

### INTRODUCTION:

As fellows with the Stockton Education and Outreach Program, we spent the last four months speaking with thousands of Stockton community members and families to try to understand their views on education in our city.

The Stockton Education and Outreach Program (EOP) was created with a goal of empowering local residents to better understand the needs of local families to support student learning. TOLA Organizing Academy launched the program in June 2021 and selected our diverse cohort of 20 fellows - a multicultural and multigenerational group from all corners of our community - with professional and educational backgrounds inclusive of high school students, college students, teachers, an engineer, a surgeon, parents, and a retired grandmother; and cultural backgrounds inclusive of Asian Americans, African Americans, Latinx, Pacific Islander, and Mixed Ethnicities.



Many of us participated in this opportunity because we care about education in our community, and wanted to know what we could do to improve it. And while other organizations have shared data about student learning and parent perceptions in recent years, we felt that no one with as broad experience and diverse perspectives as ours had truly engaged parents and families in the Stockton community directly to listen and learn about their views on education.

We are sharing the results of our survey to summarize what we heard from Stockton residents, and hope that our work can inform how we can come together to improve our schools for current and future students.

### METHODOLOGY:

The Community Survey was created in May 2021, and was collected between June 1, and September 30, 2021. While collecting survey responses was the primary goal, our cohort prioritized direct in-person methods with community members in order to learn more about their views through informal conversations. The primary forms of outreach used to collect community surveys included:

- Phone Banking
- Door-to-Door Canvassing
- In-Person Events
- Community Center Outreach
- Text Messaging
- Online Outreach

Across these forms of outreach Stockton residents were provided a physical survey, a link to the online survey, or asked to scan a QR code on their phone that directed them to the online survey.

**We collected 1,500 completed surveys.** Through this process we also estimate we had direct one-on-one contact with over 5,000 residents and reached out to approximately 15,000 of our Stockton neighbors.



Of those who completed the survey, approximately 40% of survey respondents (586) are parents of students spread across grade levels from PreK - College.

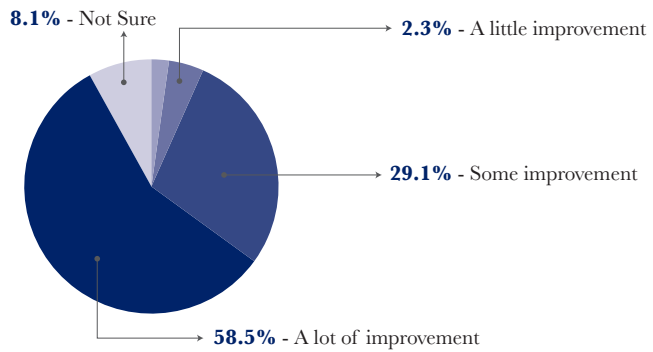
# SURVEY RESULTS

When looking at results from our survey we found some very clear trends. These include:

## #1. Stockton residents are not satisfied with the direction of education in our city and believe schools need significant improvement.

- Nearly 90% of those surveyed feel Stockton schools need some or a lot of improvement.
- When asked how they feel about the direction of the Stockton Unified School District, only 17% said they were satisfied, where 47% said not satisfied and 36% had no opinion

How much improvement would you say Stockton public schools need?

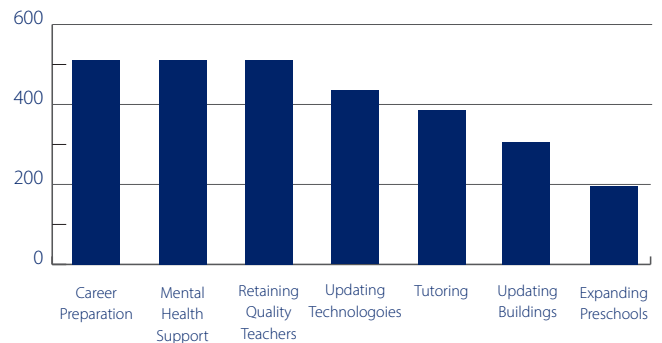


## #2. Stockton community members value teachers.

- ‘Good teachers’ were the highest rated category when asked ‘What are the biggest strengths of Stockton schools.’
- When asked how to spend \$250M in Stimulus funds, “retaining quality teachers” was named one of the top three priorities.



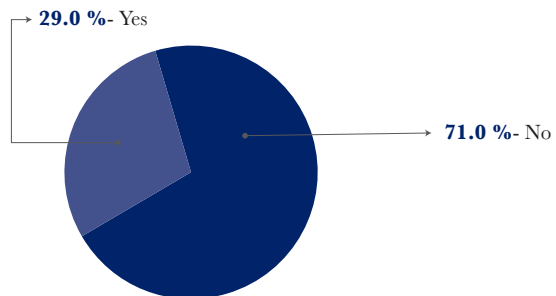
As part of a federal bill, Stockton schools will receive \$250M in funds. How do you think the District should spend the funds?



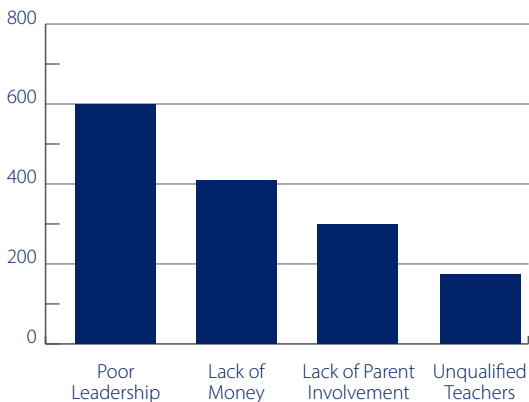
## #3. Stockton residents do not believe schools are preparing students for college or the job market, and rank mental health supports and career preparation high as priorities.

- When asked if Stockton students are well prepared for college or the job market, 71% said no.
- When asked how leaders should prioritize federal stimulus dollars, residents ranked ‘mental health support’ and ‘career preparation’ in the top three priorities, including ‘retaining quality teachers’.

Do you think Stockton students are well prepared for college or the job market?



What is the biggest challenge facing Stockton schools?



## #4. Stockton residents say that poor leadership is the biggest challenge facing our schools, and most respondents don't know who their school board member is.

- “Poor Leadership” was rated as the leading challenge facing Stockton schools.
- 80% of Stockton residents do not know who their school board member is.
- When asked about the biggest strengths of Stockton schools, ‘no strengths’ was the second leading indicator behind ‘good teachers.’

## NEXT STEPS:

Members of our EOP Fellowship are sharing these results with community members and leaders from across Stockton, with hopes that this information can help us learn and make improvements for students.

Do you want to get involved?

Scan QR code to stay engaged

