

Teachers feelings about the new Education Secretary plus the top priorities for schools

Hey Teacher Tapp Community!

Week 21 Already? Time Flies!

Another week, another amazing round of insights from our growing Teacher Tapp community! Nearly 800 teachers are now sharing their views on what's happening in schools across the country—thank you for being part of it!

■ Reminder: Keep tapping! If you answer 30 days in a row before the end of April, you'll earn a Starbucks gift card as a little thank-you from us. ■■

This offer is limited to the first 1,000 teachers who sign up, so tell your teacher friends to be quick! Send them this blog and tell them to join the app today and help correct the narrative about education in the US.

To qualify, you must:

- Be a K-12 teacher currently employed in a US school ■■
- List your school's name in your Teacher Tapp profile ■■
- Be a legal resident of the United States ■■■■

■■ [Read the full terms and conditions here](#)

Want to make the Teacher Tapp community even stronger? Invite your colleagues to join! The best link to share is onelink.to/teachertapp – it takes them straight to the app store! ■■■

Now, what did teachers tell us this week? Let's find out...

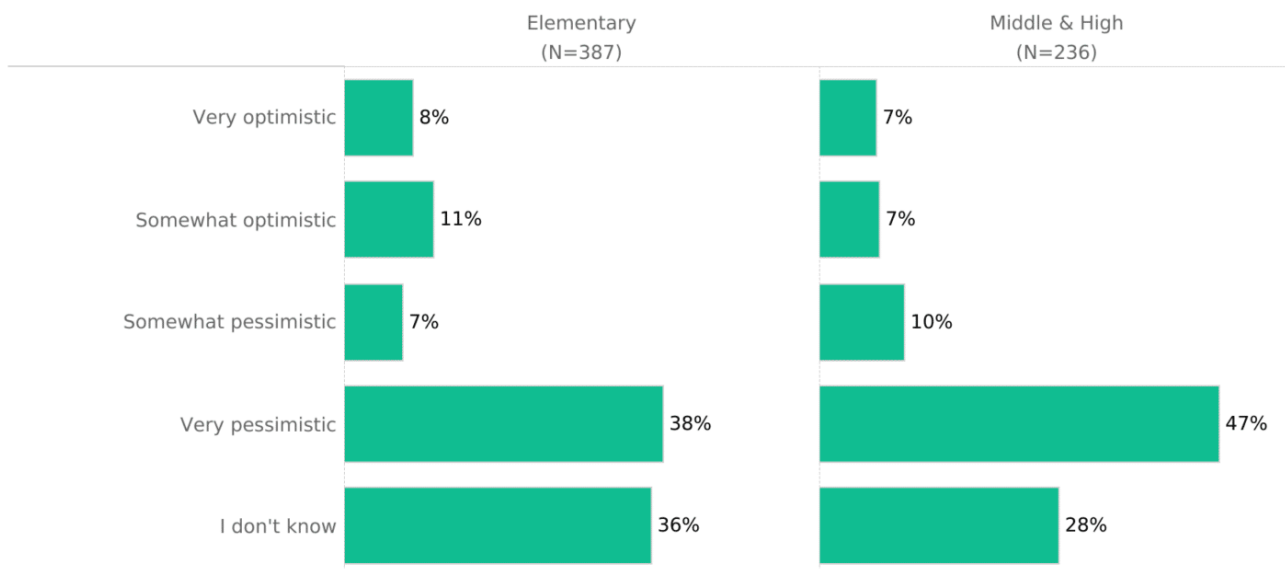
1. The new Education Secretary

There is a new Education Secretary taking office, but how do teachers feel about that?

In elementary schools, 19% feel optimistic, 45% are pessimistic, and 36% are reserving judgement.

Over in middle and high schools, outlooks are slightly more downbeat with 14% feeling optimistic, 57% pessimistic and 28% still making their minds up.

Linda McMahon has been confirmed as the new Education Secretary. How optimistic are you about her tenure?



Teacher Tapp USA - Question answered by 623 teachers on 04/03/2025

Goodbye Education Department?

If Linda McMahon does her job well, soon there will be no Education Department to be secretary of. But how popular is the move to disband the department and move responsibility to individual states?

22% support closing the Education Department, but 78% oppose it.

Another big change impacting schools will be the elimination of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) programs, something that the current administration advocates. Over one in ten (14%) have already reported cuts in their school and 22% have heard of cuts in other schools.

This is a change that 12% of teachers believe will lead to better outcomes for their pupils, and 47% believe will lead to worse outcomes. However, 22% believe there will be no change and 19% aren't sure.

I'd just like to say...

Here at Teacher Tapp our whole philosophy is built upon the premise that teachers SHOULD be listened to, and so of course, we wanted to know what YOU would like to tell your new Education Secretary.

An amazing 331 of you answered, and although some language was a little colorful ■■■ the strength of feeling was undeniable: help us help our students.

Here are some examples of your messages:

"Public education is valuable and should be protected and funded. All students deserve an education. We should not move forward as a country or only students who come from money. Get a good education. Keep funding public education and let all of our children learn."

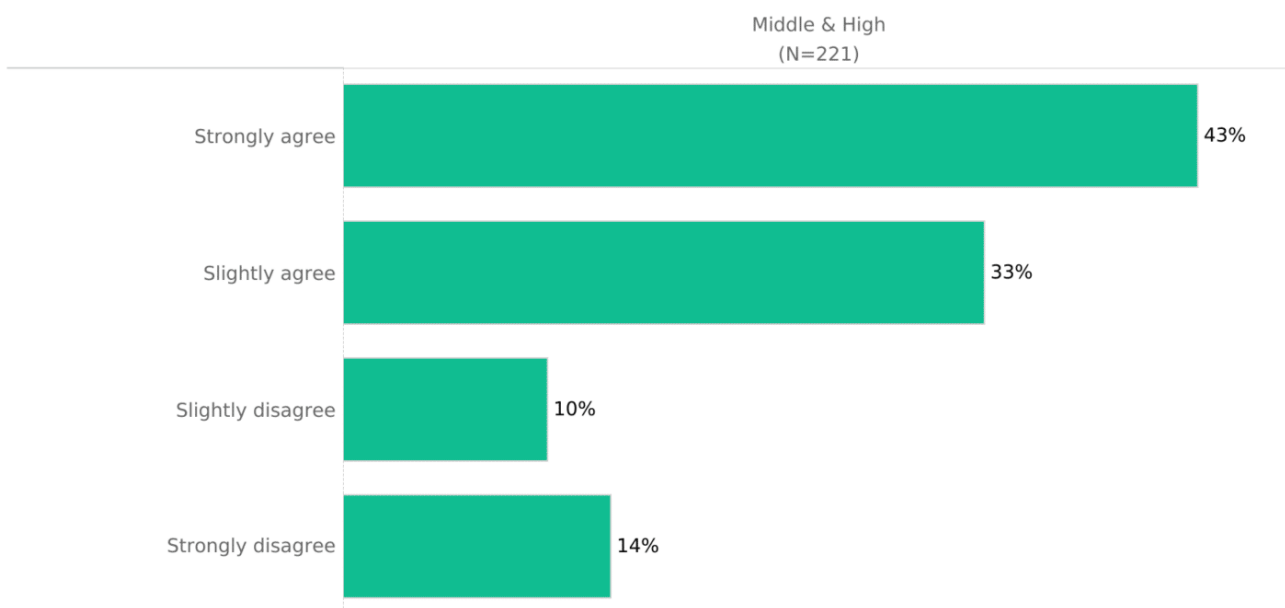
"Public education needs a major overhaul- administration is not focused on learning and there are too many disruptions throughout the day and school year. We need to get back to basics!"

"Give the teachers a choice of curriculum that best suits their personal style. Allow freedom in curriculum that is important to the school district. Allow freedom for each community to foster their own particular change. Forget about the starting line being equal for everyone and allow communities to work through it themselves. I want to take care of what I can every day but not take on problems that are inapplicable to my surroundings."

2. Student vaping

Vaping is an issue in the majority of schools, with 76% teachers agreeing it is a problem, and just 24% disagreeing it is a problem.

Student vaping is a problem in my school



Teacher Tapp USA - Question answered by 221 teachers on 03/03/2025

Not only do teachers feel that vaping is an issue, but 31% have also caught a pupil with a vape. This isn't just an issue for teenagers - 28% reported catching a child aged 11 or younger with a vape (although this was a very small sample of under 100 teachers).

3. Weekend working

Teaching is a tough job - and the weekends aren't always your own either.

But what are the most common tasks teachers are doing?

- 29% planning
- 19% completing other work tasks
- 17% grading
- 3% attending an in-person event

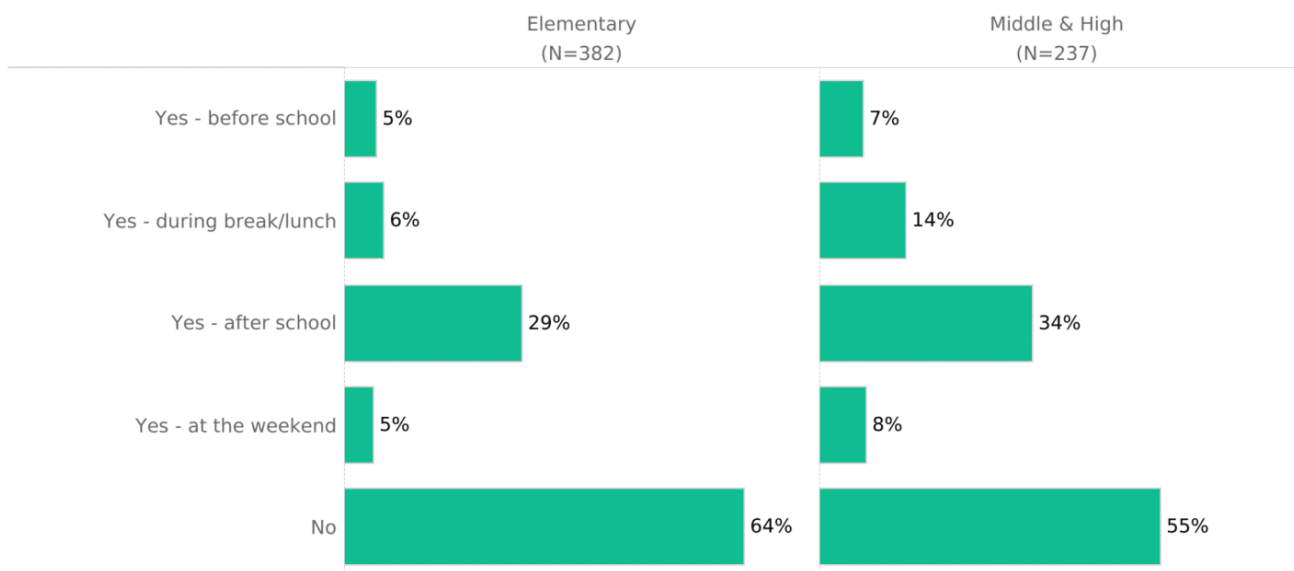
Extra-curricular clubs

Weekends aren't the only time teachers are putting in the extra work - extra-curricular activities outside of normal class time is also clocking up the hours.

After-school is the most common time to run an extra-curricular activity: 29% of elementary and 34% of middle and high school teachers put on clubs and activities after the final bell.

However - some teachers were running multiple clubs last week! 7% elementary, 9% middle school, and 18% highschool teachers ran multiple clubs.

In the past week, have you personally run any extra-curricular activities outside of normal class time?



Teacher Tapp USA - Question answered by 619 teachers on 28/02/2025

+ Why Do You See the Same Questions in Teacher Tapp? Here's the Scoop!

Ever opened Teacher Tapp in the morning and thought, "Wait... where are my new questions?" You're not imagining things! Here's how our daily questions work—and how to keep your streak going strong.

Fresh questions go live daily at 1 PM PST / 4 PM EST

That means:

- If you open the app at 4 PM on Monday (EST), you'll see that day's new questions.

- If you open the app at 10 AM on Tuesday, you'll still see Monday's questions (because Tuesday's set hasn't appeared yet!).
- But once 1 PM PST / 4 PM EST on Tuesday rolls around—bam!—new questions arrive.

How to Keep Your Streak Going ■■

To keep your daily streak, just make sure you answer at least once every 24 hours after 3 PM. It doesn't matter if you answer in the evening, the morning, or at lunchtime—the key is making sure you tap in after the questions reset.

So if you're an early responder (hello, morning coffee crew! ■), just remember that answering at 8 AM every day works perfectly—as long as it's after 3 PM the previous day!

We love having you as part of the Teacher Tapp community, and we're always excited to see what teachers think. Keep tapping, keep streaking, and as always, thanks for sharing your insights! ■■■■

Got a question about how it works? Drop us a message—we love hearing from you!

Daily Reads

We know lots of teachers on Teacher Tapp LOVE the daily reads! If you have ideas of reads we could feature, get in touch by emailing usa@teachertapp.com and we will check it out!

This week our most-read blog was on using [super-smart to-do lists to solve your workload problems!](#)