

**Badger Institute Survey of Milwaukee Public Schools Teachers
Conducted February 2018**

The Badger Institute survey was conducted in February 2018 and was emailed to 1,112 special education teachers in Milwaukee Public Schools. Of those, 316 completed the survey, a 28.2 percent response rate.

1. To begin, do you know whether you are paid at least partially with federal funds?

Answer choices	Responses	
Yes, I am	32.85%	136
No, I am not	0%	0
I'm not sure	67.15%	278
Total		414 ⁱ

2. We'd like to know a little about the job you do. Are you full time or part time?

Answer choices	Responses	
Full time	87.66%	277
Part time	12.44%	39
Total		316

3. Are you a teacher, aide or something else?

Answer choices	Responses	
Teacher	39.87%	126
Aide	43.99%	139
Other (please specify) ⁱⁱ	16.14%	51
Total		316

4. We're also wondering about your general job satisfaction. How satisfied are you with your current job?

Answer choices	Responses	
Extremely satisfied	25.63%	81
Somewhat satisfied	52.22%	165
Somewhat dissatisfied	15.82%	50
Extremely dissatisfied	6.33%	20
Total		316

5. What would make your job more satisfying? (Check all that apply.)

Answer choices	Responses	
More money	83.23%	263
Fewer work hours	10.76%	34
Less paperwork and regulations to follow	31.65%	100
More productive and collaborative meetings	27.85%	88
Fewer meetings	26.27%	83
Stronger community/parent support	50%	158
Increased student engagement	29.11%	92
Smaller class sizes	38.61%	122
Other (please specify)	23.73%	75
Total		316

6. And what about the job satisfaction of your colleagues? How satisfied would you say your colleagues are in their current jobs?

Answer choices	Responses	
Extremely satisfied	8.23%	26
Somewhat satisfied	51.58%	163
Somewhat dissatisfied	29.11%	92
Extremely dissatisfied	11.08%	35
Total		316

7. What, in your view, would make their jobs more satisfying? (Check all that apply.)

Answer choices	Responses	
More money	72.47%	229
Fewer work hours	14.87%	47
Less paperwork and regulations to follow	56.33%	178
More productive and collaborative meetings	34.81%	110
Fewer meetings	42.09%	133
Stronger community/parent support	53.16%	168
Increased student engagement	37.03%	117
Smaller class sizes	56.96%	180
Total		316

8. You are asked to do many things. We're interested in how much time you spend on them. In a typical week, how many hours, on average, do you spend on the following tasks?

Only those respondents who identified as working "full time" are included in this answer.

Answer choices	Average Hours/Week	Responses
In-class teaching	17.5 hours	277
Grading	4 hours	205
Meeting with fellow teachers and administrators	4.5 hours	223
Meeting with parents	1.5 hours	205
Paperwork, training and other tasks associated with government grant programs	8 hours	199
Other	7.5 hours	101
Total individual responses	43 hours	316

9. We often hear that there is a lot of paperwork and other duties associated with federal funding of schools. If you no longer had to complete the paperwork, training and other administrative tasks associated with federal government grants and programs, what would you do with the additional time that became available to you? (Check all that apply.)

Answer choices	Responses	
Work in the classroom and tutor students	53.80%	170
Prepare lesson plans	42.41%	134
Acquire additional training, education or otherwise better myself as a teacher/staff person	37.97%	120
Spend more time outside the school with family and friends	26.90%	85
Nothing would change	2.53%	8
I have no paperwork requirements or non-classroom duties related to federal grants and programs	21.20%	67
Don't know	13.29%	42
Total individual responses		316

10. Now we're interested in how you think funds from the federal government are utilized. If local school officials had more discretion over how these federal funds were spent, do you think there would much more, somewhat more, about the same, somewhat less or much less accountability to parents and taxpayers than there is now?

Answer choices	Responses	
There would be much more accountability	19.30%	61
Somewhat more	19.30%	61
About the same	18.99%	60
Somewhat less	3.80%	12
Much less accountability	6.01%	19
Don't know	32.59%	103
Total		316

11. If local school officials had more discretion over how federal funds were spent, do you think there would much more, somewhat more, about the same, somewhat less or much less innovation in meeting the needs of students than there is now?

Answer choices	Responses	
There would be much more innovation	24.68%	78
Somewhat more	24.68%	78
About the same	15.51%	49
Somewhat less	3.16%	10
Much less innovation	4.11%	13
Don't know	27.85%	88
Total		316

12. Speaking of innovation, have you ever wanted to try an innovative approach to your job but were prevented from doing so by federal rules and regulations?

Answer choices	Responses	
Yes	31.01%	98
No	30.70%	97
Don't know	38.29%	121
Total		316

13. Have new, innovative ideas about how to approach your job or meet the needs of children ever been directed to the local level from the federal government?

Answer choices	Responses	
Yes	21.84%	69
No	19.62%	62
Don't know	58.54%	185
Total		316

14. Which of the following statements comes closer to what you think about federal paperwork and training requirements?

Answer choices	Responses	
Federal paperwork and training requirements hinder me from meeting the educational needs of students.	30.38%	96
Federal paperwork and training requirements help me stay focused on the educational needs of students.	12.97%	41
I don't deal with federal paperwork.	56.65%	179
Total		316

15. And how about these two statements regarding the effect of federal regulations? Which comes closer to your view?

Answer choices	Responses	
Federal regulations over school funding harmfully distort decisions teachers and local school officials make on behalf of their students.	56.33%	178
Federal regulations over school funding help ensure teachers and local school officials attend to the best interests of their students.	43.67%	138
Total		316

16. In your view, the federal government's role in local education should be:

Answer choices	Responses	
Substantially increased	11.71%	37
Increased	9.81%	31
Remain the same	13.92%	44
Reduced	22.47%	71
Substantially reduced	12.66%	40
Eliminated	4.11%	13
Don't know	25.32%	80
Total		316

17. Now we'd like to know a little about yourself. How many years have you been a teacher/school staff member?

Answer choices	Responses	
1-4 years	10.44%	33
5-9 years	18.35%	58
10-19 years	34.18%	108
20+ years	37.03%	117
Total		316

18. How many years have you worked in your current school?

Answer choices	Responses	
1-4 years	30.06%	95
5-9 years	33.54%	106
10-19 years	23.42%	74
20+ years	12.97%	41
Total		316

19. What grade levels do you teach?

Answer choices	Responses	
Pre-K/Kindergarten	11.71%	37
Elementary	28.48%	90
Middle school	12.34%	39
High School	31.01%	98
I don't teach	16.46%	52
Total		316

ⁱ All those invited to complete the survey were sent an email that included the first question. To be directed to the full survey, email recipients had to answer the first question; 414 did so. After being directed to the survey, 98 recipients opted to not finish the survey.

ⁱⁱ "Others" includes health workers, occupational therapists and others who work with special needs children.