

## Introduction

Pine-Richland School District is beginning to develop its next Strategic Plan and is seeking information from its residents. Your participation in this survey is greatly appreciated. The survey is for all residents in Pine and Richland who **do not** have children currently enrolled in the Pine-Richland School District. We value your feedback and want to ensure we receive your input. Given the importance of the survey and range of questions, please plan for approximately 15 minutes. The survey questions focus on three major categories:

- Satisfaction & Engagement
- Priorities Related to Strategic Planning
- Topics Related to Finances

Responses from residents will serve as one source of input to help guide areas of strategic focus. Individual responses are anonymous. All questions should be answered to the best of your ability knowing that you **do not** have children currently enrolled in the Pine-Richland School District.

## Demographic Information

**1. I reside in or have a place of business in:**

- The Township of Pine
- Richland Township

**2. Number of Years residing in the Township of Pine or Richland Township:**

- Less than 3 years
- 3-5 Years
- 6-10 Years
- 11-15 Years
- 16-20 Years
- 21+ Years

**3. Check all that apply.**

- I have children enrolled in the Pine-Richland School District
- I have children, but they attend other K-12 settings (e.g., Private, Parochial, Cyber, Charter or Home School)
- I have children younger than kindergarten age.
- I do not have children.
- I have children, but they are grown.

**Part I: Satisfaction & Engagement**

**4. In general, I am satisfied with the Pine-Richland School District.**

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Please Explain (Optional):

**5. In general, I am satisfied with the academic program of Pine-Richland School District.**

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Please Explain (Optional):

**6. In general, I am satisfied with the district's budget and use of funds.**

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Please Explain (Optional):

**7. I have a clear understanding of school finance and budgeting that includes an awareness of the key factors that affect revenue and expenditures.**

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

**8. I closely monitor information about the budget development process.**

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Other (please specify)

**9. I am satisfied with the district's instructional facilities (i.e., physical school buildings).**

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Please Explain (Optional):

**10. I am satisfied with non-classroom facilities (e.g., athletic facilities, fields, playgrounds, and performance spaces).**

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Please Explain (Optional):

**11. I read the electronic communications (e-blasts) related to the district.**

- Yes
- No

**12. I visit the school website to learn about the educational program and upcoming activities/events.**

- Yes
- No

**13. I review community publications to gather information about the district (e.g., magazines and newspapers).**

- Yes
- No

If you specified yes, please indicate which magazines and/or newspapers you review:

**14. I am satisfied with the level of communication from the superintendent and district office administrators.**

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

## Pine-Richland School District Community Survey

**15. I am satisfied with the level of communication from the PR School Board and/or communication related to board actions.**

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

**16. Pine-Richland School District models a fair and transparent decision-making process.**

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

**17. There are many ways for me to be involved at Pine-Richland School District.**

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

**18. I am proud to be a part of Pine-Richland School District.**

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

**19. I would recommend Pine-Richland to a family that is searching for a new place to live.**

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

**Part II: Strategic Direction & Priorities**

The district reviewed past strategic plans to capture statements about mission, vision and beliefs. The following questions will help us with the current strategic planning process.

**20. I believe the purpose of Pine-Richland School District is to (Choose top 4):**

- Challenge students academically at all levels of performance
- Ensure students have basic academic skills
- Prepare students for the workforce and develop real world skills
- Promote cross-curricular studies & STEAM initiatives
- Develop global awareness
- Develop technological competence
- Teach students to be collaborative and work together
- Help students develop integrity and be ethical
- Promote personal growth and well-rounded students (in academics, arts, activities & athletics).
- Develop citizenship
- Connect students to their peers and community
- Develop the desire in students to continually improve

Other (please specify)

**21. The most important skills current Pine-Richland students should learn before graduating are (Choose Your top 4):**

- Communication
- Problem Solving & Critical Thinking
- Academic Knowledge & Skills
- College & Career Readiness
- Creativity & Innovation
- Ethics & Character
- Use of Technology & Media
- Financial Literacy
- Social & Cross-Cultural Awareness
- Citizenship
- Resiliency

Other (please specify)

**Open-Ended Questions (Optional)**

**22. In your own words, please share your thoughts about the vision or "ideal future" for Pine-Richland.**

**23. List 1-2 strengths that distinguish PR from other districts:**

1.

2.

**24. List 1-2 opportunities for improvement OR new opportunities that you would like to see for PR.**

1.

2.

### III. Important Financial Topic

Public school districts in Pennsylvania – including Pine-Richland School District – are facing a financial threat and strategic challenge due to the mandated expenditure increases required by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. The single largest annual expenditure mandate relates to the employer pension contribution (PSERs). These challenges have the potential to significantly impact the breadth and depth of programming at Pine-Richland. The long-term budget gap is significant. It is most likely that future budgets will require expenditure reductions AND revenue increases. Future “town hall” style meetings will be held on the challenges facing school districts.

**25. To balance future budgets, I would increase class size instead of increasing property taxes. For example, this could mean approximate class sizes at K-3 of 25; upper elementary and middle school at 28; and high school at 30+.**

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

**26. To balance future budgets, I would rather cut elective courses and/or non-mandated programs (e.g., extracurricular activities) instead of increasing property taxes.**

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

**27. To balance future budgets, I would rather that families pay a “per activity use fee” for non-mandated programs at a level that fully supports those programs instead of increasing in property taxes.**

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

## End of Survey

Thank you for your participation in this survey. Your input will help guide the development and implementation of Pine-Richland School District's strategic plan for 2016-2019. You will have additional opportunities to provide feedback on the strategic plan through a series of forums and sessions over the next few months. A copy of the district-wide results to scaled items will be posted to the PRSD website.