

# *Beecher Road School*

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

July 13, 2020

We wanted to take the opportunity this week to update you on some of the health and wellness pieces of our reopening plan, as well as to share a summary of the results of the parent survey. The health, wellness and safety of our students, faculty and staff is central to the protocols we are developing in anticipation of the fall reopening of school. Some of the protocols are ones that you are very familiar with such as hand washing for 20 seconds, coughing into your elbow, avoiding touching your eyes and nose and staying home when you are sick. Some protocols and expectations will be new to your children such as the social distancing and the wearing of a cloth face covering .

As many of you are aware, we have been asked by the State Department of Education to incorporate in our plan that everyone wear a cloth face covering or mask during the 2020-2021 school year. We understand how foreign this is for everyone, including us, and how difficult a task this can seem. Like any new task, it needs to begin slowly and develop with practice over time. Some suggestions to get the students interested in a mask may be to have a mask made for a favorite doll or stuffed animal. Allow your child to decorate their own mask or pick out a mask of a favorite superhero. A parent/ guardian modeling the wearing of a face covering or mask is also helpful. Have them practice not touching the front of the mask once it is on and comfortable. Remember, a mask must cover the nose and mouth completely.

The plan will include mask breaks throughout the day with social distancing as we all will need a safe mask break during the day.

If you have any concerns about your child wearing a face covering or mask, please contact your pediatrician or healthcare professional.

There is so much value in having in-person interactions. We have missed seeing your children these past months. We are working on ways that lower the risk and increase the safety for everyone to return. Face cloth coverings, social distancing and hand washing are the three key components to that plan. Our goal is to have the students healthy, safe and ready to learn.

See below a summary of the parent survey that was recently completed by Beecher parents.

Below is information on hand washing and cloth coverings.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/videos.html>

Sincerely,

Robert Gilbert

Cheryl Mammen

Analisa Sherman

Doreen Merrill

Stacey Katz

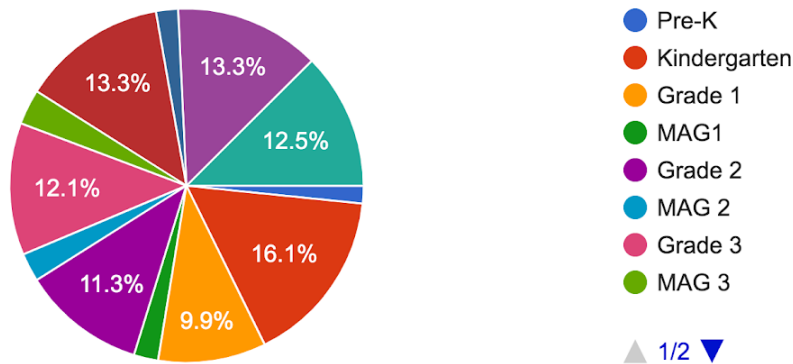
## Preliminary Parent Survey: Fall Reopening

Dear Parents: Our School Reopening Committee is hard at work creating plans for the reopening of school in the fall. As you know, the Connecticut State Department of Education recently released guidelines for fall reopening. Based on all current and available data, the state is recommending that all students return full time to school on-site in the fall. There will be a priority placed on the following: cohorting, maximizing social distancing, wearing masks unless a medical condition prevents it, frequent hand washing and cleaning. Although we recognize that plans may change, we ask that you take a few minutes to share your thoughts for the fall. This is a confidential and non-binding survey that helps us to understand what parents are planning based on the information they currently have on hand. This will assist our School Reopening Committee in our planning. Please complete the survey by July 7, 2020 at 9 AM. Thank you! Sincerely, The Beecher School Reopening Committee

What grade is your child entering for the 2020-2021 school year?

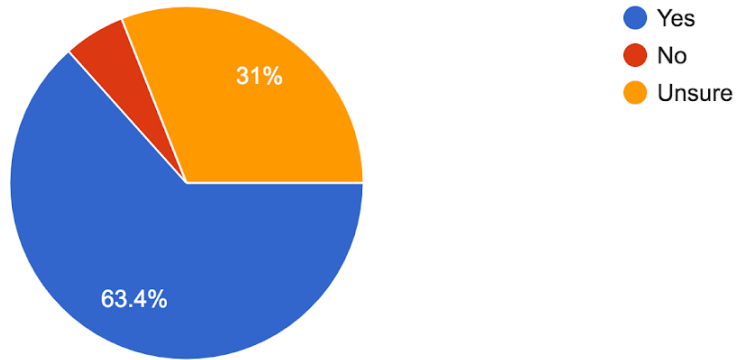
PLEASE ONLY MARK ONE ANSWER.

497 responses



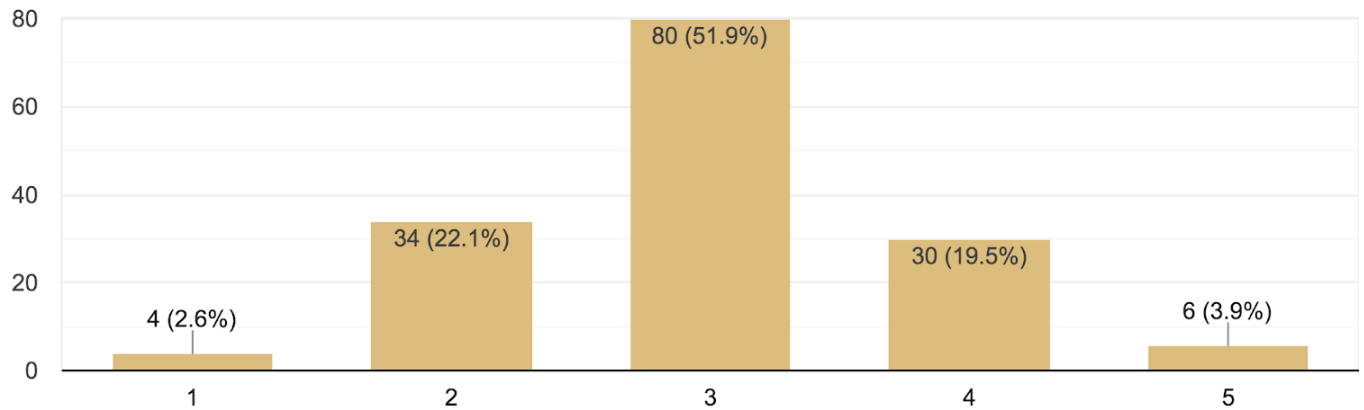
### Do you plan on sending your child to school on site in the fall?

497 responses



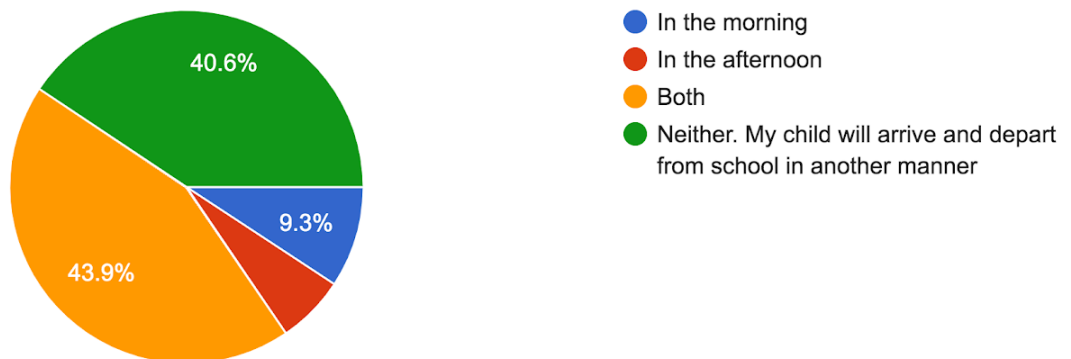
### How likely are you to send your child to school in the Fall?

154 responses



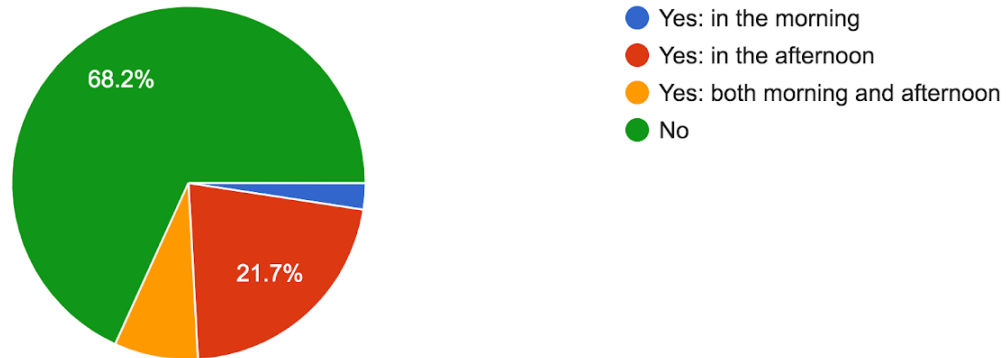
### Do you plan on having your child ride the school bus:

497 responses



## Will you be utilizing Extended Day?

497 responses



Summary of Parent Comments. Open ended comments varied but included the following:

- Concern over wearing a mask all day
- Concern with social isolation during Distance Learning
- Questions about Distance Learning and Hybrid Learning
- Need to support social emotional learning
- Bus Planning

### *Our Mission*

*Beecher Road School is a caring, creative community that models and inspires the joy of life-long learning, embraces diversity, and celebrates the unique qualities of each person.*