

How did CEI engage teachers in creating the SPS?

The Colorado Education Initiative (CEI) developed [Colorado's Student Perception Survey](#) (SPS) in 2012 to provide teachers with actionable student feedback. One of the most common questions from educators is: How did CEI engage teachers in creating the SPS?

Given that teachers are at the center of the SPS, CEI believed that extensive teacher involvement was essential throughout every stage of the survey's development. From start to finish, approximately 1,400 teachers were involved in developing and testing the SPS. Teacher recommendations and feedback resulted in changes to the survey questions that were selected and how survey questions were worded.

Initial teacher work group

After CEI completed an early draft of the survey questions, a work group of Colorado teachers reviewed the questions and provided feedback. CEI revised the SPS based on the work group's recommendations before field-testing the survey. Subsequently, 18 teachers volunteered for the psychometric field-testing stage, providing feedback about the survey itself and its administration, which helped to refine the SPS before the wide-scale pilot involving 16 partner districts.

Feedback survey and focus groups

Following the fall pilot in November 2012, teachers once again provided feedback. Over 1,000 teachers participated in an online survey, providing a wealth of information about the SPS and its implementation. Also, to gain deeper and more detailed information, CEI engaged teachers in focus groups to understand any lingering questions, listen to recommended changes, and generate ideas about preferred reporting formats. Finally, after the spring pilot, CEI engaged teachers in another series of focus groups, gathering information from teachers about the pilot process, lessons learned, and effective ways to communicate about the SPS.

Instead of handing teachers another evaluation tool to use, CEI wanted to collaborate with educators to co-create a practical survey that empowers students to take responsibility for their education by providing their teachers with meaningful feedback. The effort, ideas, and advice

Teacher Engagement Quick Facts

- Teachers were instrumental to the SPS development process.
- Teacher feedback was gathered through various channels, including work groups, focus groups, and an online survey.
- 100 Colorado teachers were asked to provide feedback on early survey questions.
- Over 1,000 teachers provided feedback through an online survey after the fall pilot.

received from Colorado's teachers were instrumental in creating a survey that serves both teachers' and students' needs. CEI continues to use teacher feedback to improve SPS implementation across the state.

Collaborating with the Colorado Education Association

CEI also engaged the Colorado Education Association (CEA) throughout the survey development process. CEA provided invaluable feedback on survey items, administration procedures, communication materials, and implementation guidance. This partnership ensures that the teacher voice was incorporated throughout the survey development process.



We encourage you to review the answers to other common questions about the SPS and explore other resources associated with student perception surveys. Visit the [Student Perception Survey Toolkit](#) for more information.

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