

**Follow up to the Educators for Social Justice
Teachers' Voices Report
May 7 2019**

After the Teachers' Voices Survey was released on February 11 2019, both the Minister of Education, Zach Churchill and the Premier, Stephen McNeil made statements about the information in the report being "old news", and claimed that many of the issues raised in that survey had been fixed or improved.

On Monday April 29 2019, Educators for Social Justice (ESJ) released a short follow up survey to see if teachers agreed with those statements. The survey consisted of 3 short answer questions, the first 2 asking them to rate the statements on a 5 point scale ranging from "Strongly disagree" to "Strongly agree". The 3rd question asked them to choose an issue from a list of 6 issues that was their "biggest concern".

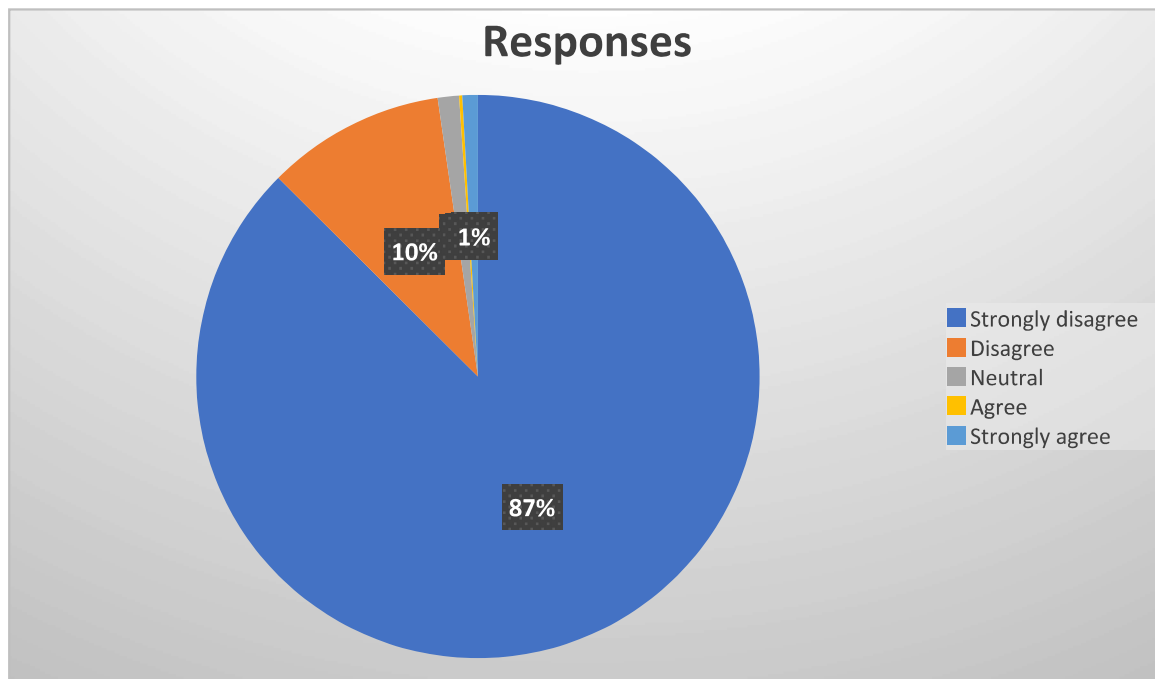
Once again, the survey was released only on social media and shared widely. ESJ received 578 responses by Monday May 6 2019, with 566 of them being from teachers. The survey was closed then and tabulated.

Only the teacher responses were counted. 98% of respondents disagreed (88% strongly) with the statement that "the teachers' concerns raised in the report were old, and issues have vastly improved between January 2018 and February 2019". 96% of respondents disagreed (78% strongly) that they are seeing "demonstrable impacts" from "the hiring of nearly 200 support staff".

Only 15.7% of teachers agreed with Churchill that "behavioural challenges in classrooms" were their biggest concern. "Lack of student supports" and "Teacher workload and mental health" were both much bigger concerns.

Results:

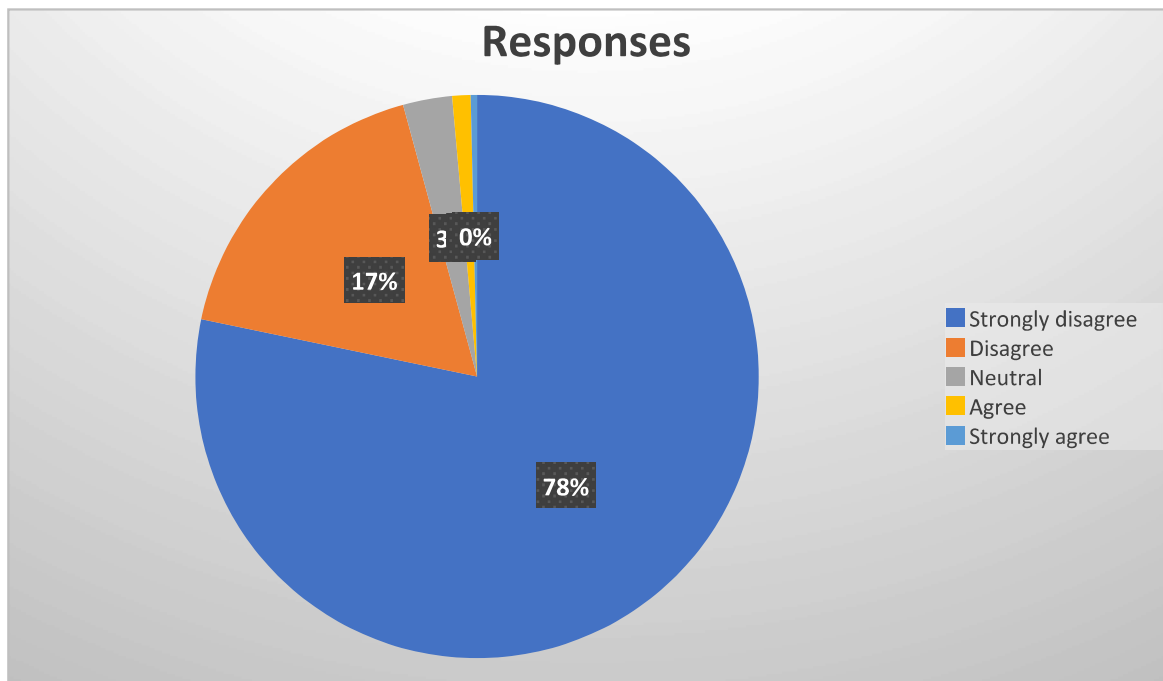
1. After the release of the ESJ Teachers' Voices report, Education Minister Zach Churchill responded in a CBC report by saying that the teachers' concerns raised in the report were old, and issues have vastly improved between January 2018 and February 2019. Using a scale of 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree), to what extent do you agree that teachers' concerns with the education system have been fixed?



566 Responses:

Strongly disagree	495
Disagree	58
Neutral	7
Agree	1
Strongly Agree	5

2. Minister Churchill stated in a Canadian Press story (Feb. 12, 2019) that his department addressed concerns around student support by "hiring nearly 200 support staff," and stated that they are seeing "demonstrable impacts" from the hiring. In the last year, have you experienced demonstrable positive impacts from the hiring of new support staff in your school? On a scale of 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree), please rank the accuracy of Churchill's claim.

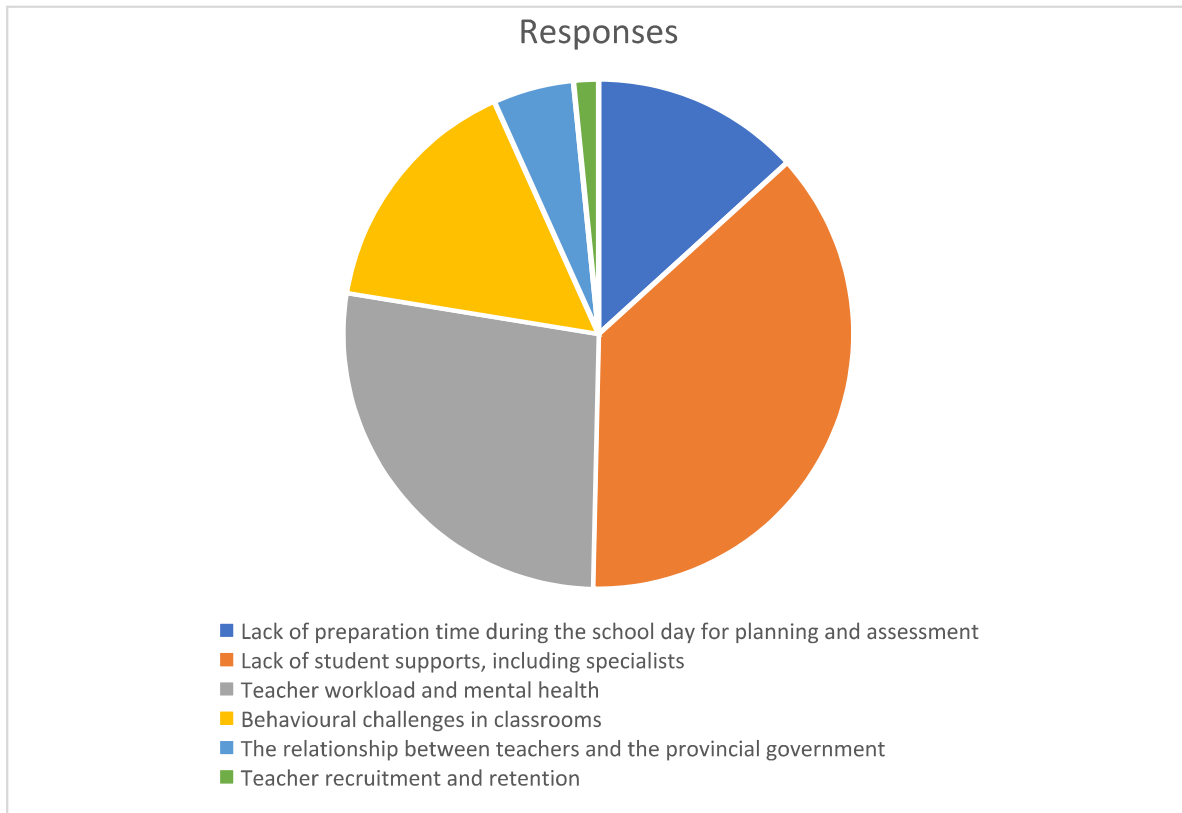


566 Responses

Strongly disagree	443
Disagree	99
Neutral	16
Agree	6
Strongly Agree	2

3. In the same story, Churchill responded to the ESJ report by stating that teachers' "biggest concerns stemmed from

behavioural challenges in the classroom." Using the dropdown menu below, please select one item that you believe is the biggest concern teachers are facing.



566 Responses

- Lack of student supports, including specialists: 210 - 37.1%
- Teacher workload and mental health: 154 - 27.2%
- Behavioural challenges in classrooms: 89 - 15.7%
- Lack of preparation time during the school day for planning and assessment: 75 - 13.2%
- The relationship between teachers and the provincial government: 29 - 5.1%
- Teacher recruitment and retention: 9 - 1.5%