

the highest percentage of laptop use. The two wealthiest categories also reported the greatest belief that the computer is a practical tool for high school principals.

Word processing is a skill that appears to be refined in proportion to the wealth of the school district. As the wealth of the district rises, so does the comfort level regarding word processing of the high school principals.

The comfort level regarding using a modem is also proportionate to the wealth of the school district. The questions involving creating and presenting an electronic slide show and accessing information on a CD-ROM appear to be affected to some degree by LCI. Except for the two respondents in the poorest category, the respondents' comfort levels with regard to these technological skills appear to be proportionate to the wealth of their school district.

The two highest LCI categories also reported the greatest completion of a formal computer course. The other two categories scored considerably less.

The opinion that using computers for administrative purposes has improved the quality and accuracy of their work also appears to be proportionate to the wealth of the district in which the principal is employed. The percentages of respondents with that belief range from 50% in the poorest districts to 83.3% in the wealthiest districts.

#### **Size of School Population and Use of Electronic Technology**

Survey respondents were asked to report the Average Daily Membership (ADM) of their schools as of September 30, 1997. Each school was then placed into one of five categories of school population size: 0-500, 501-1000, 1001-1500, 1501-2000, and over 2000. Each survey question was analyzed according to these five categories. The results are presented in Table 8.

There are seven areas which have a positive relationship with size of student population. Home computer ownership is greatest among principals who work with student populations over 2000. Home computer use is also greatest for this group. The likelihood of laptop use is directly proportionate to the size of the student population.

Principals in high schools with populations over 2000 are also more likely to rate themselves as being very comfortable with creating a master schedule. This group had the highest mean of any of the five categories.

Principals with student populations greater than 2000 also rate themselves the most comfortable of the five categories with respect to retrieving information from the student database, using a modem, and functioning as a member of an electronic mail network.

