



**Vermont – Statewide
Mid-Year Educator Feedback
February 2022**

Introduction

Changing Perspectives (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 43 educators working in 30 Vermont 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 30 schools in Vermont, which are listed in Appendix A. Based on 2021-2022 school enrollment data, these schools are collectively serving 6,275 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 19 educators, representing 11 of the 30 Vermont 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=13	8% (1)	15% (2)	23% (3)	46% (6)	8% (1)

77% of respondents reported that Changing Perspectives programming has been helpful in supporting students’ social-emotional needs.

Respondents also shared:

- “The variety of check-ins helped many students find a way to show their emotional understanding.”
- “In our multi-grade groups, the resources of Changing Perspectives have provided accessible social-emotional learning.”
- “Changing Perspectives provided awareness, common language, and resources.”

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=13	31% (4)	69% (9)

69% of educators reported that Changing Perspectives has helped them improve their knowledge, skills, and interventions to better support students’ well-being.

Educators also wrote:

- “I have learned the valuable skills needed to provide socio-emotional support.”
- “It gave me the language to ask questions of students in a non-threatening way.”
- “I appreciate the way that the resources are organized. This helps me to easily find activities, lessons, and resources to support my students without having to spend tons of time searching for what I need.”

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	10% (1)	0	45% (5)	45% (5)	0

90% of educators said their students were engaged in the program.

Among their feedback, educators shared:

- “Live examples in the videos of the lessons help the students make a connection to the lesson.”

- “The students could identify with the problems and for some, the conversation time was also a review. Those students helped to facilitate the learning of other students.”
- “I like how easy the activities are to explain and implement. My students have enjoyed the lessons, books, and videos I have utilized.”

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.

Appendix A: Vermont Partner Schools September-November 2021

School	Grades Served	Community Served	County
Albert Bridge School	K-6	West Windsor	Windsor
Barstow Memorial School	PK-8	Chittenden	Rutland
Beeman Elementary School	PK-6	New Haven	Addison
Bradford Elementary School*	K-6	Bradford	Orange
Bristol Elementary School*	PK-6	Bristol	Addison
Burke Town School	PK-8	Burke	Caledonia
Charlotte Central School	PK-8	Charlotte	Chittenden
Chelsea Public School	PK-12	Chelsea	Orange
Dummerston School	PK-8	Dummerston	Windham
Folsom Education & Community Center	PK-8	South Hero	Grand Isle
Hyde Park Elementary School	PK-6	Hyde Park	Lamoille
Lincoln Community School	PK-6	Lincoln	Addison
Lothrop Elementary School*	PK-6	Pittsford	Rutland
Mary Hogan Elementary School	K-6	Middlebury	Addison
Middletown Springs Elementary School	PK-6	Middletown Springs	Rutland
Monkton Elementary School*	PK-6	Monkton	Addison
Neshobe Elementary School*	PK-6	Brandon	Rutland
Newark School*	PK-8	Newark	Caledonia
Newton School *	PK-8	Strafford	Orange
Otter Creek Academy	PK-6	Leicester	Addison
Otter Valley Union Middle & High School*	7-12	Brandon	Rutland
Proctor Elementary School*	PK-6	Proctor	Rutland
Riverside Middle School*	6-8	Springfield	Windsor
Robinson Elementary School*	PK-6	Starksboro	Addison
Shelburne Community School	PK-8	Shelburne	Chittenden
South Royalton Elementary School	PK-5	Royalton	Windsor
Sutton School*	PK-8	Sutton	Caledonia
Thetford Elementary School	PK-6	Thetford	Orange
Tunbridge Central School	PK-8	Tunbridge	Orange
Windsor School	PK-12	Windsor	Windsor