



OKLAHOMA

Agenda

- Effects of COVID on Public Ed
- Financial Support for Public Ed
- Lesson 1: Student Needs Vary
- Lesson 2: Bright Spots Exist
- Lesson 3: Great Teachers Excel
- Summary

Effects of COVID on Public Ed

- Achievement Gaps existed prior to COVID and these appear to have widened during the pandemic
 - Early results from state tests last year back this up
- Direct instruction decreased dramatically during the 2020-2021 school year
- Lack of direct instruction affected low income and minority families disproportionately

Financial Support for Public Ed

- During the 2021 legislative session, lawmakers increased common education funding by \$173 million to a record \$3.16 billion.
- The federal government provided three rounds of funding to address challenges posed by COVID for a total of over \$2.3 billion.

Student Needs Vary

- Students' struggles were:
 - Dependent on multiple factors
 - Unique while there are some common themes

Bright Spots Exist

- Schools that excelled had a pre-existing focus on student-centered learning.
- Schools with pre-existing technology plans were better prepared to served families during COVID
- Schools that prioritized innovation throughout the pandemic and responded to family needs excelled

Great Teachers Excel

- Anecdotal evidence supports that the best teachers were those most capable of transitioning to remote learning.
- As we focus on addressing learning loss, we need to do everything we can to scale and support great teachers.
- Retaining and rewarding great teachers is the best way to address learning loss and will also help address our teacher shortage

Summary

- Education gaps widened during COVID
- The state Legislature and federal government responded with funding to support schools during COVID
- Families need direct support
- Bright spots need to be identified and expanded
- Great teachers need to be rewarded
- Innovation in schools needs to be encouraged



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