



Teach Plus New Mexico conducted three educator surveys related to teaching, professional learning, and opinions for school re-entry during COVID-19 during March-June 2020. The following is a summary of findings from each survey:

Survey 1: Teacher and Student Engagement During COVID-19

Finding 1. While more than half of New Mexico’s educators understand what is expected of them and believe they have the resources they need to meet expectations, additional resources would be helpful.

Finding 2. Only about half of the teachers believe the level of their district’s expectation of them while school buildings are closed is “about right.”

Finding 3. Overall, teachers believe communication from their districts and the state about how students, teachers, and school are impacted by COVID-19 has been effective.

Finding 4. New Mexico teachers are using a variety of activities to engage their students while school buildings are closed.

Finding 5. Teachers are concerned about their social and emotional well-being during this time.

Survey 2: Teacher Perspectives on Valuable Training Topics

Finding 1. Teachers are in need of training that will increase their knowledge and strategies related to distance learning and safety.

Finding 2. Two out of three teachers are in need of training support for Google Classroom.

Finding 3. Teachers have identified additional areas of need for professional development and support for students and their families.

Topic	Greatly Needed	Somewhat Needed
Strategies for engaging students virtually	64.7%	30.6%
Strategies for making distance learning equitable	63.7%	29.0%
Strategies for students with special needs	59.0%	30.7%
Ensuring your classroom is sanitized and monitoring for safety once school buildings are re-opened	54.2%	24.7%

Survey 3: Preparing for Back-to-School During COVID-19

Finding 1. Although the majority of teachers felt that their school implemented distance learning effectively, only about half found it a positive experience.

Finding 2. Teachers identified technology access and training, student participation, and lack of accountability as barriers to distance learning. At the same time, teachers saw increased engagement from students who have previously disengaged in class and identified family support among the positive experiences of distance learning.

Finding 3. Teachers' preferences vary in regards to the in-person and distance learning options for the 2020-2021 school year.

Finding 4. In order to feel safe, supported, and prepared to return to school buildings, teachers need clear and consistent guidelines, safety/sanitation equipment, and quality school cleanliness.

Educators are divided on which back-to-school options they prefer. Respondents indicated their support for the following options for beginning the 2020-2021 school year as follows:

Teacher Preferences on Back to School

