

SURVEY OF NEW TEACHER SUPPORT IN THE MIDWEST

New Teacher Support in the Midwest

The Center for Education Policy at SRI International has been awarded a grant from the Joyce Foundation to conduct a study of teacher induction programs. SRI is a nonprofit research institution that has spent more than a decade studying new teacher induction, in addition to studying statewide and national efforts to improve the teaching profession.

If you have any questions about the survey,

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Important note:

Please use a BLACK pen. Blue or red pens and pencil cannot be read by our scanners. When asked to mark boxes, make an "X" through the box.

Sample:

☒ Right

☐ Wrong

Use block printing when you complete any text or numeric responses.
If you wish to change a response, please mark the correct response and CIRCLE it.

TEACHING BACKGROUND

1. **Which of the following describes your current status as a teacher?** *(Mark one box.)* I have completed my teacher education program and have an initial or provisional teaching license or credential.
I have NOT completed my teacher education program and am currently enrolled in an intern program or alternative certification program.
Other (please specify):

2. How many years have you:
(Mark one box per row.)

(If you are in your first year mark "1," second year mark "2," etc.; do not include student teaching.)

Number of Years

None

1 2 3 4 5+

- a. Been a teacher (total years)
i. Been in your current teaching position (as the teacher of record, intern, or fellow)?
ii. Taught in a different position at your current school?
iii. Taught at a different school (public or private)?
b. Worked as a substitute teacher?
c. Worked as a teacher's aide or assistant?
d. Worked full time in a profession other than teaching?

3. **At what point in the year were you offered your current teaching position?** *(Mark one box.)* More than 6 months before the start of the school year 4 to 6 months before the start of the school year 1 to 3 months before the start of the school year Less than a month before school started
After school started, including on the first day of school
Don't remember

4. **What is the highest level of formal education you have completed?** *(Mark one box.)*

Bachelor's degree
Master's degree
Master's degree plus 15 credits or more
Doctorate

5. Do you plan to teach at your current school next year? (Mark one box.)

Yes, I plan to return to this school next year.
No, I plan to transfer to another school.
No, I don't plan to teach next school year. *(Skip to question 7.)*

6. How long do you plan to be a classroom teacher at either your current school or another school? (Mark one box.)

10 years or more
6 to 9 years
3 to 5 years
2 years or less
Undecided at this time

7. What is your gender?

Female
Male

8. What is your race/ethnicity? (Mark one box.)

American Indian or Alaskan Native
Asian or Pacific Islander
Black/African-American
Hispanic/Latino
White, not of Hispanic origin
Multiracial
Prefer not to answer
Other (please specify):



TEACHING ASSIGNMENT

9. Is your **MAIN** teaching assignment for the 2007-08 school year working with either of the student populations below? (Mark one box per row.)

a. I am a dedicated special education teacher (in either a self-contained

YES

NO

classroom or an inclusion model).

YES NO

b. I am a dedicated English language learner (ELL) or bilingual teacher.

10. **Approximately what percentage of your students for this school year (2007-08) fall into the categories below? If you teach multiple classes, what is the percentage of students across all of the classes you teach?** (Write "0" percent if you have NO students in these categories.)

a. English language learners (e.g., ELL, ESL, bilingual)	<div style="display: inline-block; width: 20px; height: 20px; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></div> <div style="display: inline-block; width: 20px; height: 20px; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></div> <div style="display: inline-block; width: 20px; height: 20px; border: 1px solid black;"></div> %
b. Students with individualized education programs (IEPs), 504 Plans, or other special education services, such as support from a resource specialist	<div style="display: inline-block; width: 20px; height: 20px; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></div> <div style="display: inline-block; width: 20px; height: 20px; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></div> <div style="display: inline-block; width: 20px; height: 20px; border: 1px solid black;"></div> %
c. Students who create serious behavior problems in your class	<div style="display: inline-block; width: 20px; height: 20px; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></div> <div style="display: inline-block; width: 20px; height: 20px; border: 1px solid black; margin-right: 5px;"></div> <div style="display: inline-block; width: 20px; height: 20px; border: 1px solid black;"></div> %



11. **To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about your school? Choose the response that best reflects your experience at your current school.** (Mark one box per row.)

Strongly Strongly disagree Disagree Agree agree

- a. The school administrators work to ensure that teachers have the supports they need to be successful.
- b. It is stressful to be a teacher at this school.
- c. Teachers in this school trust each other.

d. Teachers in this school trust the school administration.

e. The school administration's behavior towards the staff is supportive and encouraging.

f. I have the necessary textbooks and print resources to teach.

g. I can get instructional materials (e.g., lab supplies, math manipulatives, classroom library books) without buying them myself.

h. I can get classroom supplies (e.g., paper, pencils, staples, tape) without buying them myself.

i. I feel supported by colleagues to try out new ideas.

j. Teachers in this school feel responsible to help each other do their best.

k. Teachers in this school are encouraged to experiment with their teaching.

l. Teachers use time together to discuss teaching and learning.

m. A conscious effort is made by faculty to make new teachers feel welcome here.



12. How often do you do each of the following activities with teachers in your school other than your mentor teacher?

(Mark one box per row.) A few

times a At least At least Never Once year

monthly weekly

- a. Analyze samples of work done by your students
- b. Work together to develop teaching materials or activities for particular classes
- c. Seek each other's advice about instructional issues and problems
- d. Observe each other's classrooms to offer feedback and/or learn strategies (excluding observation for the purpose of formal evaluation)
- e. Discuss student assessment data to make decisions about instruction





13. **To what extent do you disagree or agree with the following statements about the principal at your school?** *(Mark one box per row.)*

The principal at my school:

Strongly

Strongly

disagree Disagree Agree agree

- a. Enforces school rules for student conduct and backs me up when I need support
- b. Makes clear to the staff his or her expectations for meeting instructional goals
- c. Sets high standards for teaching
- d. Communicates a clear vision for the school

e. Understands how children learn

f. Sets high standards for student learning

g. Presses teachers to implement what they have learned in professional development

h. Carefully tracks student academic progress

i. Knows what's going on in my classroom

j. Actively monitors the quality of teaching in this school



14. **Thinking about the 2007-08 school year, indicate the level of support you needed in the following areas.** *(Mark one box per row.)*

No support needed	Minimal support needed	Moderate support needed	Extensive support needed
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a. The subject matter I teach.

b. Instructional techniques appropriate for the grade level/subject matter I teach.

c. Classroom management techniques appropriate for the students I currently teach.

d. The use of textbooks or other curricular materials/instructional programs for my current position.

e. Strategies for interacting with parents of the students I currently teach.

f. The use of data (e.g., analyzing student work or student test scores) to plan instruction.

g. Adapting instruction to meet the needs of students at varying academic levels.

h. Adapting instruction for students with individualized education programs.

i. Instructional techniques to meet the needs of students from diverse cultural backgrounds.

j. Instructional techniques to meet the needs of English language learners.



NEW TEACHER SUPPORT PROGRAM

New teacher support programs provide services for beginning teachers, such as workshops and mentoring.

15. **Is this your first or second year participating in this new teacher support program?**

(Mark one box.)

1st Year

2nd Year

Other (please specify):

16. **Have you received financial support during the 2007-08 school year to buy materials and supplies for your classroom?** (Mark all that apply.)

Yes, from my new teacher support program

Yes, from my school or district

Yes, from another source (e.g., PTA)

Yes, don't know source

No, I received no financial support for my classroom

17. **Did you attend an orientation specifically for new teachers at the beginning of this school year?** *(Mark one box.)* No ☐ ***(Skip to question 20.)***

Yes, before the start of the school year

Yes, after the start of the school year

1 **How long did this orientation last?** *(Mark one box.)* Part day (4 hours or less) One full day (5 to 8 hours) Multi day, less than a week (more than 8 hours but less than 40 hours) One week (40 hours) More than one week (more than 40 hours)

2 **How valuable did you find this initial orientation?** *(Mark one box.)* Not valuable Minimally valuable Moderately valuable Extremely valuable



20. **Think about the services and support you have received during the 2007-08 school year (including the summer of 2007) through your new teacher support program.**

☐ (A) **How often have you received the following supports?**

☐ (B) **For the supports you have received, how valuable has each one been to your development as a teacher?**

(Mark one frequency and one value per row.)

	(A) Frequency				(B) Value		
	Never	Once	A few times	At least weekly About monthly	Not valuable	Minimally valuable Moderately valuable	Extremely valuable
New teacher meetings with the principal at your school a.							
b. Workshops, seminars or classes for new teachers (excluding an initial orientation)							

c. Release time
to see other
teachers teach

d. Participation in
a professional
network
specifically for new
teachers



MENTOR OR CONSULTANT SUPPORT

1 **Were you formally assigned a mentor or consultant for the 2007-08 school year?** No _J (*Skip to question 26.*) Yes

2 **How often have you interacted with your assigned mentor or consultant this school year on a formal basis?** (*Mark one box.*)

Never

Once

A few times

Once per month

A few times per month

Once per week

Several times per week

Daily

23. **When was your first meeting with your mentor or consultant for the 2007-08 school year?**
(*Mark one box.*)

Before the school year started

Less than 1 month after the first day of school
 1 month or more after the first day of school
 Still have not met with my mentor or consultant

24. **Does your mentor or consultant's area of expertise match the following aspects of your teaching position?** *(Mark one box per row.)*

Don't Yes No know

- ☐ a. Subject matter
- ☐ b. Grade level
- ☐ c. Student population (e.g., experience with ELL students)
- ☐ d. Same school



25. **Indicate how often your mentor or consultant has engaged with you in each activity listed below during the 2007-08 school year.** *(Mark one box per row.)*

A few About At least Never Once times
 monthly weekly

- a. Observed me teaching and provided feedback
- b. Worked with me to develop a professional growth plan
- c. Demonstrated lessons for me in the classroom
- d. Gave me materials
- e. Planned lessons with me
- f. Analyzed samples of my students' work
- g. Invited me into his/her classroom to observe
- h. Talked with me about the strengths and/or needs of specific students



NEW TEACHER SUPPORTS

The following two questions refer to the services you have received this year through your new teacher support program (e.g., mentoring, orientation, training, or workshops).

26. **Thinking about all the supports you have received during the 2007-08 school year, to what extent have they addressed the following topics?** *(Mark one box per row.)*

Not addressed	at all	Minimally addressed	Moderately addressed	Extensively addressed
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- | | |
|----|---|
| a. | The subject matter I teach |
| b. | Instructional techniques appropriate for the grade level/subject matter I teach |
| c. | Classroom management techniques appropriate for the students I currently teach |
| d. | The use of textbooks or other curricular materials/instructional programs for my current position |
| e. | Strategies for interacting with parents of the students I currently teach |
| f. | The use of data (e.g., analyzing student work or student test scores) to plan instruction |
| g. | Adapting instruction to meet the needs of students at varying academic levels |
| h. | Adapting instruction for students with individualized education programs |
| i. | Instructional techniques to meet the needs of students from diverse cultural backgrounds |
| j. | Instructional techniques to meet the needs of English language learners. |



27. **Think about all the new teacher supports you have received during the 2007-08 school year (including the summer of 2007). Indicate the extent to which these supports have improved your knowledge and skills in the following areas.** *(Mark one box per row.)*

The new teacher supports I received
this year (2007-08) have ... ^{Not} Minimal Moderate Great at all extent extent extent

- ☐ a. Deepened my grasp of the subject matter I teach.
- ☐ b. Increased my knowledge of instructional techniques appropriate for the grade level/subject matter I teach.

c. Improved my classroom management.

d. Increased my effectiveness in using textbooks or other curricular materials/instructional programs.

e. Improved my interactions with parents.

f. Improved my ability to use data (e.g., analyzing student work or student test scores) to plan instruction.

g. Improved my ability to adapt instruction to meet the needs of students at varying academic levels.

h. Increased my ability to adapt instruction for students with individualized education programs.

i. Improved my ability to meet the instructional needs of students from diverse cultural backgrounds.

j. Improved my ability to meet instructional needs of English language learners.



TEACHER BELIEFS

28. To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

(Mark one box per row.) Strongly disagree Disagree Agree

Strongly
agree

a. I am confident in my ability to teach effectively.

b. I can handle a range of challenging classroom management and discipline situations.

c. If a student in my class becomes disruptive and noisy, I know techniques to redirect him/her quickly.

d. I am equally successful in helping students from all racial/ethnic backgrounds to learn.

e. I have the knowledge and skills I need to address the needs of English language learners.

f. I have the knowledge and skills I need to address the needs of special education students.

- g. If I really try hard, I can get through to even the most difficult or unmotivated students.
- h. If a student did not remember information I gave in a previous lesson, I would know how to increase his/her retention in the next lesson.
- i. If one of my students couldn't do a class assignment, I would be able to accurately assess whether the assignment was at the correct level of difficulty.
- j. I am able to adapt instruction so that I meet the needs of students at varying academic levels equally well.

29. Is there anything else you would like to tell us about the new teacher support you received during the 2007-08 school year?

**Thank you very much for
completing this survey.**