

September 2020

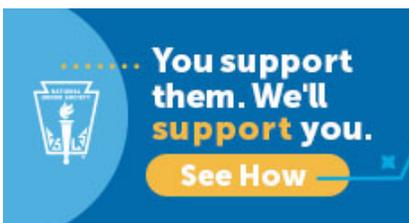
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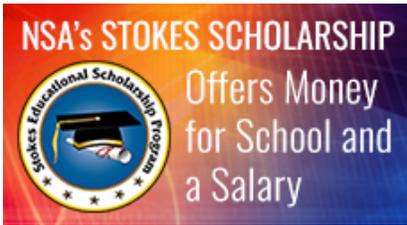
Students Less Confident than Teachers About Distance Learning

A recent survey by [PDK International](#) found some significant disconnects between student and educator opinions. For example, while only 36% of classroom teachers and 29% of administrators expressed concern about students' ability to learn in a distance environment, 57% of students expressed concerns. The "[Students and Teachers Share Hopes and Fears for the New School Year](#)" study also found that meeting students' social/emotional needs is a top challenge for the school year, according to 66% of teachers and 64% of students.

PDK International has been measuring how students and educators feel about school closings, their social emotional concerns related to the pandemic, and their expectations for the current school year.

Other findings:

- Only 10% of teachers vs. 55% of students consider "ensuring students can participate in extracurricular activities" a top challenge.
- Asked about the most important thing schools can do to help address student needs, 46% of teachers say "offer sessions with a school counselor, psychologist or mentor to address mental health needs" vs. 33% of students. Additionally, 17% of teachers vs. 50% of students say "address student concerns about being prepared to attend college or start a career."
- Asked what it would take for them to feel comfortable returning to a physical classroom, 56% of teachers and



Mark Your Calendar

Join [ASCA](#), [NASSP](#) and [NAESP](#) for a Virtual Town Hall. **Confronting Racism: A Principal and School Counselor Collaborative Approach** takes place Sept. 30 at 3 p.m. ET. [Register here.](#)

51% of students pointed to a "redesigned school/classroom setting that provides space for social distancing and resources to wash hands and sanitize common areas/resources." The highest percentage of students (54%) asked for "COVID clearance cards/forms that ensure students and teachers are healthy and not a risk to others" (32% of teachers).

Access the full study at www.pdkintl.org.

NEW! My Life in the Fish Tank by Barbara Dee

Mask up, ASCA: Now is the time to update your ASCA membership. Join or renew your professional membership online by Oct. 9 and you'll get a free "I'm smiling under here" ASCA mask. Log in at www.schoolcounselor.org/join to join or renew.



Everything worth knowing about college applications: High school counselors may be interested in National Association for College Admission Counseling's 2020 conference Sept. 22-24, which includes two full days of virtual educational content and a virtual expo, and features a conversation with Ibram X. Kendi (author of "How to be an Antiracist"). To register for the event, [click here](#).

Honoring community-minded kids: The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards recognize students in middle and high schools (grades 5-12) who have made meaningful contributions to their communities through volunteer service. Sponsored by Prudential Financial in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals, the awards are presented annually on the local, state and national level. Here's how it works:

1. By Nov. 10, 2020, students must submit their completed applications and signed student/parent or guardian agreements to a certifier. (Certifiers can be school principals or the head of a county 4-H organization, Girl Scout council, American Red Cross chapter, YMCA or a Points of Light Global Network member.)
2. By Nov. 20, 2020, certifiers select and certify top applicants for state-level judging.

3. On Feb. 9, 2021, The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards announces state-level winners for 2021.

[Click here](#) for all the details.

NSA's Stokes offers paid work experience and a guaranteed job

Holding out for a hero: The National Center for Learning Disabilities is looking for three everyday champions, including an educator, administrator and parent/caregiver, who have done an outstanding job helping children with learning and attention issues through remote learning. Each awardee will win \$5,000 and be honored in a virtual celebration in December. To nominate someone, including yourself, [click here](#).

Introduce students to the concrete trade: The Tilt-Up Concrete Association is inviting high school counselors and students to attend the organization's annual conference, a virtual avatar-enabled event Oct. 5-9. [Learn more here](#).

Rice is nice: The [USA Rice](#) annual National Rice Month Scholarship Video Contest, sponsored by American Commodity Company, is open to graduating high school students from Arkansas, California, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri or Texas who create a video (three minutes or less) that shines a light on rice. The grand-prize winner will receive a \$5,000 scholarship and a trip with a chaperone to the annual USA Rice Outlook Conference, the second-place winner receives a \$3,000 scholarship and third place receives \$2,000. For details, [click here](#).

BYOB coffee to USAF discussion: The Air Force Recruiting Service is launching a series of Virtual Educators Coffees to enable educators to learn how the Air Force recruits, trains, educates and employs service members. Coffees are held every other Thursday. To participate, please [email Michelle DeLeon](#).

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