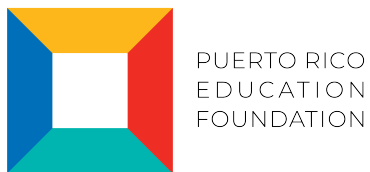




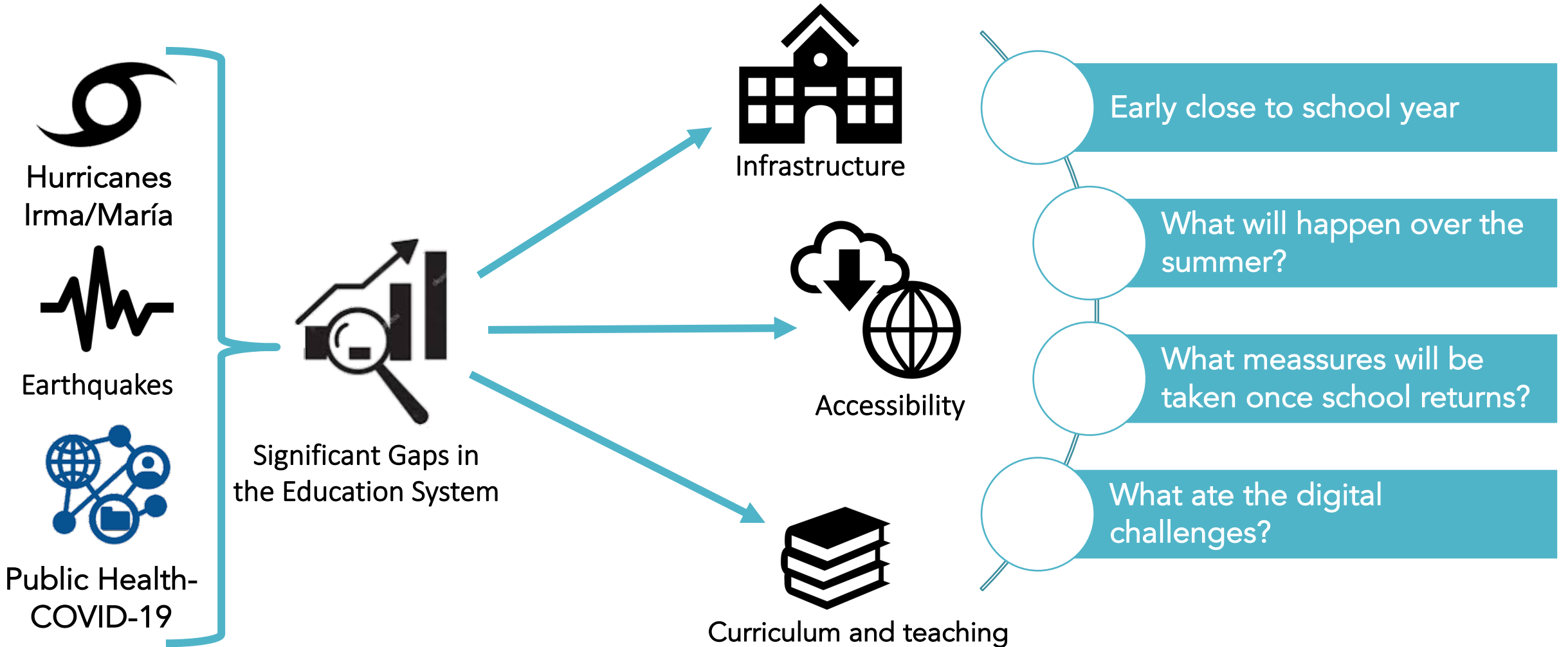
PUERTO RICO
EDUCATION
FOUNDATION

Education and COVID-19
Status, Challenges and Next Steps
In Puerto Rico
Executive Director: Enid Marie Reyes

The Puerto Rico Education Foundation (PREF) is a non-profit organization founded on November 15, 2017; organized under the laws of Puerto Rico and dedicated to providing resources for the transformation of the PR educational system through resources for strengthening and strategic innovation.



Challenges and Opportunities for the Educational System of Puerto Rico



End of academic year 2019-2020

Challenge

Possible significantly high skill lag for next school year



✓ There are a variety of states of progress for schools that started in February, March, and the southern student body that could not restart the semester.



✓ Skills that could not be imparted can affect academic progress in the period of re-adjustment to school routine.



✓ The current closure and contingency strategy may present a risk of school calendar, school organization, and accountability logistics after the end of the period for students promoted as PC (Promoted Conditional).

PREF in dialogue with the Accountability Department to identify skills required for the upcoming school year.

What will happen in the Summer?

Challenge

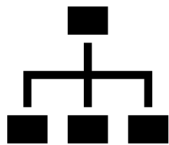
PRDE considering summer classes



- ✓ The opportunity to remove the PC is postponed during the academic year 2019-2020 for the period from August to October 2020



- ✓ Computers and tablets will be delivered June: 20,000; July 25,000
- ✓ Charter, Montessori and Traditional Schools
- ✓ Consideration is being given to including textbook licenses on computers



- ✓ Organization, planning and recruitment period for the academic year 2021
- ✓ Planning and period calendar for conditionally promoted students
- ✓ Teachers are assigned to develop modules for the beginning of the course (Skills Reinforcement)
- ✓ Alternatives for remedial courses

Reopening of schools

Challenge

School Organization and Teacher Training



- ✓ Teachers do not have training for distance education
- ✓ There is no centralized and standardized online platform from the government agency



- ✓ Computer Integrated Textbook Licenses

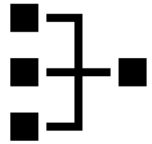


- ✓ Accountability logistics in the PC process
- ✓ Administrative response to students who do not meet PC requirements
- ✓ Considerations of academic burden for the teacher (PC + Regular Stream / School Organization)
- ✓ Base test will be administered to students from the previous year

Digital Challenges

Challenge

Accesibilidad y Disponibilidad de Servicios



- ✓ System filters to open previously blocked forums such as "Youtube", social networks for educational purposes, programs and platforms installed on computers such as "ZOOM" or "Teams"



- ✓ Network access is limited in certain schools by geographic location



- ✓ Adaptation of the teacher to the new teaching opportunities presented by the finding of these gaps and mitigation strategies

Emergencies Responses of the Puerto Rico Department of Education

- ✓ 180 schools with solar panels
- ✓ In process of equipping all schools with electric generators
- ✓ In process of equipping all schools with potable water systems
- ✓ Roof treatment for schools
- ✓ Review and assessment of short columns
- ✓ Plan to strengthen the school community in the socio-emotional area using the Hawkins & Catalano model
- ✓ Remedial modules
- ✓ EDUPR application
- ✓ Interactive forum for parents and students on the agency's website
- ✓ Collaboration with 7 online education universities for high school students
- ✓ Access and training for teachers, parents and students to Microsoft programs and professional licenses
- ✓ In process of developing program for schools create risk analysis and emergency protocols for continuity of online processes

PREF in Response to COVID-19



Programa camino
hacia la META
ORE Bayamón

Camino Hacia la META is a “Deep Dive” project that combines exhaustive quantitative analysis with qualitative strategies to improve academic performance on standardized META tests for 5th Grade Math and Spanish in 3rd Grade.



Delivery
Associates

The Regional Educational Office of Bayamón was selected in 2019 for the pilot of the project with 7 participating schools. The investigations allowed to explore methodologies and strategies, both technical and observational, to improve teaching practices. Differentiation techniques were identified to increase student learning opportunities as well as peer learning strategies for teachers.



DEPARTAMENTO DE
EDUCACIÓN
GOBIERNO DE PUERTO RICO

COVID-19 has presented a challenge for the project. Mitigation strategies in digital format were used to promote a mobile-friendly space, easy access, simple, flexible and with real-time results to measure student participation and performance. Teacher differentiation was also obtained for continuous improvement. The Virtual Notebook initiative has achieved more than 65% student participation. https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1m5HKvMqGSZEGcTsAI_xGqBKi_CUSohSv?usp=sharing