sample	843	348	141	182	172
Think the TDSB does a good job	19	17	21	18	20
Do not think the TDSB does a good job	61	63	61	59	61
Don't know	20	21	18	24	19

Household Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K	\$250K+
Sample	843	90	126	101	120	91	173	24
Think the TDSB does a good job	19	24	25	16	23	14	18	19
Do not think the TDSB does a good job	61	44	51	65	60	67	66	64
Don't know	20	33	23	19	16	19	16	18

Last Mayoral Vote

%	Total	Doug Ford	John Tory	Olivia Chow	Someone else
Sample	843	145	343	158	47
Think the TDSB does a good job	19	19	15	21	14
Do not think the TDSB does a good job	61	59	65	60	77
Don't know	20	22	19	20	9

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Necessity of Trustees

'Are trustees necessary to administer Toronto's public schools or not?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	843	201	151	147	160	184	480	363
Trustees are necessary	31	34	32	34	27	26	33	30
Trustees are not necessary	45	38	42	48	53	52	49	42
Don't know	24	28	26	18	19	22	18	29

Region

%	Total	Toronto or East York	North York	Etobicoke or York	Scarborough
Sample	843	348	141	182	172
Trustees are necessary	31	31	38	26	31
Trustees are not necessary	45	43	40	50	47
Don't know	24	25	22	25	22

Household Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K	\$250K+
Sample	843	90	126	101	120	91	173	24
Trustees are necessary	31	37	40	27	32	20	31	38
Trustees are not necessary	45	41	28	57	44	57	49	43
Don't know	24	22	32	16	24	23	20	19

Last Mayoral Vote

%	Total	Doug Ford	John Tory	Olivia Chow	Someone else
Sample	843	145	343	158	47
Trustees are necessary	31	28	28	40	35
Trustees are not necessary	45	54	49	32	46
Don't know	24	18	23	29	19

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