

EDUCATION INSIDER: The Next Stimulus & Reopening

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WHY EDUCATION INSIDER?



SURVEY INSIDERS



ANALYZE RESULTS



REPORT INSIGHTS



DRIVE ACTION

About Education Insider

Launched in 2009, *Education Insider* uses a proprietary survey model to cut through the noise and provide real-time insights on education policy trends from 50-75 Congressional staff, federal officials, and other Insiders close to the policymaking process.

Our goal is to predict outcomes and demystify the policymaking and political environment that surrounds Pre-K-12 and postsecondary education. The views expressed by Insiders do not necessarily represent the viewpoints of Whiteboard Advisors or any of its employees.

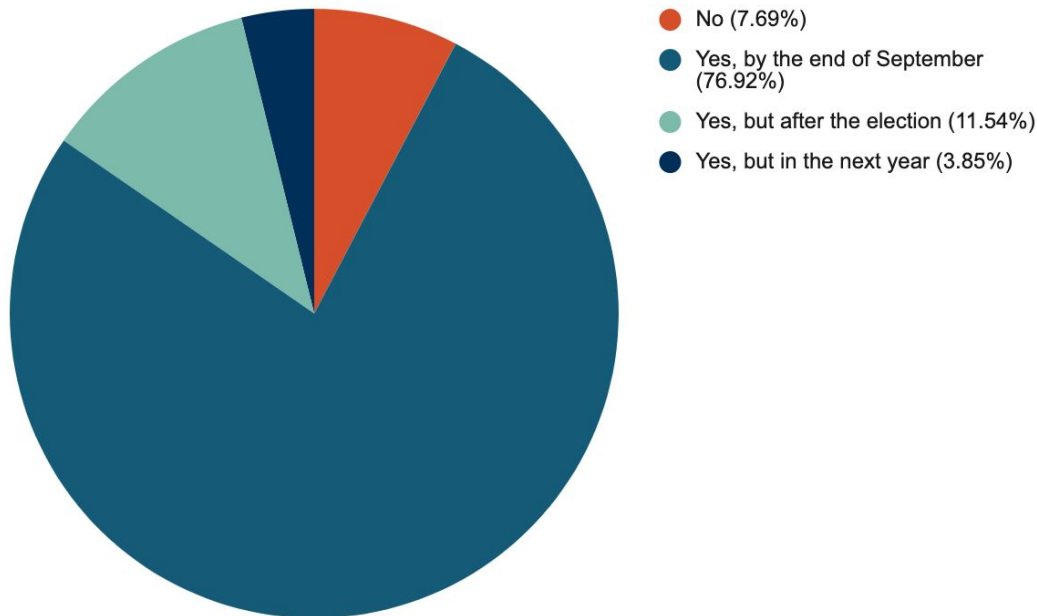
Who Are the Insiders?

Influential leaders who are shaping federal education policy, including individuals who have served or are currently serving as key policy and political “insiders,” such as:

- Current and former White House and U.S. Department of Education leaders;
- Current and former Congressional staff;
- State education leaders, including former state school chiefs and governors; and
- Leaders of major education organizations and think tanks, as well as other key influencers.

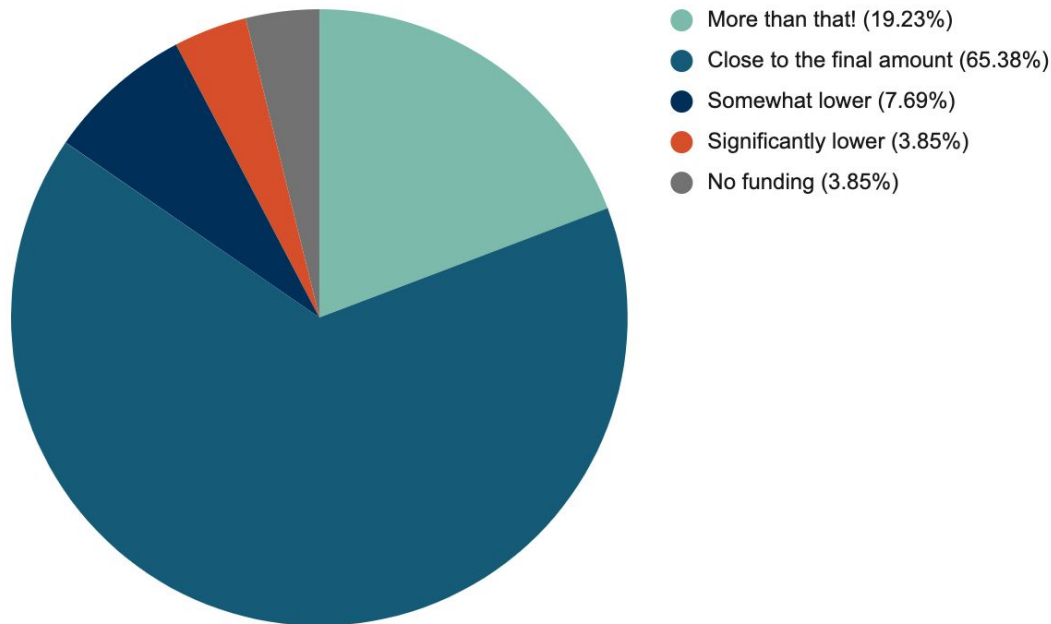
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Q: Will Congress complete a Phase 4 stimulus package?



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Q: Will the \$105 billion for education in the Senate HEALS Act (including \$70B for K-12) be close to the final figure agreed to by Congress?



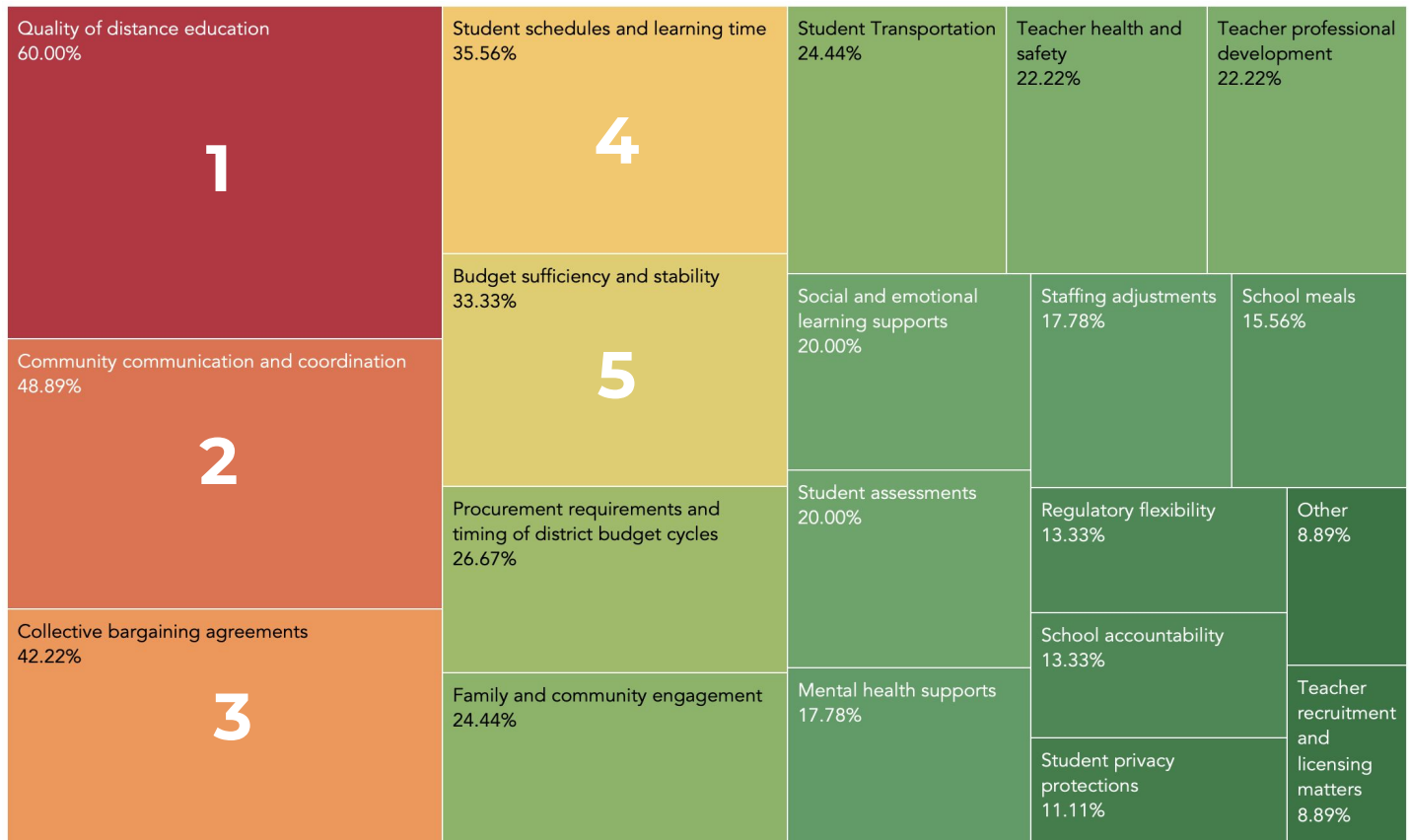
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Q: In your opinion, identify the five most critical but overlooked challenges to the reopening of K-12 schools. (answers on next slide)

- The quality of distance education
- Student schedules and learning time
- Student assessments
- School accountability
- Teacher professional development
- Community communication and coordination
- Regulatory flexibility
- Student privacy protections
- Teacher health and safety
- School meals
- Student transportation
- Social and emotional learning supports
- Mental health supports
- Teacher recruitment and licensing matters
- Collective bargaining agreements
- Staffing adjustments
- Budget sufficiency and stability
- Family and community engagement
- Procurement requirements and timing of district budget cycles
- Other

The list of "challenges" is based on a recent report by John Bailey and Frederick Hess, "[A Blueprint for Back to School.](#)"

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In your opinion, identify the five most critical but overlooked challenges to the reopening of K-12 schools.

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Q: In your opinion, identify the five most critical but overlooked challenges to the reopening of K-12 schools.

COMMENTS

Quality of Distance Education

- There is an (IMO) unsupported general agreement that "online learning/remote learning didn't/doesn't work" based on dubious data from the spring that was often from questionable sources, like a company's analysis of the use of its own product, or based on studies that were about online charter schools or similar institutions that are very different.

This "everyone agrees" assumption, which I have seen in multiple major press outlets and reflected in tweets from major thought leaders, has had massive impact on the push for in-person learning, and will likely flavor public and thought-leader commentary on how remote learning is portrayed and generally understood by the public this fall.

All of this is separate from the extremely important digital divide issues being discussed, to be clear.

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Q: In your opinion, identify the five most critical but overlooked challenges to the reopening of K-12 schools.

COMMENTS

Quality of Distance Education

- The quality of distance education (esp. for the most vulnerable students) is the #1 most important issue to me as more districts decide to go 100% virtual in the fall, but I think that issue is not as overlooked as some of the others on this list.
- There has not been enough focus on unusual or creative approaches to do things we know catch kids up: tutoring, small group instruction. Union rules and lack of imagination from districts are both inhibiting the solutions kids most need.
- All the focus has been on the logistics of in-person vs. hybrid vs. virtual, but way less on the teaching and learning details.
- The biggest one to me seems clearly to be the quality of online learning, which we've known was an issue for many months. It's not clear to me what the quality of online learning will be in the fall (more because the research isn't there than because I think educators aren't doing enough).

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Q: In your opinion, identify the five most critical but overlooked challenges to the reopening of K-12 schools.

COMMENTS

Childcare

- Far too little attention to childcare needs of teachers to work. Concern some districts and states are going to go to distance or hybrid learning while allowing or encouraging childcare solutions with little regulation that make everyone less safe.

Scheduling

- In including any element of remote learning, scheduling needs to balance the reality of the school day with the reality of the adults at home to help students with online learning.

Also, IDEA litigation.

Nationalized

- The big problem is how nationalized this is now, when it's really a state by state decision. And then, of course, some degree of flexibility or agility is needed, it's not very present in the system.

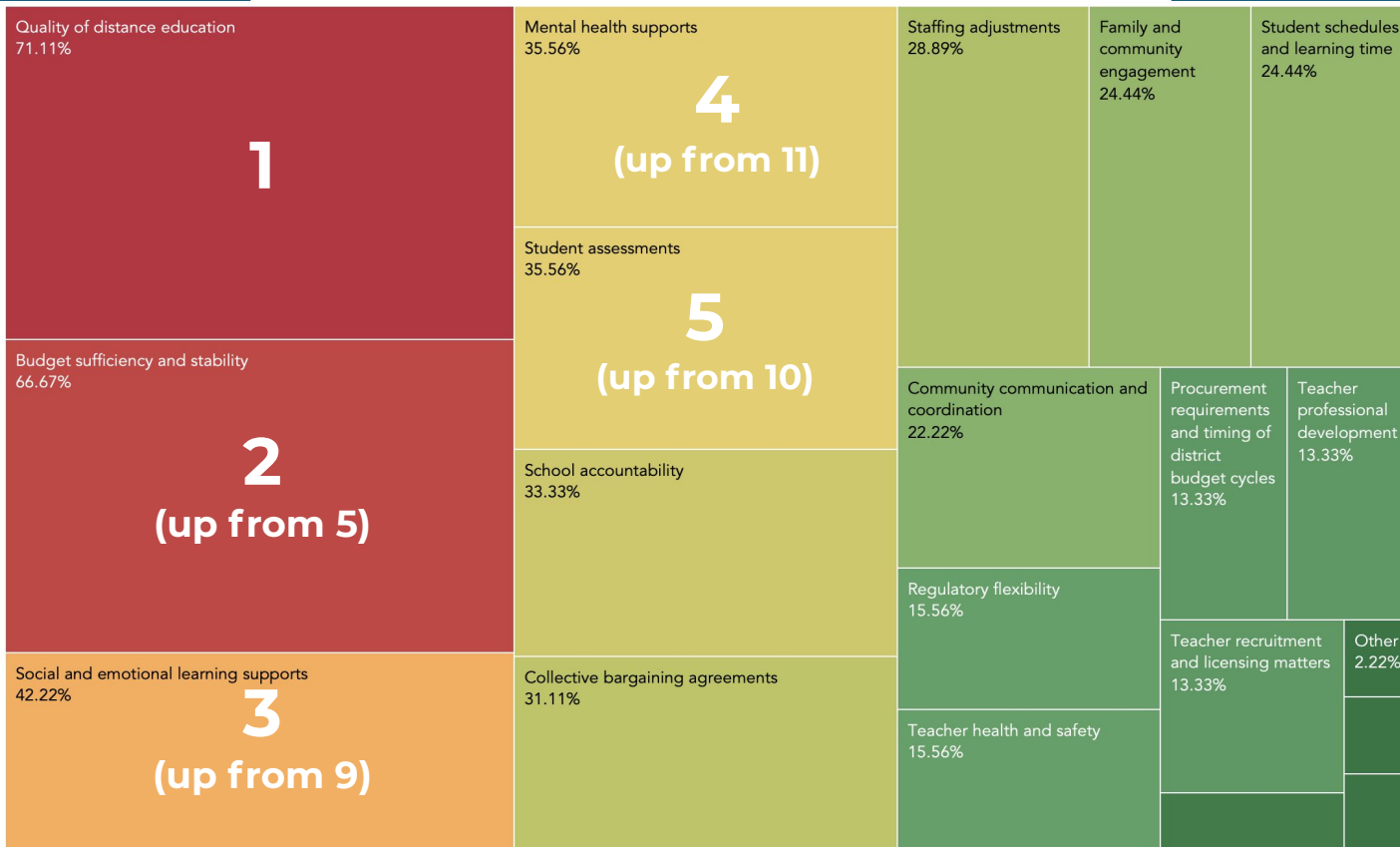
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Q: In your opinion, which five challenges are likely to have the most lasting impact on K-12 school operations? (answers on next slide)

- The quality of distance education
- Student schedules and learning time
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In your opinion, which five challenges are likely to have the most lasting impact on K-12 school operations?

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Q: In your opinion, which five challenges are likely to have the most lasting impact on K-12 school operations?

COMMENTS

Quality of Distance Education

- If families choose other options because they aren't getting what they need from districts, some may never come back, accelerating fragmentation of public education.
- There will be significant churn between [traditional public school, private, and homeschool] populations in many regions.

Health & SEL

- How schools treat distance learning, funding, teacher health and safety, and the social/emotional wellbeing of students in the upcoming year will have long lasting implications.
- Schools are going to have to pay way more attention to mental health supports and social and emotional learning supports for years after this crisis.

Teacher Retirement

- Teacher retirements seem like a huge potential issue.



Questions?

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