



Speak Up 2009

Teacher's Survey

Dear Teacher:

This survey is about your professional experiences as a teacher and your ideas about how your school is preparing students for the future. We are also interested in how you are integrating technology into your professional and instructional practices.

Your opinions matter! Since 2003, the Speak Up responses from over 1.5 million teachers, students, and parents have been shared with local, state, and national leaders. The Speak Up data annually influences decisions on school policy and planning around the country.

The survey consists of a series of multiple choices questions plus an open-ended type question at the end where you can write in your response. The survey should only take you about 20 minutes to complete. After the open-ended question, there are 4 demographic questions. These questions are optional and are used only by us to give context to our national data findings.

All of your answers are 100% confidential. We will not ask you for your name anywhere on this survey. There is no way for anyone to know your specific answers.

We know that technology means different things to different people. For this survey, “technology” means all kinds of electronic devices such as computers, interactive white boards, cell phones and MP3 players, as well as Internet applications and software. If there are any items that you do not understand or are not familiar with, please feel free to skip to the next question.

By being part of Speak Up 2009, you are sharing your ideas to improve education. Thank you for your participation.

Sincerely,
Your Speak Up Team @ Project Tomorrow

Questions/Responses

1 What is your current job responsibility?

Teacher
Instructional aide or paraprofessional
Special education teacher
Curriculum specialist
Librarian or media coordinator
School technology coordinator
Preservice Teacher
Teach for America Teacher
Other

2 What grade(s) do you currently teach?

pre-K
K-2
3-5
6-8
9-12
Ungraded
All grades

3 What subject(s) do you currently teach? (Select one)

General Elementary (all subjects)
Business
Career Technical Education
English
English as a second language
Foreign language
Math
Physical education
Science
Social Studies or History
Special education
Technology
Visual and performing arts
Yearbook or Journalism
Other

4 Thinking about your peers, do you consider yourself..

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

5 What types of electronic devices do you have access to for your own use?

Cell phone (without Internet access)
Smart phone (with Internet access, such as: Blackberry, iPhone)
A desktop computer
A laptop or tablet PC
Netbook or mini-notebook computer
Digital reader (such as: Kindle, Sony Digital Reader)
Music or video device (such as: MP3 player or iPod)
Handheld digital video camcorder (such as: Flip Camera)
Video Gaming System (xBox, Playstation, Wii)
Handheld game (such as: GameBoy)
Other

6 What types of technology are you using in the classroom to enhance student achievement?

Ability to access Internet anywhere on campus and in my classroom
Collaboration tools (such as: blogs, social networking sites, wikis, bookmarking)
Communications tools (such as email, IM and text messaging)
Computer projection devices
Digital media tools (such as: video, audio)
Digital reader (such as: Kindle, Sony Digital Reader)
Digital resources (such as: databases, electronic books, animations, videos etc)
Document camera (such as: ELMO)
Electronic portfolios for students
Games
Handheld digital video camcorder (Flip camera)
Handheld student response systems
High tech instruments for science
Interactive whiteboards (such as: Smartboard, Polyvision)
Learning management systems (such as: Blackboard, Moodle, Angel)
Mobile computer for every student (such as: laptop, mini-notebook, tablet PC)
Mobile devices (such as: cell phones, PDAs, MP3 players)
Online classes
Online textbooks
School portal
Tools that help students organize their work (such as: communication, organize my assignments, take notes, organize my ideas)

Video conferences and webinars
Virtual or online whiteboard
Virtual simulations
Webcam
Wireless microphone system for the teacher
Other

7 How important is the effective implementation of instructional technology to your students' success?

Extremely Important
Important
Somewhat Important
Not Important
No Opinion

8 How do you use technology to facilitate student learning?

Set student objectives
Provide feedback to students
Share exemplary student work in classroom, school or with parents
Create cues, questions or advanced organizers
Create physical models or use pictures to represent knowledge
Students create movies or animation projects
Notetaking and synthesis of information
Facilitate group collaboration and structure
Track the relationship between effort and achievement
Create graphic organizers for comparing, classifying, creating metaphors and analogies
Homework and practice
Conduct investigations
None of the above

9 Which of these activities do you regularly do using technology for professional tasks? (Check all that apply)

Upload class information (such as: grades, homework assignments, teachers notes or presentations, podcasts, turn in assignments)
Communicate with peers or parents using email, IM or text messaging
Communicate with students using email, IM or text messaging
Conduct research
Create multi-media presentations
Create and upload videos, music or pictures
Listen to a podcast, watch videos or view presentations
Manage electronic portfolios for students

Participate in video conferences or webinars
Participate in professional online communities
Read or post blog or wiki entries
Read text-based resources (such as: electronic textbooks, newspapers, magazines, digital archives, digital libraries)
Take an online class
Twitter or post a microblog
Update my profile (MySpace, Facebook, LinkedIn)
Use desktop widgets
None of the above
Other

10 Besides not having enough time in your school day, what are the major obstacles you face when using technology in your school? (Check all that apply)

Computers or other tech equipment are not available
District policies limit the technology I can use
I can't use my own computer or mobile devices
Internet access is slow or does not always work

I don't know how to incorporate technology into my lesson plans or assignments

School filters or firewalls block websites I need
Software is not good enough
There are rules against using technology at my school
Technology support
Unable to access Internet
None of the above
Other

11 There is a national discussion underway about the value of mobile learning devices (such as smart phones, PDAs and MP3 players) in education. What do you think is the most significant value of incorporating such devices into instruction?

Improves teacher-parent-student communications
Increases student engagement in school and learning
Increases teacher productivity
Prepares students for the world of work
Provides a way for instruction to be personalized for each student
Provides a way for students to informally review classroom material
Provides opportunities for informal remediation
Students develop collaboration and teamwork skills
Students develop critical thinking and problem solving skills

Students develop stronger communications skills
These devices help to extend learning beyond the school day
Helps teachers improve their technology skills
I don't think these devices will positively impact learning
No significant benefit
Other

12 What is your biggest concern about students using mobile devices in your classroom?

I am concerned that students will be distracted doing other things (such as: surfing the Internet, texting, playing games)

I don't know which features I could use for instruction
Not all of my students have mobile devices
I am concerned students will cheat on tests
I don't have curriculum to support their use
I don't know how to effectively integrate mobile devices into my instruction
I don't see the value of using mobile devices within instruction
Parents will not support the use of mobile devices
I will lose control of the class
Other

13 How would you describe your interest in using a learning management system or teaching an online class?

I have researched using a learning management system in my class
I am using a learning management system in my class
I don't know what a learning management system is
I am not interested in using a learning management system in my class
I researched teaching an online class
I have taught a class that is 100% online

I have taught a blended class that includes online and face-to-face components

I have not taught an online class but I am interested
I am not interested in teaching an online class

14 What has been your experience with online professional development?

I participated in a 100% online course for a credentialing, certification, post-graduate degree.

I have researched taking an online professional development class or workshop

I have participated in a 100% online professional development class or workshop

I have taken a blended online professional development class that included online and face-to-face time

My preference for professional development is through online classes

I would like my school district to offer more online professional development opportunities

I am not interested in participating in professional development online

Other

15 What are the primary benefits to you of participating in online professional development?

Ability to customize my learning to meet my needs

Fits my schedule

I am better organized

I am more accountable for my own learning

I am part of a professional learning community

I can review materials as I need them

I feel more connected with my profession

I have more opportunities to collaborate with my peers

Just-in-time -- when I need it

Less expensive than alternatives

Provides access to experts

Saves time

Supports my learning style

I have not participated in any online professional development

None of the above

Other

16 How would you like your district to use technology to create a professional learning community?

Provide online courses

Use blogs or wikis to share 'best-practice'

Partner with universities to provide graduate level courses

Provide tools that enable me to collaborate with teachers at my school

Provide tools that enable me to collaborate with other teachers outside of my school

Provide a centralized repository of teaching resources

Use podcasts or webcasts to share teaching topics

Use webinars and video conferencing to connect me with experts in my field

Provide easy access to student data that I can use to inform my teaching

Use digital readers (such as Kindle) to share books or best practices

Other

17 In the past year, which of these things have you done on your own (not district directed or part of a formalized professional development class) to improve your teaching effectiveness?

- Found an online course to take
- Listened to podcasts or watched videos about a topic I was interested in
- Sought help from other teachers through my social networking site
- Provided online support to other teachers.
- Found a website that helped me better understand a topic I was teaching in class
- Found experts online who could answer my questions
- Started a wiki or blog to share my ideas and connect me with others
- Sent a tweet about subject
- Posted to a blog
- Found information on the Internet.
- Created my own video or podcast to help me share my knowledge with others
- Took online assessments to test my own knowledge on a subject
- Took a self-paced tutorial on a subject
- Used online writing tools to improve my own writing
- Used some cell phone applications to help me with my self-organization
- Found an online tutor
- Took part in an online game or simulation
- Participated in a webinar or online conference
- Created a class website
- None of the above
- Other

18 What types of digital resources are you currently using in your classroom?

- Animations
- Online textbooks
- Game-based environments
- Online curriculum
- PodCasts or Video (e.g. iTunes, YouTube, TeacherTube, SchoolTube etc.)
- Real-time data (such as: population, weather, NASA, GOOGLE Earth, GIS etc)
- Simulations
- Software to help student develop skills (reading, writing, math)
- Software to help students develop higher-order thinking skills
- Teaching aides (such as: lesson plans, assessment tools, videos, intervention strategies, test-prep software, websites, supplemental activities for differentiated instruction)
- Virtual labs
- Other

19 Which of these do you think is the best way to evaluate the quality of digital resources used in your classrooms?

- Certified by education membership associations and organizations
- Compiled on a list by our State Department of Education
- Content is fee-based
- Content is free
- It is an "Open Education Resource"
- Learn about it on a webinar or virtual conference
- Materials are created by practicing teachers
- Recommended on education blogs and websites
- Referred by a colleague
- Learned about the resource through a demonstration at a conference
- Source is an online curriculum company or organization
- Source is an established media or content producers (such as: NBC, Discovery, PBS)
- Source is a content expert organization (such as: National Science Foundation, universities)
- Student achievement with the materials
- Teacher evaluation of the materials
- Textbook publisher recommendations
- Other

20 How much do you agree with this statement: My school is doing a good job preparing students for the jobs of the 21st century.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- No Opinion
- I have not thought about this before
- I do not think this is the responsibility of K-12 education

21 Which of these things are you doing to help your students become responsible digital citizens?

- We discuss acceptable behavior about Internet usage in all of our classes
- There are consequences for students who do not abide by our school's acceptable use policy.
- Our school's digital citizen "bill of rights" is displayed in our classroom
- I have incorporated our school's digital citizenship learning outcomes into across my curriculum
- I have taught my students a unit about digital citizenship

My students have attended a mandatory class about digital citizenship

I have posted information about digital citizenship on my website or school portal

I have provided my students' parents with information about their role in fostering digital citizenship

I have created videos and/or podcasts for my students to learn about acceptable behaviors on the Internet

I am not currently addressing digital citizenship with my students

Other

22 Which of these have been problems for kids at your school? (Check all that apply)

Approached by strangers online

Personal information shared with others online

Seeing websites with inappropriate content

Students using others' ideas as their own (plagiarism).

Being harassed online with hurtful texts or photos

Sharing suggestive text or photos

Strangers asking to meet in person

Using technology to cheat in class

None of the above

Other

23 Which of these Internet based tools and applications (Web 2.0) do you use for your personal interests?

Upload or download videos, podcasts or photos to the Internet

Use web tools to create or modify and upload videos, music, audio or animation

Create new work using pre-existing text, graphics, audio, video or animation (MashUp)

Communicate with others through discussion boards, social networking sites, chat or online communities

Communicate with others through email, IM or text message

Participate in online games or 3D virtual reality worlds (such as: Second Life)

Update profile (MySpace, Facebook, Friendster, LinkedIn)

Write or contribute to a blog (my own or someone else's)

Create a list of resources I want to share or remember (such as: del.icio.us, digg, diigo, magnolia)

Write collaboratively with others (such as: GOOGLE docs, writeboard or letterpop)

Contribute to a wiki

I use Twitter to communicate or to follow others

Use web tools that notify me about things I'm interested in (such as: news or magazine articles, changes to websites)
None of the above

24 Which of these do you think the majority of your students will recognize as inappropriate behaviors?

Sending an IM or text message during class
Sending an IM or text message during a test
Talking loud in a public place using a cell phone
Not giving credit when using resources from the Internet
Copying music, movies or games to give to friends
Connecting a USB flash drive to a school computer if that is not allowed
Downloading information from the Internet to a school computer if that is not allowed
Hacking into a school computer to change grades or look at tests
Audio taping a teacher's lecture without permission
Taking photos of tests to share with other students
Sending or posting photos without permission
Texting a friend about test questions
Pretending to be someone else online
Criticizing my school or teachers on a blog or social networking site
Storing information on my cell phone to use during a test
None of the above
Other

25 How has your use of technology with instruction impacted your students?

More students are participating in discussions or group activities
Students are applying their knowledge to practical problems
Students are creating models and testing their assumptions
Students are demonstrating higher levels of proficiency on standardized tests
Students are developing their problem-solving and critical thinking skills
Students are developing their creativity
Students are gaining a better understanding of the class material through "trial and error"
Students are more deeply exploring their ideas
Students are more motivated to learn
Students are spending more time on drill and practice
Students are taking ownership for their learning
Students are working together more often
Students have a better understanding of abstract concepts
Students learn that failure is an opportunity to learn

None of the above
Other

26 How has the use of technology improved your effectiveness as a teacher?

I am better organized
I am facilitating student centered learning
I am more productive
I encourage students to be more self-directed
I facilitate collaboration between students
I give my students more personalized attention
I have time to differentiate instruction
I know when students are having problems with the content
I am creating more relevant lessons
I spend more time with individual students to help them understand the content
I am more connected to my students
I am managing my class more effectively
It's easier to assess how my students are doing
I am creating more interactive lessons
I have a better understanding of what my students are learning
None of the above
Other

27 There are vibrant discussions around the country about the potential for utilizing technology to facilitate formative assessment strategies in the classroom to ensure that all students are successful. Share with us an example of how you have used student achievement data and formative assessments to personalize learning. How might technology support your efforts with this important task?

These questions are optional and used for data analysis only

28 Are you . . .
Female
Male

29 Highest level of educational attainment
Less than high school diploma
High school diploma
Some College
Bachelor's degree

Paraprofessional certificate
Masters degree in education
Masters degree other than education
Teaching certificate - elementary/multiple subject
Teaching certificate - single subject
Doctorate (PhD, EdD)
Other

30 At the end of this school year, how many years of teaching experience will you have?

1-3
4-10
11-15
16+

31 What is your race or cultural identity?

American Indian/Alaskan Native
Asian
Black/African-American
Caucasian/White (non-Hispanic)
Hispanic/Latino
Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander
Decline to state
Other