An Overview of Results About Online Learning from SDP's June 2020 Survey

OFFICE OF EVALUATION, RESEARCH, AND ACCOUNTABILITY (ERA)

ADVANCING EDUCATION SAFELY

28,000+ Responses Between June 15 and June 22.

The survey asked about experiences with online learning and communication during school closures. The online learning practices asked about in the survey are aligned to best practices in online learning. For more information, visit bit.ly/ERAonlinelearning.

More than half of teachers said District communication was clear or very clear about...

74% ...how and when to respond to parent/guardian concerns

69% ...initiating conversations with families about challenges

62% ...real-time instruction (synchronous learning)

63% ...engaging students on their own time (asynchronous learning)

...but teachers and administrators also said they wanted more concise, streamlined, and consistent communication.

"Once students heard on the news from Dr. Hite they couldn't fail for not turning in work, my weekly participation dropped to 20% or less from my 240 students...He should've told teachers first."

"A lot of guidance was...wordy, complicated, or contradictory."

"Too many e-mails with conflicting info...asking us to 'ignore previous instructions.' Understandable that this was a learning curve, but some of it felt...unnecessary and sloppy."
More than half of students said they agreed or strongly agreed that...

- 85% teachers were understanding about challenges
- 79% teachers clearly explained what they were supposed to do
- 82% teachers answered all their questions about assignments
- 63% their assignments were easy to find online

...but some students had negative experiences due to a lack of clear and consistent communication...

"The online Google meets schedule was very unorganized. For example, the school website would say one time while the Google class page said something else."

"I fell behind in school during the online session. I need a teacher helping me in person."

And more than half of students (58%) agreed or strongly agreed that it was hard to stay focused on school at home.

- Strongly Agree: 26%
- Agree: 32%
- Disagree: 30%
- Strongly Disagree: 12%

How much do you agree or disagree with this statement: "It was hard to stay focused on my school work at home."

"I liked online learning because it was easy to understand...I like to see what I have to do and be organized."
"Online classes do not help me learn."
"I had trouble staying focused, adhering to deadlines, and retaining any information given from the online assignments and can't imagine doing virtual learning long term."
"I liked remote learning... and had a lot of one-on-one [time] with my teacher."
More than half of parents and guardians agreed or strongly agreed that they spent a lot of time helping their child with schoolwork...

"The school work was too challenging for my child."
- 20% Strongly Disagree
- 56% Disagree
- 17% Agree
- 5% Strongly Agree

"It was too hard to help my child with their school work."
- 21% Strongly Disagree
- 44% Disagree
- 22% Agree
- 11% Strongly Agree

"It was hard for my child to manage their time."
- 17% Strongly Disagree
- 42% Disagree
- 24% Agree
- 15% Strongly Agree

"I spent a lot of time helping my child with school work."
- 11% Strongly Disagree
- 29% Disagree
- 29% Agree
- 30% Strongly Agree

...and many described challenging experiences.

"Any other kind of learning would be better...Google meetings...were worse than no school. I never thought I'd ask for worksheets, but [assignments] would be better on paper."

"A small setting and/or one-on-one learning is a MUST for my special-needs child."

"Very simple assessments that [my child] could easily do on paper were almost impossible...He spent about 90% of his time trying to physically put the answer into the machine."

For a longer summary of results from the June surveys about online learning and school reopening, go to bit.ly/SDPreturnsurvey.

The School District of Philadelphia is working to ensure that the restart of school is safe, includes families and employees in the process, and prioritizes student achievement, high-quality instruction and the health and well-being of all.

For the most recent information, opportunities to provide feedback, and our plans for reopening school safely, please visit www.philasd.org/coronavirus/schoolstart2020/.