SUPPORTING STUDENT SUCCESS: COVID-19 REMOTE AND BLENDED LEARNING SUPPORT FOR TEACHERS

SUCCESS STORY: State of Wyoming

PROGRAM: SAP Fast Track

DISTRICT DETAILS

State of Wyoming
185 Schools
2,123 Participating Teachers
60,134 Total Students

THE CHALLENGE

As much of the nation’s schools and districts grappled with how to quickly turn to remote or hybrid learning during the COVID-19 pandemic, small and rural districts found additional challenges unique to their communities, their students, and their educators. The Wyoming Department of Education (WDE) recognized those challenges and acted quickly to ensure teachers felt prepared to serve students’ individual learning during this year, no matter where learning occurred.

THE SOLUTION

In the 2020–2021 school year, thousands of teachers across Wyoming participated in TeachUNITED (TU) professional development programs. With cohorts of their peers, they learned and applied best instructional practices and received individualized feedback. Focusing on adaptable, blended, and virtual strategies, TU coaches supported teachers through the challenges of teaching and learning during a pandemic.

“I appreciate the partnership and all of the flexibility that TeachUNITED has shown throughout this process.”
- Lori Thilmany, WDE

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In the School Accelerator Program (SAP), efficacy and impact data are collected at multiple stages to ensure implementation fidelity and help teachers reflect on their growth, as well as provide measurable outcomes for schools. As part of the monitoring and evaluation process, SAP participants complete both pre- and post-program surveys, where they rated their comfort level with key practices, including:

- Applying and assessing new strategies
- Implementing growth mindset teaching practices
- Creating personalizing learning pathways
- Data-driven instruction
- Participating in a professional learning community

**OUTCOMES**

Across all program respondents:

- **94%** of educators reported that the course had a positive impact on their teaching practice.
- **100%** of educators reported they were confident in their ability to implement new teaching strategies by the end of the course.
- **91%** of educators rated the course content and assignments highly.
- **94%** of educators said they were confident integrating technology into their classroom by the end of the course.

“I enjoyed this course because of all the resources that were brought to my attention. I was able to see connections across my practice and within the sources, which brought a sense of pride for my lessons and creations within the classroom.”

- Teacher, Wind River High School