NEW SURVEY EXPLORES LEARNING LOSS AND ASSESSMENT AFTER COVID-19 SCHOOL CLOSURES

District Administration partnered with Voyager Sopris Learning to develop and deploy a survey of school administrators in May 2020, asking them about their expectations for student learning loss after the school closures caused by COVID-19, and their assessment strategies for when students return to schools.

1. Do you anticipate students experiencing learning loss in your district, because of school closures due to the COVID-19 pandemic?
   - Yes, significantly: 43%
   - Yes, somewhat: 52%
   - No: 5%

2. How prepared is your district with instructional and professional development tools to equip your teachers to address academic gaps due to the loss of instructional time?
   - Not prepared: 5%
   - Somewhat unprepared: 31%
   - Prepared: 36%
   - Well prepared: 19%
   - Extremely well prepared: 5%

3. Which assessment strategies is your district considering to address any learning loss?
   - More effectively aligning classroom instruction and curriculum with assessment data: 75%
   - Moving our end-of-year assessment to the beginning of the school year: 23%
   - Piloting or implementing new assessment tools: 20%
   - Administering assessments more often: 17%

4. Struggling readers will need even more support than ever before. How will you assess to identify what instruction is needed?
   - Guided by assessment reports: 68%
   - Benchmark and progress monitoring aligned to skill/standard acquisition: 51%
   - Guided by skill deficits: 50%
   - Benchmark and progress monitoring aligned to end-of-year expectations: 59%

How the Right District Assessment Can Help Identify Learning Loss

Without data from last spring, school leaders will need to determine their students’ starting points for the 2020-2021 school year. Using the ClearSight Interim assessment from the previous grade will provide the closest data available to fill the gap when students did not take the state summative assessment. ClearSight will provide the necessary data to plan instruction for the new school year.

ClearSight interims are adaptive, cover the breadth of individual state standards with each administration, contain items previously used on state summative assessments, and are delivered on the same assessment platform used in 28 states.