



**Denver & Jefferson Counties, Colorado**  
**Mid-Year Educator Feedback**  
**February 2022**

**Introduction**

Changing Perspectives ([www.ChangingPerspectivesNow.org](http://www.ChangingPerspectivesNow.org)) is a national, nonprofit organization that works to strengthen school communities through social-emotional learning (SEL), disability awareness, empathy development, and inclusion. Founded in 2014 by nationally recognized educator and change-maker Sam Drazin, Changing Perspectives empowers students and helps to build a more inclusive, just, and equitable society.

Changing Perspectives accomplishes our mission by working with individual schools and school districts to educate, empower, and inspire all members of a school community to advance their thinking and practice around social-emotional learning (SEL), disability awareness, and diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) practices. Our replicable, scalable programming is relevant to schools of all types and sizes and benefits learners of all ages and backgrounds.

We offer schools a menu of options from which to choose the services that best meet their learning communities' goals. Our resources include customizable curriculum materials, virtual/onsite coaching, goal-driven professional development, and family engagement programs.

Ongoing shifts in the education landscape due to COVID plus looming social issues continue to pose significant challenges for schools, both immediately and in the long term. As they welcomed their learners back to classrooms in fall 2020, schools began to see firsthand how deeply the events of the past two years have affected students. Although the community impacts are universal in many ways, they are unique in others. There are wide variations in how individual schools are managing their students' return, healing, and growth, and it is important to keep this context in mind when reading this report.

This report presents findings from a short mid-year survey to educators that was administrated in January 2022. The survey was sent to 15 educators working in five schools in Denver and Jefferson counties in Colorado who gained subscription access to Changing Perspectives resources and supports between September and November 2021. Respondents were asked to rate their experiences with the program thus far in the school year. A longer, year-end survey will be administered to educators in May 2022.

Given Changing Perspectives’s highly customizable approach to program design and classroom implementation, each educator’s instructional choices and style shapes and influences student experiences and feedback about the program.

**Sample Size**

Between September 2021 and November 2021, Changing Perspectives was actively partnering with five schools in Colorado, listed in Table 1. Based on 2021-2022 school enrollment data, these schools are collectively serving 1,452 learners in preK through grade 12 during the current academic year. Since this data collection, our school partnerships have continued to grow; thus, our year-end data collection may include data from additional schools.

**Table 1. Colorado Partner Schools, September to November 2021**

School	Grades Served	County
Cowell Elementary School	PK-5	Denver
Goldrick Elementary School	PK-5	Denver
Green Gables Elementary School	K-5	Jefferson
Montclair School of Academics and Enrichment	PK-5	Denver
Oakland Elementary School	PK-5	Denver

For this mid-year survey, data was collected from nine educators, representing all five Colorado partner schools active during the evaluation period. In our analysis, we noted that some educators declined to complete the survey because they did not feel that they had used enough Changing Perspectives materials to provide useful feedback yet.

**Findings**

Overall, educators responding to the survey were enthusiastic about the positive impacts that Changing Perspectives has had on their students, classrooms, and own professional skills development. The survey asked them to reflect on three aspects of the program:

1. The value of Changing Perspectives in helping to mitigate the unprecedented challenges students are experiencing this academic year.
2. Their own professional practice as an educator in supporting their students’ general social-emotional well-being.
3. Students’ engagement with program activities.

**Survey Question 1:** *The last 18 months have been unprecedented in many ways. Many schools are seeing higher than normal social-emotional needs of students. Based on your current use of Changing Perspectives, rate the helpfulness of Changing Perspectives resources in supporting the social and/or emotional needs of your students.*

**Table 2. Helpfulness in Supporting Students' Social-Emotional Needs**

Survey Sample	Not Helpful	Slightly Helpful	Moderately Helpful	Very Helpful	Extremely Helpful
N=8	0	12% (1)	38% (3)	25% (2)	25% (2)

**88% of respondents reported that Changing Perspectives programming has been helpful in supporting students' social-emotional needs.**

Respondents also shared:

- “The lessons allow students to understand things better and apply them to their school days.”
- “Having multiple resources (books, videos, etc) has helped teachers and students connect to the content in meaningful ways.”
- “Having more resources and support to teach disability awareness has been extremely beneficial for our teachers and students.”

**Survey Question 2:** *Has Changing Perspectives improved your knowledge, skills, and interventions to better support your students?*

**Table 3. Improved Professional Practice**

Survey Sample	No	Yes
N=12	37% (3)	63% (5)

**63% of educators reported that Changing Perspectives has helped improve their knowledge, skills, and interventions to better support students' well-being.**

Educators also wrote:

- “It is helpful that the materials have already been found so you can focus on the competencies and not the searching.”
- “Changing Perspectives has allowed me to support our student’s social emotional needs in ways that I could not have before.”
- “Having more resources and support to teach has been extremely beneficial for our teachers and students.”

**Survey Question 3:** *How engaged were your students in participating in Changing Perspectives activities?*

**Table 4. Program Engaged Students**

Survey Sample	Not Engaged	Slightly Engaged	Moderately Engaged	Very Engaged	Extremely Engaged
N=8	0	0	38% (3)	38% (3)	24% (2)

**100% of educators said their students were engaged in the program.**

Among their feedback, educators shared:

- “Having multiple resources (books, videos, etc.) have helped teachers and students connect to the content in meaningful ways.”
- “The activities are great, as well as the read-alouds. Students enjoy hands-on activities.”
- “Students love books and get very engaged when I read them a fun story to connect the lesson.”

**Conclusions**

Overall, educators from our Colorado partner schools who responded to our survey indicated that they have found having access to Changing Perspectives curriculum resources and supports to be helpful during this highly unpredictable and challenging school year. These educators reported that Changing Perspectives helped them improve their knowledge, skills, and interventions to better support students’ well-being and that students found the materials engaging. Further findings from the 2021-2022 program year will be available following our end-of-school survey administration.