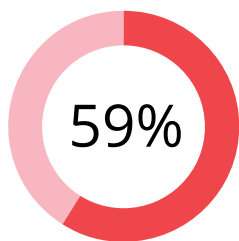**The Canopy project shares information about schools engaged in innovation to advance equity and student-centered learning.** Every year, schools nominated to the project share the practices they're implementing in a survey. With this information, we used a statistical process to cluster practices that tend to show up in schools' data together—in other words, a bottom-up approach that helps reveal themes among schools' practices. We found four distinct themes.

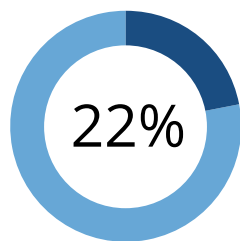## THEME 4: INDIVIDUALIZED AND BLENDED LEARNING

In schools implementing these kinds of practices, students learn through a combination of online and face-to-face learning. Otherwise known as "blended learning," this approach can be used in ways that integrate easily into a more traditional school environment, or allow for far different arrangements in terms of where, when, and how students complete coursework and activities. Students in these schools may move through learning activities at their own pace, advance when they're ready, and set and pursue their own learning goals. They can easily access information and data about their own learning progress, rather than waiting to hear about a final grade. To enable this, their schools integrate data from multiple platforms or software programs in a "data dashboard" reflecting overall student learning and progress. Students in these schools may also receive more one-to-one or small-group tutoring, in sessions that are integrated with their schools' curriculum and schedule (as opposed to a supplemental or out-of-school program).
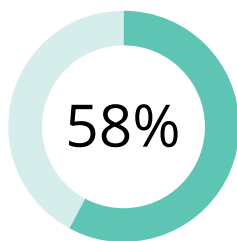
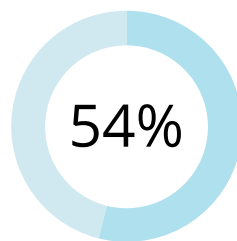**PERCENTAGE OF 251 CANOPY SCHOOLS THAT REPORTED KEY PRACTICES IN THIS THEME**

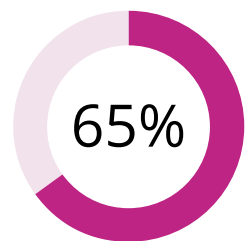| 59%	22%	58%	54%	65%
Blended learning	Interoperable data from multiple technologies	Students access their own data	Students move at their own pace	Student-led goal setting

CANOPYSCHOOLS.ORG

CRPE REINVENTING PUBLIC EDUCATION

Transcend BUILDING BEYOND THE LIMITS OF SCHOOL DESIGN

EXAMPLES IN ACTION: INDIVIDUALIZED AND BLENDED LEARNING

ASU Preparatory Academy Digital (ASU Prep Digital) is a virtual school that aims to put into practice the belief that *"a single approach cannot meet the needs of every student."* ASU Prep Digital's educational model is characterized online as *"integrating the K–12 and university experience to acclimate students to a college mindset and community and to accelerate time to a degree."* The program description details how students routinely interact with highly qualified instructors and have personal learning success coaches who ensure they progress toward their academic and career goals. According to school leaders, *"The entire learning experience is designed to grow student agency, choice, and strength in learning to navigate their own educational journey."*

A student works on an online lesson from her laptop.

Maxwell Smith, Director of The Forest School Online, shared how *"because we're online, we're global, we're international, so you've got learners from California to Connecticut"* and Mexico, Kenya, and Uganda. He sees this as "ideal" because the *"intentionally diverse community of learners share their culture and... then benefit from that diversity in the feedback they get and in their own sociocultural competence in awareness of global citizenship."* The Forest School online, a learning environment connected with the Institute for Self-Directed Learning and the brick-and-mortar in-person independent Forest School, was designed to leverage the interest in online learning...*"induced by Covid"* as an opportunity to *"provide the model of self-directed learning globally"* using *"unique advantages because of online education."*

An adult and child share a smile while working together in their notebooks.

LEARN MORE ABOUT CANOPY

- **Read Research Findings**
- **Browse Canopy Schools**
- **Get in Touch**

LEARN MORE ABOUT THIS THEME

- **What Blended Learning Is—and Isn't** (Christensen Institute)
- **Modern Classrooms**
- **What is Interoperability?** (Project Unicorn)