



# 10 CRITICAL QUESTIONS TO ASK SCHOOL LEADERS ON SCHOOL CLOSURES

There are many questions you will want to ask your school district leaders and principals about the impact of school closures on student learning and data, and what the future of school looks like. This list isn't exhaustive, but it will help you tackle some "big questions" and have a meaningful, virtual conversation with school leaders. These questions can be used during a small virtual meeting or one-on-one discussion. They can also be used to moderate a virtual town hall with a school leader. Depending on your state, district or school's response to the pandemic, you may have additional questions, which you should feel free to ask.

1. With no state tests or final exams—and less traditional grading of distance and online assignments—how will our school measure students' academic achievement?
2. Does the school have a plan in place to support students who may have fallen behind during the school closures?
3. How can PTA support the school in addressing learning loss?
4. Since there will be less information on the school report card this year, how is the school going to track its progress in the areas it needs to improve and support student groups who may need it?
5. (Look at the 2019 school report card and identify where your school needed the most improvement). How will the school continue making progress in this area despite no information from the 2020 school year?
6. (Look at the 2019 school report card and identify a student group that was not performing as well as all students in a certain area). In the absence of 2020 data, how will the school continue to support this group of students?
7. What is the school's plan for reopening or for additional future school closures that might be necessary?
8. Parents want to help the school develop successful plans to ensure school reopening goes smoothly, and that students can transition from in-person to distance learning seamlessly if it's necessary. How will you ensure you are getting input from all parents, including those who may not be able to attend virtual meetings or discussions?
9. How will the school continue to ensure students are supported academically and emotionally?
10. It's important that parents understand how the closure impacted their child and what the expectations are if there is another closure. How can PTA support you in sharing that information with parents?