

FixCarver.com

School Survey Results Rehash Old Ground

The Carver School Committee met with the representatives of vendor that conducted the controversial school project survey on Monday June 18. Apparently the town spent \$15,000 to find out that some survey participants failed to vote on the non-binding referendum election. Another stunning result reported on the survey is that 84 percent of respondents were either parents of school children or school employees. Fixcarver believes that this surprising super majority was driven by multiple annoying misuse of the schools Connect-ed emergency call system by the school administration. Fixcarver learned that only three paper surveys were turned in. This should surprise no one because paper surveys were restricted to those who specifically requested them. Citizen requests for paper surveys for family members were refused unless the family member appeared in person to request them.

Survey results demonstrated the clear bias of the questions and the methods of distribution and advertizing which were targeted at demographics friendly to school supporters.

The unscientific nature of the results are underscored by a quote from the survey itself "survey participants do not constitute representative sample of community members, staff or parents" Fixcarver therefore is not going to dignify an unbiased survey by posting the results.

K12 representatives appear ready to continue the process with focus group sessions designed to sell the project this fall. Their recommendations included focus groups nominated by school committee members, hardly a recipe for unbiased results.

If the process to date is any indication Carver is headed to yet another divisive failed vote. The voters of Carver should ignore rhetoric and focus on actions. Until and unless the schools stop and their supporters stop standing in the way of reasonable efforts to set aside money under the levy limit there will be no school building project. Efforts by school supporters to steal the \$700,000 unexpected Nstar transformer money a couple of years ago for raises and their refusal to fully fund the school capital building stabilization fund at this years Town Meeting were counterproductive and wrong.

School supporters are in the unenviable position of having shouted down the last three attempts to reduce this projects tax impacts. We will not budge from our insistence on significant compromise before another vote.