2018 Professional Learning Survey
Introduction

Continuous, effective professional learning can help teachers and administrators improve teaching and learning, but traditional forms of professional development have been expensive and ineffective.

In the past 10 years, social media has helped educators connect online to more easily share resources, ideas, and practices among themselves, leading to more grass roots, open source collaboration, and the evolution of personal learning networks. This trend is disrupting traditional models for professional development.

edWeb.net helps educators connect and collaborate using our social network and edWebinars to provide free professional learning. edWeb has been conducting research on educators’ use of social media and its impact on professional learning for a number of years to track how technology is impacting professional learning and to continuously improve edWeb.

edWeb's 2018 Professional Learning Survey has an inherent bias as the respondents are all edWeb members, however, the results demonstrate that edWeb provides professional learning with the qualities that teachers and administrators find effective.
Purpose of the Survey

- Survey current attitudes of teachers and administrators on professional learning
- Benchmark against edWeb’s 2016 Teacher Professional Development Survey to see how attitudes have changed
- Understand what kind of professional learning teachers and administrators find most helpful
- Assess how edWeb meets the professional learning needs of teachers and administrators
Survey Methodology

• In March 2016 edWeb conducted a survey on teachers’ attitudes about professional learning in general and about edWeb in particular. The survey was sent via email to edWeb members and received 1,240 responses.

• In March 2018 edWeb asked many of the same questions again, added some new ones, and included school and district administrators. The survey was sent via email to edWeb members and received 1,170 teacher responses and 150 administrator responses.
What type of professional development is most effective?

- Teachers and administrators responded that webinars were the most helpful type of professional learning.
- Conferences and workshops were rated second best.
- Administrators rate PD provided by the school/district higher than the teachers did.
- Both teachers and administrators gave the lowest rating for PD provided by vendors.
**Teachers:** What type of professional development helps you improve as a teacher?

- **50%** Webinars
- **35%** Conferences and workshops
- **30%** Online professional learning networks
- **25%** Teacher education courses
- **20%** PD provided by my school/district
- **15%** PD provided by vendors
**Administrators:** What type of professional development is most helpful for your teachers to improve their teaching?

- **PD provided by vendors**
- **Teacher education courses**
- **Online courses/workshops**
- **Education conferences and workshops**
- **PD provided by the school/district**
- **Webinars**
**Administrators**: What type of professional development helps you improve as an administrator?

- Webinars: 45%
- Education conferences and workshops: 40%
- Your network of peer administrators: 35%
- Online courses/workshops: 30%
- Online professional learning networks: 25%
- PD provided by vendors: 10%
What’s important in a teacher professional development program?

• Over 90% of teachers and administrators responded that the flexibility to participate on their own time was most important.
• Both teachers and administrators responded that the second most important quality was that the program be free, with teachers rating this somewhat higher than administrators.
• For teachers, next in importance is receiving a certificate of completion, while the ability to participate with peers was next for administrators.
• Receiving a digital badge rated lowest for both teachers and administrators.
**Teachers:** What’s important in a teacher professional development program?

- **Flexibility to participate on my own time**: 90%
- **That the program is free**: 85%
- **Certificate of completion**: 70%
- **Credit from my school/district for PD hours**: 60%
- **Credit for state teacher re-licensure**: 40%
- **Digital badges**: 10%
Administrators: What’s important to you, as an administrator, in a professional development program?

- Flexibility to participate anytime, anywhere: 90%
- That the program is free: 80%
- Participation with peer administrators: 70%
- Certificate of completion for attending a program: 60%
- Ability to participate on a mobile phone or tablet: 50%
- Digital badges: 10%
Rating online communities as professional learning resources

- In 2016 and again in 2018 we asked edWeb members to rate a long list of online communities as professional learning resources.
- These are results for edWeb members, but still show how strongly they prefer edWeb vs. other resources they might use.
- edWeb has pulled even further ahead in 2018 than in 2016.
- We asked this question of administrators for the first time in 2018, and edWeb ranks number one among our admin members.
- It’s interesting to note that the teacher runner-ups tend to be general consumer sites - YouTube, Pinterest, Google+.
- The admin runner-ups are more likely to be a professional association - ASCD, NAESP, and YouTube.
**Teachers**: Online communities rated excellent as a professional learning network and resource

EdWeb 2018 Professional Learning Survey

- edWeb.net
- YouTube
- Pinterest
- Google+
- ASCD Edge
- Teaching Channel
- Simple K-12
- We Are Teachers
- Twitter
- Facebook
- Edmodo

[Bar chart showing the percentage of teachers rating various online communities as excellent in 2018 and 2016]
Administrators: Online communities rated excellent as a professional learning network and resource
The Effectiveness of edWeb

• Teachers report that edWeb is very helpful compared to other professional learning programs particularly in acquiring information and resources, acquiring knowledge in their field, improving teaching, and making learning more engaging for students.

• Administrators report that edWeb is very helpful in improving their knowledge and practice, helping them be a better leader, and helping them learn from peers and other districts.

• Teachers report they are getting more credit in 2018 than in 2016 for edWeb CE certificates from their state, school, and district.

• Both teachers and administrators are highly likely (80%+) to recommend edWeb to colleagues and teachers.
**Teachers:** How does edWeb compare to other professional learning programs that you’ve attended in helping you with the following?

- Improving your teaching
- Making learning more engaging for students
- Learning about technology
- Helping you be a leader in your school
- Getting support from peers

[Bar chart comparison between 2018 and 2016]
**Teachers:** How has edWeb been helpful for you as a teacher?

- Acquire valuable information and resources: 80%
- Increase my knowledge in the field I teach: 80%
- Make learning more engaging for my students: 70%
- Get support not available in my school/district: 60%
- Learn from experts and peers: 60%
- Integrate technology in the classroom: 50%

*edWeb 2018 Professional Learning Survey*
**Administrators**: How has edWeb been helpful for you as an administrator?

- Improving your knowledge and practice as an administrator: 80%
- Helping you be a better school/district leader: 80%
- Implementing new ideas in your school/district: 70%
- Learning from peers and experts in your field: 70%
- Learning from the experiences of other schools/districts: 60%
**Teachers:** Are you receiving credit for attending/viewing edWeb webinars?

I am getting credit for edWeb webinars from my state.

I am getting credit for edWeb webinars from my school/district.

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**edWeb 2018 Professional Learning Survey**
**Teachers**: How likely are you to recommend edWeb to a colleague?

- **Very likely to recommend edWeb**
  - 2016: 69%
  - 2018: 80%
Administrators: How likely are you to recommend edWeb?

- To a colleague: 81%
- To your teachers: 87%

Very likely to recommend edWeb
edWeb members are an exceptionally engaged community of educators

• A very high percentage of the teachers and administrators who responded report that they are members of an educational association and have attended a conference in the past year.
• Administrators are more likely to recommend the purchase of products and services (78%) vs. teachers (28%).
• Teachers are more likely to be a teacher leader, mentor, or coach.
• Administrators are more likely to be involved with the integration of technology.
Teachers: Do you engage in any of the following activities?

- I am a member of an educational association: 69%
- I’ve attended an educational conference in the past year: 80%
- I’m a teacher leader, mentor or coach: 64%
- I have a leadership role in my school/district: 50%
- I’ve presented at a conference, workshop, or webinar: 40%
- I’m involved in my school’s efforts to integrate technology: 37%
- I recommend the purchase of educational products and services: 30%
- I serve on an education-related board: 20%
- I’ve attended an EdCamp: 10%
Administrators: Do you engage in any of the following activities?

- I’ve attended an educational conference in the past year: 87%
- I am a member of an educational association: 84%
- I recommend the purchase of educational products and services: 81%
- I’m involved in my school’s efforts to integrate technology: 74%
- I’ve presented at a conference, workshop, or webinar: 69%
- I serve on an education-related board: 49%
- I’ve attended an EdCamp: 10%
We received over 500 overwhelmingly positive comments about edWeb

• Teachers commented on the ability to do their PD anywhere, especially at home; on the wide range of great topics; on the ability to earn CE certificates; on how much they are learning for themselves, their classroom, and their students. The most frequent comment is that teachers love edWeb.

• Administrators commented on how much they appreciate edWeb for themselves and for their staff; how they recommend edWeb to their teachers; how valuable edWeb is as a resource.
“Thank you very much for offering these great webinars for free! It’s an amazing opportunity of getting my PD hours from home! I’m learning new information and using it in my classroom.”

“Thank you for providing excellent information and allowing professionals to choose what works for them. This is the essence of professional development.”

“I find edWeb a great resource for professional development. The webinars span many areas, they are easy to search and access and I can view them at my convenience and still receive credit by taking the quiz.”

“EDWEB is absolutely wonderful. I got my certification renewal because of you guys. Thank you so much for great content.”

“Please keep doing what you are doing! It is a perfect means of professional development in the right format (online), and it is convenient for me.”
Thank you for providing relevant webinars that I can participate in myself as well as **sharing with the staff** as the topics individually fit them or what we are working toward!

Excellent service and resource for education! I would like to bring more of the information into my staff meetings in the future. I currently **recommend information to my colleagues and teachers** who can benefit from them.

EdWeb is the **best resource I use as an administrator** and for the schools I work with. Grateful for all you provide with a flexible schedule!

I appreciate that edWeb is on the **cutting edge of information** that is transferred into professional development opportunities.

I like edWeb... always **share this site with teachers** and encourage them to join the communities.
edWeb 2018 Professional Learning Survey

Word Cloud of All the Survey Comments
References

- ISTE Standards. https://www.iste.org/standards
More information about edWeb
edWeb.net provides what teachers need

- Personalized
- Professional
- Relevant
- Interactive
- Hands-on
- Teacher-driven
- Collaborative
- Sustained

& overcomes barriers

- Lack of time? anytime, anywhere
- Lack of financial resources? FREE
- Lack of continuity? sustained
- Fragmented market? global
- District-driven? educator-driven

A trusted professional learning community
Global Community of Connected Educators

- 540,000 educators & growing fast
- 92% in the United States
- 8% in 185 countries in the world
500,000 U. S. Connected Educators

The edWeb community spans all levels of education & all roles
### 500,000 U. S. Connected Educators

edWeb members are in **50% of all school districts** with a slight skew toward **rural areas** and **high poverty areas**

#### Population Density Index

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<th>Teacher Universe*</th>
<th>edWeb Members</th>
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<td>10 Lowest Population</td>
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*Data provided by MCH Strategic Data*

#### Wealth/Poverty Index

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A Year in the Life of a New Makerspace
Presented by Michelle Luhtala, Head Librarian, New Canaan High School, CT

Join the Emerging Tech community on EdWeb.net at EmergingTech connecting educators and professionals interested in professional learning community oriented around emerging technology and innovative uses of tech. A free professional social and learning network, EdWeb is a premium subscription service from EdWeb.TV.
edWeb provides a wide choice of topics

- Arts
- Assessment
- Audio-based Learning
- Autism
- Blended Learning
- Brain and Learning
- Bullying Prevention
- Character Education
- Classroom Management
- Classroom Design
- Computer Science/Coding
- Community Engagement
- Differentiated Instruction
- Digital Citizenship
- Digital Learning
- Early Childhood Learning
- Educational Travel
- ELL/ESL
- English/Language Arts
- Funding & Grants
- Game-Based Learning
- Global Education
- Health and Wellness
- Language Learning
- Leadership/Administration
- Library/Media
- Maker Ed
- Mathematics
- Mobile Learning
- New Teacher Help
- Parent Engagement
- Personalized Learning
- Privacy and Security
- Professional Development
- Project-Based Learning
- Real World Literacy
- School Gardens
- School Safety
- Science
- Social Studies and Civics
- Social-Emotional Learning
- Special Needs
- STEM
- Tech for the Classroom
- Technology Infrastructure
Sustained engagement **EVERY WEEK ALL YEAR LONG**

Average activity every week on edWeb

- 7 live edWebinars
- 10 innovative educator-presenters
- 8,500 registrations
- 3,800 live attendees
- 3,100 views of archived programs
Presented by OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR-PRESENTERS

1,200 presenters
1,400 recorded programs
Teachers earn PD hours with edWeb
edWeb certificates are used nationwide for PD hours

edWeb is a state-approved PD provider in New York, Massachusetts, Texas, Arkansas, Kentucky, and Utah

1 million certificates issued
edWeb research and evidence of impact

Case studies show alignment with characteristics of effective professional development

https://home.edweb.net/edwebs-research-based-practices-personalized-professional-learning/

2018 survey of 1,300 teachers & administrators provides evidence of impact

home.edweb.net/pd2018
Free, effective professional learning for educators everywhere

A trusted professional learning community