EDTECH IN SCHOOLS: Creating Safer Digital Learning Environments

K-8 Parents, 9-12 Parents, Teachers, & Administrators

SEPTEMBER 2022


Results from the full survey have a margin of error between +/- 4% and 5% depending on the question and demographic group. This data is weighted based on gender, age, education, ethnicity, and region.
KEY FINDINGS

1. The internet is a useful learning tool: 93% of parents and 98% of teachers and administrators agree the internet is a useful learning tool that schools should use as part of their learning process.

2. Harmful or explicit content is a concern: 74% of K-8 and 68% of 9-12 parents are concerned about students accessing explicit or harmful content while using a school-issued device. This increases to more than 80% for teachers and administrators.

3. Content moderation is necessary, and it is the school’s responsibility: More than 91% of respondents believe it is necessary to have online educational technologies in place to prevent students from accessing harmful or explicit content. Of those that believe it is necessary, over 95% reported it is a school’s responsibility to put these tools in place.

4. Keeping students on task is important, too: Over 88% of those surveyed also believe it is necessary to have online educational technologies in place to keep students on task and away from digital distractions. This is especially critical as educators address pandemic-related unfinished learning.

5. Concern for student safety is high: More than 83% of K-12 parents, educators and administrators feel a high level of concern for student mental health and violence in schools.

6. The internet plays a role in influencing self-harm or violence: More than 72% of respondents agreed the internet plays a strong role in influencing students to harm themselves or others.

7. Unrestricted access can be detrimental or harmful: Over three in four respondents agree that unrestricted access to the internet on school-issued devices can be detrimental to student mental health.

8. There is support for online tools that protect student safety: Nearly 90% of all respondents are supportive of online educational technology that could help detect signs of a student considering harming themselves or others.
Many parents and school staff indicate their children are issued a school device; they agree that the internet is a useful learning tool schools should use as part of their learning process.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Does/do your student(s) have a school-issued device that they use in the classroom or at home?</th>
<th>To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following? (% Strongly agree + Somewhat agree)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>K-8 PARENTS</strong></td>
<td><strong>The internet is a useful learning tool that schools should use as part of the learning process</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>9-12 PARENTS</strong></td>
<td>76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TEACHERS</strong></td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ADMIN</strong></td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ADMIN</strong></td>
<td>84%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Base: K-8 Parents n=500; 9-12 Parents n=500; Teachers n=1000; Admin n=493
There is concern that students can access explicit/harmful content on their school-issued devices.

How concerned are you that students could access explicit and/or harmful content online while using a school-issued device?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>A lot</th>
<th>Some</th>
<th>Not much</th>
<th>Not at all</th>
<th>Don't know / No opinion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K-8 PARENTS</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9-12 PARENTS</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TEACHERS</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADMIN</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Base: K-8 Parents n=500; 9-12 Parents n=500; Teachers n=1000; Admin n=493
Having online education technologies in place to prevent students from accessing explicit/harmful content is believed to be necessary; parents and staff agree schools should be responsible for these protections.

To what extent do you believe it is necessary or unnecessary to have online educational technologies in place to help prevent students from accessing explicit and/or harmful content on their school-issued device?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Quite necessary</th>
<th>Somewhat necessary</th>
<th>Somewhat unnecessary</th>
<th>Don’t know / No opinion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K-8 Parents</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9-12 Parents</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teachers</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admin</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

And, to what extent do you agree or disagree that schools have a responsibility to put these protections in place?

(Among those that think it’s necessary to have online education technologies)

% Strongly agree + Agree

- K-8 Parents: 96%
- 9-12 Parents: 98%
- Teachers: 99%
- Admin: 99%

Base: K-8 Parents n=500/464; 9-12 Parents n=500/456; Teachers n=1000/959; Admin n=493/464
Similarly, these technologies are believed to be necessary to keep children on task while using school-issued devices. A consensus remains that schools should be responsible for putting these tools in place.

To what extent do you believe it is necessary or unnecessary to have online educational technologies in place that help keep students on task and away from distractions (like social media, video streaming service, and other material potentially inappropriate for the classroom) while using their school-issued device?

And, to what extent do you agree or disagree that schools have a responsibility to put these tools in place?

(Among those that think it’s necessary to have online education technologies)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Quite necessary</th>
<th>Somewhat necessary</th>
<th>Somewhat unnecessary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>K-8 PARENTS</strong></td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>9-12 PARENTS</strong></td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TEACHERS</strong></td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ADMIN</strong></td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Base: K-8 Parents n=500/448; 9-12 Parents n=500/454; Teachers n=1000/954; Admin n=493/462
Concern for students’ mental health and violence in schools is high.

**To what extent are you concerned about students’ mental health?** (% Very concerned + Somewhat concerned)

- **K-8 PARENTS**: 85%
- **9-12 PARENTS**: 84%
- **TEACHERS**: 93%
- **ADMIN**: 94%

**To what extent are you concerned about violence in schools?** (% Very concerned + Somewhat concerned)

- **K-8 PARENTS**: 91%
- **9-12 PARENTS**: 89%
- **TEACHERS**: 92%
- **ADMIN**: 93%

Base: K-8 Parents n=500; 9-12 Parents n=500; Teachers n=1000; Admin n=493
Parents and staff believe that unrestricted access to the internet can be detrimental to mental health and that the internet plays a strong role in influencing students to harm themselves or others.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>K-8 Parents</th>
<th>9-12 Parents</th>
<th>Teachers</th>
<th>Admin</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>If there were an online tool that could detect signs that a student may be considering harming others, I would want it on their school-issued device</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>94%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If there were an online tool that could detect signs that a student may be at risk of harming themselves, I would want it on their school-issued device</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted access to the internet on school-issued devices can be detrimental to student mental health</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The internet plays a strong role in influencing students to harm themselves or others</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Additionally, both parents and staff are supportive of their school system using online educational technology to help detect signs of a student considering harming themselves or harming others.

How supportive, if at all, would you be if your school system were to consider using an online educational technology to help detect signs a student may be considering...?

(% Very supportive + Somewhat supportive)

Light Shading: Harming Themselves

Dark Shading: Harming Others

K-8 Parents: 87% (Very supportive: 83%, Somewhat supportive: 4%)
9-12 Parents: 89% (Very supportive: 85%, Somewhat supportive: 4%)
Teachers: 93% (Very supportive: 92%, Somewhat supportive: 1%)
Admin: 92% (Very supportive: 91%, Somewhat supportive: 1%)

Base: K-8 Parents n=500; 9-12 Parents n=500; Teachers n=1000; Admin n=493
Most trust their school systems to make informed decisions about which online educational technologies are appropriate for school use.

How much do you trust your school system to make informed decisions about which online educational technologies are appropriate for school use?

- **K-8 Parents**
  - A lot: 38%
  - Some: 47%
  - Not much: 10%
  - Not at all: 4%
  - Don't know / No opinion: 10%

- **9-12 Parents**
  - A lot: 34%
  - Some: 50%
  - Not much: 10%
  - Not at all: 4%
  - Don't know / No opinion: 10%

- **Teachers**
  - A lot: 41%
  - Some: 49%
  - Not much: 8%
  - Not at all: 4%
  - Don't know / No opinion: 8%

- **Admin**
  - A lot: 51%
  - Some: 42%
  - Not much: 6%
  - Not at all: 4%
  - Don't know / No opinion: 6%

Base: K-8 Parents n=500; 9-12 Parents n=500; Teachers n=1000; Admin n=493
Ensuring student data is not shared or sold is a key priority for parents and staff when measuring comfortability with online educational technologies.

Which of the following, if any, would make you feel more comfortable if your school system were to consider using online educational technologies with AI technology? Please select all that apply.

Knowing the education technology company does not sell or share student data

- K-8 PARENTS: 63%
- 9-12 PARENTS: 60%
- TEACHERS: 70%
- ADMIN: 62%

Base: K-8 Parents n=500; 9-12 Parents n=500; Teachers n=1000; Admin n=493