Facing Challenges, Identifying Solutions

In September 2012, the EPE Research Center conducted an online survey examining educators’ attitudes about school climate, discipline, and safety. The survey included two open-ended questions asking respondents to identify the most significant challenges they face in addressing student misbehavior and to describe potential solutions that could help them in their classrooms or at their schools. An analysis of the approximately 850 responses from teachers and administrators, who were registered users of the Education Week website, reveals that, across the the two survey items, the need for greater parental support emerges as the most common theme. Thirty-one percent of respondents cited lack of parental support as a significant challenge, while 25 percent highlighted the importance of parental involvement when pointing to solutions.