Sample Survey Questions

With COVID-19 changing the education landscape in unprecedented ways, understanding and responding to the needs of students, families, and staff is more important than ever.

Since the onset of the pandemic, TNTP has designed several stakeholder surveys to help school systems respond more quickly and effectively to pressing challenges, like supporting stakeholders through the abrupt transition to remote learning last spring and planning for the 2020-21 school year. Below are sample questions from our spring support and summer planning surveys, as well as from our latest fall survey on learning experience.

If you’d like more information on how TNTP can help you administer this survey and gather real-time feedback from students, families, and staff, please get in touch by emailing insight@tntp.org.

TNTP Fall Learning Experience Survey for School Year 2020-21

Below are sample questions from the Fall Learning Experience Survey for School Year 2020-21, which collects feedback on stakeholder needs during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. It can be used for schools doing remote learning, in-person learning, or a combination of both.

Sample Survey Items for Parents/Guardians
1. Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements. (Response Options: Strongly Agree, Agree, Somewhat Agree, Somewhat Disagree, Disagree, Strongly Disagree, N/A – I don’t have enough information to answer this question)
   - I know what is expected of my child to be successful in their grade.
   - My child’s teacher(s) regularly share feedback on my child’s work.
   - My child is completing challenging work this year.
   - The work my child is being asked to do is helping them learn new things.

(For parents/guardians of children participating in remote learning)
2. My child learns most when their teacher(s): (Select top two)
   - Teach lessons online (live).
   - Record lessons so my child can watch them later.
   - Assign online assignments for my child to complete on their own.
   - Assign paper packets for my child to complete on their own.
   - Assign optional work for my child to complete on their own.
   - Other (please specify).
   - None of the above.

Sample Survey Items for Teachers
1. Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements. (Strongly Agree to Strongly Disagree, N/A)
   - I am able to successfully facilitate learning for all of my students.
   - All students in my class are capable of meeting grade-level expectations, even during this pandemic.

(For teachers teaching remotely)
2. In the last week, what percentage of your students regularly engaged in remote learning? This includes regularly attending live classes over video, submitting assignments, or otherwise engaging with the structures put in place for remote learning. (0-100)

TNTP COVID-19 Planning Survey for School Year 2020-21

Here are a few sample questions from our summer planning survey, which helped school systems gather feedback that would help inform plans for the 2020-21 school year.
Sample Survey Items

1. Given what we know currently about the COVID-19 pandemic, where would you prefer that your district/network focus?
   - Making it safe for students and staff to return to the school building
   - Making remote learning the best it can be
   - Do not have a preference

2. Across the country, schools are considering different precautions that would allow students and staff to return to school buildings safely. Given what we know currently about the COVID-19 pandemic, for each of the following, please assume your school has the resources to enforce this precaution and indicate how this precaution would affect your willingness to teach or work in person at your school building.* (This must be in place before I would work in person, This would make me more comfortable working in person, This would not affect my decision of whether to work in person, This would make me uncomfortable working in person, I would not work in person if this were in place)
   - The school is thoroughly cleaned at least once a day.
   - Students and staff are required to wear masks during the school day.
   - Students and staff are screened for symptoms before entering the school.
   - Parents/guardians are notified if students may have been exposed to someone with COVID-19.
   - Students remain at least 6 feet apart from other people at all times.
   - Students and staff regularly wash hands with soap and water.
   - Hand sanitizer is provided in each classroom and frequently used.
   - Class spaces are better ventilated – with windows and doors left open and fans turned on where applicable.
   - Cafeteria food is individually packaged.
   - Class sizes are reduced by 50%.
   - Students and staff who have been exposed to someone with COVID-19 must stay home for 14 days before returning to school.
   - Buses run at 50% capacity.

*This question was asked of teachers and support staff. Parents were asked how each precaution affected their willingness to send their child(ren) to school, and school leaders and support staff were asked how feasible it would be to implement each precaution.

TNTP COVID-19 Support Survey

These are sample questions from the initial spring support survey we developed to help districts and networks gather ongoing feedback from stakeholders during the initial school closures and transition to remote learning.

Sample Survey Items for Parents/Guardians

1. Please select which best describes your situation regarding food. (Select one)
   - I am not currently relying on the district/network for any of our meals, and I do not need that support.
   - I am not currently relying on the district/network for any of our meals, but that would be helpful for our family.
   - I am currently relying on the district/network for meals and receiving enough food.
   - I am currently relying on the district/network for meals and not receiving enough food.
   - N/A – Not applicable

2. Which best matches your beliefs about your child’s readiness for next year?
• I believe my child is ready for the next grade level.
• I believe my child will be ready for the next grade level by the end of spring.
• I believe my child will need summer supports to be ready for the next grade level.
• I believe my child will not be ready for the next grade level.

Sample Survey Items for School Leaders
1. Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements. (Strongly Agree to Strongly Disagree, N/A)
   • I have the flexibility I need to support students and families who are in need.
   • I have the flexibility I need to support school staff who are in need.
   • I know where to refer families and students to help them meet their basic needs (e.g., food, shelter, healthcare, counseling services).
   • My direct manager contacted me just to check up on how I am doing during this time.

2. How far along is your planning in the following areas? (I have a complete plan in place, I have a partial plan in place, I have thought about this but have not yet made plans, I have not yet had time to think about this, N/A – This is not relevant to my school)
   • Catching students up during the summer or early fall
   • Offering in-person or remote summer learning at my school
   • Meeting the unique needs students and their families will have upon returning to school
   • Assessing student performance and needs upon returning to school
   • Differentiating support for all student populations (e.g., ELL, Special Education)
   • Providing additional professional development to support teachers in helping students get back on track when returning to school
   • Opening the school with no vacancies
   • Making a contingency plan in case my hiring plan needs to be adjusted to a more virtual process