

# Rieke Elementary PTA Survey

*April 2011*



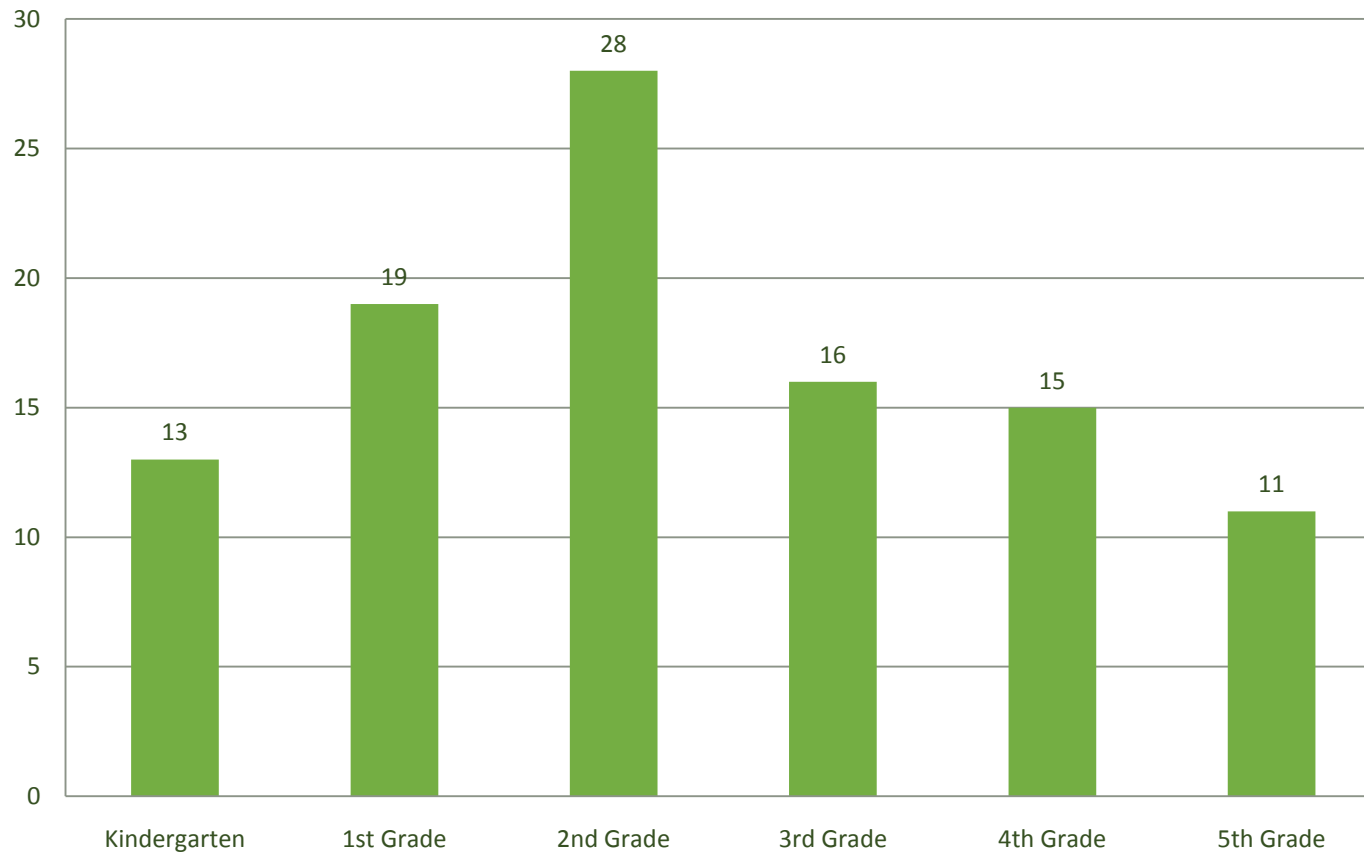
# Overview

- 72 individuals completed the survey
- The survey was launched on February 17, 2011.
- The survey will close on April 30, 2011
- The data in this report was compiled on April 8, 2011



# 40% of the Respondents were 2<sup>nd</sup> grade parents

Respondents by Grade Level



# 83% ranked “Classroom Teacher” as their #1 priority

	1 - least desirable	2	3	4	5	6	7 - must have	Response Count
Classroom Teacher	2.9% (2)	1.4% (1)	0.0% (0)	1.4% (1)	4.3% (3)	7.1% (5)	<b>82.9% (58)</b>	70
Teacher Grants	4.3% (3)	<b>44.3% (31)</b>	10.0% (7)	25.7% (18)	11.4% (8)	4.3% (3)	0.0% (0)	70
Technology Program	10.3% (7)	7.4% (5)	<b>22.1% (15)</b>	11.8% (8)	<b>22.1% (15)</b>	<b>22.1% (15)</b>	4.4% (3)	68
Reading Specialist	2.9% (2)	10.1% (7)	14.5% (10)	23.2% (16)	<b>14.5% (10)</b>	<b>30.4% (21)</b>	4.3% (3)	69
Art	2.9% (2)	7.4% (5)	25.0% (17)	23.5% (16)	<b>26.5% (18)</b>	<b>14.7% (10)</b>	0.0% (0)	68
Music	1.4% (1)	20.0% (14)	<b>25.7% (18)</b>	14.3% (10)	17.1% (12)	14.3% (10)	7.1% (5)	70
Other	<b>79.6% (43)</b>	3.7% (2)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	7.4% (4)	7.4% (4)	1.9% (1)	54



## Comments from those who selected *Other*

- I would like to see more after school activities be funded like foreign language, homework club, handwriting, etc.
- Special Education/Counselor
- Anti bullying workshops and ongoing counseling for serial bullies and their victims; non violent communication training for staff/volunteers
- Foreign language offering, counseling services, writing specialist
- Could we fund multiple teacher aides for the same money as one classroom teacher?
- I would like to see class sizes remain small and not have blended grades. Honestly, I am not interested in donating to Rieke to end up with a blended or large classroom next year.
- fitness/health/wellness program
- Smart reading program



## Comments from those who selected *Other*

- Library & PE
- Library Books/Services or new playground equipment
- Art usually comes from RAT race... Reading specialists I'm mixed on cause not sure how they affect the school as a whole as opposed to a few individuals--can we have volunteers help more with this area?
- I don't think parents mind getting a list from the teachers at the beginning of the year of what items they are in need of and having those donated.
- Technology is becoming more important in today's world so if we can combine librarian w/technology... or get a volunteer to come in...This puts a lot more pressure on our volunteers but if we take away many fundraising events and focus on one or two...we would probably get more parents to donate their time and their money...
- Lower class size is VERY important for students learning and crucial to our success.



## Additional Comments

- I do not have a child at Rieke currently but will starting Fall 2012. Reading competency and computer literacy are equally important in my mind and they will become more intertwined as time passes
- Art and music. Please, please
- Not so sure technology support is needed most of these kids are better at utilizing the computer than their parents
- We have many talented parents with backgrounds in the arts. Could a volunteer team of parents, grandparents and neighbors put together an art program, thus freeing funds for the core needs?
- I like technology for 3-5th graders but see no benefit for K-2nd graders. I desperately try to limit my 1st graders "screen" time and see no reason for him to have more exposure at school.



# Additional Comments

- I would also like to see more "enrichment" activities offered. Especially after school offerings - paid for by parents - but sponsored by PTA. Many schools have menus of items that kids can partake in.
- Although I think the reading support is important, I think it encompasses too many kids. My son is an average reader but was being sent to the "reading specialist." This is not a good use of resources. I would rather see a "writing specialist" since this is where Rieke is struggling.
- Not sure if funding for ESL program are exempt from cutbacks and covered by special program funding. This are too should be included in any cutback reviews.
- It would be nice to know how teacher grants are spent. And if possible, have teachers ask for what they need directly from families before purchasing new. Many families may have the things they need on hand and be willing to donate the items.



## Additional Comments

- The leis used at the back-to-school picnic are probably not expensive, yet we do pay for them and then watch the kids shred them and turn them into playground litter almost every year...Do we need to give the children a prize for the RAT race?...I would also suggest the small, cheap prizes for the carnival be skipped.
- Perhaps a couple of Teacher's assistants to float amongst classrooms as help is needed
- I support using the RAT to support our art, music, and PE
- I am really happy that you are asking the Rieke community for feedback on how the money is spent
- We need a full time music teacher at Rieke. Also keeping class sizes low is another priority for our family.



## Additional Comments

- A classroom teacher (or more) is a must have. As an elementary teacher, there is no other factor affecting learning more than the number of bodies in a classroom.
- I believe that technology and art should be incorporated into the regular classroom. Unfortunately, those who care about music will likely pursue other resources and therefore the school can go without. The principal can use other resources for teacher funding as well as other classroom resources. However, everyone benefits if all the children obtain reading skills in the lower grades.
- I want to know two things: Will it be possible to avoid a 4th/5th split with additional funding, or is this unavoidable? Also, is my donation tax deductible?
- I'd rather see all kids benefit from art and music than a few get reading support, sadly. I hate that's a choice we would have to make at Rieke.



## Additional Comments

- I would also like to see funding for additional PE and a better playground (a la Bridlemile)
- It's my understanding that "Classroom Teacher" can only be paid for from Foundation funds, so I rated it lowest priority for PTA. PTA should focus on programs that touch every child in the school. Not having music instruction this year affected everyone negatively and I'd like to see that restored.
- Reach out to local and national corporations for school grants. Google, Microsoft, Apple, Nike, Intel, Adidas



# Questions?

