



Deloitte 2008 Business in Education Survey

Business involvement encouraged, but...

- **Improving business not very involved, should increase involvement:** Fifty-three percent of educators say “business is not very involved” in the education system, and 69 percent of educators say that it should increase its involvement.
- **Best way to get involved:** Ninety-seven percent of educators say funding and monetary donations; 98 percent say establishing scholarships and 96 percent say donating equipment are the best ways for businesses to help improve the education system.
- **Areas of disagreement:** Only 12 percent of educators think that businesses involvement in curricula development would *definitely* provide improvement, compared to 41 percent of business executives. Similarly, 14 percent of educators say business should definitely help set national standards, compared with 42 percent of executives who agree.

Challenges in the U.S. Education System

- **Appropriate funding:** According to majority of educators, appropriate funding is the #1 challenge to the U.S. education system (81 percent consider appropriate funding “a substantial” challenge; 27 percent considering it “the most substantial” challenge). Among business executives, funding is the top third ranking challenge (11 percent consider it “the most substantial” challenge).

- **Finding and retaining qualified teachers:** Business executives rank this challenge as #1 (24 percent say it is the “most substantial” challenge and 58 percent consider it “a substantial” challenge.) Fifty-eight percent of educators say this is “a substantial” challenge; 20 percent say it is “the most substantial” challenge—ranking it second to funding.
- **Creating fair access to education at all levels:** According to business executives, this is the fourth highest ranked challenge (48 percent say it is “a substantial” challenge; 9 percent say it is “the most substantial” challenge), while educators consider it slightly more important, ranking it the #3 (52 percent say it is “a substantial” challenge; 13 percent say it is “the most substantial” challenge).
- **Lack of classroom discipline and poor learning environment:** Forty-six percent of educators say this is “a substantial” challenge; 10 percent say it is “the most” substantial challenge, making it the fourth highest ranked by educators. Business executives consider this the second most important challenge to the education system (57 percent say it is “a substantial” challenge; 14 percent say it is “the most substantial” challenge).

Business executives can help

- **Donate money:** Similarly, donating money is high on the educators’ list of how business executives can help: Seventy-six percent of educators vs. 58 percent of business leaders.
- **Tutor/mentor:** Tutoring/mentoring is another way business executives can improve the education system, according to 78 percent of educators and 67 percent of business executives.

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