



**Township High School District 211  
Community Survey  
May 2016**

**Overview of Data - Phone Survey and Online Survey**

In May 2016, UNICOM•ARC conducted a telephone survey of registered voter households in Township High School District 211. The purpose of the survey was to better understand area residents' perceptions of and priorities for the District.

Five hundred (500) interviews were completed. Data is weighted to reflect a percentage of 25/75 parent/non-parent households. This Overview of Data provides overall results of every question included in the survey.

Q1		%	Online %
Students are often given the grades A, B, C, D or F to score the quality of their academic work. Suppose all public schools across the State of Illinois were graded in the same way. What grade would you give the public schools in the State of Illinois? - A, B, C, D, or F?	A	11.4%	6.2%
	B	25.7%	34.4%
	C	34.5%	38.2%
	D	10.6%	8.6%
	Fail	5.1%	1.9%
	other, don't know	12.8%	10.1%

Q2		%	Online %
What about your local high school district - Township High School District 211. What grade would you give District 211? - A, B, C, D, or F?	A	38.3%	40.5%
	B	38.5%	41.3%
	C	11.3%	10.9%
	D	3.8%	2.8%
	Fail	1.4%	1.4%
	other, don't know	6.6%	2.6%

Q3		%	Online %
When comparing the quality of education provided by District 211 to neighboring school districts, would you say that the quality of schools in District 211 to be much lower, somewhat lower, about the same, somewhat higher, or much higher?	much lower	1.5%	1.9%
	somewhat lower	7.2%	9.4%
	about the same	29.1%	23.7%
	somewhat higher	32.3%	38.8%
	much higher	22.9%	20.8%
	other, don't know	7.0%	4.6%

Q4		%	Online %
When thinking about the financial condition of District 211, do you think that the District has more than adequate funding to maintain the current level of staff and educational programs, does it have just enough funding, or would you say that the District is in need of additional funding to maintain its current staff and educational programs?	more than adequate funding	29.5%	32.4%
	just enough funding	37.8%	36.7%
	not adequate funding	19.4%	13.6%
	other, don't know	13.4%	16.4%

**Q5.** Next are some statements that some people might make about District 211. For each, indicate if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree when thinking about the District 211.

<b>PHONE SURVEY</b>	<i>strongly agree</i>	total agree	total disagree	other, don't know
Families move into this area because of the reputation of District 211	49.2%	82.9%	11.7%	5.4%
District 211 spends tax dollars efficiently	16.9%	61.9%	23.4%	14.7%
We get excellent value in education for the taxes we pay to District 211	32.4%	75.4%	20.0%	4.6%
I trust the Board of Education to make good decisions about the District's overall direction	23.2%	68.6%	25.6%	5.8%
Schools should try to involve all students in athletics or after school activities	52.7%	81.1%	16.2%	2.7%
The growing diversity of various ethnicities is a huge challenge for District 211	22.3%	53.8%	39.9%	6.3%
The quality of District 211 is the most important factor that affects my property value	34.4%	75.7%	18.6%	5.6%
District 211 has been very effective in communicating with area residents	34.2%	69.7%	23.4%	7.0%

<b>ONLINE RESPONSES</b>	<i>strongly agree</i>	total agree	total disagree	other, don't know
Families move into this area because of the reputation of District 211	47.7%	88.5%	7.0%	3.9%
District 211 spends tax dollars efficiently	20.9%	63.2%	22.9%	13.1%
We get excellent value in education for the taxes we pay to District 211	32.9%	75.3%	19.5%	4.1%
I trust the Board of Education to make good decisions about the District's overall direction	17.6%	61.0%	32.7%	4.9%
Schools should try to involve all students in athletics or after school activities	50.0%	84.3%	13.1%	1.6%
The growing diversity of various ethnicities is a huge challenge for District 211	23.9%	59.9%	32.6%	6.4%
The quality of District 211 is the most important factor that affects my property value	25.8%	69.8%	19.7%	9.5%
District 211 has been very effective in communicating with area residents	24.8%	68.5%	22.7%	7.9%

**Q6.** For each of the following, please rate the job performance of District 211 as excellent, good, not so good or poor.

<b>PHONE SURVEY</b>	<i>excellent</i>	<i>excellent/ good</i>	<i>fair</i>	<i>not so good/ poor</i>	<i>other, don't know</i>
Maintaining effective District leadership	15.9%	59.3%	24.1%	7.5%	9.1%
Recruiting and retaining a high quality teaching staff	23.4%	72.4%	14.4%	5.1%	8.1%
Preparing students for success following high school graduation	25.5%	67.7%	18.0%	7.6%	6.7%
Keeping up-to-date with instructional technology	27.8%	75.3%	11.7%	3.2%	9.9%
Developing and implementing an effective strategic plan	12.9%	55.4%	24.2%	4.9%	15.5%
Providing safe and secure schools	30.2%	80.1%	12.6%	4.0%	3.3%
Attending to the needs of an ethnically diverse student population	17.0%	62.6%	20.6%	5.5%	11.4%
Providing frequent, meaningful feedback about student performance	17.3%	54.1%	23.4%	7.6%	14.8%
Keeping up with the repair and maintenance of school buildings	30.0%	76.9%	12.3%	2.4%	8.4%
Encouraging residents to participate in the District's decision-making process	14.0%	42.6%	30.4%	21.2%	5.8%
Managing District finances	9.1%	46.4%	26.7%	12.7%	14.2%

<b>ONLINE RESPONSES</b>	<i>excellent</i>	<i>excellent/ good</i>
Maintaining effective District leadership	23.3%	72.6%
Recruiting and retaining a high quality teaching staff	29.5%	80.3%
Preparing students for success following high school graduation	31.8%	77.8%
Keeping up-to-date with instructional technology	40.5%	87.9%
Developing and implementing an effective strategic plan	22.4%	67.8%
Providing safe and secure schools	38.5%	83.9%
Attending to the needs of an ethnically diverse student population	23.6%	71.9%
Providing frequent, meaningful feedback about student performance	22.3%	69.0%
Keeping up with the repair and maintenance of school buildings	37.7%	85.0%
Encouraging residents to participate in the District's decision-making process	30.1%	69.1%
Managing District finances	22.5%	62.5%

Q7		%	<b>Online %</b>
Recently, district residents have been attending a series of open, citizen-led Community Engagement meetings called "The 211 of Tomorrow" where they have been studying issues to provide input for a new strategic plan for District 211. Would you say that you are very aware, somewhat aware, not very aware or not at all aware of these meetings?	very aware	13.8%	51.2%
	somewhat aware	20.2%	26.7%
	not very aware	13.3%	9.6%
	not at all aware	51.7%	9.7%
	other, don't know	.9%	2.0%

Q 8 - The following is a list of issues being studied by "The 211 of Tomorrow" community engagement initiative. Please rate each using a 7-point scale. If you think the issue is a high priority, rate it a 7. If you think it a low priority, rate it a 1. Of course you can choose any rating between 7 and 1.

<b>PHONE SURVEY</b>	<i>top priority (7)</i>	<i>high priority (5-7)</i>	4	<i>low priority (1-3)</i>	<i>other, don't know</i>
Strengthen career programs for non-college bound students	30.6%	77.9%	9.6%	6.6%	5.9%
Increase ethnic diversity among the teaching and administrative staff	16.2%	57.6%	15.5%	19.5%	7.4%
Provide opportunity for all students to gain college credits before they graduate from a District 211 high school	38.4%	78.6%	9.9%	8.7%	2.7%
Address social and emotional needs of students	30.0%	74.2%	12.0%	9.3%	4.5%
Communicate with transparency regarding the District's finances	33.8%	73.4%	8.8%	13.3%	4.6%
Solicit and respond to community input in decision making	22.2%	68.2%	15.7%	11.9%	4.2%
Attend to the District's aging school buildings	15.6%	70.1%	16.5%	10.3%	3.1%
Focus attention on the life skills that students need to be successful adults	42.1%	80.7%	9.9%	6.7%	2.7%
Align courses in high school to a student's career interest	33.5%	79.6%	10.3%	6.5%	3.5%
Partner with local businesses for high school summer internships	28.2%	68.9%	10.8%	12.8%	7.4%

<b>ONLINE SURVEY</b>	<i>top priority (7)</i>	<i>high priority (5-7)</i>	4	<i>low priority (1-3)</i>
Strengthen career programs for non-college bound students	34.4%	73.3%	10.6%	13.6%
Increase ethnic diversity among the teaching and administrative staff	12.1%	39.6%	19.1%	38.5%
Provide opportunity for all students to gain college credits before they graduate from a District 211 high school	25.1%	62.2%	16.4%	18.9%
Address social and emotional needs of students	35.6%	74.3%	9.9%	13.4%
Communicate with transparency regarding the District's finances	36.1%	73.3%	12.3%	11.8%
Solicit and respond to community input in decision making	24.3%	70.5%	14.8%	12.4%
Attend to the District's aging school buildings	17.7%	65.1%	15.1%	17.0%
Focus attention on the life skills that students need to be successful adults	48.2%	82.1%	6.1%	9.3%
Align courses in high school to a student's career interest	30.6%	72.1%	12.3%	13.1%
Partner with local businesses for high school summer internships	34.5%	74.1%	11.1%	11.8%

Q9		%	Online %
And thinking about the school district as a whole, what would you say is the biggest challenge facing District 211?	finances	23.2%	5.7%
	aging school buildings	.5%	2.4%
	diversity, an increase in various nationalities	10.2%	6.0%
	student achievement	10.6%	14.3%
	hiring and retaining quality educators	4.1%	6.8%
	safety and security	4.6%	4.9%
	high property taxes on residents	2.0%	13.5%
	keeping up with technology/integrating technology into curriculum	1.5%	4.8%
	the State of Illinois	1.7%	24.5%
	other (specify)	19.9%	11.0%
	don't know, refused	21.6%	----

Q10		%	Online %
Some local governments offer video recordings of board or council meetings. How often have you watched this type of video recording - would you say very often, often, not very often or never?	very often	1.1%	2.6%
	often	3.1%	8.1%
	not very often	14.7%	24.8%
	never	80.7%	60.5%
	other, don't know	.3%	2.9%

<b>Q11 - PHONE SURVEY -</b>		<b>% (not weighted)</b>
How likely would you be to watch a video recording of District 211 Board of Education meetings - very likely, likely, not very likely or not at all likely?	very likely	11.8%
	likely	31.2%
	not very likely	32.0%
	not all likely	24.6%
	other, don't know	0.4%

<b>Q11 - ONLINE ONLY</b>		<b>%</b>
How likely would you be to watch a video recording of District 211 Board of Education meetings - very likely, likely, not very likely or not at all likely?	very likely	11.8%
	likely	32.5%
	not very likely	31.9%
	not all likely	18.2%
	other, don't know	2.0%



**Q12.** The following is a list of improvements District 211 is considering to strengthen its curriculum. For each, indicate if you think it very important, moderately important, not very important or not at all important.

<b>PHONE SURVEY</b>	<i>very important</i>	total important	total not important	other, don't know
Place a greater emphasis on science, technology, engineering, and math programs	69.9%	95.9%	3.0%	1.1%
Expand the use of instructional technology in all subject areas	55.3%	91.4%	6.6%	2.0%
Focus more attention on students who are not performing at grade level	65.3%	93.9%	4.9%	1.2%
Expand programs that offer social and emotional support for students	55.1%	86.0%	12.8%	1.2%
Strengthen programs for ethnic minority students	35.1%	76.3%	20.7%	3.0%
Place more emphasis on students who may choose a career over college	49.2%	88.2%	9.9%	1.9%

<b>ONLINE SURVEY</b>	<i>very important</i>	total important	total not important
Place a greater emphasis on science, technology, engineering, and math programs	49.7%	87.4%	10.2%
Expand the use of instructional technology in all subject areas	38.3%	78.7%	18.0%
Focus more attention on students who are not performing at grade level	44.5%	87.1%	9.9%
Expand programs that offer social and emotional support for students	41.8%	80.6%	16.0%
Strengthen programs for ethnic minority students	21.6%	60.2%	34.0%
Place more emphasis on students who may choose a career over college	35.0%	78.3%	18.0%

Q13		%	Online %
Generally speaking, how well informed are you about District 211. Would you say that you are very informed, somewhat informed, not very informed or not at all informed?	very informed	17.5%	32.0%
	somewhat informed	49.1%	55.6%
	not very informed	23.3%	9.6%
	not at all informed	9.5%	1.4%
	other, don't know	.6%	0.3%

Q14		%	Online %
There are a number of ways that you might want to receive information about District 211. What would you say is your primary source of information about the District?	The Daily Herald	14.4%	11.6%
	family and friends	9.1%	7.6%
	Superintendent's newsletter	3.0%	12.9%
	Principal's newsletter	3.9%	22.6%
	From classroom teacher or staff member	4.1%	10.9%
	District website	8.4%	15.8%
	By attending school event	.8%	2.6%
	social media like Facebook or Twitter	4.9%	4.4%
	students	2.1%	4.4%
	other (specify)	39.9%	5.7%
don't know, refused	9.4%	---	

Q15		%	Online %
Are there any children in your household who currently attend a District 211 high school?	yes	25.0%	62.0%
	no	75.0%	36.1%
	other, don't know	.0%	0.8%

Q16		%	Online %
What high school does your child (children) attend?	Conant	15.0%	17.0%
	Fremd	24.7%	29.7%
	Hoffman Estates	14.5%	13.2%
	Palatine	21.6%	19.0%
	Schaumburg	15.4%	19.8%
	District 211 Academy North	1.8%	0.1%
	Higgins Education Center	.4%	0.6%
	other, don't know	6.6%	0.3%

Q17		%	Online %
Would you know what high school attendance area you live closest to?	Conant	21.4%	14.9%
	Fremd	16.2%	20.1%
	Hoffman Estates	8.1%	9.5%
	Palatine	17.7%	23.0%
	Schaumburg	23.2%	16.3%
	other, don't know	13.3%	14.2%

Q18		%	Online %
How long have you lived within District 211 boundaries?	0-2 yrs	6.6%	6.4%
	3-5 yrs	7.0%	6.4%
	6-10 yrs	11.4%	11.2%
	11-20 yrs	30.7%	36.7%
	more than 20 yrs	40.3%	30.6%
	other, don't know	4.1%	7.0%

Q19		%	Online %
In which of the following age groups are you?	18-34	13.4%	9.6%
	35-49	34.8%	45.2%
	50-64	32.3%	34.0%
	65-74	10.6%	2.6%
	75+	8.1%	0.4%
	other, don't know Prefer not to answer	.8%	6.2%

Q20		%	Online %
What was the last grade or year of school you completed?	high school	13.6%	8.4%
	some college	18.6%	10.9%
	college	41.0%	32.5%
	post-graduate	25.6%	43.5%
	other, don't know	1.2%	2.4%

Q21		%	Online %
How often do you use social media - daily, weekly, maybe once a month or less, or never?	daily	63.5%	67.7%
	weekly	15.3%	14.9%
	once a month or less	8.4%	6.4%
	never	12.6%	8.0%
	other, don't know	.3%	1.2%

Q22		%	Online %
How often do you visit the District's website for information and updates about District 211?	few times/week	4.5%	16.8%
	once a week	9.1%	15.7%
	once every couple of weeks	12.3%	21.6%
	once a month	19.6%	27.2%
	never	51.6%	13.2%
	other, don't know	3.0%	3.8%

Q23		%	Online %
Gender	male	49.9%	33.3%
	female	50.1%	63.9%
	other, don't know	.0%	---