

Elko County School District

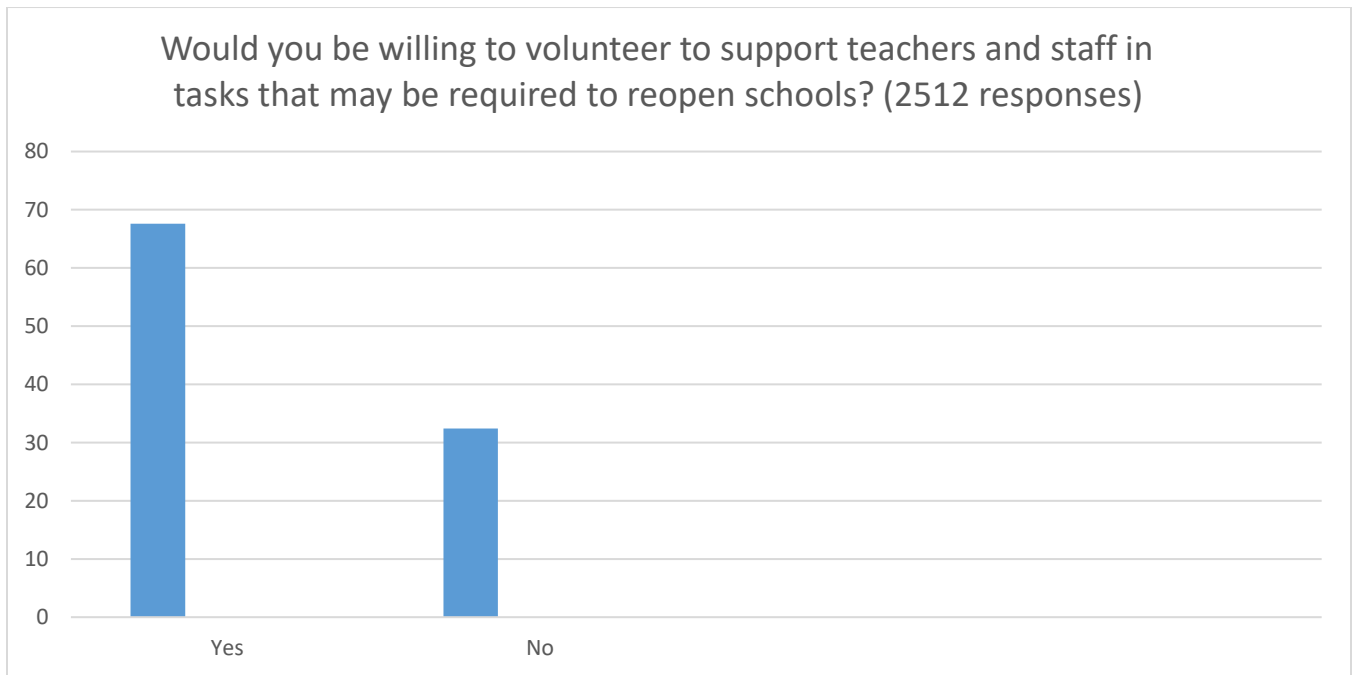
Student – Parent – Staff

Reopening Survey Results

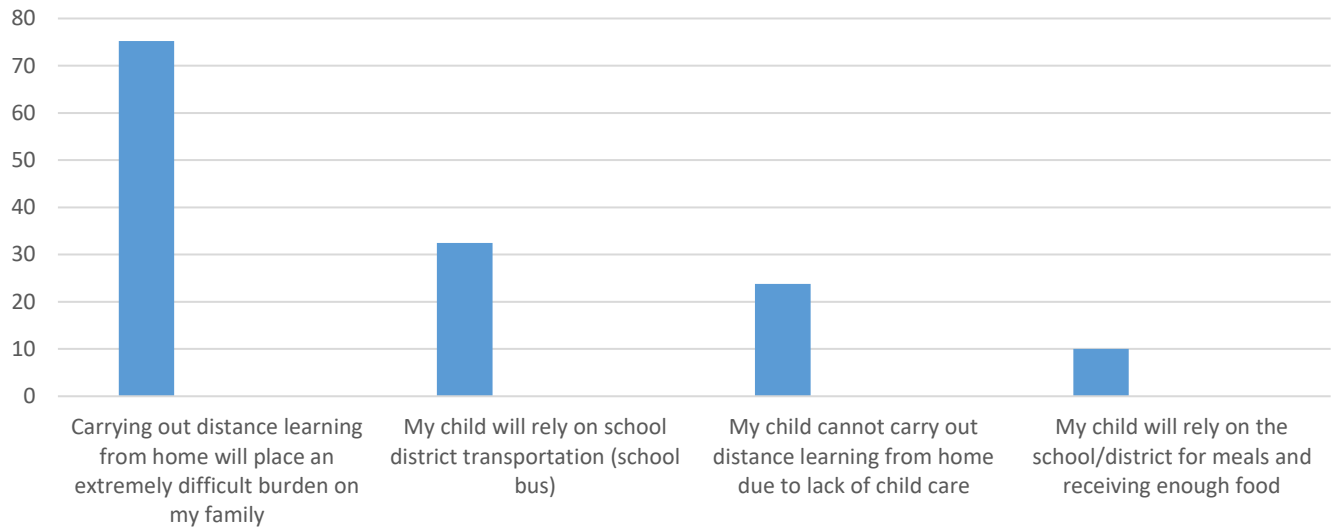
As a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Elko County School District was directed to shut down in-person teaching in March of 2019. In order to reopen schools safely for the 2020-2021 School Year, public input was sought by the ECSD Reopening Committee to determine what stakeholder groups felt were the most pressing issues to ensure that schools could reopen following State Health guidelines.

The following graphs are the results of that survey.

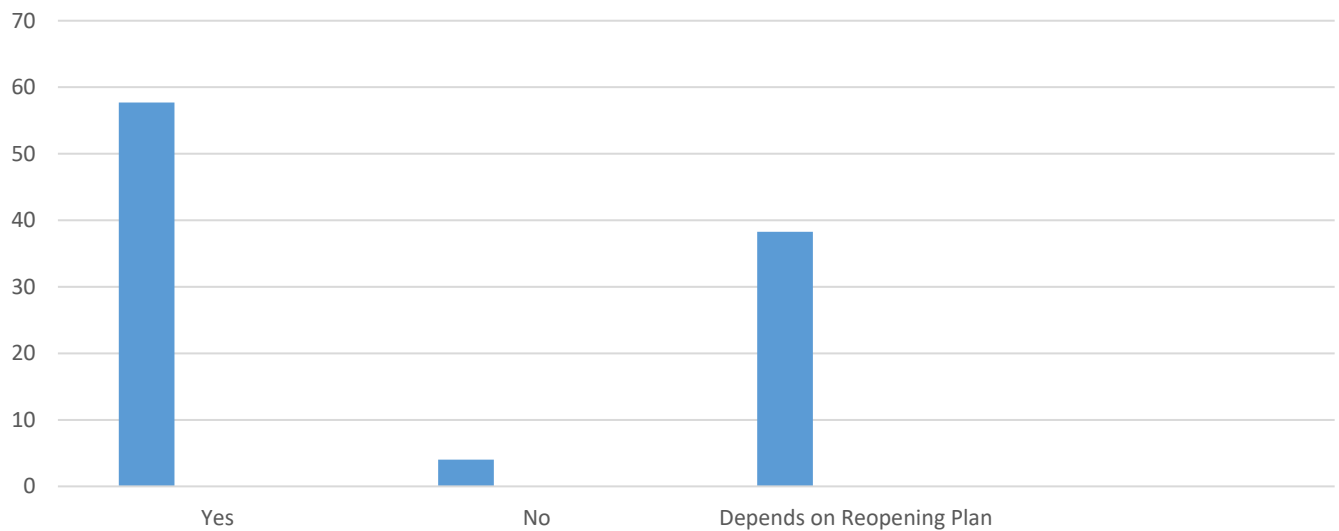
Family Survey



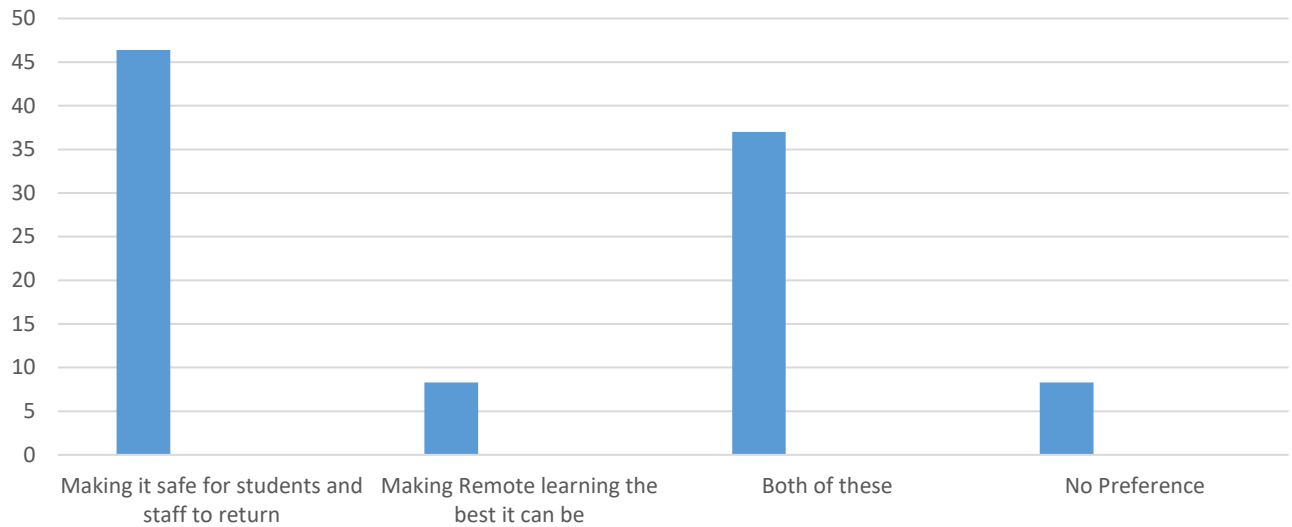
Which of the following statements are true when thinking of the 2020-2021 school year? (1568 responses)



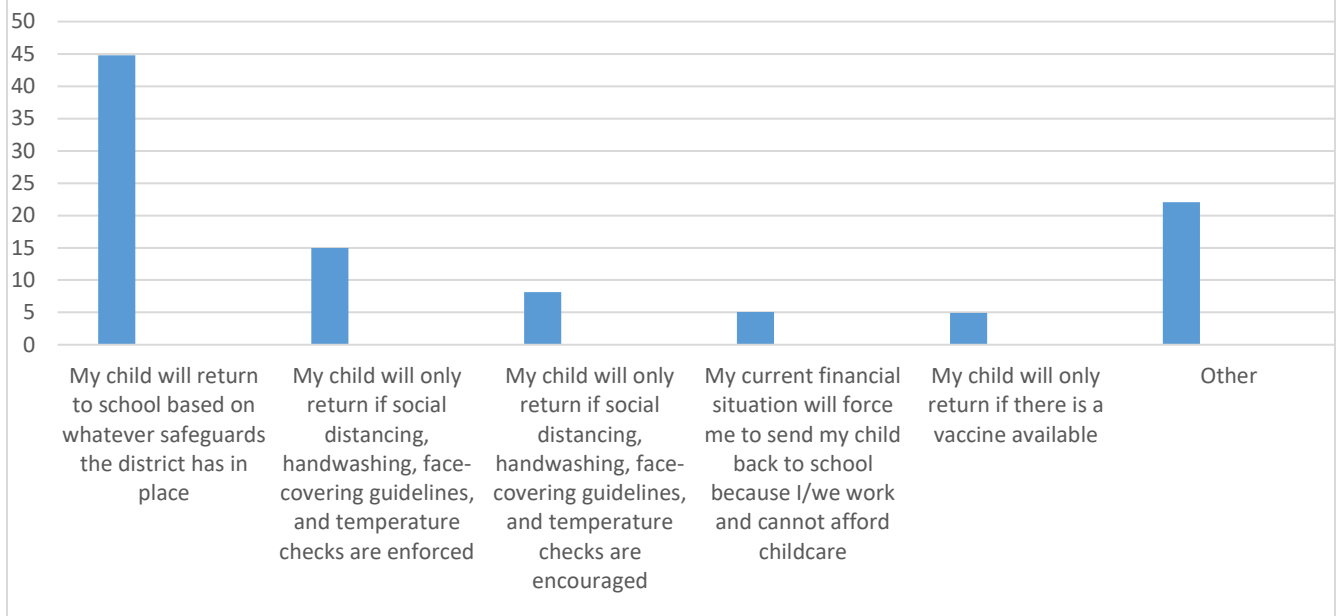
At this time, are you planning on having your child(children) return to school for the 2020-2021 school year? (2622 responses)



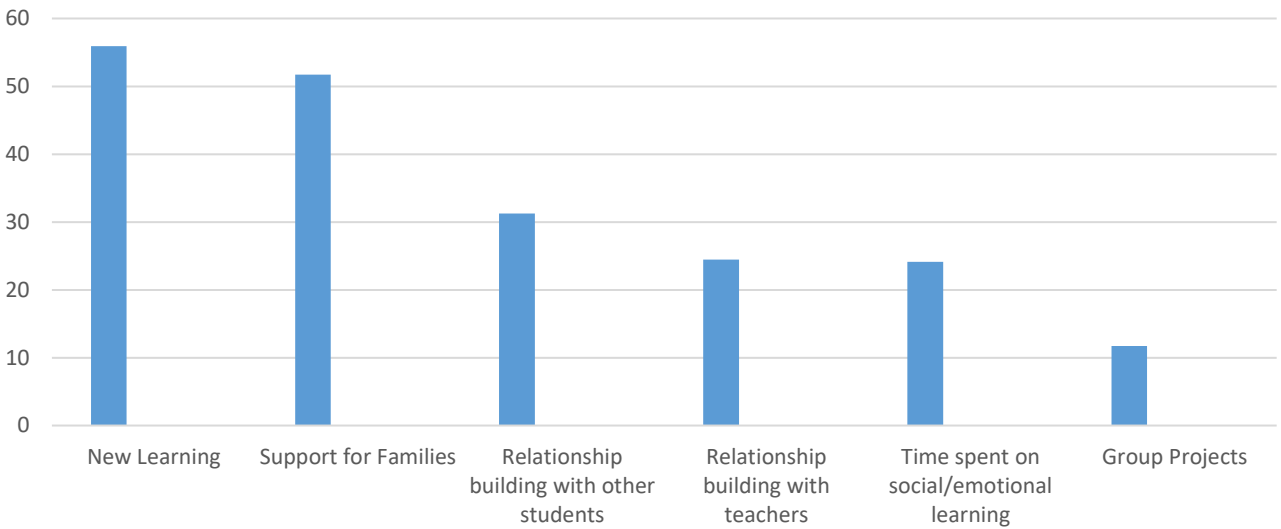
Where would you prefer the School District focuses its efforts to reopen schools? (2589 responses)



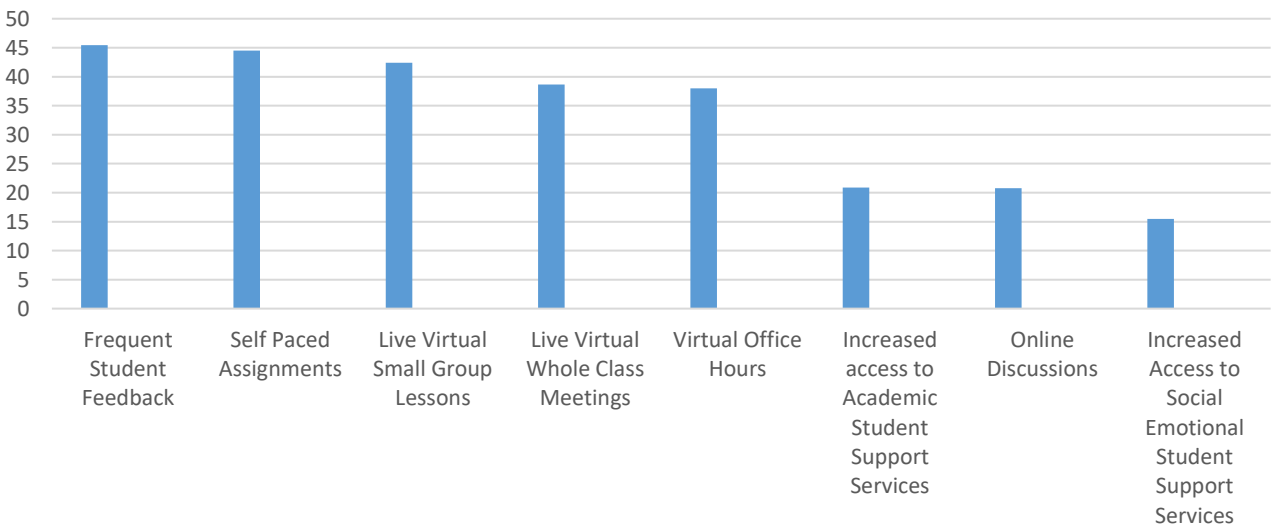
Which statement best describes your overall feelings about returning to school? (2574 responses)

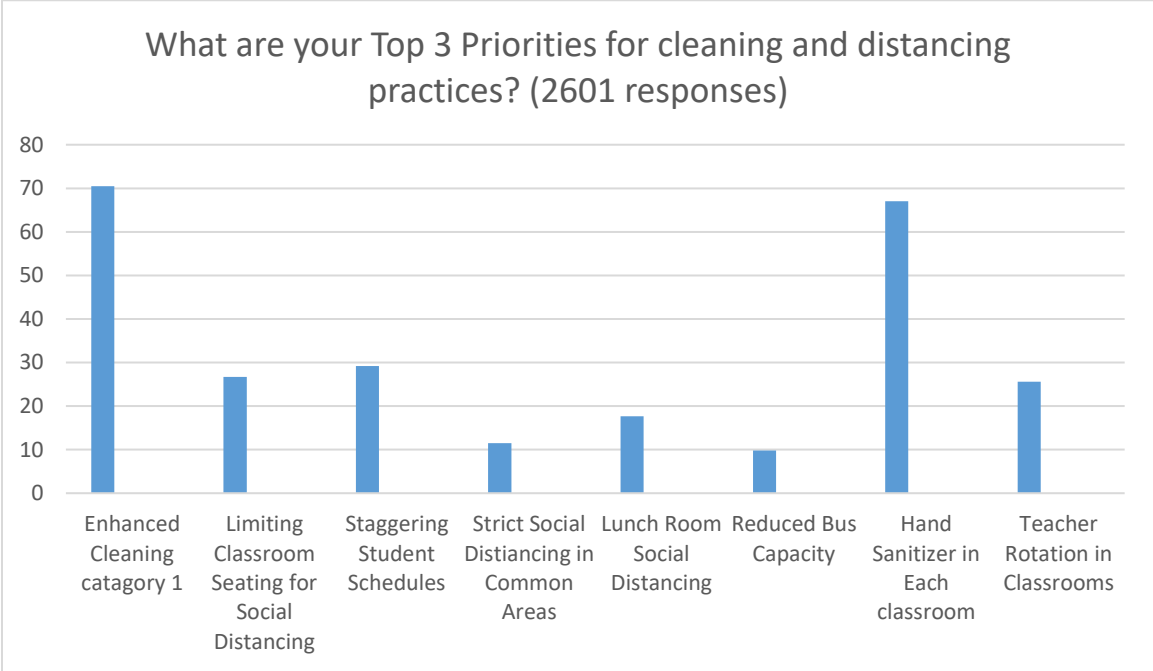
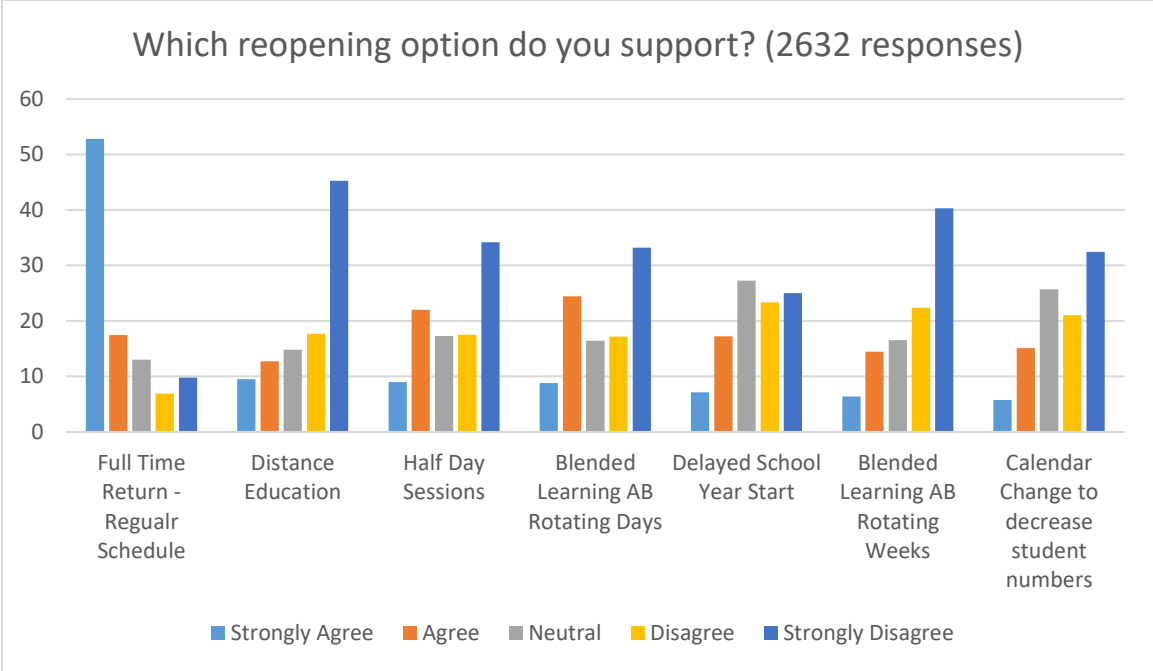


What are your Top Three Priorities for use of Time in Distance Education? (2536 Responses)



What are your Top 3 Priorities for Distance Education? (2576 responses)







Open Ended Free Response Question:

What are your minimum requirements for your child to return to school? (1745 responses)

The following is a random sampling of responses from the public:

Ask the teachers what they need to keep my kids healthy, and give them those resources.

Observation of all safe practices are reinforced

No COVID-19 risk, assurance that you will keep my child safe.

None. Return to normal ASAP

Increased hand washing and awareness. No strict mask requirements

That all social distancing guidelines are enforced. Teacher are engaged frequently with students.

Masks, observed hand washing, temperature checks daily, social distancing at all times, busses included.

Washing hands, school janitors to do extra sanitizing

Temperature check, social distancing, face coverings

I don't have any. Data shows that children are the least vulnerable in the population and I as a parent am also in a very low risk demographic. I can understand if older teachers were concerned though, or

children who live with older grandparents as guardians. I think that for people in those demographics, distance learning exceptions should be made, but for the most part, life needs to return to normal. This has gone far enough already.

Just hand washing/ sanitizer

Social distancing, face covering, advanced cleaning, temperature checks, etc

Require maximum precautions and CDC requirements.

In person classroom time

Masks, distance, cleanliness.

Mandatory masks, social distancing, staggered scheduling for classes and lunches, individually wrapped food items, and readily available hand sanitizers in each classroom and hallway, NO LOCKER USAGE. Educate staff on symptoms and enforce staying home when sick. The number of days missed from staying home sick needs to be adjusted to accommodate those that get sick or potentially exposed to a COVID positive person.

Overall, the respondents to these questions expressed a desire to return to school in as normal a manner as possible. Responses expressed understanding that there may be some emphasis on hygiene and more robust health practices.

Is there anything else you would like to tell us that would help us support you and your family during the Pandemic? (1027 responses)

The following is a random sampling of extended responses:

Feel more support for teachers is required with the changes in the work focus. Must be difficult to be engaged when doing remote teaching. Need to get teachers to approach members of the community if support is required. Maybe encourage making a list of tasks that could be supported especially from technical staff of the local businesses.

It is important for school to not become prison for children. If my kids can't have recess or interact with other children, we will not return until school is no longer socially isolating.

Actually work with the community and show leadership. Shaking with fear and closing is not the best solution

With the increase of virus cases with states opening up community business tell us of the great risk for groups. That opening the school opens up the district to liability. Online is the best resolution however I

need internet and a home computer with supplies to support the equipment and my student needs. School meals are important we continue and I do not always have the gas or a vehicle available to pick up sack meals, delivery would be good. Funding and resources will be a concern for the district, CARES ACT funding, business adopt school for equipment or foundations like Bill Gates, community people who can adopt a family. We need acknowledge the complexity of this concern.

Regular school practices preferred

I trust the people who have more information than I and those who are experienced in running a successful learning environment to know how best to balance the risk of illness and the need of the kids and families.

The decision to send my child back to school will be based on the current situation in our region.

While ensuring basic sanitary environments in school (hand washing, desk distancing, janitorial cleaning), using fear-based mandates does more damage to people. Many end up with debilitating psychological problems, like "germaphobia", etc. Your job is to teach academics, not to go overboard with unfounded "precautions", just to create the "look" of health safety for federal funding.

I do not feel that distance education is a good educational option for kids. It was not successful for my family in the spring, and I want my children to socialize, make friends, and play normally.

As a parent, my son does not do well with me as a teacher, I could not be a teacher on any level, and he does not do well at home school.

If full time distance learning is implemented we will homeschool. If my kids will be learning at home, I want to control how/what/when they learn.

There are no requirements for me just do whatever you guys need to do to keep us safe.

My concern is mainly about lunch and recess. Keeping kids safe and at a distance.

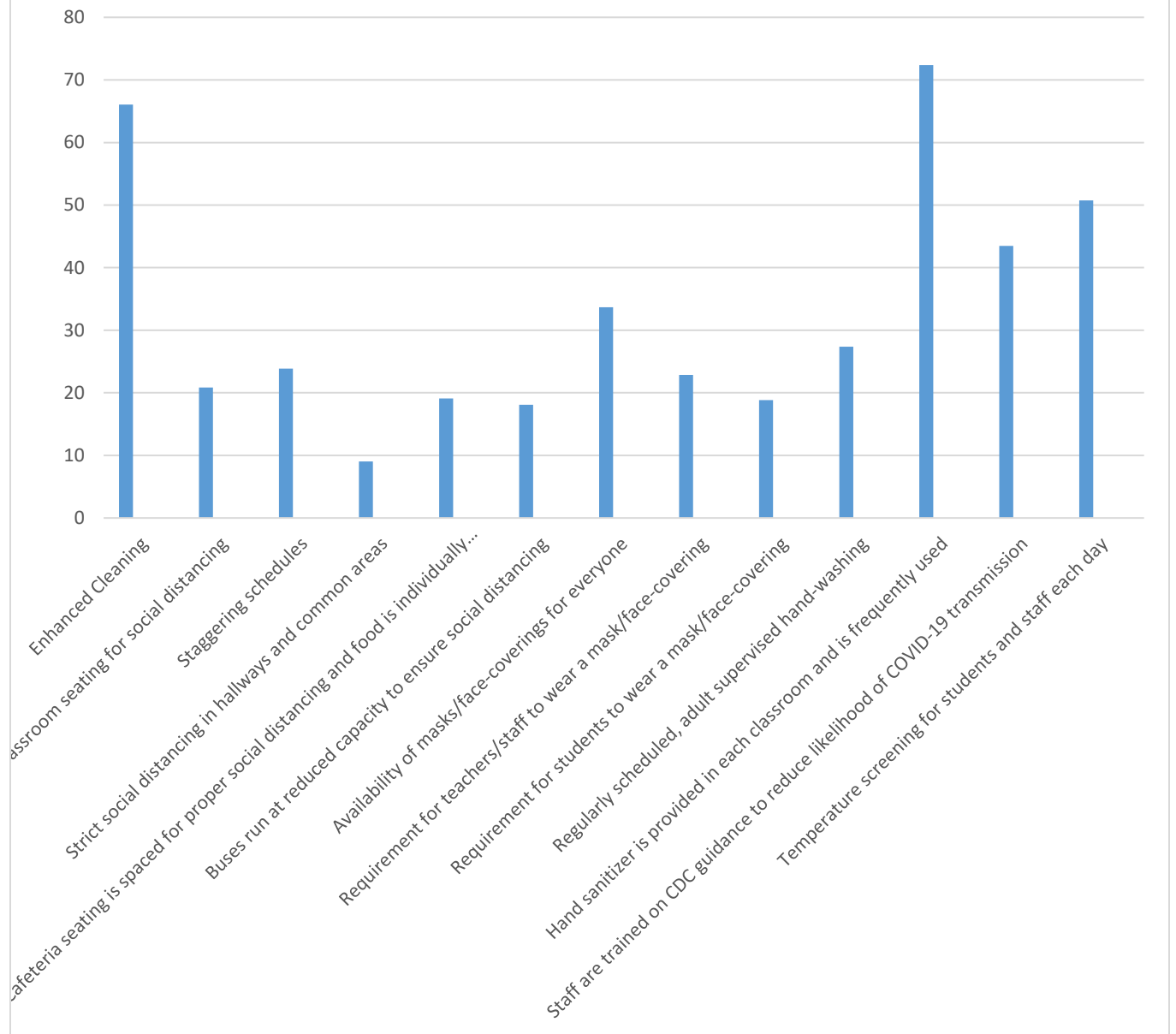
We didn't take distance learning as seriously as we should have, in the hopes that it was only temporary. If that is to be implemented in the Fall we would be more diligent and structured. More accountability and support would be helpful too.

I think the school district needs to work on both plans regardless. Contingency plans are important and we need to find/build online programming that still pushes our kids to learn new things and holds them accountable to their own education (not just pass/fail). Also, support for parents who are learning to be teachers (in a way) would be good.

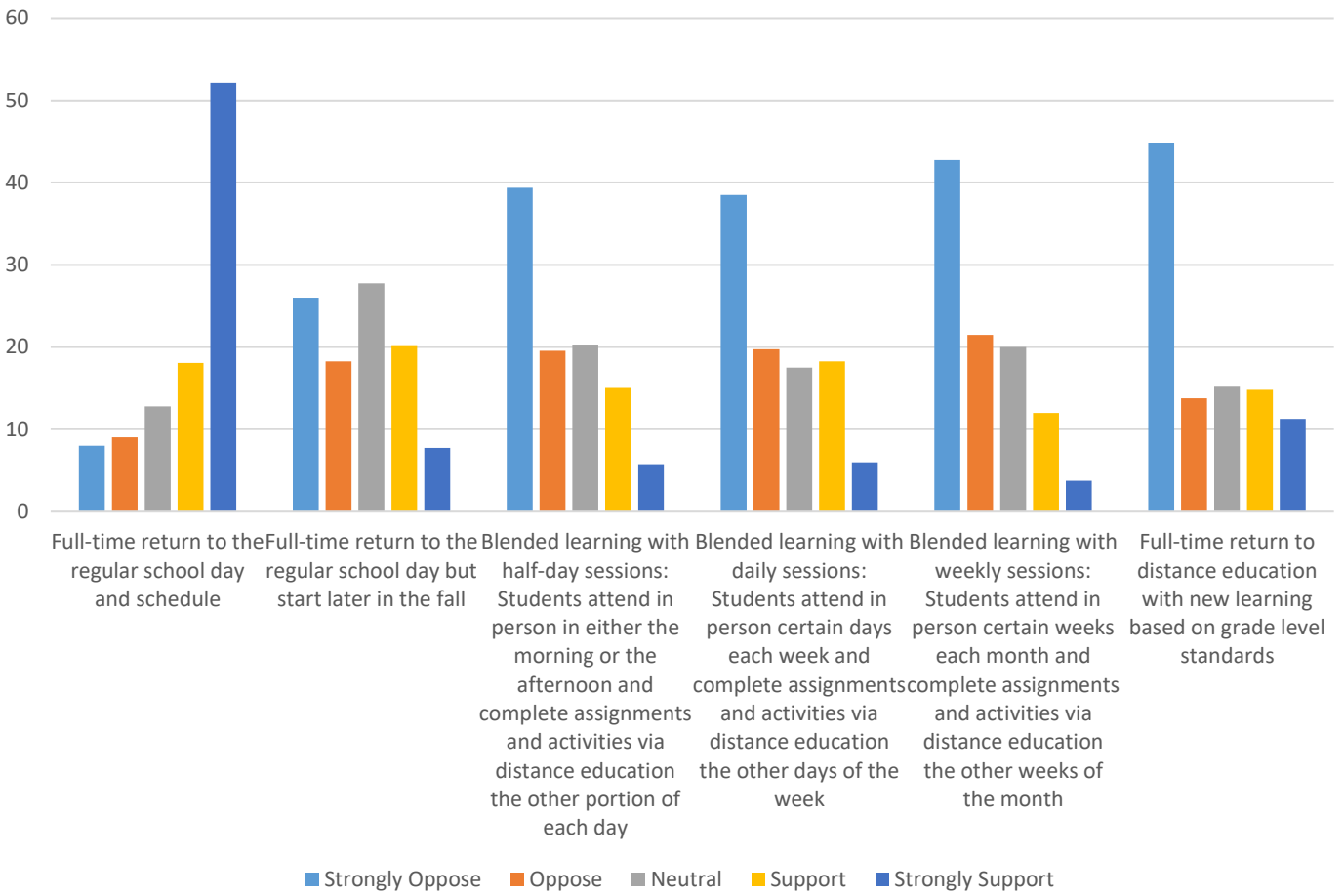
The responses emphasized concerns with full distance education models the way they were conducted during the emergency closure in the Spring. Also, teacher input was desired and providing support for teachers under each model was a driving theme. Most responses expressed a desire for a full reopening or a blended model.

Student Survey

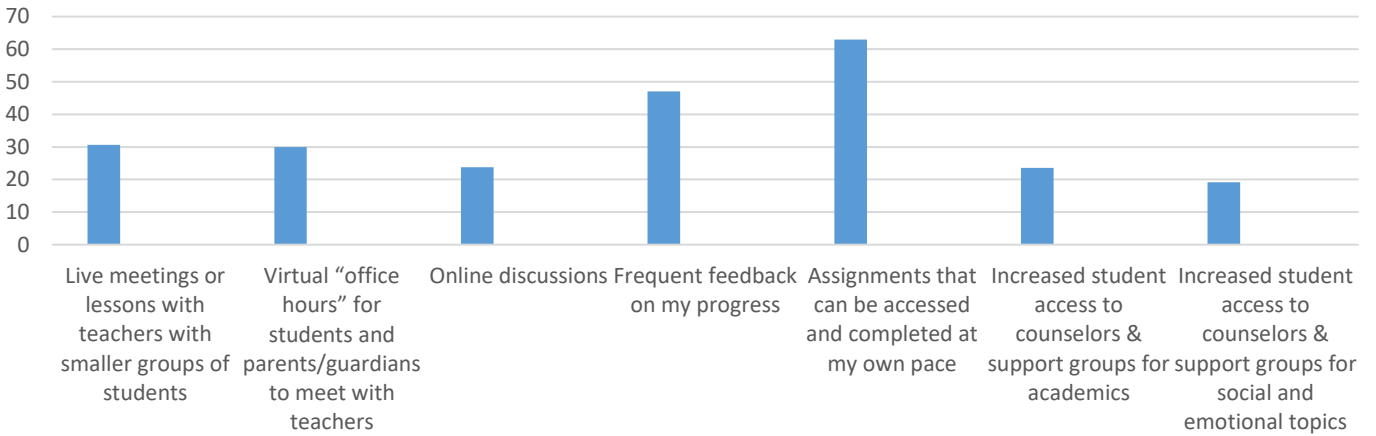
Many factors are important to consider when we reopen schools.
Please select your top 5 priorities regarding health and safety
practices for when school reopens for in-person classes.
(398 responses)



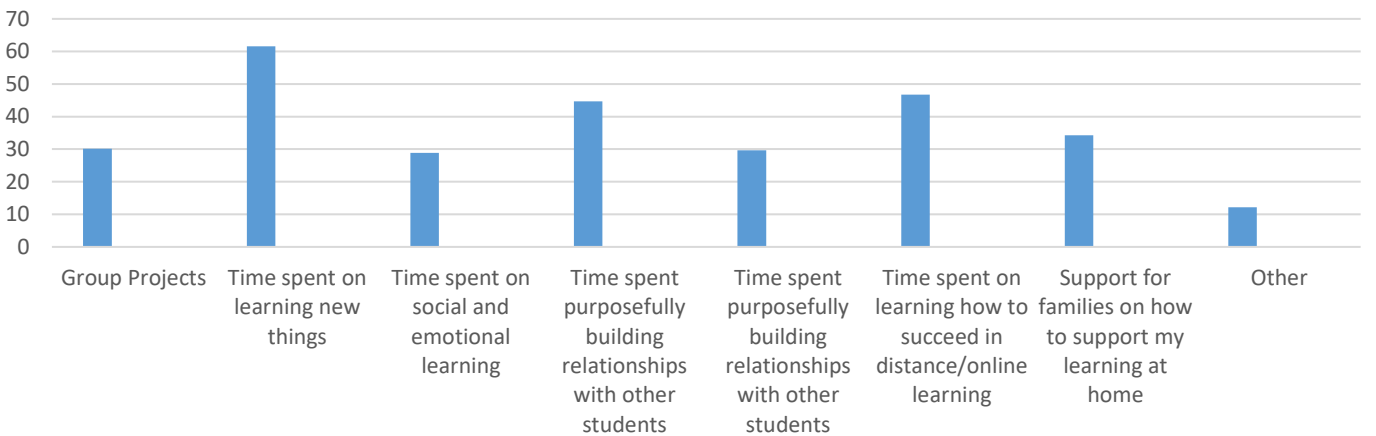
When schools reopen in the Fall of 2020, how strongly would you support each of the following options? (401 Responses)

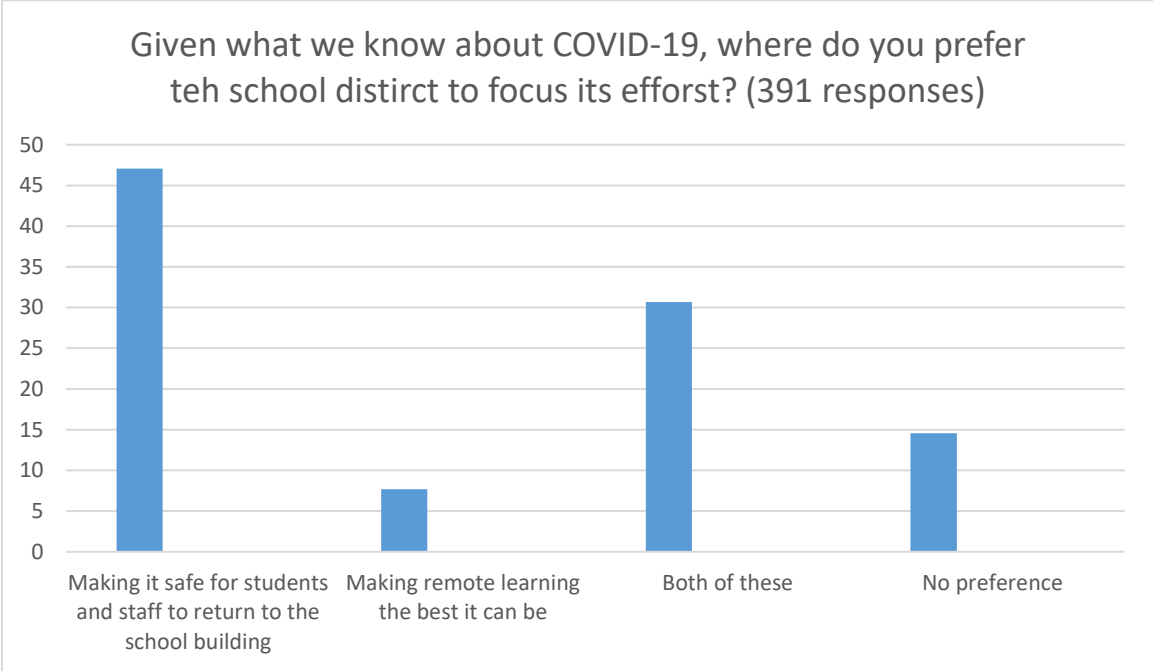
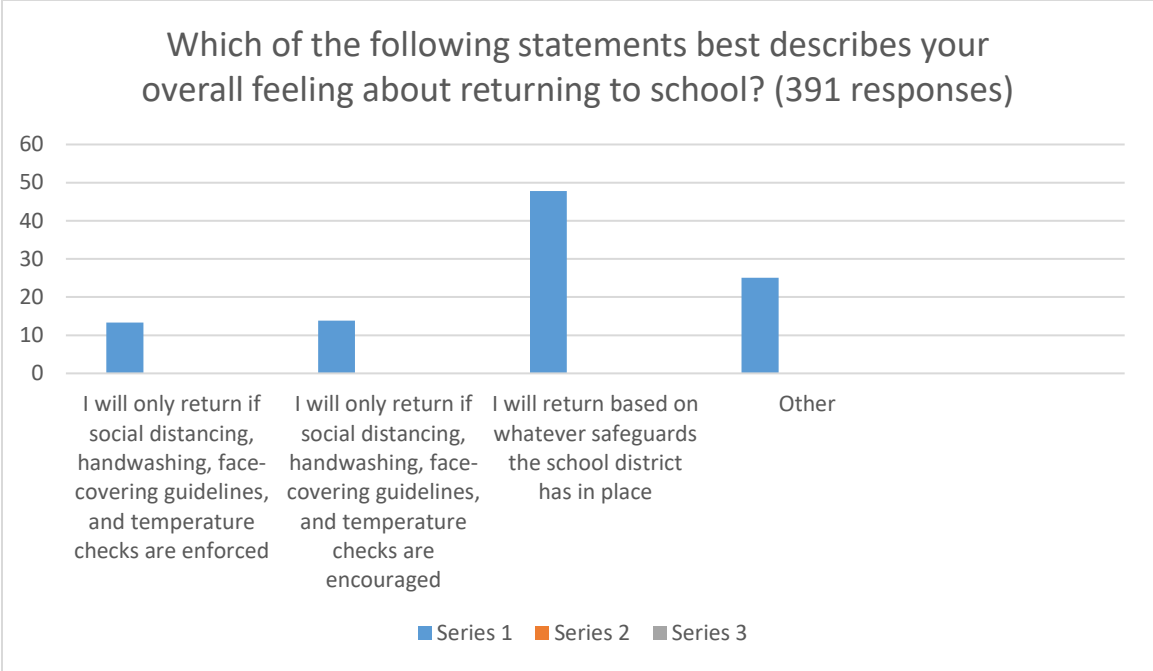


Considering your experience with emergency distance education implemented in the Spring of 2020, please indicate your top 3 priorities for distance education IF it is implemented during School Year 2020-2021? (391 responses)

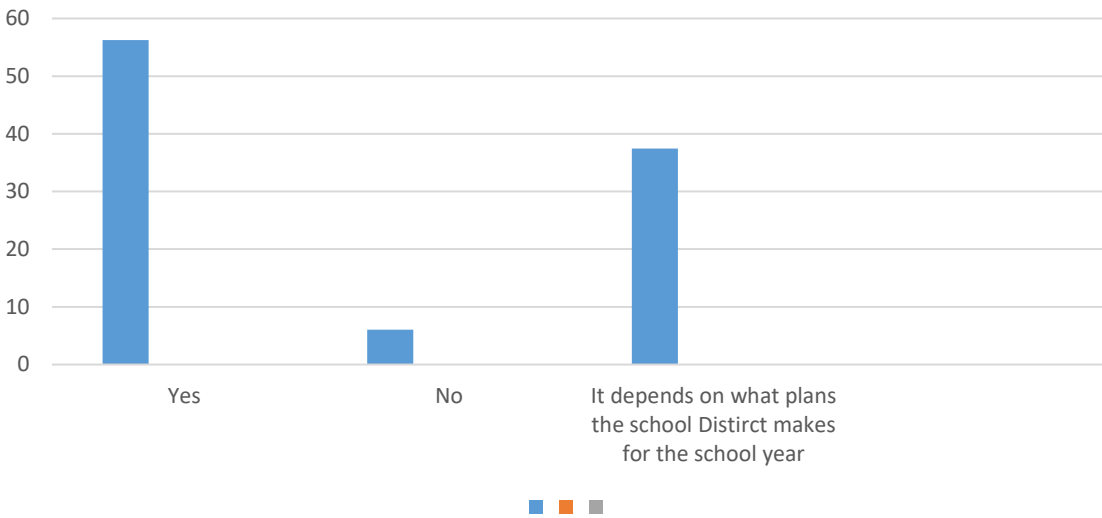


Considering your experience with emergency distance learning education implemented during Spring of 2020, please indicate your top 3 priorities for use of time IF distance education is implemented in the Fall of 2020. (385 responses)

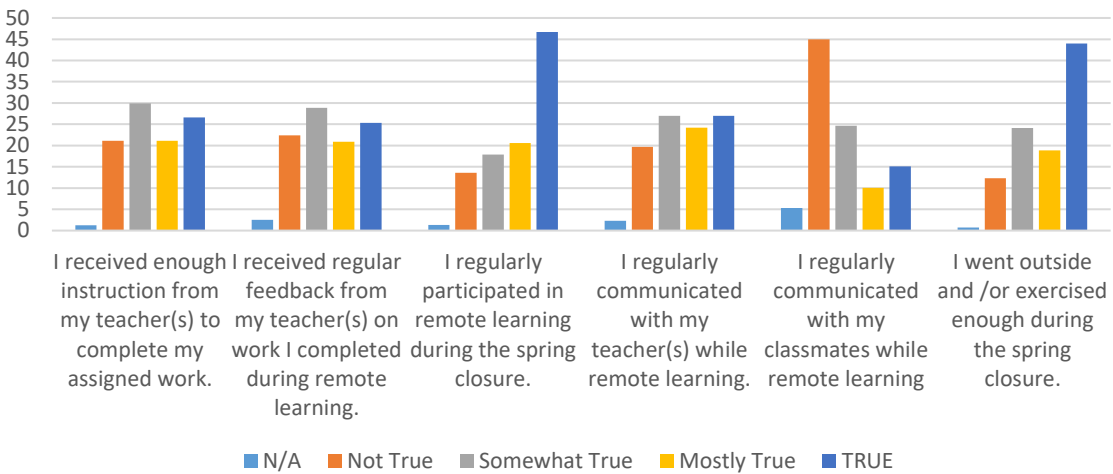




At this time, are you planning to return to school for the 2020-2021 school year? (398 responses)



Reflecting on remote learning from this past Spring, please tell us how true the following statements are for you. (398 responses)



Student Survey Open Response Questions

What are your minimum requirements for returning to school? (295 responses)

Just go and get your education

Social distancing, hand-washing, face covering, and temperature checks.

I don't have any requirements.

None

I just want to go back to in-person school.

masks

Back to normal

Hand sanitizer in hallways and class rooms. And any child sick is to remain home no questions asked no doctors notes no worrying about unexcused absences.

Just return to school. A normal traditional experiment of education, and growth for my children.

None I just want to get an education.

If online schooling wasn't so hard and was more organized.

Hand washing temp checks

Lots of cleaning, sanitizing, temp checks for staff and students

Sanitizer and clean rooms, no mask or distance.

My minimum requirement for returning to school, is that absolutely everything is back to normal.

I don't want anything to really change.

To not touch my face and will always wash my hands

Just wearing a mask and being safe

uhh i don't like people touching me

Washing hands

I'm going to home schooling or maybe moving out of state as well

Temp checks, testing students and anyone in a student's family that has covid-19 the student will have to stay home for 17 days but won't have to make up the work they missed.

Everyone's temperature get checked every day and masks be provided

Student responses to this question focused primarily on cleaning practices by the school and the availability of hand washing / sanitizer availability. Overall, wearing masks was mentioned as something students were willing to do if it meant they could return to school.

Open ended comments can provide us very valuable information. Is there anything else you would like to tell us that would help us support you and your family during this pandemic? (166 responses)

Returning to normal the best we can

Stay safe out there amigos.

Nope

I don't believe especially at the high school you can enforce social distancing outside of class time, stuck at breaks and lunch. I have also talked to other teachers about this and they agree

Being home to learn gives most students less motivation to do work. I am a junior but I want to graduate this year having to be home to learn can interfere with this

Disinfecting door knobs and tables after school every day.

No

no

Online school would just overall be safer to do. No matter what kind of restrictions our school has, someone is bound to get corona. Most parents even say that if there is no vaccine or cure, they are not risking their child's health.

I didn't learn with distance learning face to face is the best way to learn. A home environment is difficult to stay focused and learn in. There is also not motivation to work on school from home. A work environment at the school where I go to work is the best way to get an education and actually learn.

We need to go back to school one on one with teachers is better

Go back to regular school. Masks are stupid. I won't wear a mask. I hate online school and I miss my friends.

I believe that this school year should start at normal time, with no social distancing, no extra hand sanitizer, no supervision while washing hands, no masks required nor recommended, but people who want them can wear them. Also, student and/or staff population should not be cut or even divided. We should have normal school days, from 7:30 to 1:45, Monday-Friday. Bus capacity should not be cut or changed. I strongly believe in everything I have previously stated, and do not agree with any other terms.

Most things should go back to normal, if you're sick stay home. It's the same rule as always.

Get extra hand sanitizer

Some kids need 1 on 1 early

I would prefer online school cause it's at my pace and it makes it easier

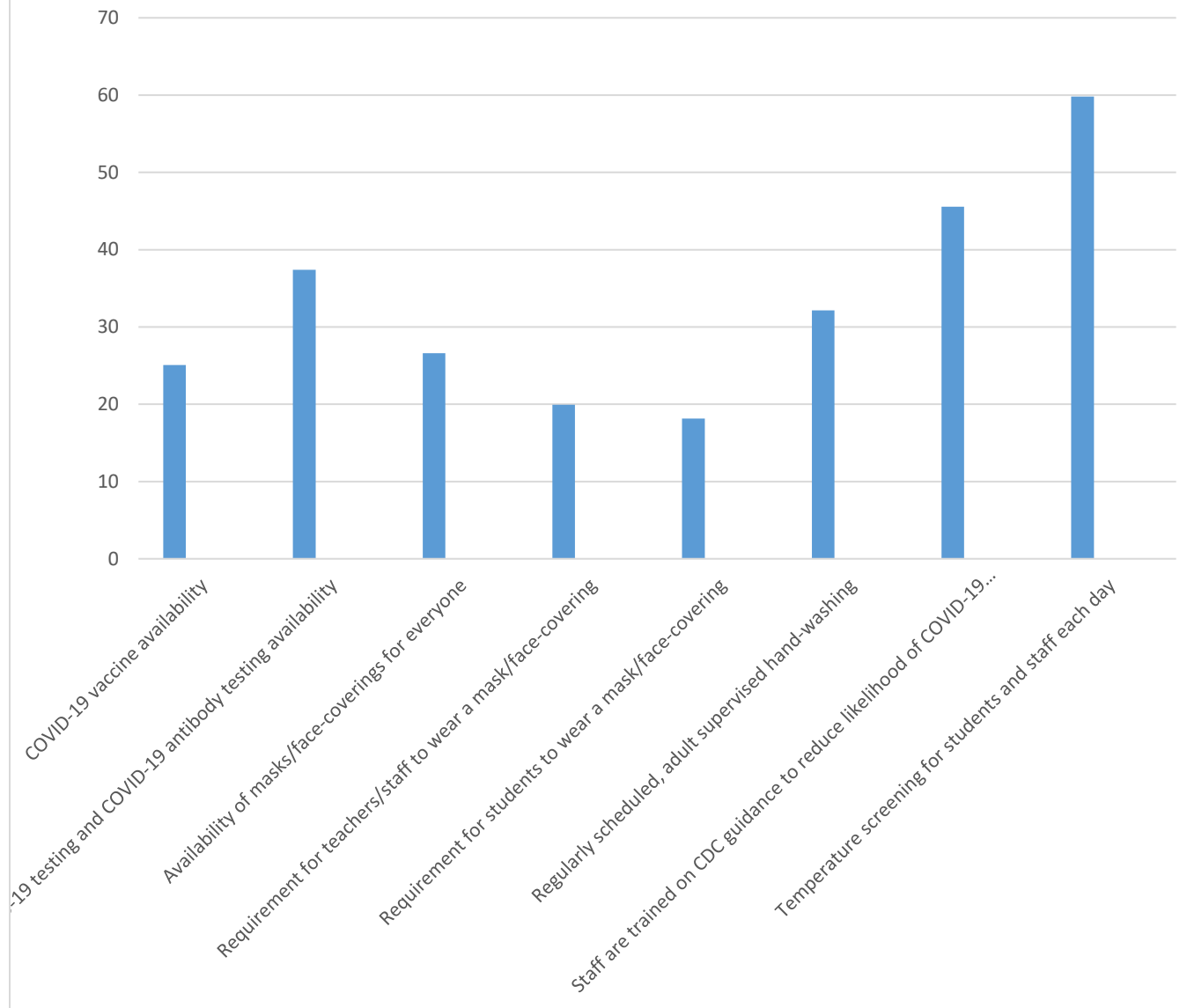
I think we should do it normally. I do think we should stay clean obviously but social distancing is not on my priority list at all.

Hand washing temp checks. Should of made online video classrooms available during this time. Free online meeting applications

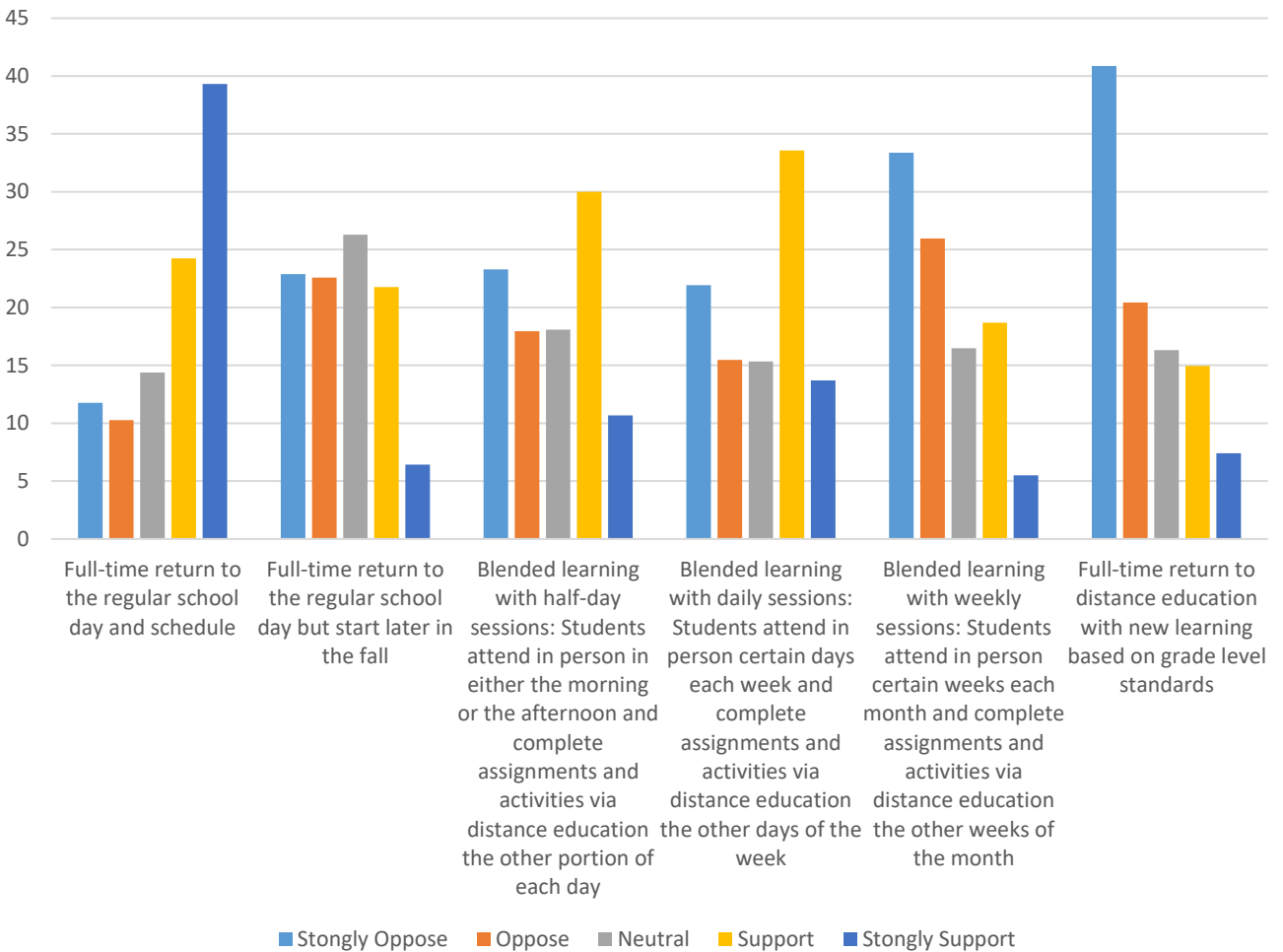
For these questions, responses closely followed responses from the Family Survey. Students stated they want school to return as normal as possible, but understand that there will be the likelihood of enhanced medical and hygiene protocols that should be in place such as hand washing and temperature checks.

Staff Survey

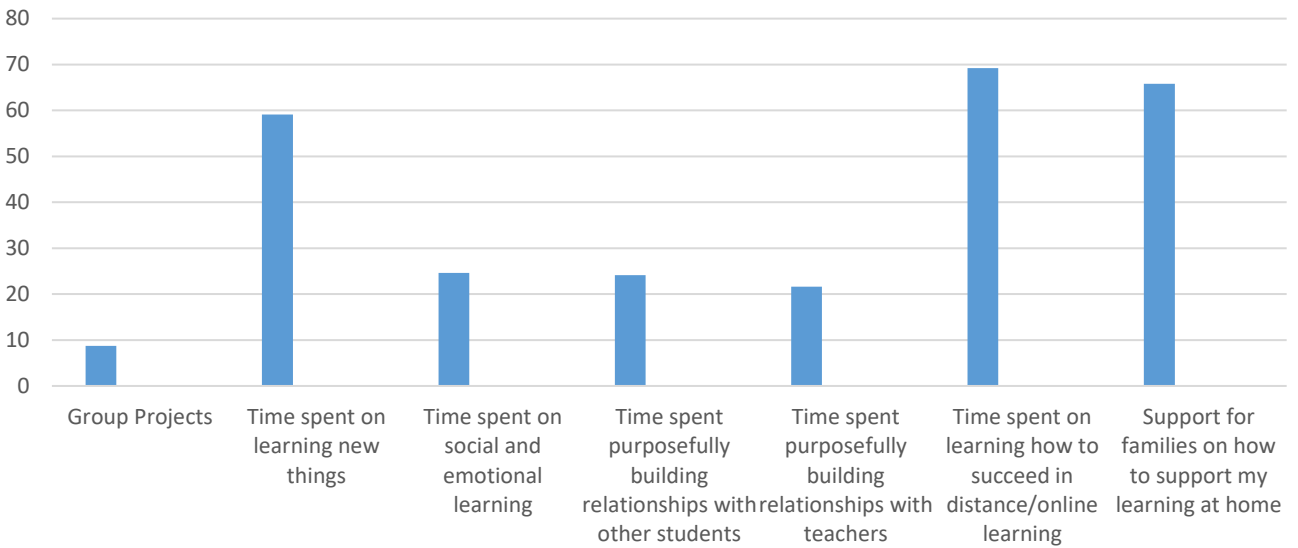
Many factors are important to consider when we reopen schools. Please select your top 3 priorities regarding health and safety practices for when schools reopen for in-person instruction. (722 responses)



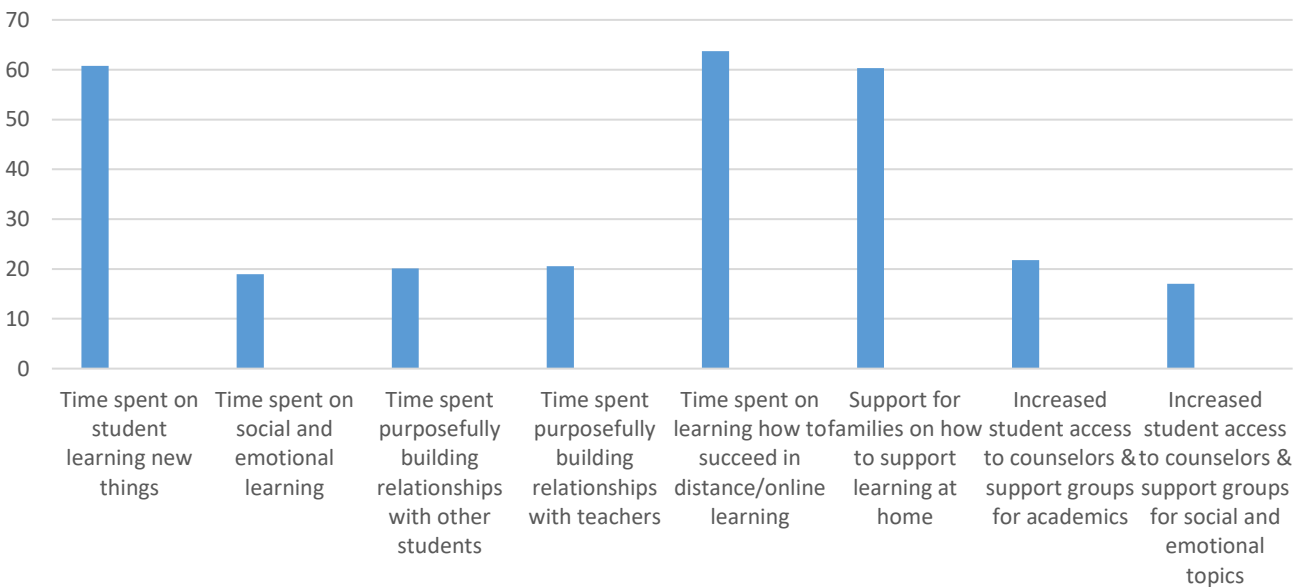
When schools are reopened in the Fall, how strongly would you support each of the following options? (735 responses)



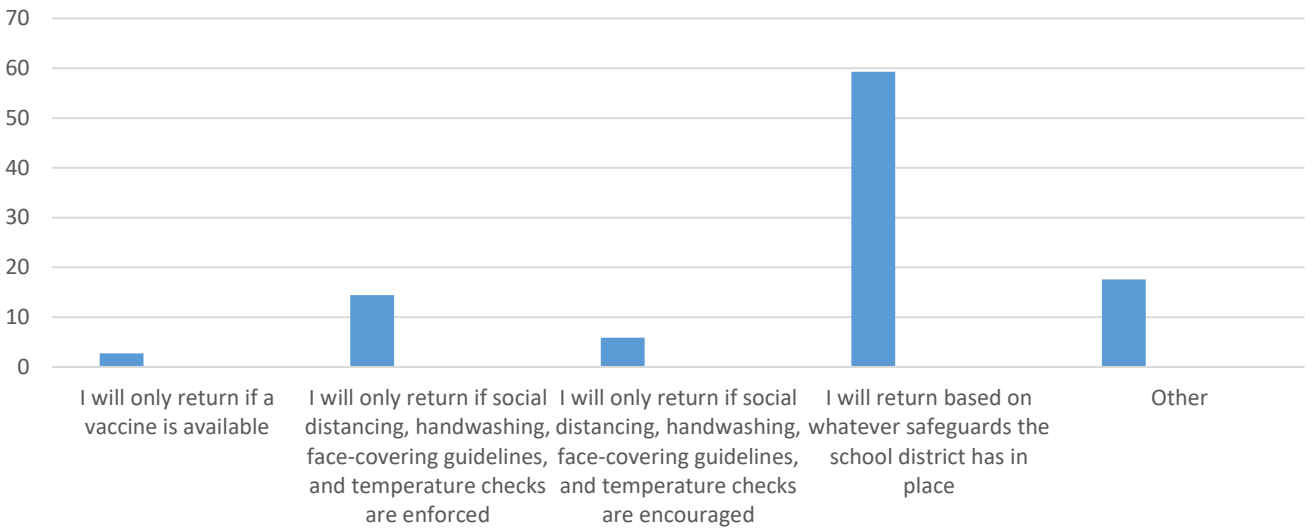
Considering your experience with emergency distance education implemented during Spring 2020, please indicate your top 3 priorities for use of time IF distance education is implemented in the Fall of 2020. (722 responses)



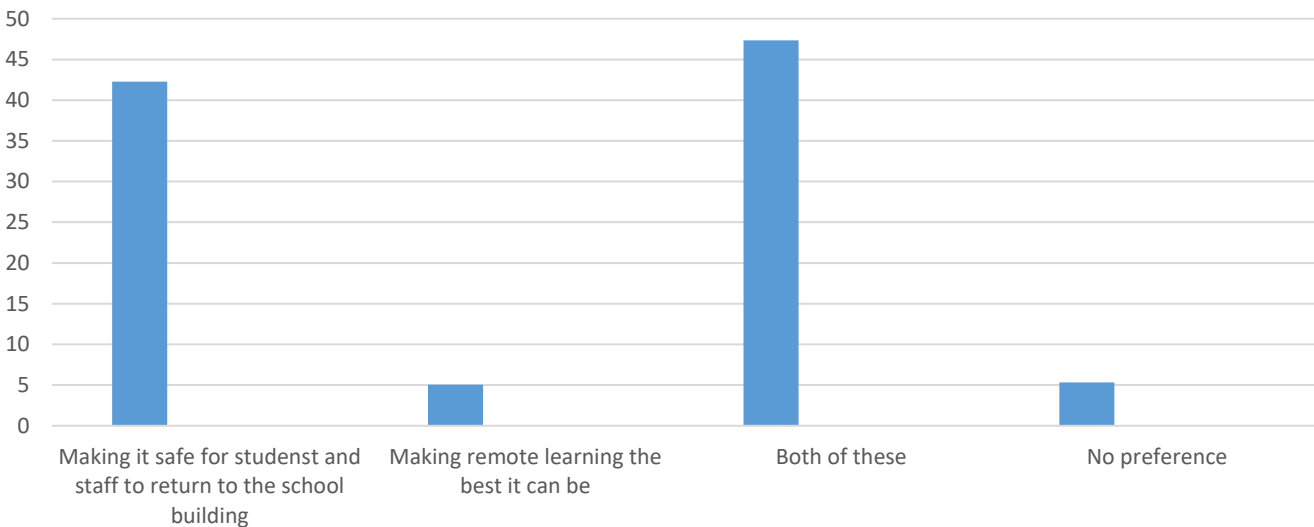
Considering your experience with emergency distance learning education implemented during Spring 2020, please indicate your top 3 priorities for use of time IF distance education is implemented in the Fall of 2020. (706 responses)



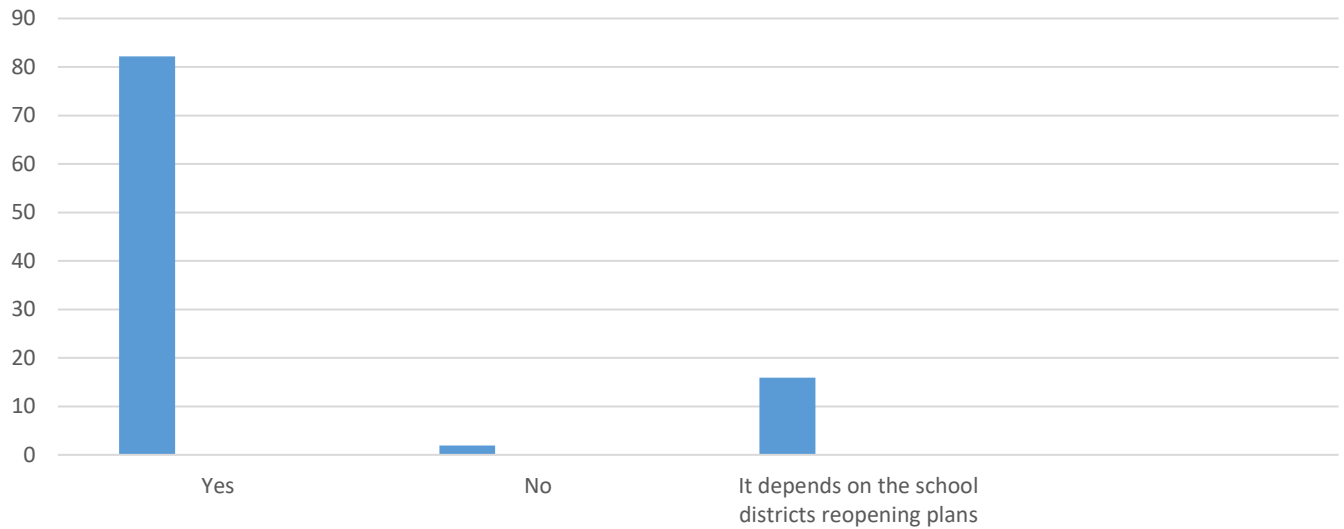
Which of the following statements best describe your overall feeling about returning to school? (727 responses)



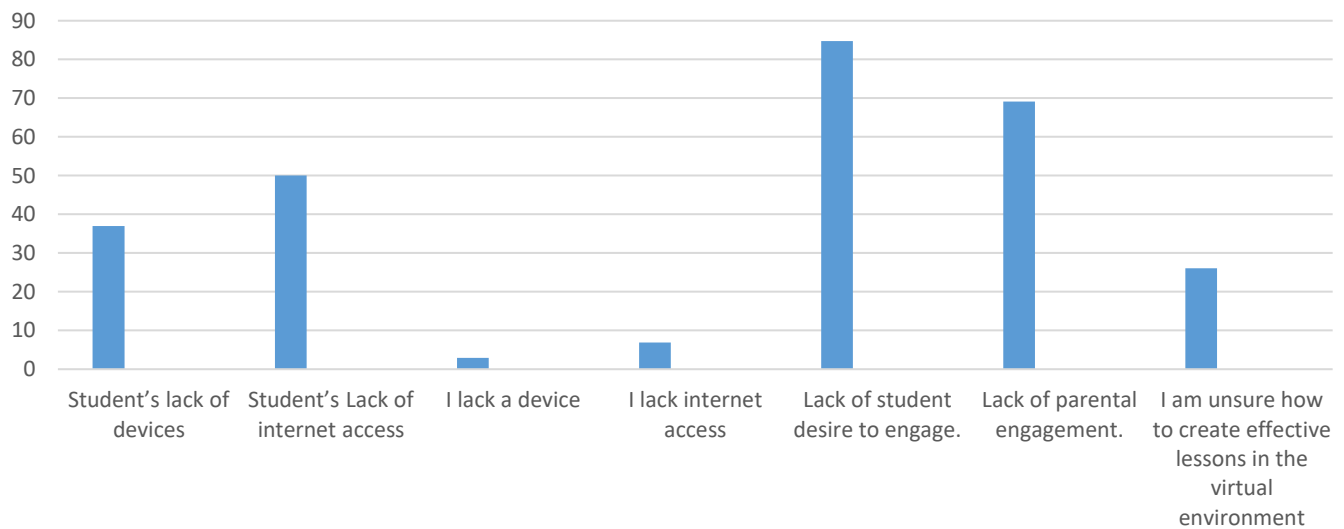
Given what we know about the COVID-19 pandemic, where do you prefer the school district focus its efforts? (731 responses)



At this time, are you planning to return to your school for the 2020-2021 school year?



What are your 3 biggest barriers to your student when engaging in distance learning? (709 responses)



Staff Survey Open Ended Responses

Please tell us what was successful about remote learning. (390 responses)

The most successful thing was when I was able to get ahold of students by phone and do a Mini lesson. This had to do with issues of the Internet for my class at home.

NOTHING!! It was a pain in the butt and very stressful for teachers, parents, and kids.

Bonding during weekly Zoom meetings.

Some students got to spend more quality time with their parents.

It was hard to teach at home.

Contact with students and parents

N A

The support of our Administration and counselor's.

I was able to create successful lessons when I was able to get manipulatives in the hands of my students. I sent home "bags" of lesson supplies several times. I also LOVED using Seesaw (it is worth the money for plus or school-wide versions). Seesaw gave everyone access to the plus version in the spring. It was easy to create lessons, but more than that it was VERY interactive. Students could read, count, blend words, explain their thinking and even if their parents were helping....I could hear how much. I could hear and see the growth. The ability for students to be able to easily record their voices is a great advantage. They could hear me and I could upload videos of me teaching the lessons. I commented on everything they turned in. They could take pictures of things they were doing and creating for their lessons. They could draw on and label their pictures. They wrote stories on paper, took a picture, and read me the story. It was awesome!! Students who had parent involvement were able to be very successful. Those parents told me the platform was easy for them and their student to use. Students without as much parent involvement were less successful, students with almost no parent involvement are hard to judge. Some that I thought were doing nothing, were just doing different things. Communication is definitely a major issue...communication with parents, with students, and between teachers.

Nothing. Students who don't want to be in school don't care, students who do want to learn missed out on a ton of opportunities. Same with parents who don't support education, they certainly didn't cooperate or encourage. Parents are either truly busy trying to provide or indifferent, they do not want to add having to be a classroom teacher to their resume. Nothing productive happened with remote learning.

Allowing each elementary student to take Chromebooks home to use.

Very little as far as student involvement. However, it has enlightened me to the amount of resources available for on-line learning and creativity of students utilizing the Internet to complete assignments.

I had all of my students linked several ways and they all found what was best for them. I had a google voice number for calls and texts, google hangouts for instant messaging, weekly schedule available for students to book individual blocks of time for individual help, and google meet for weekly group sessions. Some just used regular email and google classroom, they all found what worked best for them, their family, and their needs.

Utilizing the curriculum in Google classroom.

Teachers and students were able to familiarize themselves with online learning, however it is not an adequate replacement for face-to-face interaction.

What are your minimum requirements for returning to school? (476 responses)

Temperature Check.

I feel fine returning to school

none

I just want to make sure kids and teachers aren't coming to school knowingly sick. So many times, teachers feel the need to be there even when they aren't feeling well, and students come to school sick sometimes because parents need to work. I don't know how to address this, but those who feel sick, should stay home.

Temperature checks and Less students per class. Half the class could go to school one day and then work online the next day... 🙄👏👏

Temperature checks and daily cleaning of the classroom

A health plan in place that is designed not just for schools within the Elko city but for schools in all of the district.

Increased and enforced cleaning measures routinely

The kids wash hands more.

Temp. checks, hand washing, and support if we have to plan lessons for both long distance AND in person lessons. Those are both 2 full time jobs.

The whole situation is under control. Social distancing, handwashing, face-covering guidelines, and temperature checks are enforced

It's scary. Returning back to school might not be a good idea for fall of 2020.

I will only return if the following things are done: - social distancing - especially on buses -handwashing or sanitation upon arrival and before lunch are required -parents must sign a statement that they understand COVID and will not knowingly send their students to school if they are sick -and parents must provide at least 2 emergency contact phone numbers

Temperature checks, send kids home if they are sick. No coughing or snot and just getting sent back to class.

Temp checks Frequent handwashing

Everyone being aware and practice good hygiene to diminish the spread of disease

This is a very tough issue. We do not know what is right or what will work at this time. I personally feel that cleaning, hand sanitation should be strongly encouraged. I don't feel that a mask is even worth the time or effort. Kids are not going to wear them.

I can teach the way I know to be best for my students, taking in account (of course) guidelines for health and safety. I have none.

Open ended comments can provide us very valuable information. Is there anything else you would like to tell us that would help us support you and your work during this pandemic? (314 responses)

Kids need to return to school for their academic and social well-being.

More information up front from principal, not to team leaders who didn't share information.

We need to get back to a normal schedule. To be honest, I am in the high risk group but I am not afraid of this disease. School needs to be the normal supportive place it has always been for our students. Please let us get back to work teaching. Students need us more than the COVID is a risk.

Even the best mask won't filter the tiny microorganisms of COVID 19. It's probably helpful in keeping other germs at bay, but highly unrealistic that students and staff will maintain and wear them effectively throughout the entire school day. If they are intended as a sort of safety net, or security blanket during these fragile times, that's fine. Honestly, having observed people wearing masks over the last three months, few are truly wearing them effectively. It's unrealistic to expect enforcement, because they just aren't comfortable, nor do they allow for proper breathing or communication.

If there is going to be online learning students have to be held accountable. Some students have not been introduced to Google Classroom, etc. and will have to be trained. Some students did not have internet capability at all times, therefore, couldn't do work assigned. Students can easily say "my internet wasn't working, so I wasn't able to get the work turned in. This can become an ongoing challenge. Sometimes hard to educate from a distance.

I think the district did harm when saying no fault no harm grades. It gave the students a free ticket to complete work.

A very flexible sick leave policy, a flexible homework policy for students. Training to help with virtual teaching if need be.

Everyone has been at Walmart and Home Depot (etc.) in close proximity for months now. Let's get back to school. This is with us to stay. Flu vaccines are only partially effective and we've known about the flu for years and years. I'm not interested in putting education on hold while waiting for a vaccine for Covid. Let's be more careful with sick people and get back to business. Previously, there was a push to go to school/go to work even if you're just a bit sick. Most kids/teachers powered through a cold with meds so they wouldn't miss anything. Now, the mentality is different. There is serious pressure to stay home even if you're a bit sick. Let's continue with that and go forward from there. Let's push for teachers and students to stay home if they have symptoms. Teachers need to always have a sub plan on the back burner, and to have their work designed with the idea that a marginally sick student might need to access it remotely more often than before (which is something we all learned in Spring 2020). Will people take advantage of this? Yes. But hold them accountable. This business of getting a good grade even if you do nothing makes it impossible to teach correctly.

Give families free technology so they can go online. Have mobile hot spots and upgrade what is here already. Individual students get their own Chromebooks or iPads.

Online communication skills trainings are Desperately needed for staff, parents & students. We have amazing tools available to continue teaching/learning. We need to know how to use them.

Being a stay at home parent with small children, my priorities change day by day bases, but when it comes to home school for three kids that is definitely not one of them. Safety of my children is first and hope all will work out so kids can have semi normal school experience in fall