EDUCATIONAL EQUITY IN CRISIS
LISTENING TO PARENTS: THE RESULTS OF OUR STATEWIDE SURVEY OF PUBLIC SCHOOL PARENTS

KEY FINDINGS

1. Parents are very concerned about their child falling behind academically as a result of not being in school. Among a long list of potential concerns, academic concerns rise to the top.

2. In the immediate aftermath of school closures, California parents give positive ratings to schools for their handling of coronavirus and the transition to remote learning overall.

3. There are large gaps between what parents want and what is currently available in the early weeks of school closures — with access to their child’s teacher rated as what parents would find most helpful, even ahead of technology resources.

4. In addition, there are clear gaps that parents feel prevent their children from successfully participating in alternatives to instruction while schools remain closed.

5. This is a stressful time for parents, who have real fears about how their families will cope during this period.

Survey conducted by Global Strategy Group on behalf of The Education Trust–West. The survey was conducted from 3/25-4/1 and had a confidence interval of +/-2.8%. Learn more at edtrustwest.org/covid19.
ACADEMIC ISSUES TOP PARENT CONCERNS

Below are some concerns parents have raised about their children not being in school as a result of coronavirus.

89% Concerning
- Ensuring your child does not fall behind academically

84% Ensuring your child is on track to graduate
- (among high school parents)

84% Your child feeling bored or under-stimulated while they are at home

77% Ensuring your child feels safe and emotionally at ease

76% Being able to provide for your child financially

CHILDREN’S HEALTH AND EDUCATION ARE BIGGEST CONCERN FOR PARENTS, WITH LEARNING AND SOCIAL IMPACTS TOP OF MIND

Broadly speaking, what is your biggest concern as a parent during this crisis?

What is your biggest concern about your child not being in school as a result of coronavirus?

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PARENTS APPRECIATE HOW THEIR SCHOOLS ARE RESPONDING TO CORONAVIRUS

How would you rate the job your child’s school or school district is doing handling coronavirus?

- 41% GOOD
- 40% EXCELLENT
- 13% ONLY FAIR
- 4% POOR
- 1% DON’T KNOW ENOUGH TO GIVE A RATING

May not add to 100% due to rounding error

THE VAST MAJORITY OF SCHOOLS ARE PROVIDING INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS IN MATH AND READING/ENGLISH, BUT FAR FEWER IN SCIENCE, SOCIAL STUDIES, AND OTHER SUBJECTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading/English</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Studies</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Languages</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Education</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music and the Arts</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Sure</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Of the 82% of parents whose schools have provided instructional materials, as far as you know, what subjects are covered by the instructional materials you have received?

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EQUITY PRIORITY: MORE SUPPORT NEEDED FOR ENGLISH LEARNERS

- 25% of non-English home speakers
- 25% of native Spanish speakers

SAY THEIR CHILD’S SCHOOL HAS NOT PROVIDED MATERIALS IN OTHER LANGUAGES

EQUITY PRIORITY: MORE CONTACT WITH SCHOOL COUNSELORS

- 91% of parents say it would be helpful
- 24% of parents say their school is currently doing this

PROVIDING PARENTS WITH REGULAR CONTACT WITH OR ACCESS TO A SCHOOL COUNSELOR

EQUITY PRIORITY: MORE HELP WITH DISTANCE LEARNING

- 91% of parents say it would be helpful
- 29% of parents say their school is currently doing this

PROVIDING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO HELP FAMILIES GET SET UP FOR REMOTE/DISTANCE LEARNING

EQUITY PRIORITY: INSTRUCTION THAT DOES NOT RELY ON THE INTERNET

- 90% of parents say it would be helpful
- 39% of parents say their school is currently doing this

PROVIDING PARENTS WITH PAPER PACKETS OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS
NEARLY 8 IN 10 PARENTS REPORT THAT THEIR CHILD’S SCHOOL IS USING OR PLANNING TO USE REMOTE OR DISTANCE LEARNING

Is your child’s school or school district relying on distance, remote, or online learning while school is closed?

BLACK PARENTS AND PARENTS WHO ARE LOW-INCOME ARE LESS LIKELY TO HAVE THEIR NEEDS MET BY REMOTE OR DISTANCE LEARNING

How successful has remote or distance learning been for you and your child?

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ACCESS TO COMPUTERS AND THE INTERNET ARE TOP BARRIERS FOR PARENTS WHO DO NOT FEEL CONFIDENT WITH REMOTE OR DISTANCE LEARNING

Below are things that could prevent families from participating in remote or distance learning.

- 41% We don’t have a computer or a tablet or enough devices at home
- 29% We don’t have reliable high-speed internet access at home
- 23% We don’t know how to use the remote/distance learning software
- 11% My child is too young to participate in remote/distance learning on his/her own while I am working
- 15% My child has a disability or needs accommodations
- 21% None of these apply to me or my child

ALMOST A THIRD OF PARENTS EITHER DO NOT HAVE ACCESS TO FREE MEALS FOR THEIR CHILDREN OR DO NOT KNOW THIS RESOURCE EXISTS

Is your child’s school or school district providing free breakfast and/or lunch while school is closed?

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