NNSTOY SURVEY ON REOPENING SCHOOL BUILDINGS

This survey was conducted from July 22-July 31, 2020 with 284 responses from State Teachers of the Year and Finalists.
"TEACHERS ARE NOT EXPENDABLE. WE MAY DO HEROIC WORK, BUT WE ARE NOT ACTUAL SUPERHEROES. WE ARE HUMAN BEINGS. OUR HUMANITY NEEDS TO MATTER"

Meghan Hatch-Geary
2020 Connecticut Teacher of the Year
"We all want to teach. We all love our students. But we can be there for students AND keep everyone safe with remote learning."

Brian Curtin
2013 Illinois Teacher of the Year
"School is open even if buildings are closed. We must and will build strong relationships with our students and provide robust and authentic learning."

Amy Gallaway
2020 Alaska Teacher of the Year
"There are painful consequences of not opening schools. We know that and should be looking at every avenue to alleviate those stresses. What will be more detrimental is the loss of a teacher, staff member, or child and the impact of that loss on the community."

Stephanie Day
2010 District of Columbia Teacher of the Year
"When we were faced with protecting us from an active shooter's bullets, we were given black construction paper to cover our windows and told to hide in the corner. We demand a better response and protection from the very real threat of this virus. Face-to-face instruction just isn't possible at this time without causing more trauma."

Michael Dunlea
2012 New Jersey Teacher of the Year Finalist
"Face-to-face learning puts many people of color in danger, and it is unfair and cruel to put people in an environment where sickness can spread."

Jessyca Mathews
2019 Michigan Teacher of the Year Finalist
"Schools should not be opened for economic reasons. Schools should be open when it is safe for students and staff."

Maddie Fennell
2007 Nebraska Teacher of the Year
"CREATE FUNDING TO ASSURE CHILDREN ARE FED, WHETHER SEATED IN SCHOOL OR BY DISTANCED STRATEGIES. PROVIDE FUNDING TO HAVE A WORKABLE DEVICE WITH INTERNET ACCESS. PROVIDE FUNDING FOR IN HOME SERVICES FOR STUDENTS IDENTIFIED WITH SPECIAL NEEDS."

Dr. MaryLu Hutchins
2009 West Virginia Teacher of the Year
"Make sure educators have a seat at the decision making table and ensure students have a voice in the process, especially for how to do remote instruction."

Amy Gallaway
2020 Alaska Teacher of the Year
"IN MY STATE, EVERY OTHER SECTOR HAS REOPENED CAUTIOUSLY AND SLOWLY, IN PHASES. IT IS ILLOGICAL TO EXCLUDE SCHOOLS FROM THOSE SAME PRUDENT PRACTICES. IF RESTAURANTS AND STORES ARE NOT ALLOWED TO BE OPERATING AT FULL-CAPACITY, WHY IS IT OK FOR SCHOOLS?"

Kristen Record
2011 Connecticut Teacher of the Year
"We need to look to other countries that have successfully and safely reopened for best practices we could follow. And we need to make decisions about when to reopen, and when to shut schools back down temporarily if necessary, based on concrete metrics about the number of new infections."

Justin Minkel
2007 Arkansas Teacher of the Year
“Please don't wait until kids and teachers start dying to close schools back down and go to remote learning.”

Alex Kajitani
2009 California Teacher of the Year
DELAYING FACE-TO-FACE-INSTRUCTION

DELAY ORIGINAL START-DATE

- Strongly agree or agree: 89.8%
- Disagree or strongly disagree: 10.2%

DELAY ANY FACE-TO-FACE INCLUDING HYBRID

- Strongly agree or agree: 78.9%
- Disagree or strongly disagree: 20.2%

Strongly agree or agree: 89.8%
Disagree or strongly disagree: 10.2%
OVER 96% OF STATE TEACHERS OF THE YEAR AND FINALISTS SUPPORT THESE SAFETY MEASURES

- FACE MASKS
- REDUCING CLASS SIZE
- PROPER VENTILATION
- DAILY DISINFECTION
- PROVIDING REMOTE WORK ARRANGEMENTS FOR STAFF WHO ARE AT ELEVATED RISK
LEVEL OF CONCERN THAT REOPENING FACE-TO-FACE INSTRUCTION IN THE FALL WILL LEAD TO AN INCREASE IN CASES IN THE FOLLOWING SUB-GROUPS

**STUDENTS**

- Very concerned and somewhat concerned: 92.7%
- Slightly concerned and not at all concerned: 7.3%

**FAMILIES**

- Very concerned and somewhat concerned: 94.7%
- Slightly concerned and not at all concerned: 5.3%