Many states, districts, and charter school management organizations are using student perception surveys, and each entity has created a unique survey administration process. Below are examples of components created by these organizations.

SURVEY CONTENTS

Achievement First (Public Charter Schools in Connecticut, New York, and Rhode Island)
Students respond to 13 questions on a five-point scale. All surveys are the same for grades 3-12.

Aspire Public Schools (Charter Schools in California and Tennessee)
An elementary school survey (grades 3-5) has 20 questions on a three-point scale (Yes, Maybe/Sometimes, No). A secondary school survey (grades 6-12) has 20 questions on a five-point scale (Totally true, Mostly true, Somewhat, Mostly untrue, Totally untrue).

Denver Public Schools
Denver Public Schools (DPS) has one survey for grades 3-12 with a total of 28 items.

North Carolina Public Schools
There are three age-specific versions of the survey: an early elementary version (grades K-2), an upper elementary version (grades 3-5), and a secondary version (grades 6-12). Questions and answers are adjusted for the age of the students.

SURVEY ADMINISTRATION

Achievement First
Achievement First calculates a random sample of 24 students for every teacher from all of his or her classes. As a result, each student has a unique set of surveys to take. Surveys are printed at a local printing company, organized into piles, and made into packets for each student. These packages are then sent to each school.

Aspire Public Schools
Aspire Public Schools administers paper surveys to all students on all teachers. The central office prints the surveys and sends them to individual schools. When the surveys are complete, the schools send them back to the office.

Denver Public Schools
Secondary schools in DPS survey every teacher's second period class and teachers can also choose to survey one additional class. Teachers in grades 3-12 can administer the surveys to their own students if they choose. Teachers are permitted to read the questions aloud as a modification. DPS is moving to online administration. Each DPS school has a site assessment leader (SAL) who is the point person for survey administration. The central office sends the survey timelines, requirements, and additional information to each school's SAL.

North Carolina Public Schools

In all districts, the K-2 survey is administered via paper and pencil. An online option is available for students in grades 3-12, and 41 of the 49 school districts in the state complete the survey online. Each superintendent selects a district coordinator who serves as the main contact between the district, North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, and Cambridge Education (the survey vendor). The district coordinator assigns a school coordinator at each school who is responsible for distributing and collecting survey materials.

Pittsburgh Public Schools

Pittsburgh Public Schools surveys two classes per eligible teacher, which includes core content, related arts, ESL, and special education teachers. Teachers who are self-contained will have the same class surveyed at two different times.

FREQUENCY OF ADMINISTRATION

Achievement First, Aspire Public Schools, North Carolina Public Schools, and Pittsburgh Public Schools

Student surveys are administered once a year.

Denver Public Schools

DPS administers their survey in the fall but also has a makeup administration in the spring for any new teachers or teachers with insufficient data from the fall.

VENDORS OR PROVIDERS USED

Achievement First

Achievement First uses a Denver-based provider, Survey2Go.

Aspire Public Schools

Aspire Public Schools uses TAB, a record management company, to process survey data.

North Carolina Public Schools

North Carolina Public Schools contracts with Cambridge Education, an international education firm.

PROCESSING AND REPORTING

Achievement First

Each school sends its completed surveys directly to Survey2Go, which uploads the results in Excel for viewing and assessment. In 2011-2012, Achievement First created reports of survey data using Microsoft Access. Teachers meet individually with their coach to discuss the results.

Aspire Public Schools

Aspire Public Schools' central office sends the surveys to TAB to process and translate into usable data. After receiving the survey data from TAB, Aspire uses Tableau, a data visualization application, to analyze the data and create reports.

Denver Public Schools

Results are available approximately one month after the surveys are completed. Reports are made available through DPS online portal sites.

North Carolina Public Schools

Teachers, principals, and superintendents received emails verifying their individual accounts to access and view district, school, and classroom level results online, as reported by Cambridge Education.

USING RESULTS

Pittsburgh Public Schools

Pittsburgh Public Schools highlights the importance of providing tools for reflection and developing strategies for practice. It implemented Learning Bridge, an online resource that teachers can access to identify professional development opportunities and resources to address areas for growth.

Charlotte-Mecklenburg School District

Charlotte-Mecklenburg School District in North Carolina notes that a common focal area for improvement is control. The district implemented My Teaching Partner, a professional development coaching tool that operates in conjunction with The Tripod Project and Cambridge Education.