

PARENT SURVEY RESULTS - JUNE 2020

Total responses: 3,066 unique responses; see breakdown of respondents by school below:

139-Wehde
132-CAN
260-COV
253-GRS
257-HUS
239-IPS
380-NOR
234-SOU
291-WES
349-WDS
426-RBMS
536-HBMS
361-LMS

Importance of bus transportation

Of those respondents who are eligible for bus service:

- 40 percent (1,227) said they could manage without it.
- 24.6 percent (755) said it would be difficult to manage without it.
- 13.6 percent (417) said they must have bus service in order for their child to attend school.

Primary concern about the fall / return-to-school

- 1) 32.6 percent (1,000) - ensuring the health and safety of family
- 2) 31.7 percent (971) - establishing an academic routine
- 3) 25 percent (766) - juggling work and children at home
- 4) 9.3 percent (284) - addressing social-emotional issues
- 5) 1.5 percent (45) - finding childcare

Comfortability with sending children back-to-school for in-person instruction in the fall

- 44.5 percent (1,364) are comfortable or very comfortable with the idea of sending their children back to school.
- 29.9 percent (915) are uncomfortable or very uncomfortable with the idea of sending their children back to school.
- 25.7 percent (787) are unsure/undecided.

What factors would most influence comfortability with sending children back to school

- 77.8 percent (1,503) - cleaning and sanitizing procedures
- 74.8 percent (1,445) - hand sanitizer and handwashing opportunities
- 66.3 percent (1,281) - health screenings for students
- 64 percent (1,236) - health screenings for staff
- 62.1 percent (1,200) - minimizing or eliminating large group gatherings
- 54.5 percent (1,052) - six-foot social distancing
- 53.2 percent (1,028) - face masks for students
- 53 percent (1,024) - face masks for staff
- 41.5 percent (802) - barriers/shields for close personal interaction

Preference for return-to-school model in the fall

- **For PreK:**
 - 1,090 - in-person instruction
 - 555 - remote learning
 - 455 - combination of remote learning and in-person instruction
- **For Grades K-2:**
 - 1,403 - in-person instruction
 - 678 - combination remote learning and in-person instruction
 - 434 - remote learning
- **For Grades 3-5:**
 - 1,354 - in-person instruction
 - 829 - combination remote learning and in-person instruction
 - 353 - remote learning
- **For Grades 6-8:**
 - 1,305 - in-person instruction
 - 861 - combination remote learning and in-person instruction
 - 366 - remote learning

Preference on start date for 2020-21 school year*

- 54.5 percent (1,670) - August 19th
- 33.1 percent (1,015) - After Labor Day
- 12.4 percent (381) - Mid to late September

Comments (see themes below)

Total comments: 1,158

Return to School

- **In-person instruction:** Most parents want children back in school. Lots of strong feelings about children wearing masks.
 - Many parents DO NOT want children to wear masks for various reasons (ex: cause anxiety, make them sick, can't see non-verbals).
 - Many parents DO want their children to wear masks for health and safety reasons.
 - *Parents are open to the idea of starting / ending first trimester earlier (like some higher ed institutions) but want school calendar to align with D155.
- **Remote learning:** Parents who have children with compromised immune systems and/or who are living with grandparents or an elderly relative at risk want remote learning option as do parents who are concerned that schools will be unable to keep students and staff safe while trying to provide a quality education and adhere to CDC guidelines.
- **Hybrid model:** Some parents are in favor of A/B schedules or split shifts in conjunction with remote learning (as they see this as a safe compromise), but want this decision as soon as possible for scheduling and childcare purposes.

Academics / Remote Learning

- Some parents feel that remote learning is the best option in the fall (for health and safety reasons), but feel strongly that remote learning needs improvement, such as:
 - **Require face-to-face/live teaching and learning** - This is imperative to academic success and social-emotional well-being; establish expectations for all teachers to do virtual, "live" sessions routinely and/or provide video-recorded instruction.
 - **Provide consistent teaching and learning expectations across all grade levels and schools.**
 - **Provide assignments to parents in advance (Sunday night?)**
 - **Provide small group instruction**
 - **Streamline communication** - too many emails and platforms used
 - **Hold students accountable and make learning fun.** It's important to engage students in remote learning. Consider:
 - Requiring students to "show up" on Zoom calls and/or Google Meets for daily virtual meetings.
 - Increasing academic rigor and learning expectations, both in amount of time students are engaged in learning and what they are expected to do. Parents are concerned about students' decline due to COVID and remote learning.

Health

- Most parents want schools to follow CDC and health department guidance and support:

- Rigorous cleaning and disinfecting practices in schools
- Handwashing opportunities and/or hand sanitizer for students
- Symptom and temperature checks
- Contact tracing
- Many parents are concerned about kids wearing masks; some say they will not send their child to school if masks are required. Big concerns about wearing masks particularly in non-air-conditioned schools/areas (LMS, Husmann, West).

Special Education (children with 504s and IEPs)

- Need hands-on learning
- Will have difficulty wearing masks and receiving instruction from those wearing masks
- Concerned about getting needed services during remote learning and want to be consulted about setting up a plan.

Social-Emotional and Mental Health

- Kids have been negatively impacted by COVID-19 and by the loss of learning and social interaction at school.
- Parents are concerned that health protocols/CDC guidelines that schools must adhere to -- social distancing, masks, limited group gatherings (no lunch/recess/sports) -- will greatly detract from the educational experience and will take a toll on their child's social-emotional well-being and mental health.

Childcare

- Parents are concerned about split shifts and/or remote learning due to lack of childcare. If we move to this option, parents want to know as soon as possible for scheduling purposes.