



**Marin County, California**  
**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 administered in January 2022. The survey was sent to 84 educators working in 24 California partner schools 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 the program’s highly customizable approach to 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 42 schools in California, which are listed in Appendix A. Based on 2021-2022 school enrollment data, these schools are collectively serving 15,935 learners in preK through grade 12 during the current academic year. Our school partnerships have continued to grow since November 2021; our year-end data collection will include the full list of partner schools that implemented the program from September 2021 through May 2022.

For this mid-year survey, data was collected from 24 educators, representing 18 of the 42 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 1. Helpfulness in Supporting Students’ Social-Emotional Needs**

Survey Sample	Not Helpful	Slightly Helpful	Moderately Helpful	Very Helpful	Extremely Helpful
N=17	0	6% (1)	35% (6)	41% (7)	18% (3)

**94% of respondents reported that Changing Perspectives programming has been helpful in supporting students’ social-emotional needs.**

Respondents also shared:

- “[Changing Perspectives] shows me where students are at and how to support them.”
- “SEL seems to embody so many elements that at times it can seem overwhelming. This [program] allows educators to focus on specific skills, set goals, and orient students to desired outcomes.”
- “My students were able to identify values they couldn’t previously name or didn’t realize they had.”

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

**Table 2: Improved Professional Practice**

Survey Sample	No	Yes
N=17	18% (3)	82% (14)

**82% of educators reported that Changing Perspectives has helped them improve their knowledge, skills, and interventions to better support students’ well-being.**

Educators also wrote:

- “It has given my staff options for implementing SEL work, and new resources.”
- “I really appreciated having everything already curated (from activities, to videos, to recommended extension books).”
- “Great to have the resources that connect to the themes and ideas in many ways (books, videos, etc.).”
- “I can serve more students at once, share easily with teachers, and respond faster in crisis intervention.”

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

**Table 3. Program Engaged Students**

Survey Sample	Not Engaged	Slightly Engaged	Moderately Engaged	Very Engaged	Extremely Engaged
N=15	0	7% (1)	60% (9)	20% (3)	13% (2)

**93% of educators said their students were engaged in the program.**

Among their feedback, educators shared:

- “Videos are a great medium for teachers and students, engaging and easy to implement and the kids love them.”
- “Students liked talking and sharing with one another.”
- “They enjoy the books — linking content to something tangible that they can understand is key.”

## **Conclusions**

Overall, the California educators responding 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. 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 to our full set of partner schools in May 2022.

It should be noted that in many partner schools, a school counselor or equivalent is sharing resources with other educators who are engaging with students directly. Therefore, this mid-year data only represents a small slice of the potential impacts Changing Perspectives is having on student populations. It is inspiring and exciting to see that even amidst such a turbulent school year as 2021-2022, educators are still committed to ensuring that their students’ social-emotional well-being is being addressed.

## Appendix A: California Partner Schools September-November 2021

School	Grades Served	District
Adaline E. Kent Middle School*	5-8	Kentfield Schools
Anthony G. Bacich Elementary School	K-4	Kentfield Schools
Bayside Martin Luther King, Jr Academy	K-8	Sausalito Marin City Schools
Bolinas-Stinson Elementary School	K-8	Bolinas-Stinson Union Schools
Brookside Elementary School	K-5	Ross Valley Schools
Coleman Elementary School	K-5	San Rafael City Schools
Compass Academy*	K-12	Marin County Office of Education
Edna McGuire Elementary School	K-5	Mill Valley Schools
Glenwood Elementary School	K-5	San Rafael City Schools
Hall Middle School*	6-8	Larkspur-Corte Madera Schools
Hamilton Meadow Park Elementary School*	K-8	Novato Unified Schools
Hidden Valley Elementary School*	TK-5	Ross Valley Schools
Inverness Elementary School	K-1	Shoreline Unified Schools
James B. Davidson Middle School	6-8	San Rafael City Schools
Lagunitas Elementary School	K-8	Lagunitas Elementary
Lucas Valley Elementary School*	K-5	Miller Creek Schools
Lynwood Elementary School	K-5	Novato Unified Schools
Manor Elementary School	K-5	Ross Valley Schools
Marin Oaks High School*	9-12	Novato Unified Schools
Mary E. Silveira Elementary School*	K-5	Miller Creek Schools
Mill Valley Middle School	6-8	Mill Valley Schools
Miller Creek Middle School*	6-8	Miller Creek Schools
Neil Cummins Elementary School*	K-5	Larkspur-Corte Madera Schools
NOVA Independent Study*	K-12	Novato Unified Schools
Novato Charter School*	K-8	Novato Unified Schools
Pleasant Valley Elementary School	TK-5	Novato Unified Schools
Rancho Elementary School	TK-5	Novato Unified Schools
Redwood High School	9-12	Tamalpais Union High Schools
San Jose Middle School	6-8	Novato Unified Schools
San Marin High School	9-12	Novato Unified Schools
San Ramon Elementary School	TK-5	Novato Unified Schools
Sinaloa Middle School	6-8	Novato Unified Schools
Sun Valley Elementary School	K-5	San Rafael City Schools
Terra Linda High School	9-12	San Rafael City Schools
The Cove Elementary School*	K-5	Larkspur-Corte Madera Schools
Tomales Elementary School*	TK-8	Shoreline Unified Schools
Tomales High School*	9-12	Shoreline Unified Schools
Vallecito Elementary School*	K-5	Miller Creek Schools
Venetia Valley K-8 School*	K-8	San Rafael City Schools
Wade Thomas Elementary School*	K-5	Ross Valley Schools
West Marin Elementary School	2-8	Shoreline Unified Schools
White Hill Middle School	6-8	Ross Valley Schools

\*Denotes a school/district from which at least one educator completed the survey.