

# APP.com

## Poll shows willingness to "share"

Apr 17, 2011|

Lesson one in a popular book 20-some years ago called "All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten" was "share everything."

Two decades later, New Jersey voters appear ready to apply the lesson. More than 7 in 10 voters say they support the sharing of municipal services such as police and fire departments, and they're willing to back it in their own town, too, according to a new poll by Fairleigh Dickinson University.

When specific services are offered for possible sharing, the poll numbers drop, but not by much: nearly two in every three voters are willing to share police services in their town, while 29 percent object. The numbers are about the same for sharing fire services or school district administration. Women typically scored 10 percentage points less than men in their support of sharing.

"Given every town's problems with tight budgets, high property taxes and pension contributions, perhaps sharing services is an idea whose time has finally come," poll director Peter Woolley said.

### College to present award to most civil public official

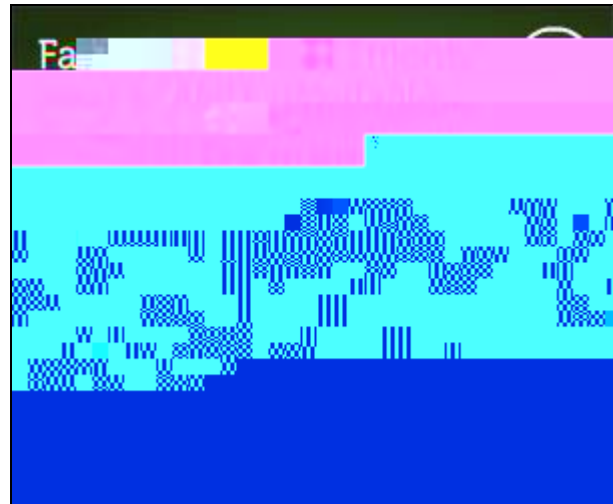
In an effort to help inject some civility into government and politics, the Richard Stockton College of New Jersey's William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy is sponsoring a contest that will recognize an appointed or elected New Jersey official who "conducts the public's business with civility and respect for others."

The aim of the award, said William J. Hughes, a former congressman, is to offer "positive examples of individuals who vigorously pursue their public goals, but do so without rancor."

Contest organizers are seeking nominees whose "political discourse is based on fact," who respect others' opinions regardless of political affiliation, who "at all times act with dignity, decency and courtesy," and who "consistently exhibit behavior that is respectful."

Members of the public may suggest candidates by downloading the nomination form at [www.stockton.edu/hughescenter](http://www.stockton.edu/hughescenter).

Advertisement



Print Powered By  FormatDynamics™

---

## **Acting education chief getting some costly advice**

education cut from President Obama," said Assemblyman G42 09 6Budget

Acting Education Commissioner Christopher Cerf snapped at reporters after being asked about his privately financed consultant at a budget hearing last week.

The management consultant, William Cox, is being paid \$60,000 to advise Cerf on his new job, and is being paid by the Broad Foundation in Los Angeles, a well-known education management foundation. Cerf initially refused to answer reporters' questions at first, and then barely outlined Cox's duties.

Some might cry that this means a conservative consultant is whispering in Cerf's ear, but should anyone be surprised that the Christie administration has links to outside groups, especially when it comes to education? So why not be transparent about it?

## **The glass is half full on stimulus funding**

Republican state lawmakers are disappointed the federal stimulus program has expired. Well, not in so many words. But in their efforts to defend Gov. Chris Christie's proposed education budget, which boosts school aid by \$250 million a year after it was reduced by \$1 billion last year, Republicans on the Assembly Budget Committee are seeking to redirect responsibility to President Barack Obama.

"This administration overcame a \$1 billion