



The Nevada Policy Research Institute

For Immediate Release
January 29, 2008

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Nevadans want education reform, survey shows

The Nevada Policy Research Institute and The Friedman Foundation for Educational Choice today announced the results of a statewide survey on Nevadans' attitudes toward the state's education system. The results indicate both widespread dissatisfaction with Nevada's public education system and majority support for several measures that would give parents more control over their children's education. Among the key findings:

- A majority of Nevadans indicated they either strongly favor or somewhat favor programs that would give parents more choices in the education system, including special needs scholarships (56 percent), charter schools (55 percent) and school vouchers (54 percent).
- A plurality of Nevadans (48 percent), given a list of several types of schools, indicated they would prefer to send their own children to a private school. Only 11 percent said they would choose a traditional public school, while 23 percent chose a charter school and 15 percent said they would home school their children.

“These results ought to serve as a wake-up call to Nevada's educational leaders that the state's public education system is not meeting the needs of parents or children,” said NPRI Communications Director Andy Matthews. “It is clear that Nevadans are doubtful of the effectiveness of our monolithic public education system and want more choice when it comes to how their children are educated.”

The scientifically representative survey of 1,000 likely Nevada voters was conducted Dec. 14-16, 2007 by Strategic Vision, LLC, and has a margin of error of plus or minus 3 percent. Survey co-sponsors include Agudath Israel, the Black Alliance for Educational Options, the Center for Charter School Development, the Center for Education Reform, the Nevada Business Journal, and the Nevada Manufacturers Association. The full study is available at www.npri.org.

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