

The Charleston Teacher Alliance is releasing the results of a recent survey on the CCSD budget problem. **Nearly 1000 CCSD teachers participated in the survey.** The results show an alarming picture of a district in crisis. As confidence in leadership continues to erode, teachers are voicing grave concerns that it is our students who stand to suffer the most.

**By an overwhelming margin (84%), teachers do not approve of the district's handling of the budget crisis.**

**86% of teachers do not trust the board to make budgetary decisions that are in the best interests of students.** Teachers agree with studies showing that smaller learning communities are crucial to providing students with a quality education. But while the district itself anticipates expansion by 1400 students, the board is planning to slash the number of teachers, raise class sizes, and decrease the number of schools. District leaders have insufficiently explained how a crisis that was not caused by having too many teachers can be fixed by having too few.

**83% of teachers say that they have been treated unfairly during the budget crisis.**

Teachers cite several examples:

- Discriminatory teacher transfers, with principals opting to keep younger, cheaper teachers while more experienced educators with the same qualifications are forced into transfers.
- The use of teacher allocations to fund administrative positions.
- The scapegoating of teachers, for example, by insinuating that making too many copies has as much to do with the current crisis as lack of board oversight.

Teachers are concerned that the unfair way they are being treated will have a trickle-down effect on students.

All of this occurs at a time when teachers are pushed and stressed more than ever. **76% of CCSD teachers report that their workload and stress have increased over the last three years, and 69% of teachers say they have seriously considered leaving the profession out of frustration.**

Given this, it is no surprise that **only 6% of teachers believe our district is on the right track.** The CTA publicly encourages district leaders to work constructively with teachers in a fair, good-faith effort to help solve the budget crisis so that every CCSD student is given the best opportunity to learn and succeed.

Survey data can be accessed here:

[http://www.charlestonealliance.com/uploads/3/0/5/9/30595451/cta\\_budget\\_survey.pdf](http://www.charlestonealliance.com/uploads/3/0/5/9/30595451/cta_budget_survey.pdf)

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*The Charleston Teacher Alliance (CTA) is the largest teacher advocacy organization in the Charleston County School District, and one of the largest in South Carolina. Contact CTA Director Jody Stallings at [CharlestonTeacherAlliance@gmail.com](mailto:CharlestonTeacherAlliance@gmail.com) or calling 843-884-7756.*