



EMPOWERING ALL STUDENTS

Learners Today - Leaders Tomorrow

July 30, 2020

Mr. Sean Hammond
Northwest Herald
shammond@shawmedia.com

Re: Freedom of Information Request

Dear Mr. Hammond:

On Tuesday, July 21, 2020, Crystal Lake School District No. 47 received a Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA") Request from you via email, in which you requested the following:

- I am requesting the results of any student/parent surveys that the district has compiled regarding return to school in 2020, as well as any teacher/staff surveys. I am requesting any such surveys completed in July 2020

Please find the attached information, which is all the compiled information. The information attached fulfills our obligation to your request. If I can be of further assistance please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Clare F. Bourne
Freedom of Information Officer
Crystal Lake School District 47

300 Commerce Dr. Crystal Lake, IL 60014 815.788.5000

www.d47.org D47schools [crystallakesd47](https://twitter.com/crystallakesd47)

Sean Hammond CrystalLake
<shammond@shawmedia.com>

Jul 29, 2020,
9:58 AM (1 day
ago)

to FOIA

Hello,

This is Sean Hammond from the Northwest Herald at 7717 S. Route 31, Crystal Lake, IL 60014. If you have any questions about my request, please call me at 708-310-5327 or email shammond@shawmedia.com. This is not a commercial request. I would prefer documents be sent via email. I would like to request the following documents under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act:

I am requesting the results of any student/parent surveys that the district has compiled regarding return to school in 2020, as well as any teacher/staff surveys. I am requesting any such surveys completed in July 2020.

Thank you,

Sean Hammond

Northwest Herald

shammond@shawmedia.com

Office: 815-526-4509

Cell: 708-310-5327

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.

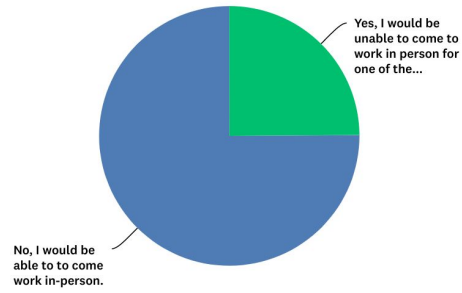
Childcare

- 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.

Completed by 1.182 Staff (overall 76% could return - 24% could not return)

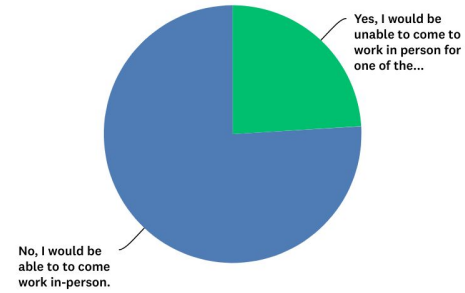
Teachers

Answered: 486 Skipped: 0



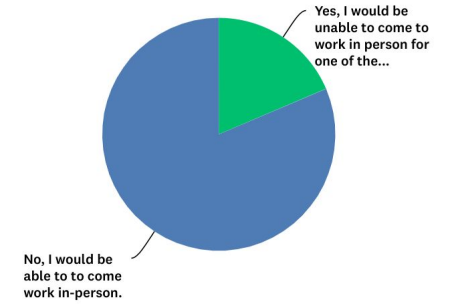
Paraprofessionals

Answered: 179 Skipped: 0



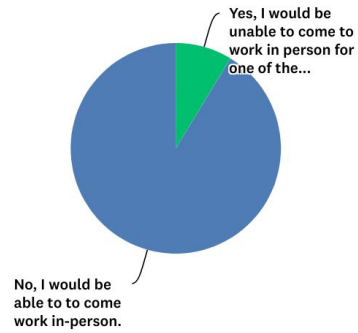
Answered: 43 Skipped: 0

Office Support Staff



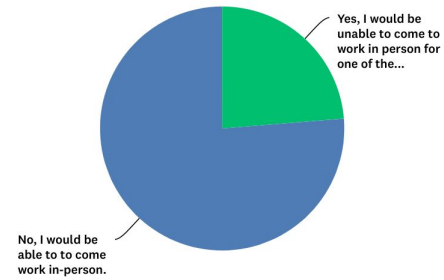
O&M

Answered: 23 Skipped: 0



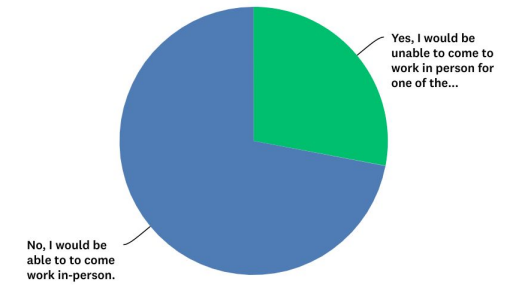
Substitutes

Answered: 135 Skipped: 0



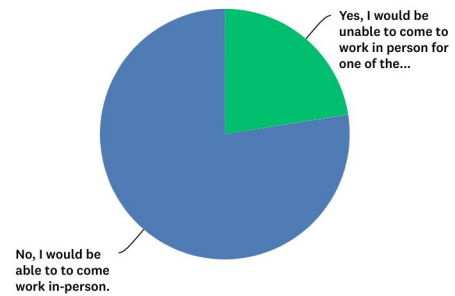
Answered: 168 Skipped: 0

Administrators



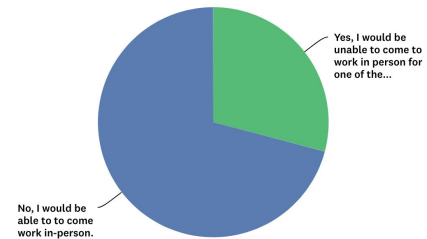
Other

Answered: 40 Skipped: 0



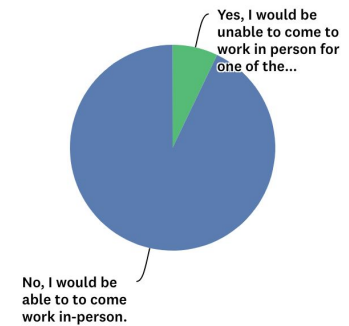
Bus Driver

Answered: 79 Skipped: 0



Answered: 14 Skipped: 0

Bus Attendant





Parent Survey Results

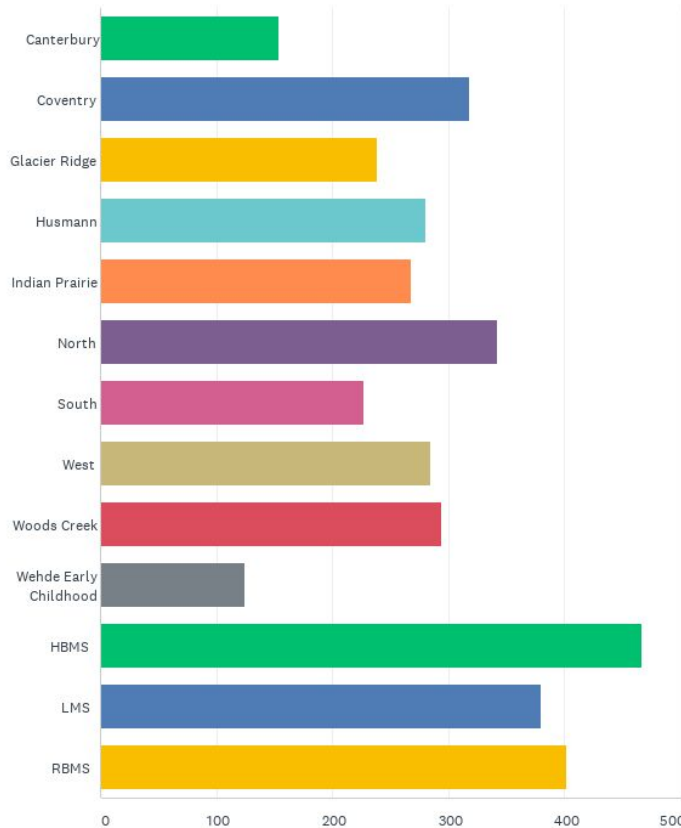
July 20, 2020

EMPOWERING ALL STUDENTS

Learners Today - Leaders Tomorrow

Parent Survey (July 8-15, 2020)

Q3 What school(s) does your child(ren) attend? / ¿A qué escuela(s) asiste su hijo(s)?



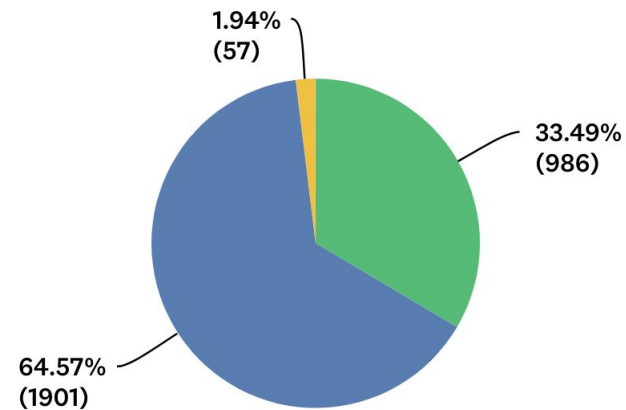
**Total responses:
3,044**



EMPOWERING ALL STUDENTS
Learners Today - Leaders Tomorrow

Parent Survey (July 8-15, 2020)

Preferred instructional model for first trimester of 2020-21 school year:



■ Full remote learning (struc... ■ In-person instruction (vari... ■ I will not be enrolling my ...

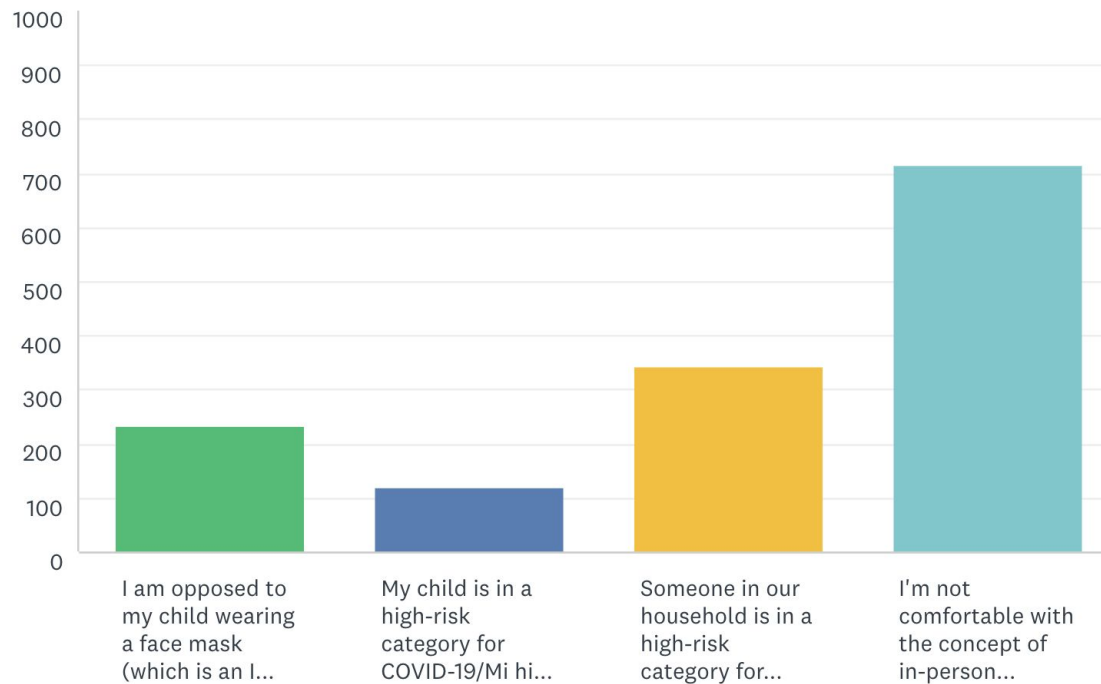


EMPOWERING ALL STUDENTS
Learners Today - Leaders Tomorrow

Parent Survey (July 8-15, 2020)

If you selected remote learning as your preferred learning model, wha...

Answered: 957 Skipped: 2,087



Why remote learning?

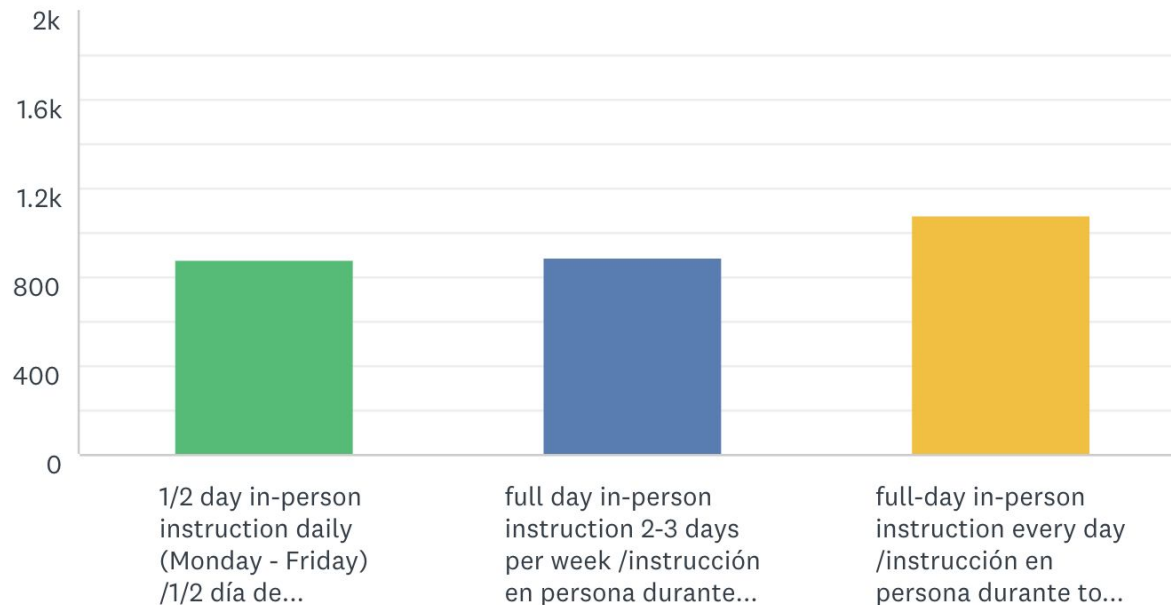


EMPOWERING ALL STUDENTS

Learners Today - Leaders Tomorrow

Parent Survey (July 8-15, 2020)

Answered: 2,248 Skipped: 796



Support for In-Person Instructional Models

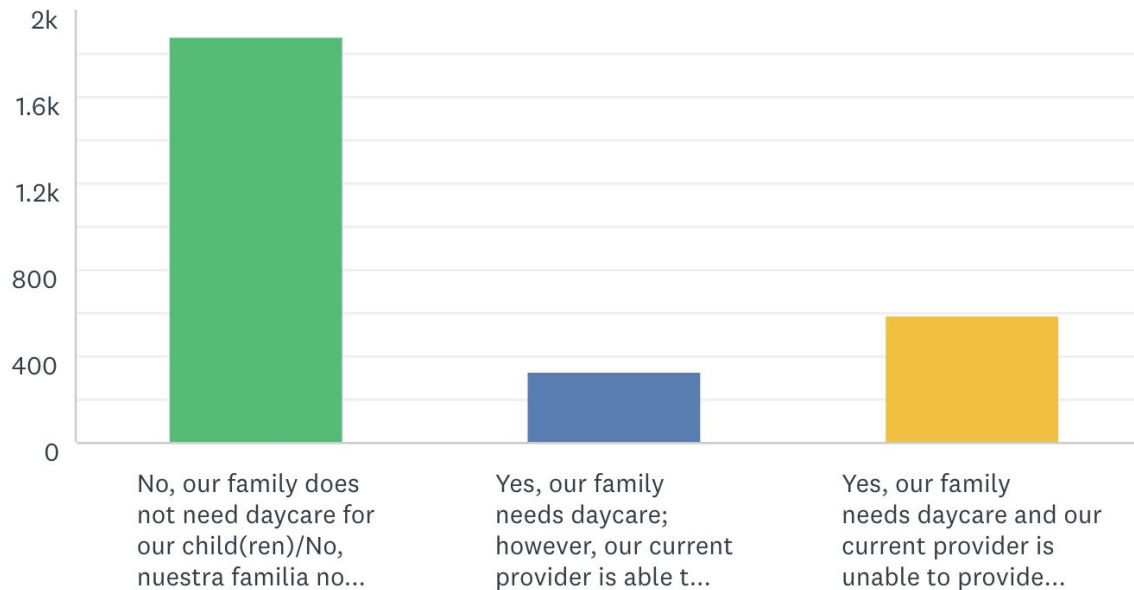


EMPOWERING ALL STUDENTS

Learners Today - Leaders Tomorrow

Parent Survey (July 8-15, 2020)

Answered: 2,798 Skipped: 246



Will you need childcare if kids won't go to school full days, 5 days a week?

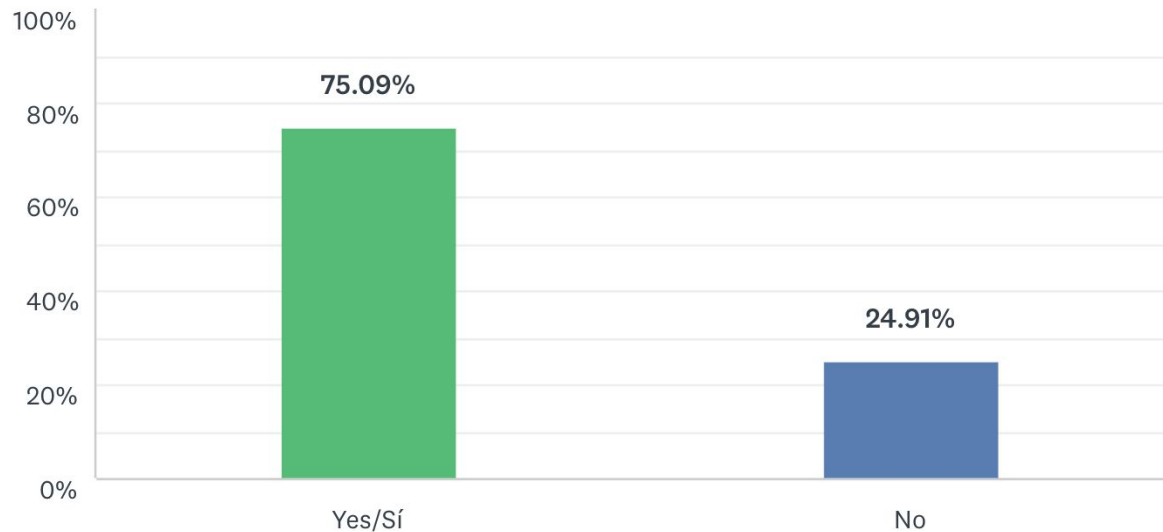


EMPOWERING ALL STUDENTS

Learners Today - Leaders Tomorrow

Parent Survey (July 8-15, 2020)

Answered: 2,786 Skipped: 258



**Are you
eligible for
transportation?**

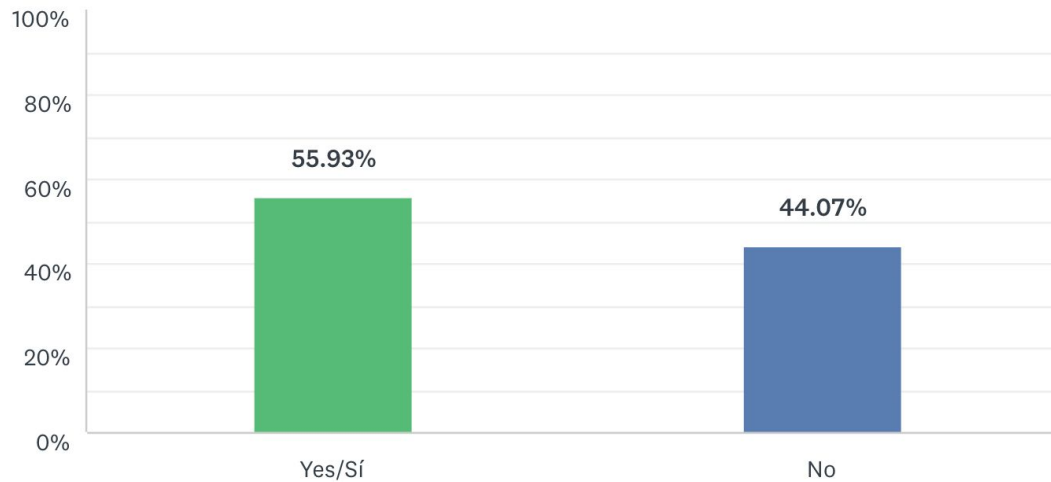


EMPOWERING ALL STUDENTS

Learners Today - Leaders Tomorrow

Parent Survey (July 8-15, 2020)

Answered: 2,065 Skipped: 979



Do you plan on utilizing transportation for the 2020-21 school year?



EMPOWERING ALL STUDENTS

Learners Today - Leaders Tomorrow

Parent Survey (July 8-15, 2020)

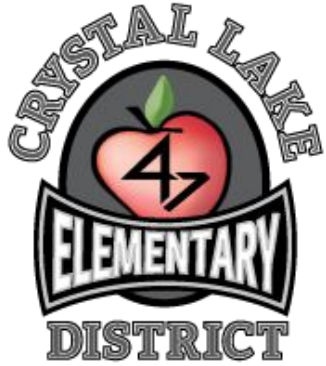
Comment Themes, Concerns and Considerations

- Remote learning needs improvement.
- Health and safety should be a top priority. Many parents are concerned about sending their kids back to school.
- Lack of air conditioning in schools (combined with mask wearing) will negatively impact both students and staff.
- Going to school less than five days a week will increase the need for childcare.
- Health screeners and temperature checks need to be taken seriously by parents.
- Consideration should be given to aligning schedules for families with multiple children in District 47 and District 155.



EMPOWERING ALL STUDENTS

Learners Today - Leaders Tomorrow



Staff Survey Results

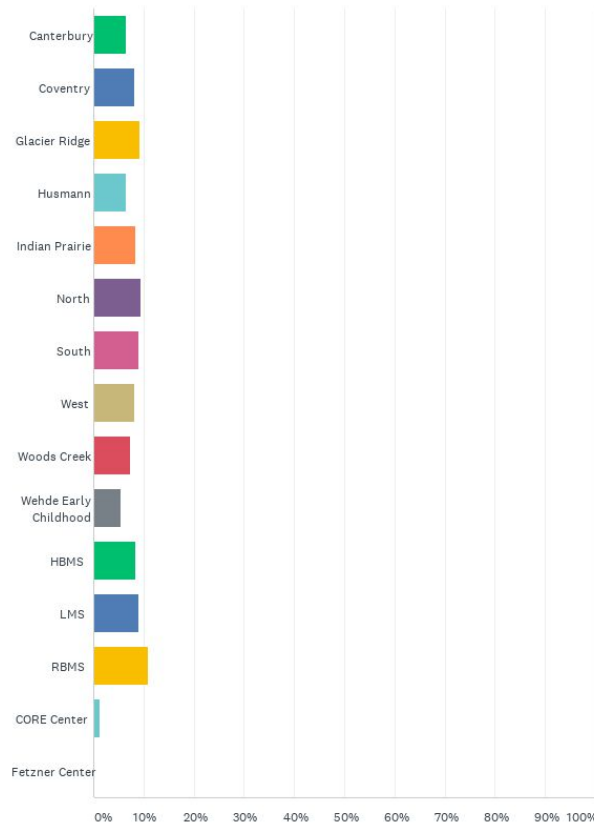
July 20, 2020

EMPOWERING ALL STUDENTS

Learners Today - Leaders Tomorrow

Staff Survey (July 10-15, 2020)

Q2 What school(s)/building do you work in?



**Total responses:
595**



EMPOWERING ALL STUDENTS

Learners Today - Leaders Tomorrow

Staff Survey (July 10-15, 2020)

MODIFIED IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION: HALF-DAY AM/PM MODEL FIVE DAYS A WEEK

PROS

- Face-to-face instruction and peer socialization support social-emotional learning and overall well-being of kids
- Less time in masks
- Consistency in schedule
- Opportunity for smaller group instruction
- Lunch at home
- Safer - easier to implement and adhere to social distancing guidelines and cleaning protocols

CONS

- Reduced instructional time
- Less time to provide services for students with IEPs
- Families may need half-day childcare
- Health risks to both staff and students with daily, face-to-face interaction
- Additional prep work for teachers (in-person and remote)



EMPOWERING ALL STUDENTS

Learners Today - Leaders Tomorrow

Staff Survey (July 10-15, 2020)

MODIFIED IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION: FULL-DAY MODEL 2-3 DAYS A WEEK

PROS

- Face-to-face instruction and peer socialization support social-emotional learning and overall well-being of kids
- Provides more time for instruction (including specials/encores) as well as related services for students
- Safer - Could deep clean school buildings one day a week
- Similar to D155 model

CONS

- More time in masks for both students and staff
- Difficult to enforce social distancing and mask-wearing all day
- Students will need movement breaks plus lunch and recess; more care, time and supervision required
- Increased health and safety risk due to all-day exposure; doesn't reduce risk unless there are fewer students in building
- Inconsistent schedule may result in childcare challenges



EMPOWERING ALL STUDENTS

Learners Today - Leaders Tomorrow

Staff Survey (July 10-15, 2020)

MODIFIED IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION: FULL-DAY MODEL 5 DAYS A WEEK

PROS

- Face-to-face instruction and peer socialization support social-emotional learning and overall well-being of kids
- Provides full academic instruction (including specials/encores) as well as related services for students
- Consistent schedule; better for working parents

CONS

- Increased health and safety risk for staff, students and families; risky option
- More time in masks for both students and staff; hard to enforce mask wearing all day
- Cannot do appropriate social distancing and may have difficulty following other CDC/health department guidelines
- Students will need movement breaks plus lunch and recess; more care, time and supervision required
- Could increase sub shortage



EMPOWERING ALL STUDENTS

Learners Today - Leaders Tomorrow

Staff Survey (July 10-15, 2020)

Comment Themes, Concerns and Considerations

- Health and safety should be number one priority.
- Remote teaching/learning should be an option for both students and staff.
- Health screeners and temperature checks need to be taken seriously by parents.
- How to meet students' social-emotional needs yet adhere to social distancing.
- How to provide accommodations and services for young children, students with IEPs and those with special needs.
- Concerns about over-exposure to virus for encore teachers.
- Lack of air conditioning.



EMPOWERING ALL STUDENTS

Learners Today - Leaders Tomorrow