

Opening Comments

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Nevada Stakeholder Perceptions of Youth Educational & Mental Health Needs During the Pandemic

Presentation to the Nevada Association of Counties
February 26, 2021

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Presentation Outcomes

- 1 Summary of Findings
- 2 Lessons Learned from Respondents
- 3 Next Steps



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Purpose

- Identify youth educational and mental health needs across the state during the pandemic.
- Share resources available to help address identified needs.
- Inform current and post-pandemic educational delivery.



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Survey Overview

- Created in Qualtrics and available in English and Spanish.
- 55 multiple choice and open-ended items:
 - Demographics, perceptions of how the school year is going and the pandemic response, engagement, needs and lessons learned.
- Distributed to over 50 stakeholders, agencies, school personnel and administrators, non-profit organizations and others.
- Open October 12 – November 30, 2020.
- Received 1,306 responses.



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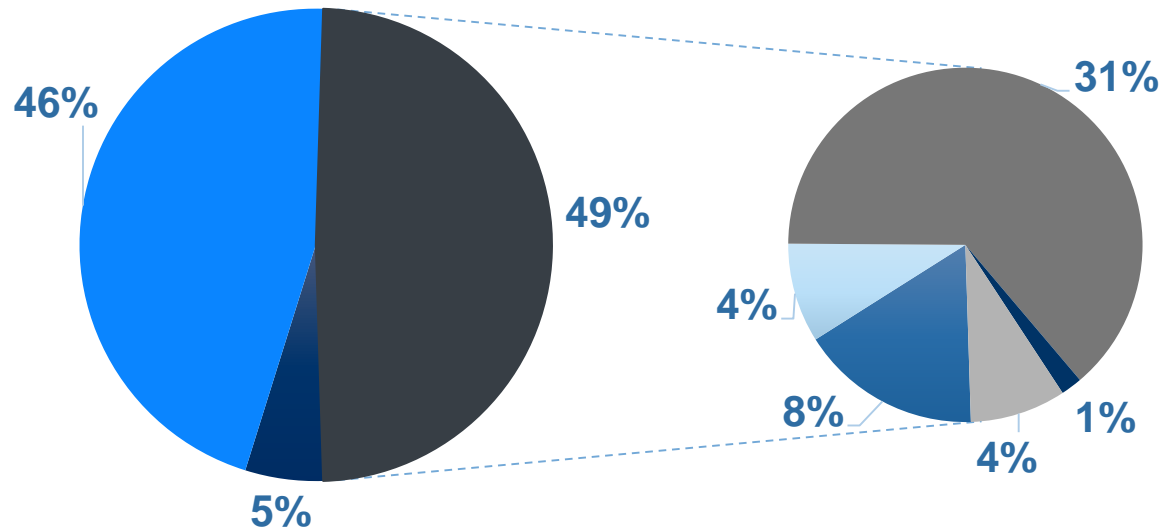


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Who Responded to the Survey?

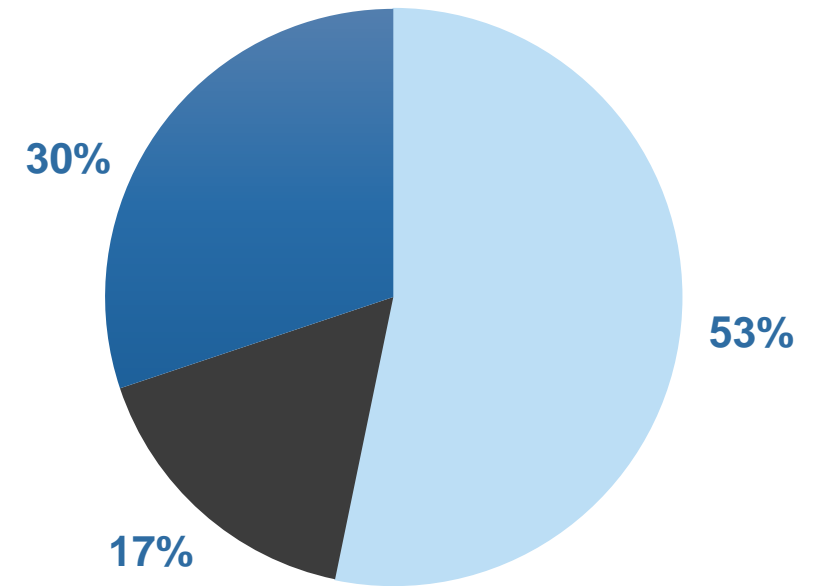
I'm taking this survey primarily as...



- Representative of a Community
- District Personnel
- Classroom Teacher
- Paraprofessional
- Parent or Family Member
- School Level Administrator
- Pre-service Teacher

(n = 1,259)

Respondents' School District



- Clark
- Washoe
- Rural

(n = 926)



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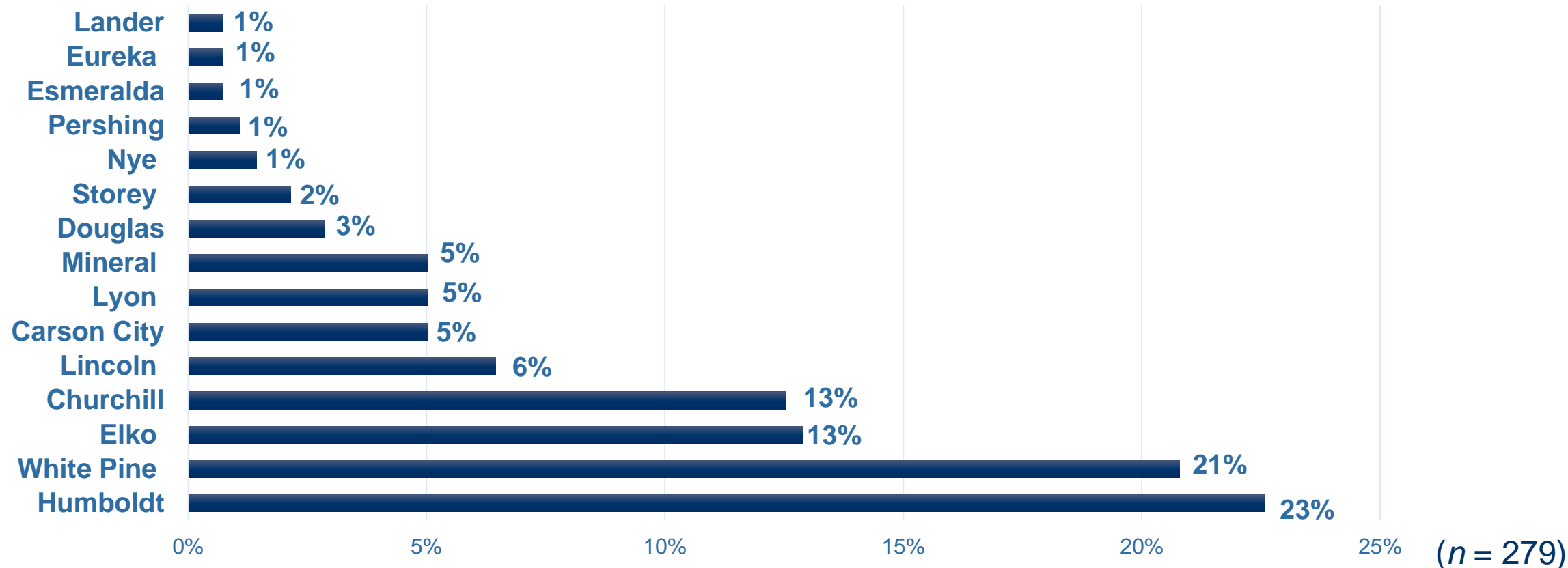


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Who Responded to the Survey?

Percent of Each School District in Rural Sample



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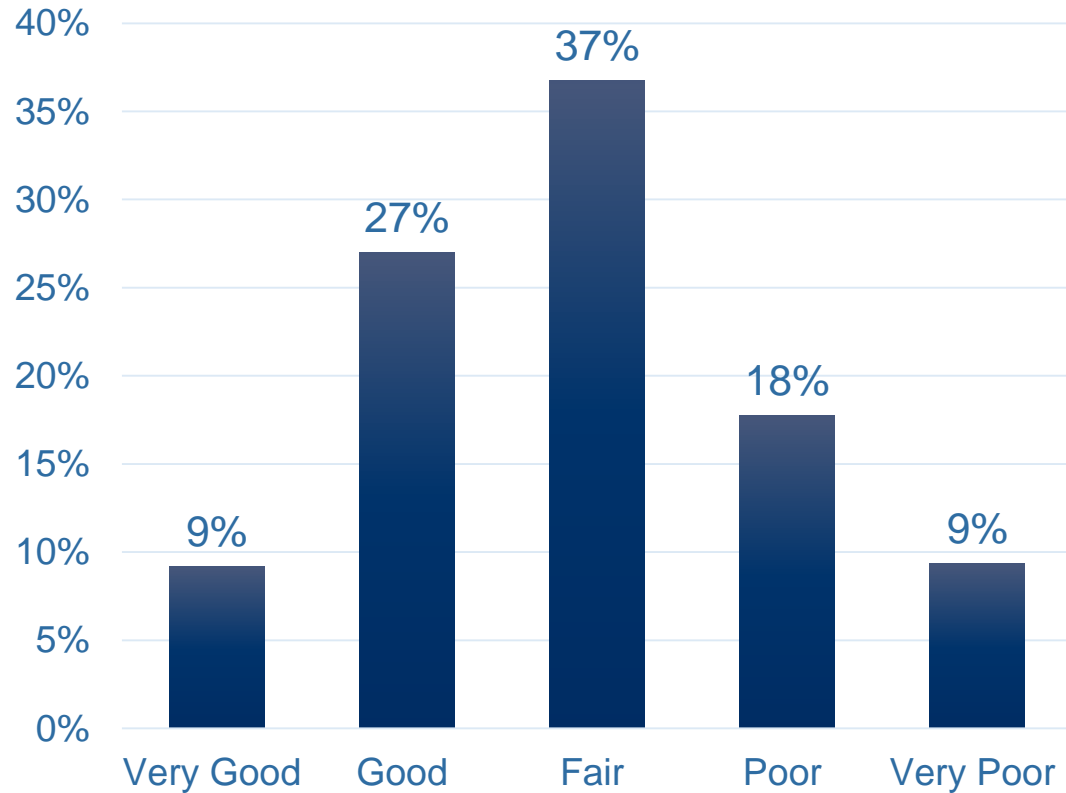
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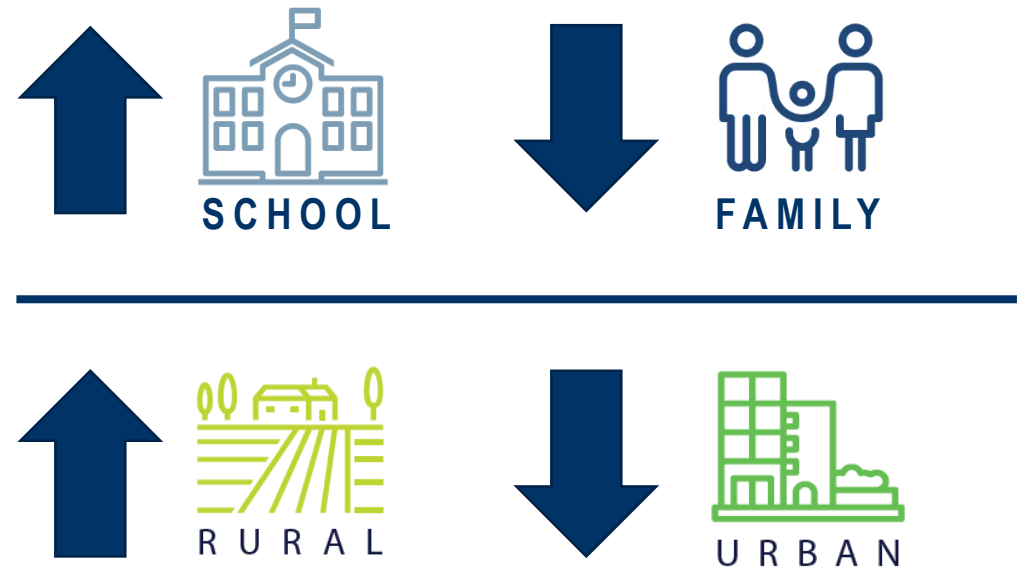
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How is this school year going so far?



(n = 1,263)



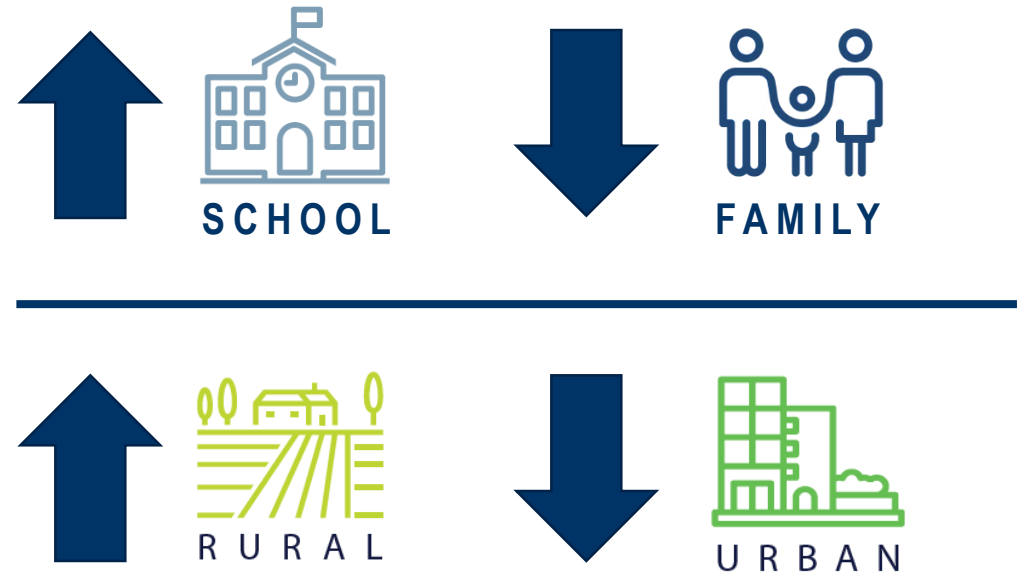
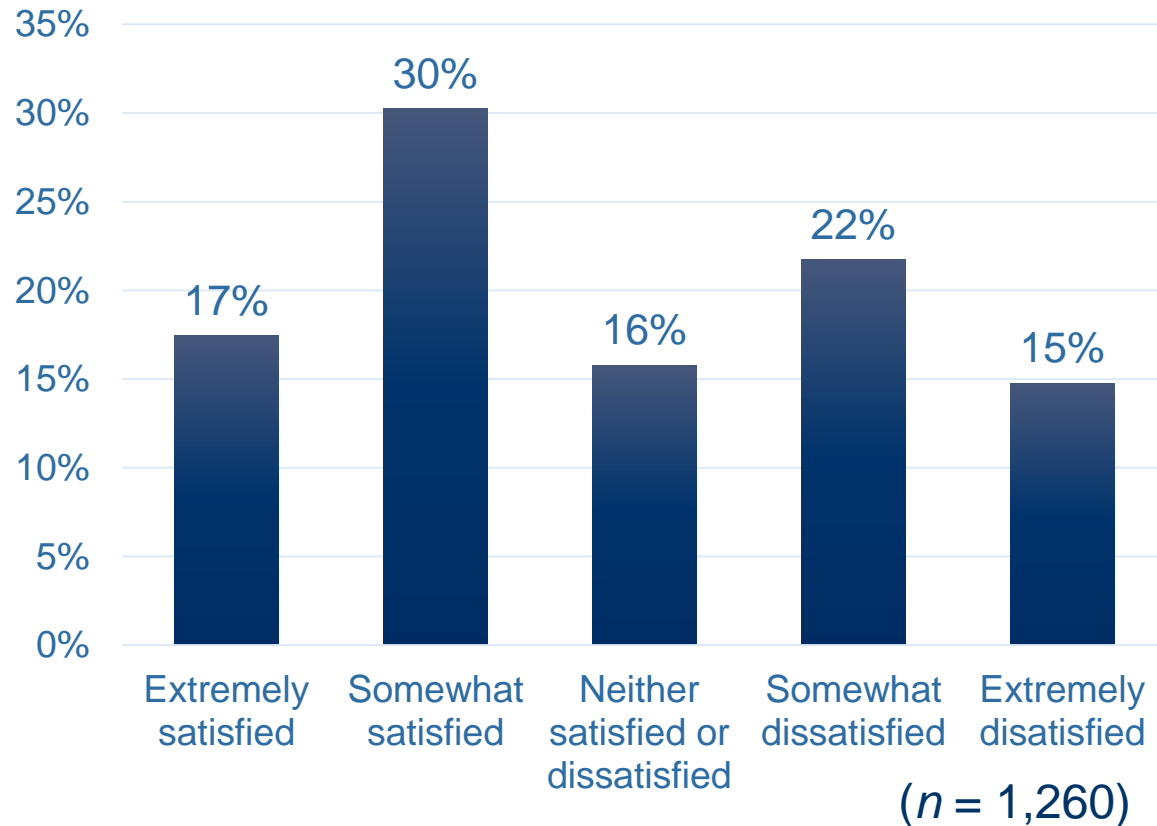
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How satisfied are you with your school district's pandemic response?



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Most Important Educational Issues of the Pandemic

Responses reflect the needs brought about by changes in instructional delivery model and stressors as a result of the pandemic.

ISSUES

- ✓ Communication among school/teachers/students/parents
- ✓ Quality of distance education
- ✓ Safety of children at school
- ✓ Making distance learning interactive and engaging
- ✓ Socio-emotional health of students
- ✓ Commitment of teachers to make distance learning effective
- ✓ Quality of education received during the pandemic
- ✓ Making distance learning accessible for children/students with disabilities



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Least Important Educational Issues of the Pandemic

Responses reflect wrap-around services that support education, youth and families.

ISSUES

- ✓ Expanding community youth non-formal programs
- ✓ Physical activity resources
- ✓ Nutrition education
- ✓ Youth programming during school day
- ✓ Childcare services
- ✓ After-school programming
- ✓ Substance abuse resources



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Educational Issues: Largest Rural vs. Urban Differences

These issues had the highest mean differences between rural—urban participants, with rural participants rating each of these issues higher

ISSUES

- ✓ Substance Abuse Resources
- ✓ Tips to Help Parents Support Children to do Schoolwork at Home
- ✓ What to do on days students are not receiving instruction
- ✓ Expanding community youth non formal programs (example: 4-H Youth Development, Girl Scouts, etc)
- ✓ Tutoring resources
- ✓ After-school programming



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Lessons Learned from Respondents

- Communication
- Consistent and Predictable Structures
- Parent-School/Teacher Engagement
- Physical Safety
- Access to Meals
- Access to Technology Resources
- Flexibility



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Quote



Every family has a unique situation. Providing the simplest possible way for students to access learning, and for parents to communicate with the teacher(s), is essential for engagement. The homepage should be easy to understand with minimal links and stepwise instructions. Give parents multiple ways to contact the teacher for support - text, phone call, email, class dojo, canvas etc.

– *Classroom Teacher*



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Quote

Communication is key! My kids do well in classes where teachers have clear communication and outline where HW is listed and due. They struggle when instructions are vague.

- *Parent*



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Quote

It takes time to address changes in any system, especially during this pandemic, and we should not expect significant successes short-term. The way we communicate and educate are being changed forever. There will be many changes that will help certain students and their families that will be positive but sadly, if the reports are any indication, many will have to learn/relearn concepts they would have gained during this transition time in history...

- *Community Member*



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Quote

For my students the access to technology has been working well. We have 1:1 and all students have been set up with internet.

- *Classroom Teacher*



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Next Steps



Resource list



Full report findings



Dashboard enabling public access to the data



Dissemination of the findings and resources



Work with PreK-12 partners to determine next steps to help inform current and post-pandemic educational delivery



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Plan to Address Youth Needs

Resource Guide to Support Youth and Families In-School and Out-of-School

- Sent out a call to all colleges at UNR, all Extension personnel, school districts, other youth organizations, anyone we could think of or others could think of
- Collected information about programs-both formal and non-formal educational opportunities for youth across the state
- Also looked at needs identified by parents, educators, and community members and the committee will find resources for those needs
- Creating a resource document that will provide parents and educators with programs and services to help support youth with academics and mental health



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Examples of Programs Submitted

Distance Learning Resources

- Connecting Kids, Nevada

Social-Emotional Resources (Including Mental Health)

- UNR Behavioral Education & Consulting Services
- Nevada Division of Child Family Services-Early Childhood Mental Health Services
- NV Department of Education-Support for Youth Experiencing Homelessness

Academic Support

- NV Department of Education-21st Century Learning Centers
- UNR College of Science-Frontiers for Young Minds
- UNR College of Education and Human Development-Math & Technology Camp
- UNR Extension/Moapa Valley Community Education Advisory Board-Community Student Education Support Initiative
- UNR Extension 4-H Youth Development-Next Steps College Readiness Program

Non-Formal Youth Programs & Services

- UNR Extension 4-H Youth Development County Programs
- UNR Extension 4-H Summer Overnight Camps
- UNR Extension-AD Guy Knowledge Center
- NV Department of Wildlife-Conservation Education Programs
- UNR Extended Studies-KIDS University
- UNR College of Science-Museum of Natural History

Parent Education

- SIERRA Families

Health & Wellness Resources

Disabilities

Other

- List of all school district family engagement websites

***Still need resources from other locations across the state so if you know of any, please send the contact to starkc@unr.edu*



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Suggestions & Questions

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