



201 East Colfax Avenue
Denver, CO 80203-1799

Jan. 21, 2020

Dear Superintendents and BOCES Directors,

Happy New Year! I hope 2020 is off to a good start! Thank you for all you do to support students and educators across our state.

I think you all know me well enough to understand that listening is one of my core values as commissioner. I'm writing today to ask for your support with one of the best vehicles Colorado has for listening to our teachers - the Teaching and Learning Conditions in Colorado (TLCC) Survey.

The TLCC will be available January 22 to Feb. 21. As our entire state grapples with teacher shortages and how to support students so they all have access to a high quality education, the TLCC will inform our thinking about how we can better retain and support teachers. The survey takes only 15 minutes to complete, and it is confidential and optional for educators.

We need your help encouraging your teachers to participate in the survey, so that we all can get the most representative data possible. The data is intended to inform your own improvement planning efforts as well, but schools and districts must get at least 50 percent participation, and at least five participants, to receive their data. Survey items focus on concepts including availability of resources (including time), professional development, leadership and future employment plans.

To increase participation, please consider promoting the survey directly to your teachers. You could provide time for educators to participate during a staff meeting, host a social event after 50 percent of your teachers respond and send a joint letter with your board chair. You could share your thoughts on how you will use the data. You can monitor your response rates in real time throughout the survey window on www.tlccsurvey.org. There are also a variety of resources available on the website, such as printable posters to help you advertise the opportunity. The individual survey items are posted on the website as well.

Packets with individual access codes are being mailed directly to schools for distribution by association representatives and/or principals this week. For your awareness, the contents of the packets have been attached -- including the instruction memo for the building leaders/association representative and the individual educator letter which contains their access code. An FAQ has also been attached to provide additional details.

Feel free to use the attached documents to engage in conversations with building leaders and staff to support their participation in the survey. Please contact me, Lisa Medler (medler_l@cde.state.co.us; 303-866-6993) or Lisa Steffen (steffen_l@cde.state.co.us; 303-866-6676) with any questions.



Thanks again for all you do,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katy Anthes". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Katy Anthes, Ph.D.
Commissioner

