

The Oklahoma Education Association School Safety and Distance Learning Survey

The online survey was conducted June 1-9 for members of the Oklahoma Education Association. A total of 2,978 surveys were completed, and 2,895 were deemed to be valid. Not all questions required an answer, so most results will total to less than 2,895.



School Safety

If you work in a specific school building regularly, does your location have a nurse?

Yes, full-time	1,073	39%
Yes, part-time	900	32%
No, a nurse assistant or health aide	392	14%
No, no health care staff	355	13%
Not sure	52	2%

How confident are you that your local district administration will provide what you need to be safe at work?

Very confident	1,082	37%
Somewhat confident	1,308	45%
Not confident	399	14%
Not sure	105	4%

How confident are you that your local school board will provide what you need to be safe at work?

Very confident	817	35%
Somewhat confident	1,080	46%
Not confident	345	15%
Not sure	117	5%

Does your school district normally provide hygienic supplies (such as wipes, hand sanitizer, tissues, etc.) for your classroom/office/workspace for free?

Yes, the district provides hygienic supplies and I have enough	301	10%
Yes, the district provides hygienic supplies but I run out	291	10%
No, these items are on my students' school supply lists and I have enough	568	20%
No, these items are on my students' school supply lists but I run out	959	33%
No, I have to purchase these items myself	741	26%
Not applicable	35	1%

Do you feel your school districts leaders are involving teachers and support professionals in their HEALTH and SAFETY planning for Fall 2020?

Yes	1,074	37%
No	1,821	63%

Is social distancing possible with your job?

Yes	404	14%
No	2,491	86%

If your district provided a MASK to wear, would you wear it?

Yes, I would wear a district-provided mask or my own mask	2,115	73%
No, I wouldn't want to wear a mask	701	24%
No, I am unable to wear a mask	79	3%

If your district provided a FACE SHIELD to wear, would you wear it?

Yes, I would wear a district-provided face shield or my own face shield	1,592	55%
No, I wouldn't want to wear a face shield	1,249	43%
No, I am unable to wear a face shield	54	2%

Are you concerned about your own health working in a school environment this fall?

Very concerned	985	34%
A little concerned	1,365	47%
Not concerned	511	18%
Not sure / prefer not to answer	34	1%

Do you think the following items are good ideas or bad ideas: School districts providing masks to employees?

Good idea	2,168	75%
Bad idea	224	8%
Not sure	502	17%

Do you think the following items are good ideas or bad ideas: School districts providing masks to students?

Good idea	1,670	63%
Bad idea	444	17%
Not sure	539	20%

Do you think the following items are good ideas or bad ideas: School districts providing masks to visitors?

Good idea	2,120	81%
Bad idea	142	5%
Not sure	348	13%

Do you think the following items are good ideas or bad ideas: School districts requiring masks for employees?

Good idea	1,246	48%
Bad idea	617	24%
Not sure	749	29%

Do you think the following items are good ideas or bad ideas: School districts requiring masks for students?

Good idea	994	40%
Bad idea	762	31%
Not sure	737	30%

Do you think the following items are good ideas or bad ideas: School districts requiring masks for visitors?

Good idea	1,850	76%
Bad idea	218	9%
Not sure	368	15%

Do you think the following items are good ideas or bad ideas: Daily temperature screenings at school sites?

Good idea	1,773	74%
Bad idea	190	8%
Not sure	436	18%

Do you think the following items are good ideas or bad ideas: Using the CDC-recommended four-question screening process?

Good idea	1,559	65%
Bad idea	191	8%
Not sure	639	27%

Back-to-School

These are the most common scenarios being discussed for Fall 2020. Which do you think would be good for your district? Check all that apply. (Counts are in support out of a total of 2,895.)

EARLY START. Starting school earlier in the year than normal to get a jump start on time lost in the spring.	340	12%
STAGGERED START. Starting the school year on different days/times for different grades, classes, buildings, etc.	508	18%
MORE TIME. Adding instruction time to the school day or the school week to help students catch up from time lost in the spring.	182	6%
A/B DAYS. Having students attend every other day to reduce the number of children at school at any one time. Students not at school would do work remotely.	1,415	49%
MORE BREAKS. Plan for longer or more frequent breaks throughout the year.	983	34%
VIRTUAL DAYS. Planning for distance learning days throughout the school year.	1,477	51%
REGULAR CALENDAR. Resume school as normal.	1,159	40%

Now, which do you think would be the BEST for your district? Check one.

EARLY START. Starting school earlier in the year than normal to get a jump start on time lost in the spring.	137	5%
STAGGERED START. Starting the school year on different days/times for different grades, classes, buildings, etc.	146	5%
MORE TIME. Adding instruction time to the school day or the school week to help students catch up from time lost in the spring.	64	2%
A/B DAYS. Having students attend every other day to reduce the number of children at school at any one time. Students not at school would do work remotely.	880	31%
MORE BREAKS. Plan for longer or more frequent breaks throughout the year.	279	10%
VIRTUAL DAYS. Planning for distance learning days throughout the school year.	494	17%
REGULAR CALENDAR. Resume school as normal.	791	28%

Do you need professional development this year that's different from what you would normally want before the school year?

Yes	1,839	64%
No	1,056	36%

Do you feel your school district leaders are involving teachers and support professionals in their CALENDAR planning for Fall 2020?

Yes	1,031	36%
No	1,864	64%

Do you feel your school district leaders are involving teachers and support professionals in their ACADEMIC planning for Fall 2020?

Yes	1,239	43%
No	1,656	57%

Please choose the statement that best describes the SUBSTITUTE TEACHER situation in your district.

We HAVE ENOUGH substitute teachers, and the pandemic probably WILL NOT make finding subs harder.	38	1%
We HAVE ENOUGH substitute teachers, but the pandemic probably WILL make finding subs harder.	226	8%
We DO NOT HAVE ENOUGH substitute teachers, but the pandemic probably WILL NOT make finding subs harder.	220	8%
We DO NOT HAVE ENOUGH substitute teachers, and the pandemic probably WILL make finding subs harder.	2,317	83%

Are you worried your district will either layoff workers or leave empty positions unfilled in the 2020-2021 school year?

Yes	1,557	54%
No	1,338	46%

Are you worried that you may be laid off or lose hours in the 2020-2021 school year?

Yes	726	25%
No	2,169	75%

Should support staff be paid if schools close because of a COVID-19 outbreak?

Yes	2,744	95%
No	151	5%

If you contracted COVID-19, would you have enough paid sick leave?

Yes	1,706	59%
No	1,189	41%

If you are an educator, do you plan to incorporate aspects of COVID-19 or the pandemic into your lesson plans?

Yes	1,571	56%
No	1,238	44%

Are the following issues a problem for students and families in your district: Technology at home?

Major problem	1,674	58%
Minor problem	1,014	35%
Not a problem	123	4%
Note sure	125	4%

Are the following issues a problem for students and families in your district: Internet access?

Major problem	1,545	54%
Minor problem	906	31%
Not a problem	73	3%
Note sure	103	4%

Are the following issues a problem for students and families in your district: Parental involvement?

Major problem	1,680	58%
Minor problem	769	27%
Not a problem	65	2%
Note sure	69	2%

Are the following issues a problem for students and families in your district: Food security?

Major problem	1,472	51%
Minor problem	876	30%
Not a problem	83	3%
Note sure	135	5%

Are the following issues a problem for students and families in your district: Reliable childcare?

Major problem	1,370	47%
Minor problem	625	22%
Not a problem	59	2%
Note sure	432	15%

Are the following issues a problem for students and families in your district: Access to health care?

Major problem	801	28%
Minor problem	943	33%
Not a problem	139	5%
Note sure	574	20%

Are the following issues a problem for students and families in your district: Access to mental health services?

Major problem	1,144	40%
Minor problem	600	21%
Not a problem	101	4%
Note sure	575	20%

How do you think the following activities/events should resume in the 2020-2021 school year: Athletics?

As usual	395	13%
With precautions	2,025	69%
Cancel	283	10%
Not sure	249	8%

How do you think the following activities/events should resume in the 2020-2021 school year: Assemblies?

As usual	246	10%
With precautions	1,011	42%
Cancel	967	40%
Not sure	205	8%

How do you think the following activities/events should resume in the 2020-2021 school year: Class rotations?

As usual	477	20%
With precautions	1,400	58%
Cancel	254	11%
Not sure	270	11%

How do you think the following activities/events should resume in the 2020-2021 school year: School volunteering?

As usual	230	10%
With precautions	1,461	61%
Cancel	455	19%
Not sure	234	10%

How do you think the following activities/events should resume in the 2020-2021 school year: State testing?

As usual	267	11%
With precautions	673	29%
Cancel	1,126	48%
Not sure	262	11%

How do you think the following activities/events should resume in the 2020-2021 school year: School meals?

As usual	751	32%
With precautions	1,483	64%
Cancel	17	1%
Not sure	62	3%

How do you think the following activities/events should resume in the 2020-2021 school year: Field trips?

As usual	218	10%
With precautions	955	42%
Cancel	852	38%
Not sure	247	11%

How do you think the following activities/events should resume in the 2020-2021 school year: Recess?

As usual	667	29%
With precautions	1,367	60%
Cancel	81	4%
Not sure	161	7%

How do you think the following activities/events should resume in the 2020-2021 school year: School transportation?

As usual	485	22%
With precautions	1,526	68%
Cancel	48	2%
Not sure	193	9%

How do you think the following activities/events should resume in the 2020-2021 school year: State A-F report cards for school?

As usual	125	6%
With precautions	139	6%
Cancel	1,666	77%
Not sure	236	11%

About the Survey Participants

What is your primary job role?

Certified teacher - elementary school	988	33%
Certified teacher - high school	568	19%
Certified teacher - middle school	488	16%
Certified teacher - early childhood	473	16%
Certified teacher - other	178	6%
Para-educator / teaching assistant	88	3%
Support professionals	76	3%
Counselor	54	2%
Administrator	46	2%

Are you in a high-risk category according to CDC guidelines? Examples could be age 65 or older, cancer treatment, diabetes, etc.

Yes	895	31%
No	1,830	64%
Prefer not to answer	139	5%

How long have you worked in education?

Less than 5 years	343	12%
5 to 10 years	540	19%
11 to 15 years	472	16%
16 to 20 years	419	14%
21 to 25 years	483	17%
26 to 30 years	319	11%
31 or more years	319	11%