Speak Up – Survey Questions

Speak Up, an online research project facilitated by Project Tomorrow, is an annual survey that collects and reports on the authentic, unfiltered views and opinions of K-12 students, parents and educators on critical 21st century education and technology issues.

Since 2003, over 3.4 million K-12 education stakeholders have participated in the annual online surveys. Data findings are shared each year with federal, state and local policymakers to inform education programs, policies and funding.

Student surveys are grade and reading level appropriate; separated into surveys for grades Kindergarten through 2nd, 3rd through 5th, 6th through 8th and 9th through 12th. Surveys for Parents, Teachers, Librarian & media specialists, school & district Administrators and Technology Leaders take into consideration each group’s unique perspectives. Each survey contains 15 to 25 questions, with one or two open-ended responses. 60% are legacy questions; carried over from year to year in order to track changes in attitude over time. 40% are created each year in an effort to gain insight into emerging technologies and innovations.

Speak Up Topics by Theme

**Demographics**
- Age (Adults)
- Race or Cultural Identity (Adults)
- Highest level of education attainment (Adults)
- Years of Experience (Adults)
- What grades/subject do you currently teach? (Adults)
- Gender (Students, Adults)
- Grade level (Students)
- Job responsibility/title (Adults)
- Household Income (Adults)
- What educational organizations are you apart of? (Adults)

**Technology**
- Tech proficiency
- Technology for schoolwork
- Obstacles for using technology in school
- Suggestions to improve technology usage
- Home-to-school communications
- Technology to improve education/ teaching effectiveness
- Ultimate school

**Strategic Planning**
- Importance of effective implementation of technology
- Administrate challenges
- Technology to increase student achievement
- Parent concerns regarding use of technology at school
- Ed Tech Budget challenges and solutions
- Teacher Evaluations
- Pre-service teacher preparation
- Effective measurements of technology projects or initiatives
**Online Learning**
- Experience with online learning (taking/teaching)
- Advantages/Benefits of taking an online learning class
- Barriers to online learning courses for students
- Current online/blended learning models being used at school
- Subjects currently offered in school
- Primary audience

**Mobile Learning**
- Access to mobile devices (owned or school provided)
- Mobile devices for schoolwork
- Parental support of mobile devices in the classroom
- Current bring Your Own Technology (BYOT) policies within class
- Challenges/concerns regarding BYOT approach in the classroom

**Online Assessments**
- District current status
- Challenges/Benefits
- Familiarity with common core standards
- Communications to parents regarding implementation of common core standards

**Digital Content and Professional Development**
- Types of Digital content being used in the classroom
- Digital content evaluation techniques
- Benefits/Barriers of digital content implementation
- Professional development experiences/resources offered to help teachers with digital content selection
- Benefits of intelligent adaptive learning software
- Flipped Learning
- Game based learning
- Professional development (PD) wish list
- Preferred methods of PD

**21st Century Skills and Career Exploration**
- STEM career interest
- Students wants for career exploration options offered within schools
- Student association participation
- College and career readiness skills
- Writing and technology
Speak Up Legacy Questions

- How would you describe your technology skills? (Modified question ACROSS AUDIENCES: 2003-2013)
  - An advanced tech user – more expert than most of my peers
  - An average tech user – about the same as my peers
  - A beginning tech user – less developed than my peers

- How important is the effective implementation of instructional technology to the success of students in your school/district/community? (Modified question ACROSS AUDIENCES – 2007-2013)
  - Strongly agree
  - Agree
  - Disagree
  - Strongly disagree
  - No opinion
  - I don't know

- What kind of computer and Internet access do you have at home? (Students, Parents, Members of the community: 2006-2013)
  - The computer I use at home has slow or dialup Internet access
  - The computer I use at home has fast Internet access (such as: DSL, Broadband, or cable)
  - I access the Internet primarily through a wifi or 3G/4G mobile device
  - I access the Internet outside of school through a mobile computer or tablet that was provided to me by my school
  - I access the Internet at home through a TV or Wii system
  - Outside of school, my only access to the Internet is through computers at the public library, after school program or community recreation center
  - My only access to the Internet is at school

- Imagine you are designing the ultimate school. Which of these tools would have the greatest positive impact on your (the student’s) learning? (Modified question ACROSS AUDIENCES: 2009-2013)
  - Ability to access the Internet anywhere at school
  - Ability to use my own mobile devices at school (such as smartphones and tablets)
  - Adaptive learning software which adjusts levels of difficulty and content to address your needs
  - Chat rooms to discuss topics with students while in class
  - Digital content (such as: databases, electronic books, animations, videos etc.)
  - Digital media creation tools (video, audio)
  - Digital reader (such as: Kindle, Nook)
- Educational mobile apps (such as: graphing calculator, vocabulary lists, language translators)
- Electronic portfolios for students
- Games or virtual simulations
- Handheld student response systems
- High speed color printers
- Interactive whiteboards (such as: Smartboard, Polyvision)
- Laptop for every student to use at school
- Learning management systems (such as Blackboard)
- Online classes
- Online tests and assessments
- Online textbooks
- Online tutors
- School website or portal
- Simulations
- Social media tools for collaboration and communications (blogs, wikis, social networking sites)
- Tablet computer (such as iPad) for every student to use at school
- Text messaging
- Tools to help me organize my work (such as: organize my assignments, take notes, organize my ideas)
- Video conferences and webinars
- Virtual or online whiteboard
- Virtual reality games or environments
- Other

**Which of these things do you regularly do for schoolwork/professional tasks? (Modified question across audiences: 2003-2013)**

- Access class information online (such as: grades, teacher's notes or presentations, podcasts)
- Check my grades
- Access online databases or real time data (such as from Google maps)
- Communicate with other students using a webcam, Skype or online chat
- Communicate with other students using text messaging
- Email or text message other students
- Email or text message my teacher
- Complete writing assignments
- Conduct virtual experiments or simulations
- Do online experiment for science
- Create multi-media presentations for an assignment
- Create a PowerPoint
- Do online experiments for science
- Get help from an online tutor
- Listen to a podcast for a class
- Listen to books being read out loud
o Play educational games
o Play learning games
o Post to blogs or wikis
o Record or video a teacher lecture or lab
o Take photos of school assignments or materials using my mobile device
o Take a class online
o Take tests online
o Turn in papers for plagiarism check (such as: TurnItIn)
o Update my social networking profile (Facebook, LinkedIn)
o Upload assignments and homework to school portal
o Use my social networking site (such as Facebook) to collaborate with classmates on a project
o Use online textbooks or other online curriculum
o Use the Internet for research
o Watch a video I find online to help with homework
o Watch an online video created by my teacher
o None of the above
o Other

▪ Besides not having enough time in your school day, what are the major obstacles to using technology in your school? (Modified question ACROSS AUDIENCES: 2003-2013)
  o Cannot access the school network with my mobile device
  o Cannot access Twitter, Facebook or other social media sites
  o Cannot communicate with classmates using text messaging at school
  o Cannot use my own mobile devices (cell phone, smartphone, tablet computer, etc.) at school
  o My assignments don't require using technology
  o Not enough computers or they don't often work
  o Printers are not available for my use or my school charges me to print documents
  o Teachers don't know how to use the technology
  o Teachers limit our technology use
  o The Internet is too slow
  o Too many rules against using technology at my school
  o Too much fear about the dangers of the Internet
  o Websites that I need are blocked (through school filters or firewalls)
  o Not a big deal. I rarely use the technology at my school
  o Other

▪ How do you use technology to facilitate student learning? (Teacher: 2007-2013)
  o How do you use technology to facilitate student learning?
  o Administer assessments
  o Communicate with parents/guardians
  o Conduct investigations
o Create cues, questions or advanced organizers
o Create graphic organizers for comparing, classifying, creating metaphors and analogies
o Create physical models or use pictures to represent knowledge
o Customize content to address the specific learning needs of students
o Develop student assessments
o Electronic grade book
o Electronic portfolios
o Encourage student self-monitoring of learning
o Examine student performance trends to enhance instructional plans
o Facilitate group collaboration and structure
o Homework and practice
o Notetaking and synthesis of information
o Post class related information online for student and parent access
o Provide feedback to students
o Set student objectives
o Share exemplary student work in classroom, school or with parents
o Support student creation of media and content
o Track the relationship between effort and achievement
o None of the above

- Which of these social media tools or applications do you use outside of school? (Modified question ACROSS AUDIENCES: 2003-2013)
  
o Communicate with others through discussion boards, social networking sites, chat or online communities
o Communicate with others through text messaging
o Create videos to post and share with others (such as: YouTube, Facebook video)
o Download and view videos from the Internet
o Follow blogs that interest me
o Participate in an online community around a topic that I am interested in
o Participate in massively multiplayer online games (MMOG) or other virtual reality worlds (such as World of Warcraft)
o Participate in online/mobile app games (such as: Words With Friends, Facebook games)
o Social media apps (such as: Instagram, Snapchat, Vine)
o Stream TV shows/movies from the Internet (such as: Hulu, Netflix)
o Take an online class
o Talk to others over the Internet (such as: Skype, Facetime or iChat)
o Update my social networking profile (such as Facebook)
o Use educational mobile apps (such as: graphing calculator, vocabulary lists, language translators)
o Use Twitter to communicate or to follow others
o Use web tools/mobile apps to create a list of resources I want to share or remember (such as: Evernote, Pinterest)
Online Learning

- What has been your experience with taking an online class where the instruction and content was delivered primarily over the Internet? (Modified question/responses ACROSS AUDIENCES: 2005-2013)
  - I am in an online school where all of my classes are delivered over the Internet
  - I have taken at least one self-study online class for school credit in addition to taking traditional classes in school
  - I have taken at least one teacher-led online class for school credit in addition to taking traditional classes in school
  - I have taken at least one online class on my own to pursue my own interests
  - I have not taken an online class but would be interested in doing so
  - I am not interested in taking an online class

- What would be the advantages to you of taking an online class? (STUDENT: 2006-2014)
  - Class could better fit my schedule
  - I could earn college credit
  - I would be in control of my learning
  - I would be more comfortable asking my teacher questions
  - I would be more motivated to learn
  - I would feel more connected to school
  - I would get extra help in a subject that is hard for me
  - I would graduate early
  - I would have a greater sense of independence
  - I would receive more attention from my teacher(s)
  - It would be easier for me to succeed
  - It would be easier to review class materials as many times as I want
  - It would be easier to share ideas with my classmates
  - My technology skills would improve
  - To take a class not offered at my school
  - To work at my own pace
  - This would not work for my learning style
  - I do not know
  - Other

- There is a lot of national discussion on the potential of "blended learning" to transform education. In general, the concept means that students are engaged to some degree in face-to-face instruction in a traditional classroom while also spending time...
driving their own learning online. There are several different models of blended learning. Which if any of these models are being used at your school this year? (Check all that apply) (TEACHERS & SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS: 2012-2014)

- Primarily face-to-face instruction with some use of online curriculum, resources and tools to supplement or remediate instruction
- Students rotate on a fixed schedule between self-directed, offsite online learning and participating in a traditional classroom
- Teachers provide on-site support for the students who are working through an online curriculum, usually in a school setting
- Online course that is delivered to the students at a school site with online teachers that are remote
- Students decide to take an additional online course from home but the majority of their classes are traditional, school setting courses
- Students participate primarily in an online learning from home with an online teacher and may have occasional face-to-face checkins with the teacher
- None of the above
- I am not sure
- Other

What are the most significant barriers to implementing online courses in your school for students? (Check all that apply) (SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS: 2008-2013)

- Availability of standards-aligned online curriculum
- Concerned about the quality of the student-teacher interaction online
- Contractual issues with our teacher union
- Creating online courses that are academically rigorous
- Creating policies and procedures for test taking
- Determining fee structures for students to take online courses
- Developing the return on investment justification
- Evaluating pros/cons of building our own courses vs. buying courses
- Evaluating the quality of online courses or curriculum
- Finding teachers interested and qualified to teach online courses
- Funding policies that recognize seat time only
- Lack of technology infrastructure to support online learning
- Parents are reluctant to let their child(ren) take online courses
- Students do not have access to Internet connected computers
- Other

Mobile Learning

Tell us about the mobile devices that you use. These can be devices that are your own (or provided to you by your family) or provided to you by your school. Select the choices that are true for you. (Modified question ACROSS AUDIENCES: 2003-2013)
Many schools are exploring how to leverage mobile devices such as smartphones and tablet computers (iPads) to improve student achievement. How would you use a mobile device to help you with your (the student’s) schoolwork? (Modified question ACROSS AUDIENCES: 2007-2013)

- Access online textbooks
- Access social networking sites (such as Facebook)
- Access the school network from home or school
- Check grades
- Communicate with classmates and teachers
- Create documents, videos or podcasts
- Learn about school activities
- Look up information on the Internet
- Organize my schoolwork assignments
- Play educational games
- Receive reminders and alerts about upcoming tests or assignment due dates
- Record or video lectures or labs so that I can review them later
- Take notes for class
- Text my teacher questions in class
- Upload or download information from my teachers’ website and/or the school's portal
- Use mobile apps to make me more productive
- Use the calculator
- Use the calendar
- Work on projects with my classmates
- Write papers or do homework assignments
- Other

If your child’s school allowed the use of mobile devices for educational purposes, how likely would you be to provide one for your child? (PARENTS: 2009-2013)

- Very likely
- Likely
- Not likely
Very unlikely
No opinion
Unsure
I think it is the responsibility of the school to provide technology for my child to use for educational purposes.

- Some districts are considering adopting a Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT) to School program which would enable students to use their own mobile devices within instruction. What is your current policy on the use of student owned mobile devices (smartphones, tablet computers) within class? (ADMINISTRATORS: 2007-2013)
  - We do not allow students to use their own mobile devices within class
  - Use of student owned devices is at the discretion of the building administrator
  - Use of student owned devices is at the discretion of the classroom teacher
  - We currently provide students with school owned mobile devices for use in class
  - We are currently evaluating a BYOT approach
  - We are piloting a BYOT program in one or more of our schools
  - We have adopted a BYOT approach and we are lending devices to students who need them
  - We have adopted a BYOT approach but we are not providing any network access for student owned devices
  - We have adopted a BYOT approach but we are stipulating the type of device that can have access to our network
  - We have adopted a BYOT approach and we are accommodating any student owned device on our network
  - We are not interested at this time in a BYOT approach
  - Other

21ST Century Skills and Career Exploration
- Internationally there is tremendous interest in having more students pursue careers in science, technology, math or engineering. Right now, are you interested in a job or career in any of these fields? (STUDENTS: 2007-2013)
  - No, those subjects are too hard for me
  - No, my strengths are in other areas
  - No, those subjects are not interesting to me
  - Maybe, I would like to know more about those jobs or careers
  - Yes, I am somewhat interested in a job or career in those fields
  - Yes, I am very interested in a job or career in those fields

- How would you like your school to help you explore careers or to get prepared for a future job? (check all that apply) (MODIFIED ACROSS STUDENT AUDIENCES: 2007-2013)
o Have a program during the school day about future careers
o Have after school or Saturday programs about future careers
o Learn from teachers who have worked in the professional field I'm interested in
o Let career professionals teach lessons at school
o Provide a self-assessment test to identify my career interests or strengths
o Provide access to websites with information about careers
o Provide "Day in the Life" podcasts or videos about different jobs
o Provide information about mobile apps to explore careers
o Provide information about summer career exploration programs
o Provide information about summer or part-time jobs or internships in my field of interest
o Provide more career technical education classes at school so that I can learn about future jobs
o Tell me about competitions that allow me to assess my skills against other students
o Use the same tools in my classroom that professionals use at work
o Work with mentors who can help me with my college and career planning
o Other

▪ What concerns you the most about your child(ren)'s Internet use at school or home? (PARENTS: 2006-2013)
o Advertising and spam
o Cheating on tests by using mobile devices to look up information
o Copyright issues/illegal file sharing
o Cyber bullying
o Difficulty evaluating the credibility of an online resource
o Ineffective Internet filters and firewalls
o Meeting strangers online
o Online predators
o Plagiarism by copying and pasting online content
o Privacy of my child's record and information of the school network
o Sharing too much personal information online
o Too much time spent looking at a computer screen
o Violent or inappropriate video or online games
o Websites that are inappropriate for my child's age
o I don't have any concerns.
o Other

▪ Besides having strong subject area knowledge (such as in English, math, science, history) which of these skills do you think are most important for your child to learn to be successful in the future? (PARENTS: 2012-2013)
o Ability to communicate in more than one language
o Ability to learn new skills independently
o Ability to work with a diverse group of people
- Appreciation of the arts
- Awareness of global issues
- Being creative and "thinking outside of the box"
- Critical thinking and problem solving skills
- Effective communications skills - both writing and verbal skills
- Leadership skills
- Financial literacy - understanding personal finances
- Information and media literacy skills
- Teamwork and collaboration skills
- Technology skills
- Understanding of civics and community responsibilities
- Other

Please note the above questions are subset of the Speak Up question deck and may not reflect actual wording on the surveys.