

## HOW'S REMOTE LEARNING GOING? ...It's been a *big* challenge.

- There's no shortage of problems surrounding remote learning during the pandemic—and these are compounded by communication problems and tensions between K-5 teachers and parents.
- Already vulnerable student populations are disproportionately affected:
  - Title I school systems
  - Low-income households
  - SPED students

### TECH

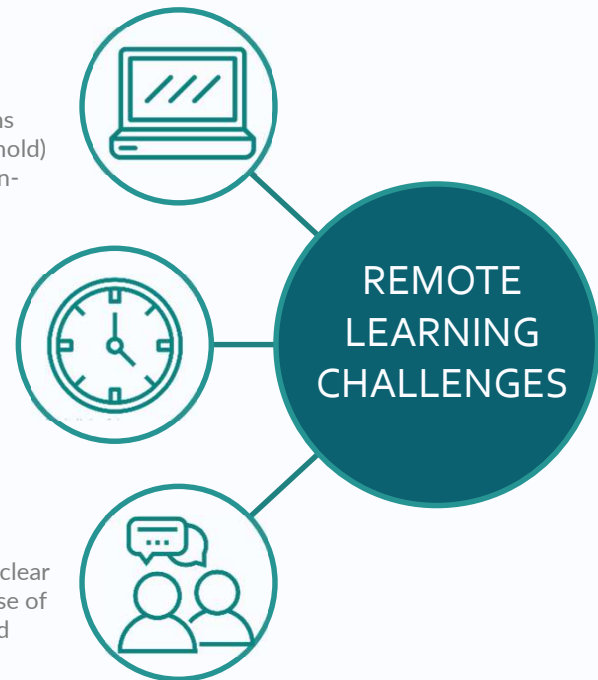
- Lack of Internet access
- Limits on schools' tech loans (e.g., one laptop per household)
- Onscreen learning feels non-intuitive and less engaging

### TIME

Most struggle to balance the competing demands of work, parenting, and homeschooling

### TENSIONS

Poor communication and unclear expectation has led to a sense of tension between parents and teachers



## When and how can we get back into classrooms?

Remote learning feels like a poor substitute for classroom learning, so parents and teachers alike are eager to return to classrooms. Premature reopening is a major worry. Not only are they wary of a second (and potentially worse) wave of COVID-19 and facing more or longer lockdowns, but most believe masks and social distancing guidelines are unrealistic for K-5 students and may have adverse emotional and social impacts.

### WHAT ARE THE TOP CONCERNS ABOUT SAFETY GUIDELINES?

<p><b>Can we really do social distancing throughout our facility, and will it cause emotional damage?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social/emotional impact of discouraging sharing, interaction</li> <li>• High contact/large group periods (lunch, recess, gym)</li> <li>• Physical facility: short hallways, narrow stairwells, etc</li> </ul>	<p><b>Is it realistic to expect K-5 students to wear masks all day—and will it scare them?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Younger children, SPED students, and those with sensory issues unlikely to tolerate all-day wear</li> <li>• Frightening environment</li> </ul>	<p><b>Who will foot the bill for PPE requirements?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Budgets already cut</li> <li>• Financial burden on individual families</li> </ul>
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"I don't think it's realistic, and I don't want to sit there and see all my sweet little babies in masks...like it's a doctor's office. I can't even breathe when I have a mask on while I'm grocery shopping. It's absolutely ridiculous to think young kids could. How do you go 6-7 hours a day wearing one?" (Teacher)

"I can't expect to my seven-year-old to wear a mask all day and, even if that was something that were to happen, how would they make sure that everybody had a mask? I just was like, 'how are they going to get funding for that?'" (Parent)

## How can schools reopen successfully? Tailored solutions, lots of flexibility, and great communication.

