

**The Barr Foundation
Education Issues Survey**

Topline Results

Statewide Survey of 1,549 K-12 Parents in Massachusetts

Field Dates: October 16 – November 1, 2020

Which of the following best describes the school where your child(ren) are enrolled this year? **[ALLOW MULTIPLE RESPONSES, SELECT ALL THAT APPLY]**

| | |
|--|-----|
| A public school run by a school district | 80% |
| A public charter school | 9% |
| A parochial or Catholic school | 6% |
| A non-Catholic private or independent school | 6% |
| Home schooling | 4% |
| Another format | 2% |
| Don't Know / Refused | <1% |

As of today, which best describes the school format for your child(ren)? **[ALLOW MULTIPLE RESPONSES, SELECT ALL THAT APPLY]**

| | |
|---|-----|
| Only attending class in person | 11% |
| Attending only remote, online classes | 46% |
| Attending a mix of online classes and in-person classes | 46% |
| Don't Know / Refused | 1% |

Some parents have arranged to join together with other families to help with at-home learning and balance child care. This is often called a “pod”. Is your child/are any of your children part of a pod arrangement, or not?

| | |
|----------------------|-----|
| Yes | 15% |
| No | 84% |
| Don't Know / Refused | 2% |

Some places have set up remote learning centers outside of the home or schools where children can be dropped off for the day to attend online classes and safely socialize with other children, all while under adult supervision. Is your child / Are any of your children attending a remote learning center, or not?

| | |
|----------------------|-----|
| Yes | 14% |
| No | 85% |
| Don't Know / Refused | 1% |

Have you hired anyone to help your child(ren) with their schooling, like a tutor or part-time teacher? **IF YES:** Do you usually hire someone to help your child(ren), or did you do so because of changes to school this year?

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| Yes, normally hire someone | 11% |
| Yes, because of changes this year | 11% |
| No | 78% |
| Don't Know / Refused | 1% |

Is your child/Are any of your children enrolled in a different school than they normally would be this year?
PROBE IF YES: Is the change in their enrollment due to COVID-19, or another factor?

| | |
|----------------------|-----|
| Yes, due to COVID-19 | 13% |
| Yes, another factor | 5% |
| No | 81% |
| Don't Know / Refused | 1% |

What factors were most important to you as you considered the best option for your child(ren) and family this school year? **OPEN END - CODE INTO CATEGORIES**

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| What the school/district offered | 27% |
| Child care | 12% |
| Work schedules | 15% |
| Opportunity for kids to socialize | 25% |
| Household budget | 9% |
| Academic/learning opportunities | 38% |
| Health and safety | 50% |
| Special learning needs | 12% |
| Other | 8% |
| Don't Know / Refused | 3% |

IF HAVE MORE THAN ONE CHILD READ THE FOLLOWING. OTHERWISE SKIP THIS DIRECTION AND DO NOT SPECIFY GRADE LEVEL IN FOLLOWING QUESTIONS. You mentioned you had a child in **SELECT GRADE LEVEL FOR RANDOM CHILD FROM GRA**. The next several questions will be about this child's experience during the coronavirus crisis.

First, which of the following best describes the school where your **GRADE LEVEL** child is enrolled this year?

| | |
|--|-----|
| A public school run by a school district | 76% |
| A public charter school | 9% |
| A parochial or Catholic school | 5% |
| A non-Catholic private or independent school | 5% |
| Home school | 3% |
| Don't Know / Refused | 1% |

As of today, which best describes the school format for your **GRADE LEVEL** child?

| | |
|---|-----|
| Only attending class in person | 10% |
| Attending only remote, online classes | 46% |
| Attending a mix of online classes and in-person classes | 44% |
| Don't Know / Refused | 1% |

If applicable, what other school format options did your **GRADE LEVEL** child’s school or district provide?
SELECT ALL THAT APPLY

| | |
|---|-----|
| Only attending class in person | 13% |
| Attending only remote, online classes | 32% |
| Attending a mix of online classes and in-person classes | 26% |
| No other options EXCLUSIVE PUNCH | 33% |
| Don’t Know / Refused | 5% |

You mentioned your **GRADE LEVEL** child is **PIPE IN FROM REMC**. Is this the way your child began the school year? **PROBE IF NO:** How did your child begin the school year – were they only attending class in person, attending only remote online classes, or were they attending a mix of in-person and online classes?

| | |
|--|-----|
| Yes, they began the school year this way | 77% |
| No, they were only in person | 8% |
| No, they were only remote | 11% |
| No, they were hybrid | 3% |
| Don’t Know / Refused | 1% |

Does your **GRADE LEVEL** child have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP)?

| | |
|----------------------|-----|
| Yes | 25% |
| No | 71% |
| Don’t Know / Refused | 4% |

Would you say the IEP services your **GRADE LEVEL** child receives this year have been adequate or inadequate, or have they not received IEP services?

| | |
|----------------------------|-----|
| Child does not have an IEP | 71% |
| Adequate | 15% |
| Inadequate | 7% |
| Have not received services | 2% |
| Don’t Know / Refused | 5% |

Does your **GRADE LEVEL** child receive services for English Language Learners (ELL)?

| | |
|----------------------|-----|
| Yes | 18% |
| No | 79% |
| Don’t Know / Refused | 3% |

Would you say the English Language Learner services your **GRADE LEVEL** child receives this year have been adequate or inadequate, or have they not received English Language Learner services?

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|
| Child does not receive ELL services | 79% |
| Adequate | 14% |
| Inadequate | 2% |
| Have not received services | 1% |
| Don’t Know / Refused | 4% |

As far as you know, has your **GRADE LEVEL** child’s school or school district provided information to parents in languages other than English?

| | |
|----------------------|-----|
| Yes (specify) | 39% |
| No | 32% |
| Don’t Know / Refused | 29% |

Under the circumstances, do you think **READ FIRST ITEM** could be doing much better, could be doing a little better, or are they doing the best they can? What about **READ NEXT ITEM**?

| | Could be doing much better | Could be doing a little better | Doing the best they can | Don’t Know / Refused |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| ROTATE ORDER | | | | |
| (RDIS) Your child’s school district | 21% | 26% | 50% | 3% |
| (RGEN) Your child’s school | 17% | 24% | 57% | 2% |
| (RINF) Your child’s teacher | 13% | 17% | 67% | 3% |

IF REMOTE LEARNING OR HYBRID (REMC=2,3 FOR TARGET CHILD)

When your **GRADE LEVEL** child is learning from home, how often do they **READ FIRST ITEM**?

| | Less than 1 hour /day | 1-2 hours /day | 2-3 hours/day | 3-4 hours/day | 4+ hours /day | Not offered | Don’t Know / Refused |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|----------------------|
| ROTATE ORDER | | | | | | | |
| Attend live classes online | 8% | 16% | 19% | 15% | 38% | 2% | 2% |
| Watch pre-recorded material online | 27% | 23% | 10% | 4% | 5% | 17% | 13% |
| Work on offline coursework | 17% | 34% | 20% | 10% | 9% | 5% | 6% |

IF REMOTE LEARNING OR HYBRID (REMC=2,3 FOR TARGET CHILD)

How well would you say **READ FIRST** uses remote learning technology?

| | Very well | Somewhat well | Not too well | Not at all well | Don’t Know / Refused |
|-----------------------------|-----------|---------------|--------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| ROTATE ORDER | | | | | |
| Your child | 53% | 35% | 8% | 3% | 1% |
| Your child’s teacher | 49% | 37% | 8% | 2% | 4% |
| Your child’s school overall | 42% | 43% | 10% | 2% | 3% |

ASK ALL

Prior to the coronavirus crisis, do you think your **GRADE LEVEL** child’s academics were at grade level, behind grade level, or ahead of grade level? How about now?

| | Prior to coronavirus | Now |
|----------------------|----------------------|-----|
| At grade level | 62% | 51% |
| Behind grade level | 12% | 28% |
| Ahead of grade level | 24% | 16% |
| Don’t Know / Refused | 2% | 5% |

Would you say the changes to school this year have had a positive or negative impact on your **GRADE LEVEL** child's **READ FIRST ITEM**, or has it made no difference? **PROBE:** And is that a major or minor positive/negative impact?

| | Major positive impact | Minor positive impact | Minor negative impact | Major negative impact | No difference | Don't know / Refused |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------|----------------------|
| Mental or emotional health | 10% | 9% | 31% | 33% | 16% | 1% |
| Social and behavioral skills | 8% | 10% | 31% | 31% | 19% | 1% |
| Opportunities to form or maintain friendships | 9% | 9% | 23% | 32% | 26% | 1% |
| Academic learning | 11% | 12% | 23% | 36% | 16% | 1% |

Do you regularly use email to communicate?

| | |
|----------------------|-----|
| Yes I do | 87% |
| No I do not | 12% |
| Don't Know / Refused | 1% |

Does your family have access to enough devices such as computers and tablets for everyone who needs one for work or school tasks, or do you not have enough?

| | |
|----------------------------|-----|
| Have enough devices | 90% |
| Do not have enough devices | 9% |
| Don't Know / Refused | 1% |

Does your family have good enough internet access to keep up on school and work tasks, or is it not good enough for what your family needs?

| | |
|----------------------|-----|
| Good enough access | 87% |
| Not good enough | 12% |
| Don't Know / Refused | 1% |

Has your child / Have any of your children received a device for at-home learning like a laptop or tablet from their school?

| | |
|----------------------|-----|
| Yes | 65% |
| No | 34% |
| Don't Know / Refused | 1% |

DEMOGRAPHICS

Age

| | |
|----------------------|-----|
| 18 to 34 years old | 15% |
| 35 to 39 years old | 19% |
| 40 to 44 years old | 23% |
| 45 to 49 years old | 23% |
| 50+ | 20% |
| Don't Know / Refused | 1% |

Gender

| | |
|----------------------|-----|
| Male | 45% |
| Female | 55% |
| Other | <1% |
| Don't Know / Refused | <1% |

Race

| | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| White | 69% |
| Black / African-American | 6% |
| Hispanic / Latino | 12% |
| Asian | 8% |
| Mixed race / Other | 3% |
| Don't Know / Refused | 1% |

Education

| | |
|-------------------------|-----|
| High school or less | 26% |
| Some college, no degree | 23% |
| College degree | 28% |
| Advanced degree | 23% |
| Don't Know / Refused | 1% |

About the Poll

These results are based on a survey of 1,549 parents of K-12 students in Massachusetts. Live telephone interviews and online interviewing were conducted in English and Spanish October 16 – November 1, 2020. Telephone respondents were reached by both landline and cell phone. Oversamples of Black, Latino, and Asian American respondents were obtained to bring the total interview count up to at least 250 for each group for the base sample. Results within race and ethnicity were weighted to age, gender, geography, and education level for each group. Groups were then combined and weighted to the population parameters by race for the state as a whole. The poll was sponsored by The Barr Foundation.