

To: Interested Parties

From: GBA Strategies

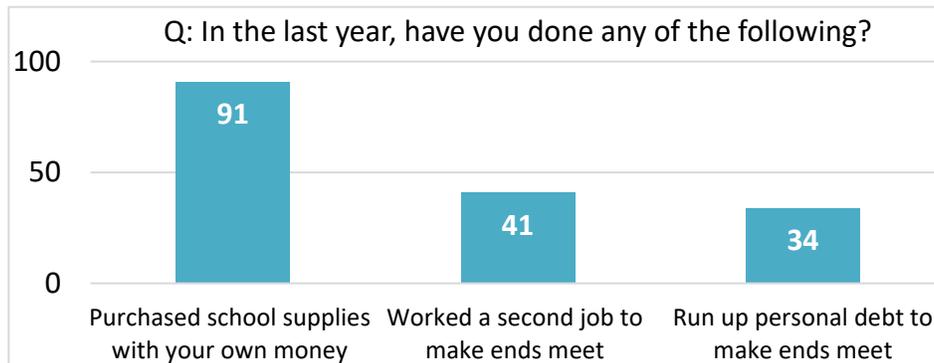
Date: August 10, 2018

Poll Analysis: Maryland Educators Facing Financial Strains

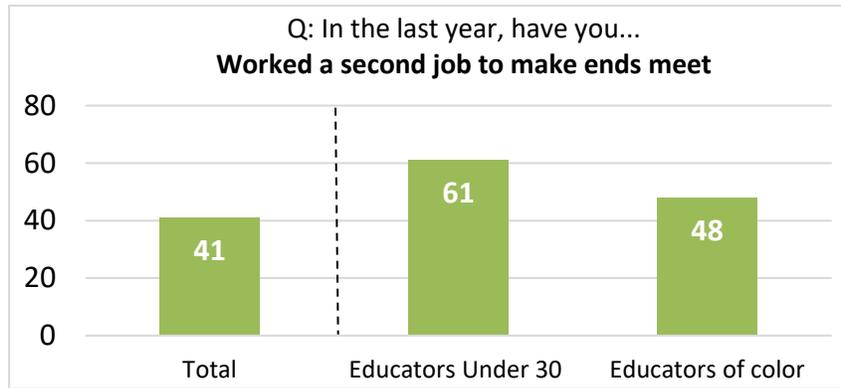
A new survey¹ among members of the Maryland State Education Association finds that many educators spend their own money on school supplies, work second jobs, and run up personal debt just to make ends meet.

Key Survey Findings

- **Most Maryland educators pay for school supplies out of their own pocket.** In the last year, 91 percent of educators surveyed spent their own money on school supplies.
- **Nearly 40 percent of Maryland educators have student debt.** Thirty-seven percent of educators have student debt and 21 percent have more than \$25,000 in student debt. Among educators under 50 years old, 49 percent have student debt. Among educators of color, 51 percent have student debt.
- **Four-in-ten educators get a second job to make ends meet.** To make ends meet, 41 percent of educators surveyed have second jobs. Among educators under 30 years old, 61 percent have worked a second job in the last year. Among educators of color, 48 percent have worked a second job in the last year. Sixty-two percent of educators say their salary makes it hard for their families to make ends meet.



¹ GBA Strategies administered this survey of 800 public school employees who are members of the Maryland State Education Association. This survey, on behalf of MSEA, was conducted July 17th-22nd, 2018 and reached respondents on both landlines and cell phones. The survey results carry a margin of error +/-3.5 percentage points at the 95 percent confidence interval.



- Maryland educators also concerned about inadequate staffing and funding.** Seventy one percent of educators agree that inadequate staffing levels make their school days difficult and 69 percent feel that their school does not have enough funding to help every student be successful.

