

# 4 Month Thought Exchange Results

Cheryl Champ, Superintendent  
Pelham Union Free School District  
January 6, 2021

# Staff Exchange:

What do you think we are doing well and what additional support do you need now that we are four months into the school year?



## PARTICIPATION

### Breakdown of Participation



**194**

Participants



**294**

Thoughts



**10,220**

Ratings




## PARTICIPATION

### Breakdown of Participation



What is your home school?



%		Answer
11%	(19)	Colonial
14%	(24)	Hutchinson
12%	(22)	Prospect Hill
7%	(13)	Siwanoy
26%	(47)	Pelham Middle School
30%	(53)	Pelham Memorial High School

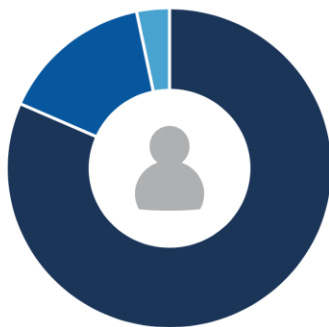






## PARTICIPATION

### Breakdown of Participation



In which role do you predominantly serve?



%		Answer
82%	(148)	 Instructional Staff
15%	(27)	 Support Staff
3%	(5)	 Administrator



WORDCLOUD

Top Rated





## THOUGHTS

### Key Thoughts



**Please let us work from home when the kids are fully remote.** We've done it before and we've been successful. At least give us the choice. If it's not safe for them, it's not safe for us. We matter.

4.7 ★★★★★ (52 👤)

Ranked #1 of 266

**Please give the option to work from home or in the building during closures.** Everyone has a different situation at home that may or may not be conducive to teaching. For those that can successfully, they should be allowed.

4.7 ★★★★★ (51 👤)

Ranked #2 of 266

**We are all stressed..** Freezing cold rooms, quarantined co-workers, switching nearly every week if we are home or not. We need to give everyone a little bit of stress relief

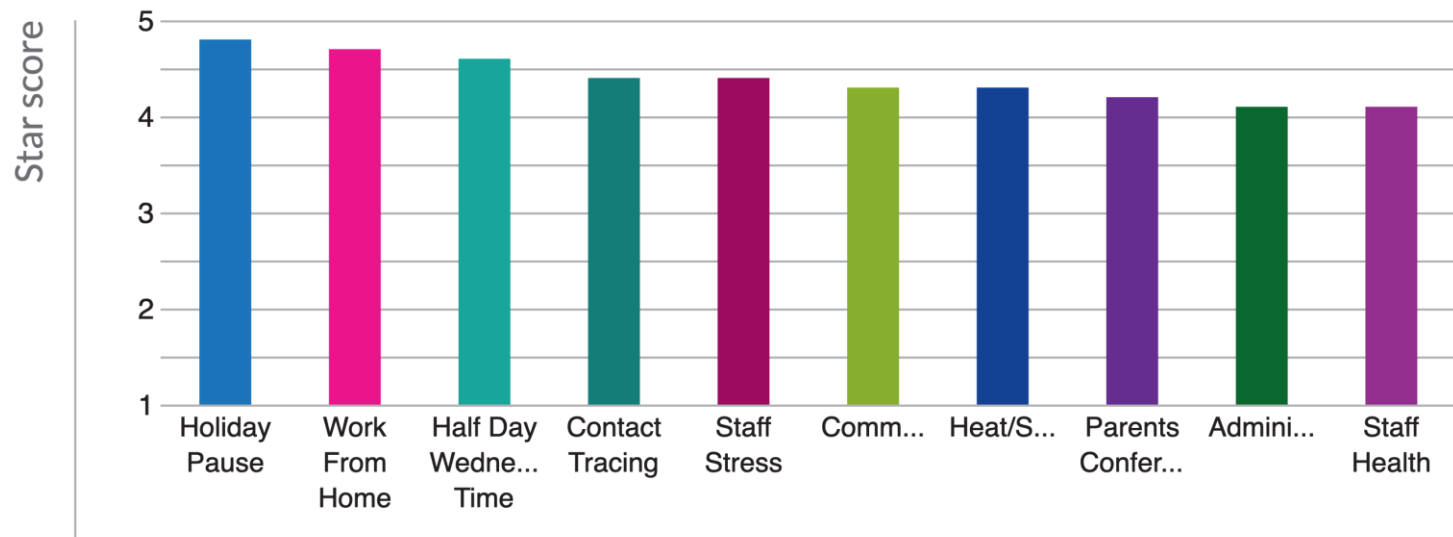
4.7 ★★★★★ (50 👤)

Ranked #3 of 266



## 4 MONTH CHECK IN STAFF

### Top Themes







## THEMES

### Holiday Pause



**Please consider a Holiday Pause from In-Person learning** to keep staff, teachers and students safe and healthy for the holidays.

4.7 ★★★★★ (47 👤)

**It would be appreciated if we could work from home just before and after the holiday break.** We would like to protect our families.

4.6 ★★★★★ (37 👤)

**With the break coming up...could the district be proactive and go remote for two weeks after the break to allow all to quarantine from their holiday** I don't want to get sick because others traveled and did not properly quarantine after

4.6 ★★★★★ (31 👤)



## THEMES

### Work From Home



**Please let us work from home when the kids are fully remote.** We've done it before and we've been successful. At least give us the choice. If it's not safe for them, it's not safe for us. We matter. 4.7 ★★★★★ (52 👤)

**Please give the option to work from home or in the building during closures.** Everyone has a different situation at home that may or may not be conducive to teaching. For those that can successfully, they should be allowed. 4.7 ★★★★★ (51 👤)

**Making teachers come in when students are remote demonstrates a lack of respect for my professionalism and no regard for my or my family's health.** There is nothing about my teaching that is "better" when I am here. I just risk more exposure to covid, like I and my colleagues were this past Mon. 4.7 ★★★★★ (49 👤)



## THEMES

### Half Day Wednesday/Planning Time



**The half day Wednesday is critical & working well.** We need the time for planning. Recently that time has been asked for other things, and it needs to be protected.

4.6 ★★★★★ (49 👤)

**I think the Wednesday half days are very helpful because of the opportunity for dedicated planning time.** However, I think it is important to keep these days consistently happening and not allow for a multiple week stretch without them.

4.6 ★★★★★ (48 👤)

**Planning time for the hybrid model is crucial** Wednesday afternoons are the ONLY time we have in our classrooms without children to plan with our grade level partners

4.6 ★★★★★ (39 👤)

**THANK YOU for Wednesday early release. I RARELY have time to coordinate/plan with my co-teacher as well as check in with students individually.** Planning time is essential.

4.6 ★★★★★ (35 👤)

**The half-days on Wednesdays are invaluable for planning time with colleagues & to adapt all of our lessons to be digitally available for all students**

4.6 ★★★★★ (32 👤)

**Continued time for planning is needed, especially if we switch to fully virtual.** The technology side of planning takes up a large amount of time and the support of my colleagues is vital.

4.6 ★★★★★ (31 👤)

# Families Exchange:

As we continue to respond and adapt to the challenges of educating students in a COVID environment, including shifting between hybrid and remote learning, how can we best support students and parents?



## PARTICIPATION

### Breakdown of Participation



**314**

Participants



**448**

Thoughts



**13,359**

Ratings



## PARTICIPATION

### Breakdown of Participation



Which School does your child attend?



%		Answer
29%	(83)	■ Colonial
23%	(65)	■ Hutchinson
22%	(63)	■ Prospect Hill
26%	(75)	■ Siwanoy

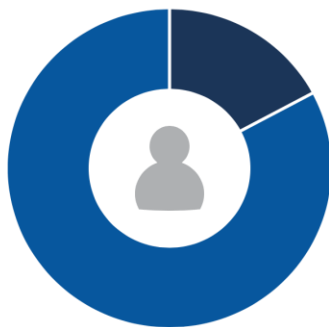


## PARTICIPATION

### Breakdown of Participation



Do any of your children have an IEP/504 or other special learning plan?

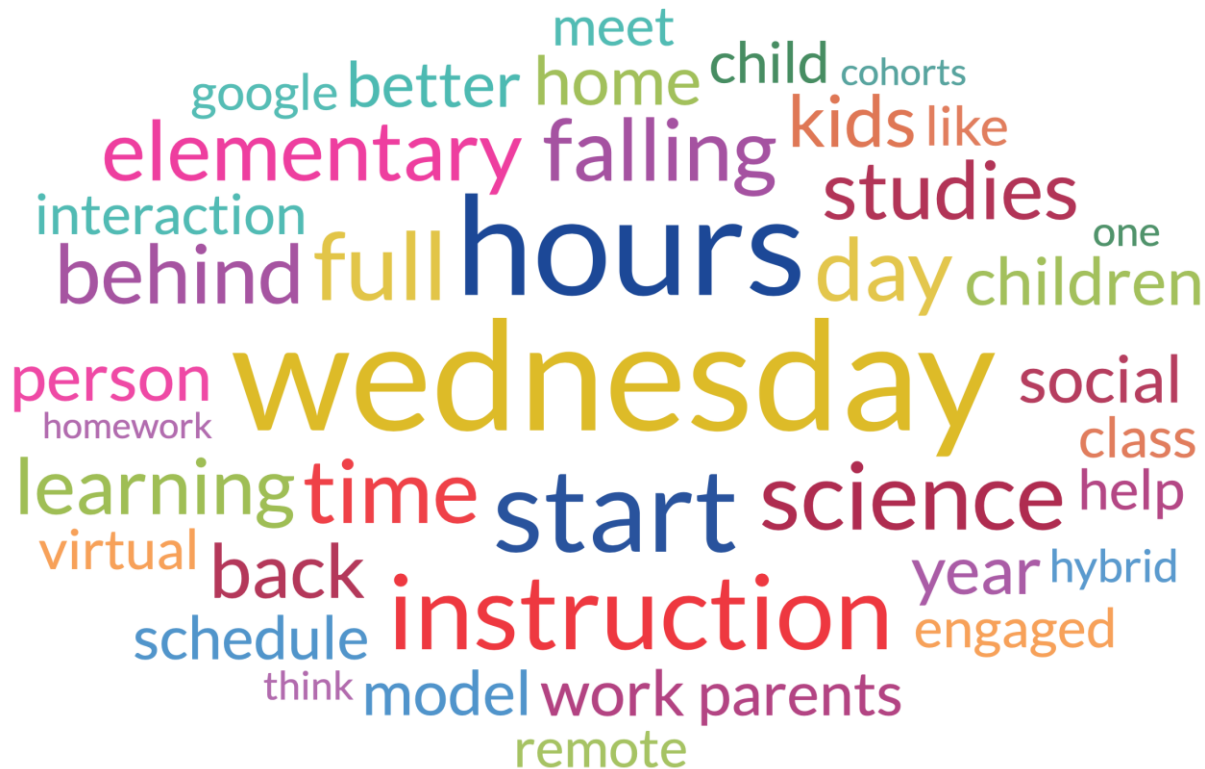


%		Answer
17%	(48)	 Yes
83%	(239)	 No



## WORDCLOUD

## Top Rated







## THOUGHTS

### Key Thoughts



**The school day should go back to regular day.** The actual learning time is so little and limited.

4.5 ★★★★★ (33 👤)

Ranked #1 of 428

**Wednesday should be a full day.** understand that in the beginning wednesday half can be helpful for staff and teachers but at this point everyone should be in good routine.

4.4 ★★★★★ (38 👤)

Ranked #3 of 428

**Support.** Parents working outside the home with younger dependent children are really struggling.

4.3 ★★★★★ (37 👤)

Ranked #7 of 428

**Please continue to offer as much in-person school as is safe.** My student learns better in school. She is more distracted at home. The social aspect and routine of school is important for kindergarten.

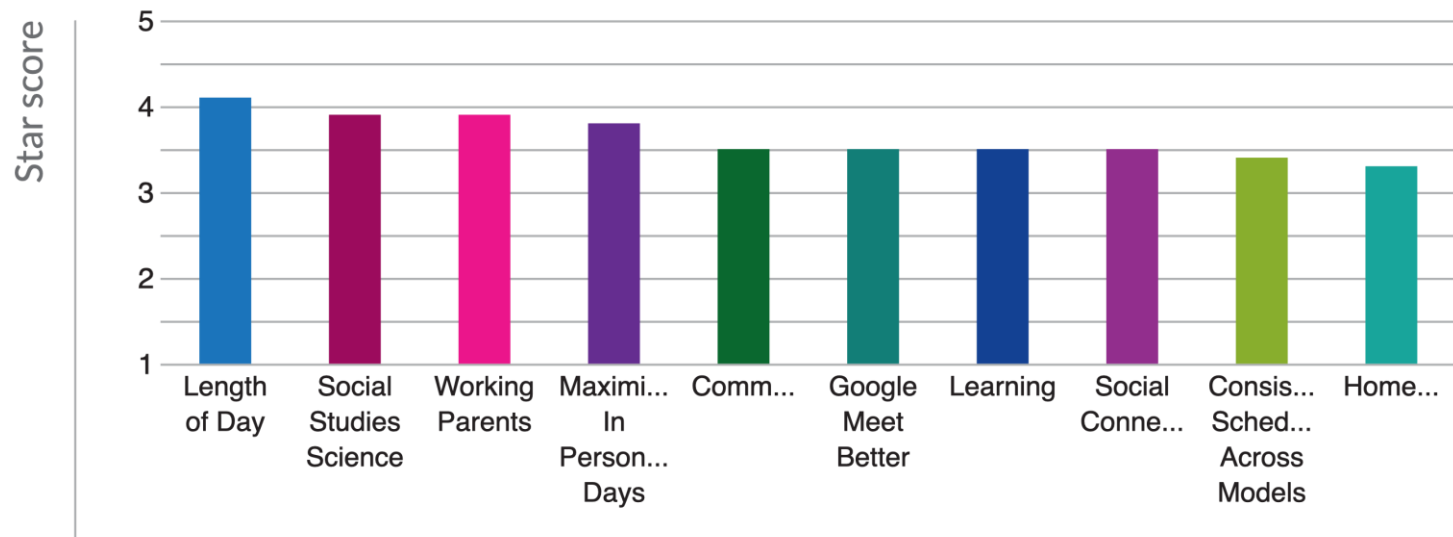
4.3 ★★★★★ (36 👤)

Ranked #8 of 428



## 4 MONTH CHECK IN FAMILIES

### Top Themes





## THEMES

### Length of Day



**The school day should go back to regular day.** The actual learning time is so little and limited.

4.5 ★★★★★ (33 👤)

**Wednesday needs to be a full day** There is too much downtime. Kids need to be engaged

4.5 ★★★★★ (33 👤)

**Wednesday should be a full day.** understand that in the beginning wednesday half can be helpful for staff and teachers but at this point everyone should be in good routine.

4.4 ★★★★★ (38 👤)



## THEMES

### Social Studies Science



**Bring back Science** Hope we can get science back for learning as kids have been eagerly waiting for it. 4.1 ★★★★★ (39 👤)

**The shorter day is still tough and leaves out important subjects** Social studies and science are missing. 4.1 ★★★★★ (36 👤)

**Students need to learn science and social studies** I understand due to time constraints the curriculum was cut, but at early learning, these are essential. 4.0 ★★★★★ (38 👤)



## THEMES

### Working Parents



**Support.** Parents working outside the home with younger dependent children are really struggling. 4.3 ★★★★★ (37 👤)

**Parents who are working from home cannot give the time needed to help their kids with assignments, this is the schools job.** There also needs to be a better system to when a teacher is out sick, it cannot fall on the parents shoulders to teach our kids. 4.1 ★★★★★ (34 👤)

**Parents can not bare the brunt of full remote learning with younger grades.** Parents, even those with childcare, cannot work from home successfully if there children are home full time. 3.9 ★★★★★ (40 👤)

**As for the working families, the constant schedule shift is very challenging. A work and educational balance is very difficult to maintain.** Especially when some families do not have extra help or support. Nanny, tutor, etc. 3.9 ★★★★★ (39 👤)



## FOLLOW UP



- Shifted to fully remote instruction following the holiday break in light of anticipated surge in cases. Need to evaluate status of current cases as we look toward next week.
- Teachers allowed the choice to teach from home
- Wednesdays continue to be needed for planning and professional responsibilities as the work load has tripled in the hybrid environment in particular. Even fully virtual instruction requires complete retooling of instruction
- Science and Social Studies are being taught at the elementary level. Scope and sequence redesigned to adapt to the limitations of the current environment but still very much valued and necessary
- Looking for ways to recapture time in current model and planning for ways to reintroduce more-all elementary students back into school if/when it is safe.