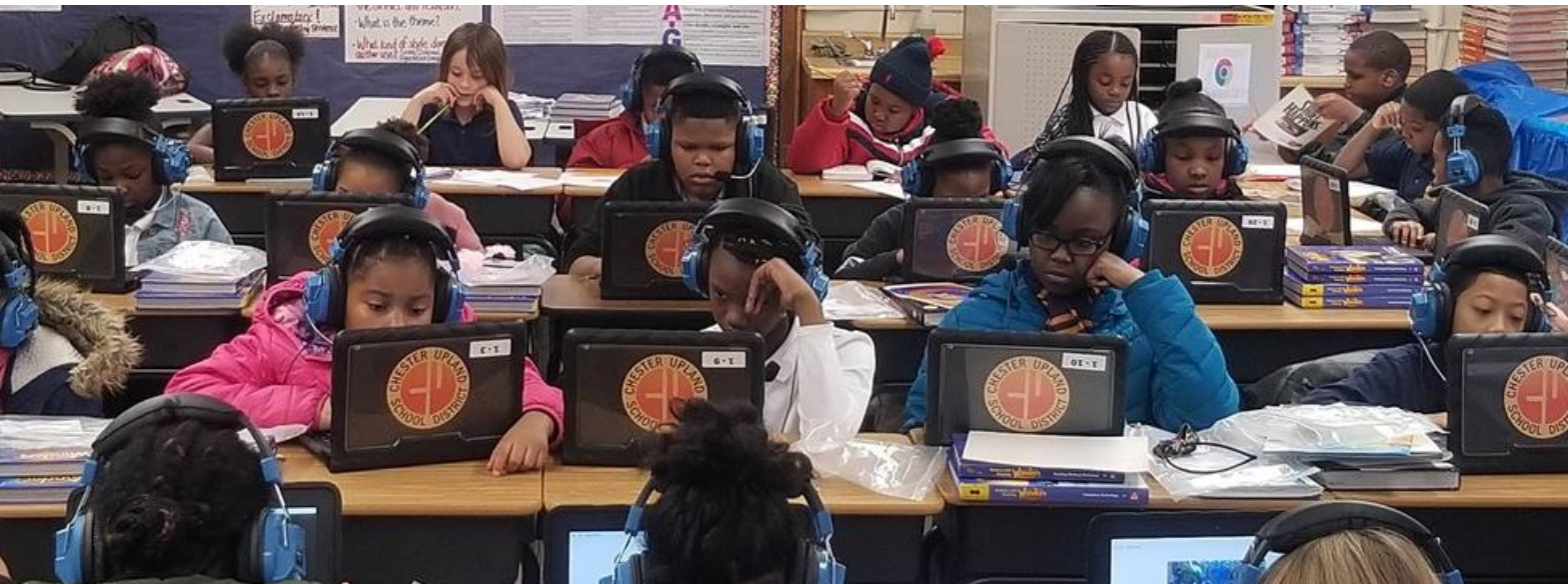




# School Reopening Plan Chester Upland School District

2020-2021

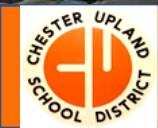
DRAFT



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**Carol D. Birks, Ed.D.**  
Superintendent of Schools

**Ronald A. Simonson, M.Ed.**  
Pandemic and School Safety and Security  
Coordinator



Chester Upland School District

# Table of Contents

- I. Purpose of Task Force
- II. Our Framework/Guidelines
- III. Educational Options
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- V. Emerging Themes
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# Pandemic School Reopening Task Force (PSRT)

- Purpose: To seek to minimize risks to public health, address impacts on student learning and well-being, recognize the importance of the local public school to the community, and seek to optimize operational readiness; to ensure that the issues of health, safety, and educational equity always come first while guiding schools; and to provide role-aligned insight and expertise to inform Reopening priorities and next steps.

# Pandemic School Reopening Task Force (PSRT)

- Composition: Dr. Carol D. Birks, Superintendent and Mr. Ronald A. Simonson, Pandemic and School Safety and Security Coordinator will lead the work to plan for the students and staff members' return to school in the fall.
- The School Reopening Task Force is comprised of Chester Upland School District (CUSD) administrators, staff, and health professionals.

# Pandemic School Reopening Task Force (PSRT)

- Research: The PSRT reviewed guidelines from the Delaware County Intermediate Unit (DCIU), Chester County Health Department, Bucks County Department of Health, SickKids Recommendations for School Reopening, Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) Guidance, the World Health Organization (WHO), and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to address requirement areas as per the direction of the PDE.



# Work Groups

| Work Group                                   | Purpose  |
|--|--|
| Family/Community Partnerships and Engagement | To mobilize diverse community resources; and to foster strong two-way communication with partners, such as families, educators, and staff.   |
| Organizational Efficiencies and Safety       | To safeguard the health and safety of students and staff by developing and implementing health and safety policies and protocols.  |
| Learning and Teaching                        | To ensure educational equity and readiness for all students; and to ensure the literacy and mathematical needs of all students, including English Language Learners and Special Education students, are met. |
| Talent Management and Development            | To develop and implement professional learning opportunities for all stakeholders.   |
| Technology                                   | To ensure equitable technological access and support for all students.   |

# Educational Options

- Total reopen for all students and staff (but some students/families opt for distance learning out of safety/health concern).
- Scaffolded reopening: Some students are engaged in in-person learning, while others are distance learning (i.e., some grade levels in-person, other grade levels remote learning).
- Blended reopening that balances in-person learning and remote learning for all students (i.e., alternating days or weeks).
- Total remote learning for all students. (Plan should reflect future action steps to be implemented and conditions that would prompt the decision as to when schools will re-open for in-person learning).

# Family School Opening Survey

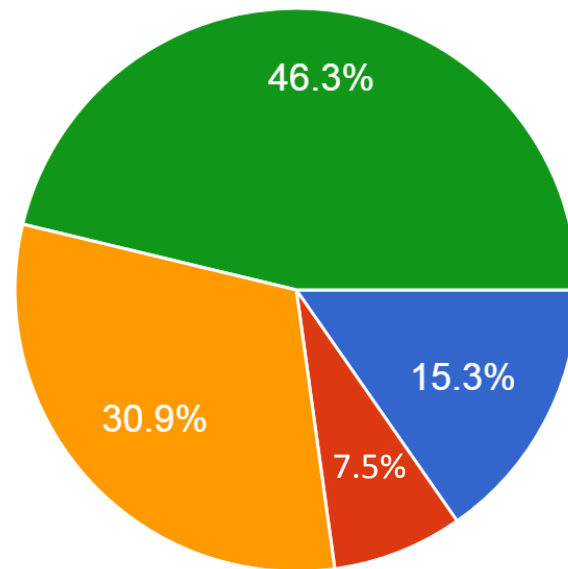
- The PSRT developed and administered a survey to families in English and Spanish.
- Links to the survey were posted on the District website and social media platforms.
- The survey was open from July 7, 2020 through July 13, 2020.
- We received 320 responses (n=320).



# Family Survey Results

## Types of Learning Opportunities

320 responses

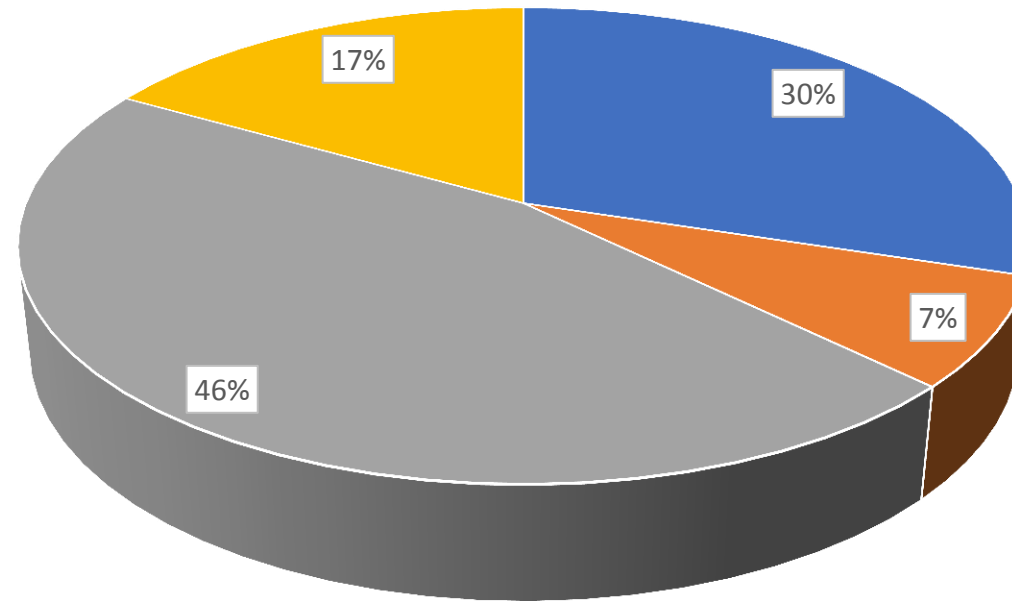


- Total reopen for all students and staff (but some students/families opt for distance learning out of safety/health...)
- Scaffolded reopening: Some students are engaged in in-person learning, while others are distance learning (i.e., som...)
- Blended reopening that balances in-person learning and remote learning for all students (i.e., alternating days or w...)
- Total remote learning for all students.

# Family Survey Results

Academic Levels Comparison – Type of Learning Opportunities

Grades K-5

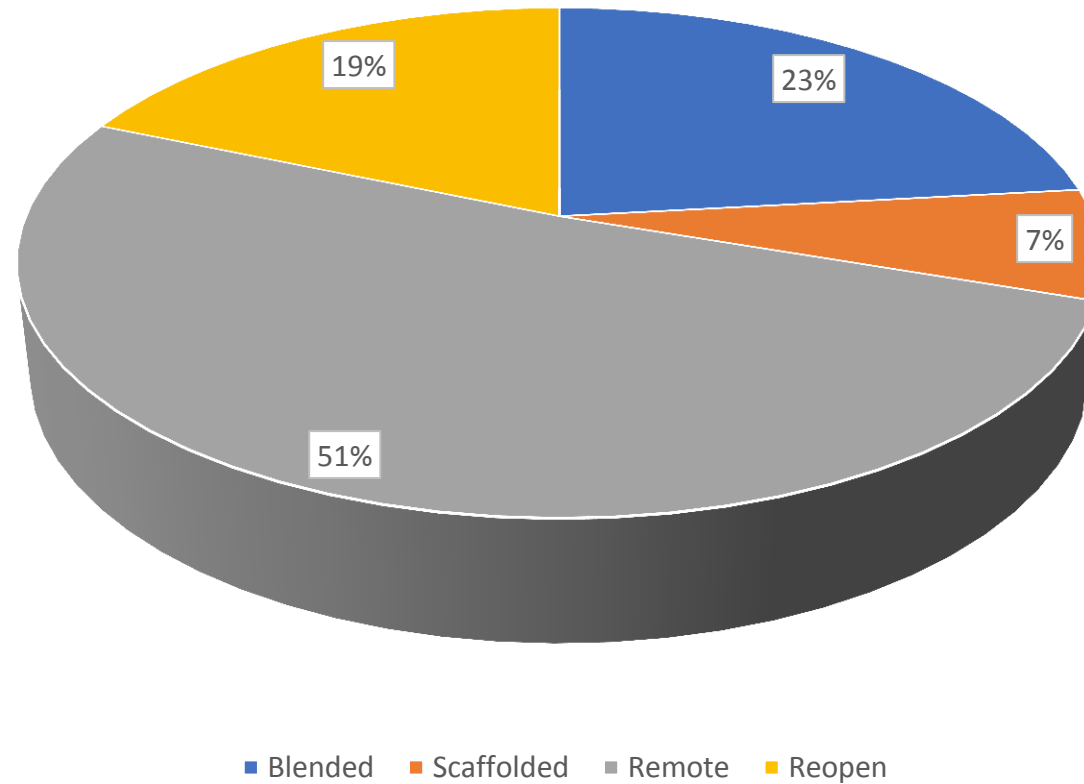


■ Blended ■ Scaffolded ■ Remote ■ Reopen

# Family Survey Results

Academic Levels Comparison – Type of Learning Opportunities

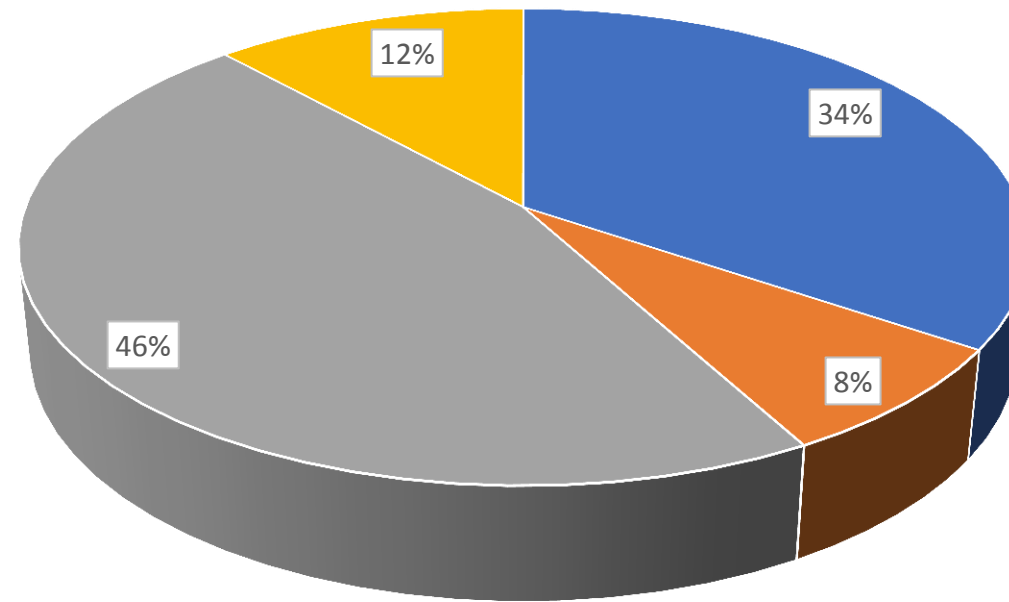
Grades 6-8



# Family Survey Results

Academic Levels Comparison – Type of Learning Opportunities

Grades 9-12

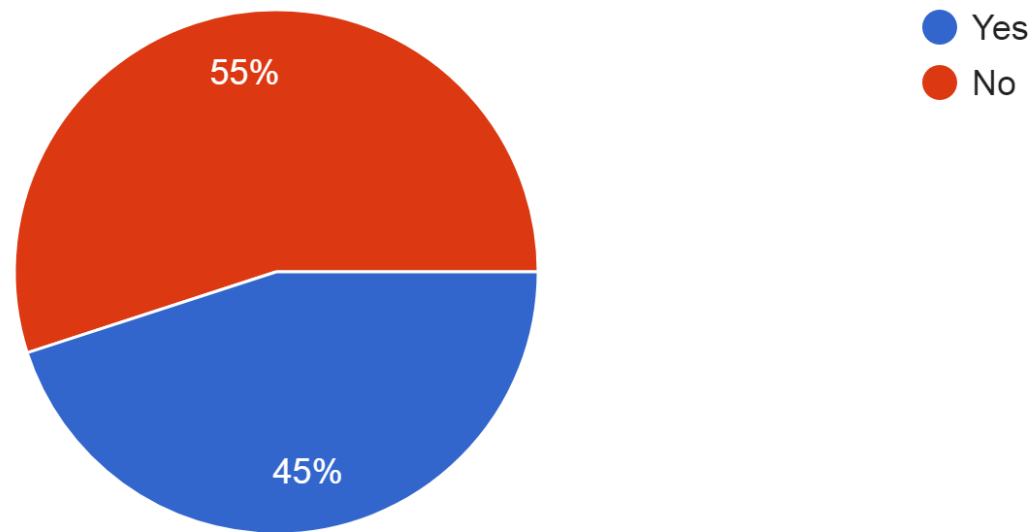


■ Blended ■ Scaffolded ■ Remote ■ Reopen

# Family Survey Results

Based on current circumstances, if your school building reopens in the fall, do you plan to send your child to school for in person classes?

320 responses

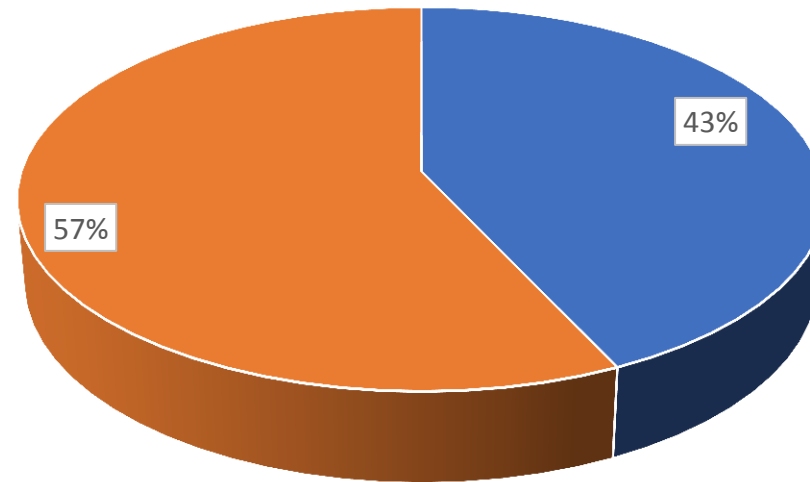


# Family Survey Results

Academic Levels Comparison: Based on current circumstances, if your school building reopens in the fall, do you plan to send your child to school for in person classes?

320 responses

Grades K-5



■ Yes ■ No

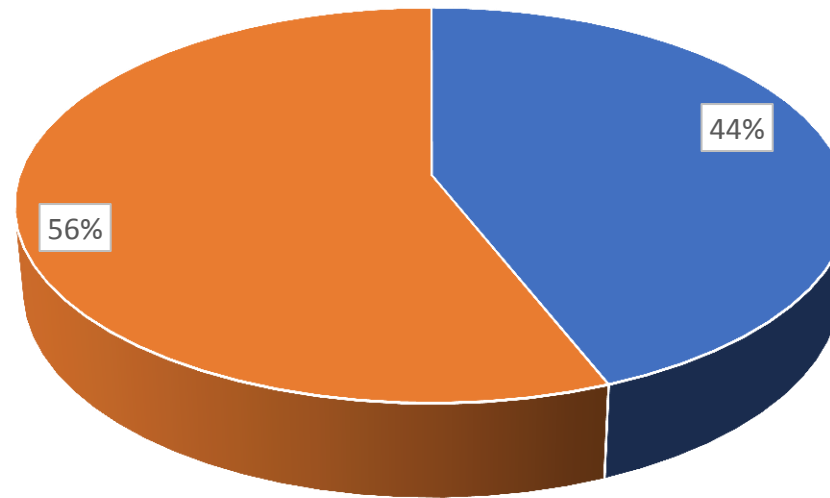


# Family Survey Results

Academic Levels Comparison: Based on current circumstances, if your school building reopens in the fall, do you plan to send your child to school for in person classes?

320 responses

Grades 6-8



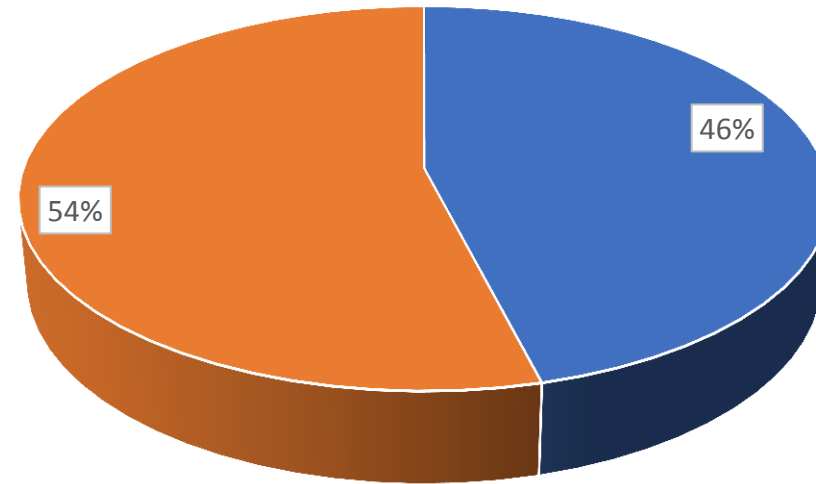
■ Yes ■ No

# Family Survey Results

Academic Levels Comparison: Based on current circumstances, if your school building reopens in the fall, do you plan to send your child to school for in person classes?

320 responses

Grades 9-12

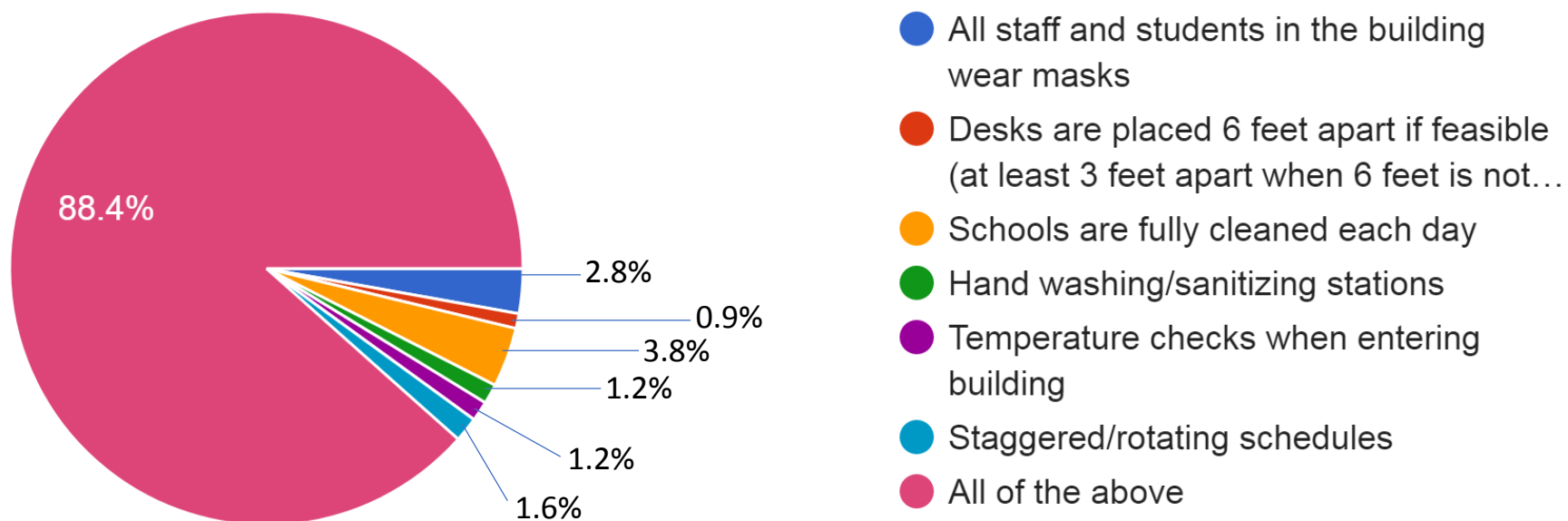


■ Yes ■ No

# Family Survey Results

What do you believe is the most important safety measure for schools to reopen safely?

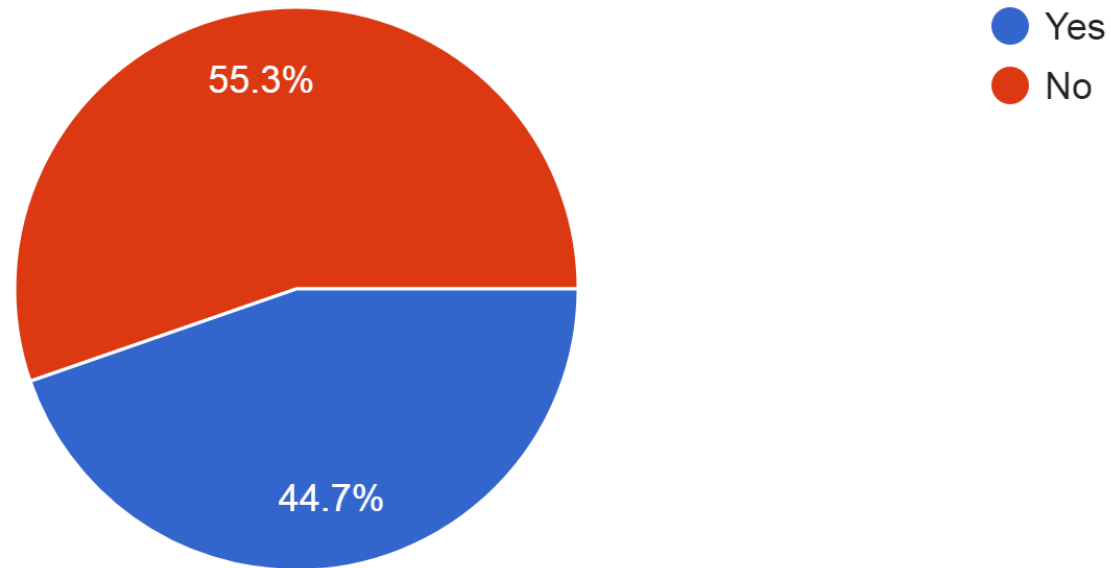
320 responses



# Family Survey Results

Are you comfortable with your child wearing a mask at school all day?

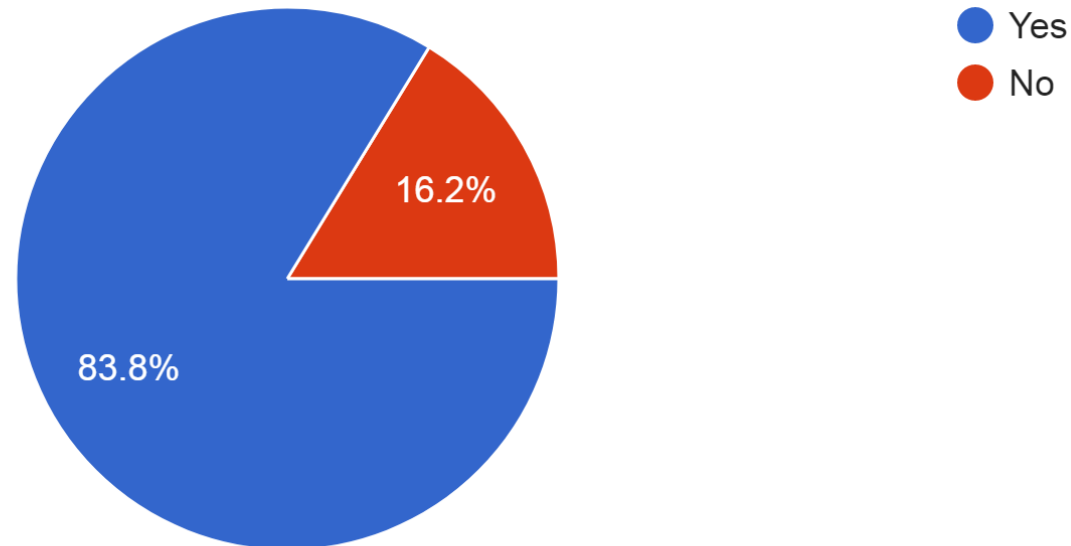
320 responses



# Family Survey Results

Are you OK with your child participating in a daily health monitoring (i.e., temperature checks and symptom screening before entering a school building)?

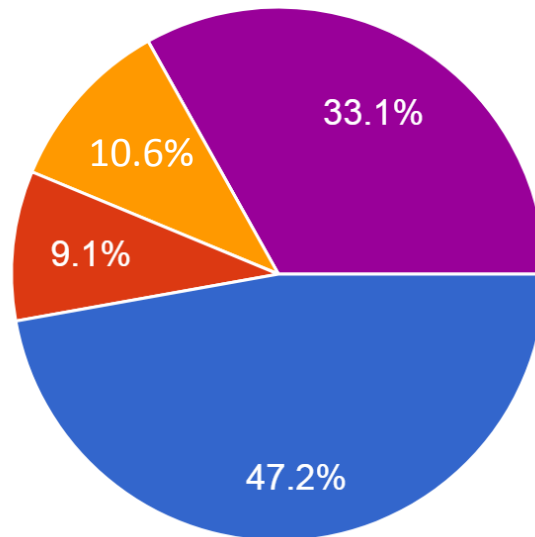
320 responses



# Family Survey Results

If schools reopen in a traditional, scaffolded, or blended manner, how would you send your child to school?

320 responses



- I will transport my child to school
- My child will walk to school
- My child will ride the school bus
- My child will use public transportation
- I will not be sending my child to school



# Themes from Open-Ended Responses

Families explained their feedback and input regarding school reopening:

- No air conditioning in three school buildings.
- Difficulty keeping masks on children all day.
- Many children have underlying health conditions, such as asthma.
- Concerns about family members who are elderly and/or have underlying health conditions.
- The number of positive coronavirus cases is rising.
- Classrooms should have fewer students to allow for more social distancing.

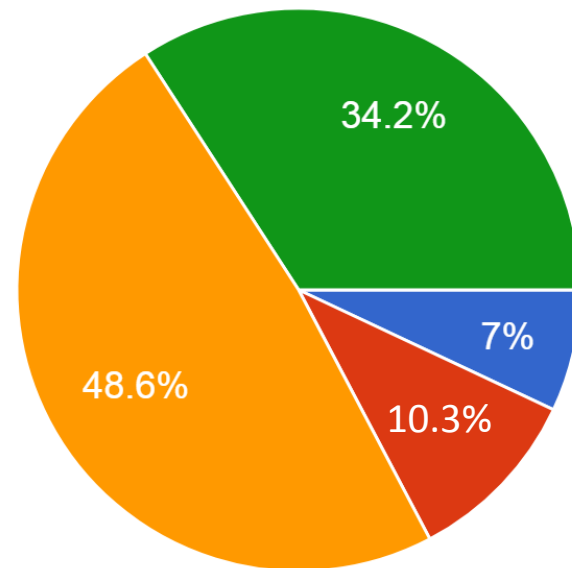
# Faculty/Staff Return to Work Survey

- The PSRT developed and administered a Faculty/Staff Return to Work Survey.
- Links to the survey were posted on the District website and sent directly via District email.
- The survey was open from July 8, 2020 through July 13, 2020.
- We received 243 responses (n=243).

# Faculty/Staff Return to Work Survey Results

## Types of Learning Opportunities:

243 responses

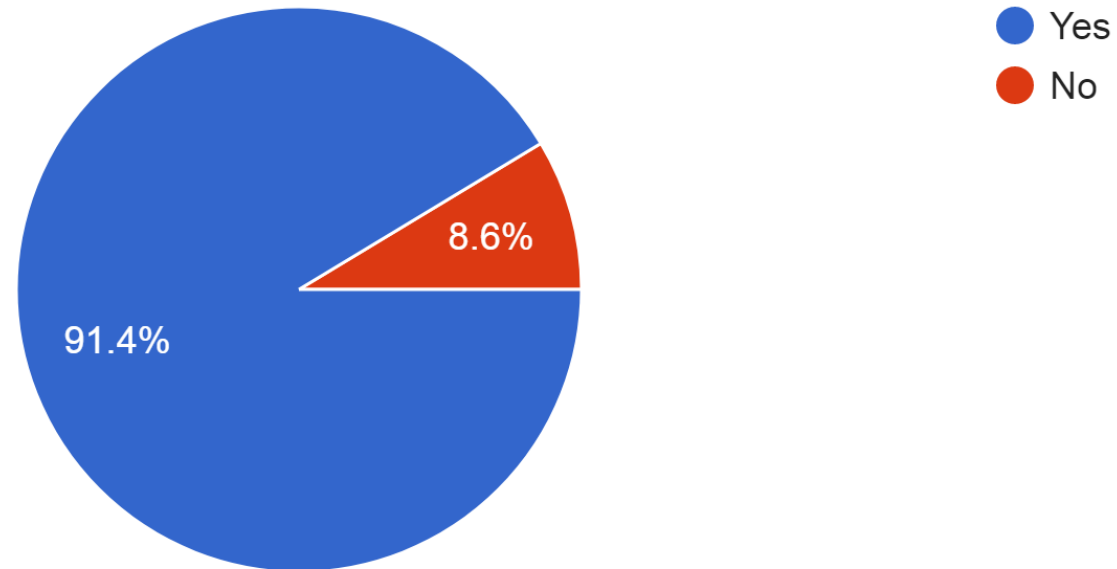


- Total reopen for all students and staff (but some students/families opt for distance learning out of safety/health...)
- Scaffolded reopening: Some students are engaged in in-person learning, while others are distance learning (i.e., som...)
- Blended reopening that balances in-person learning and remote learning for all students (i.e., alternating days or w...)
- Total remote learning for all students.

# Faculty/Staff Return to Work Survey Results

Based on CURRENT circumstances, if your school building reopens in the fall, do you plan to return to work?

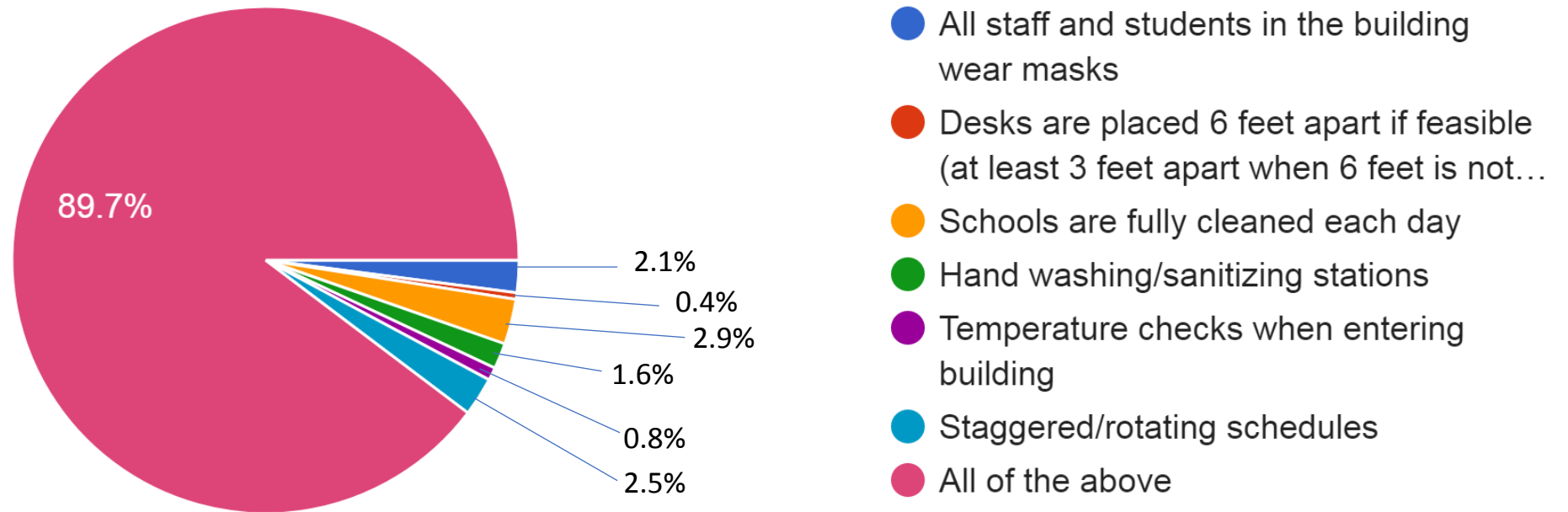
243 responses



# Faculty/Staff Return to Work Survey Results

What do you believe is the most important safety measure for schools to reopen safely?

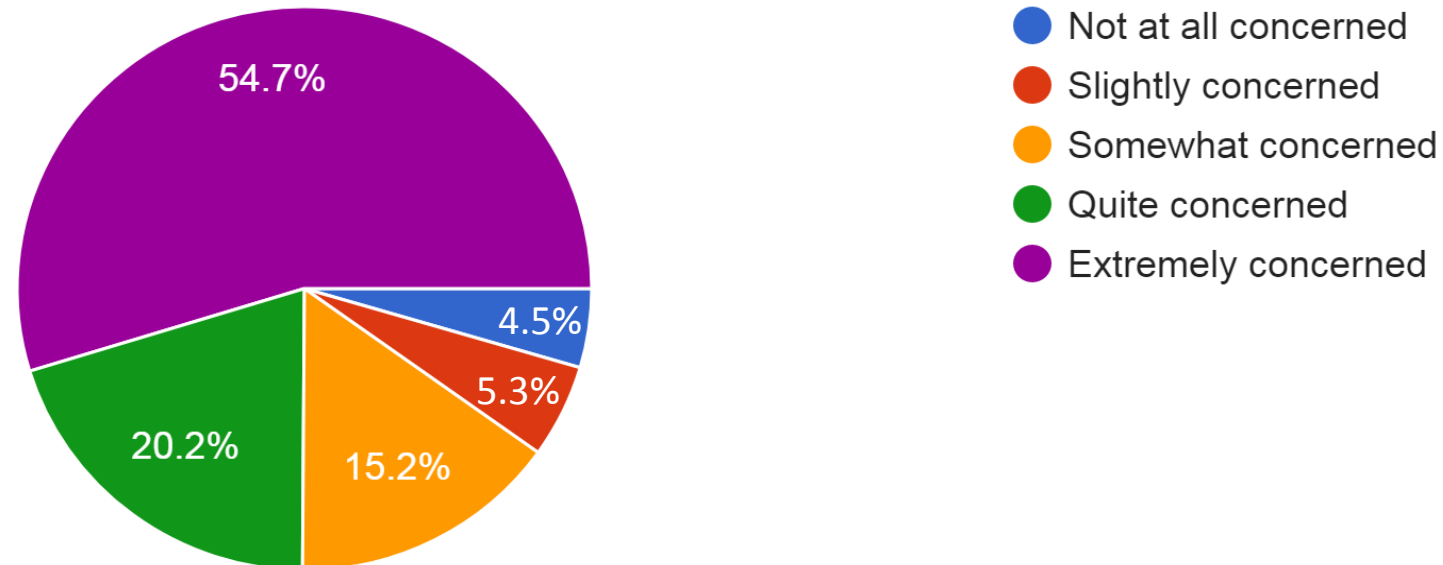
243 responses



# Faculty/Staff Return to Work Survey Results

If in-person learning resumes in the fall, how concerned are you about accessing personal protective equipment for classrooms and work areas/offices?

243 responses



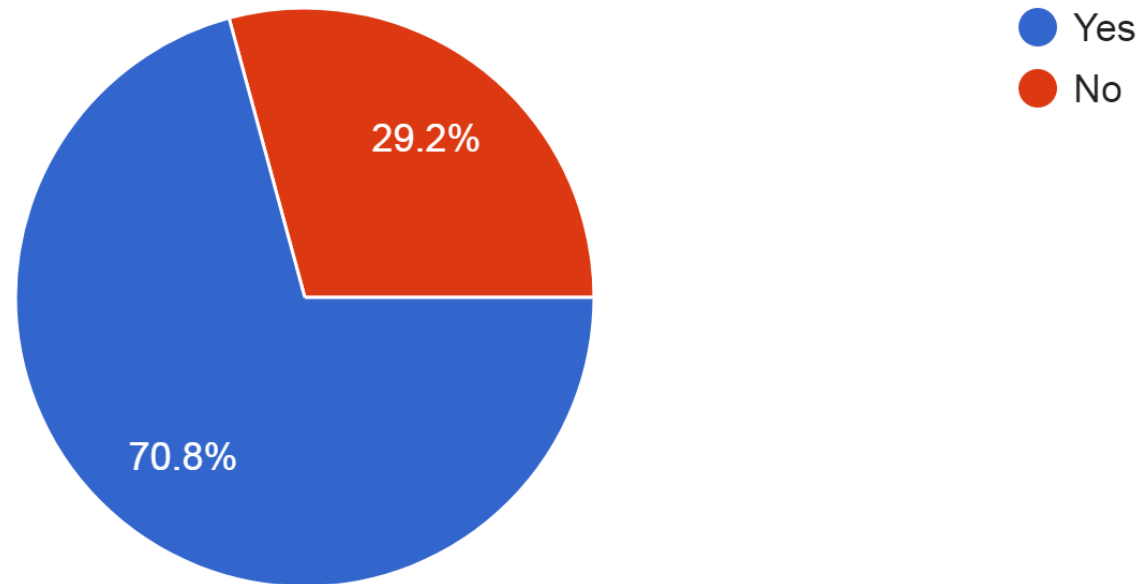
- Not at all concerned
- Slightly concerned
- Somewhat concerned
- Quite concerned
- Extremely concerned



# Faculty/Staff Return to Work Survey Results

Are you comfortable wearing a face covering and/or face shield at work all day and participating in a daily health monitoring (i.e., temperature checks and symptom screening before entering a school building)?

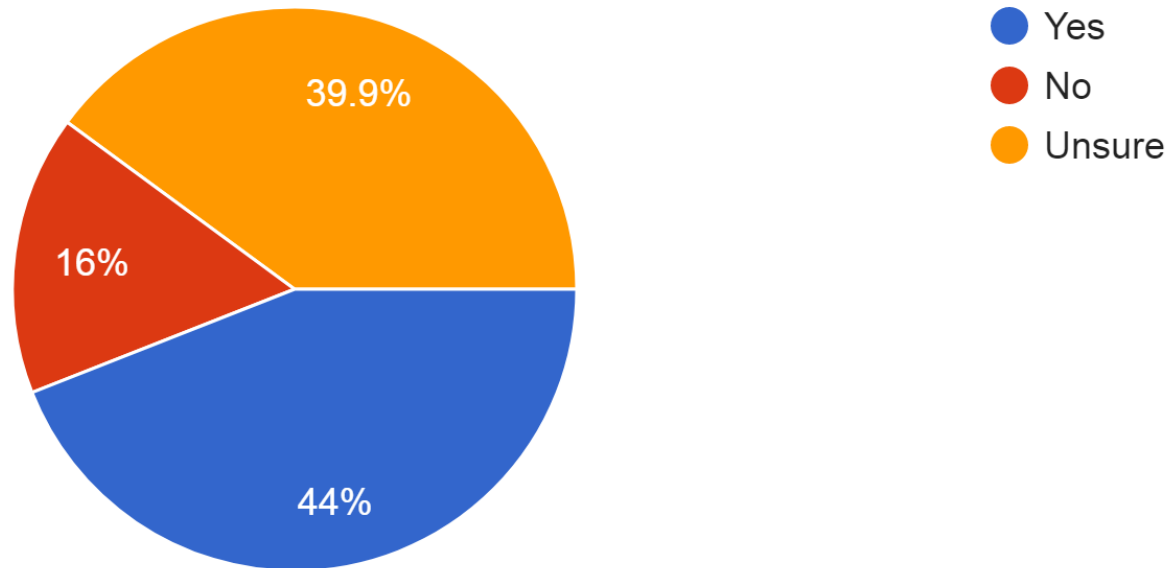
243 responses



# Faculty/Staff Return to Work Survey Results

If the safety measures considered in this survey are put in place for school opening in the fall, would you feel safe going back to work?

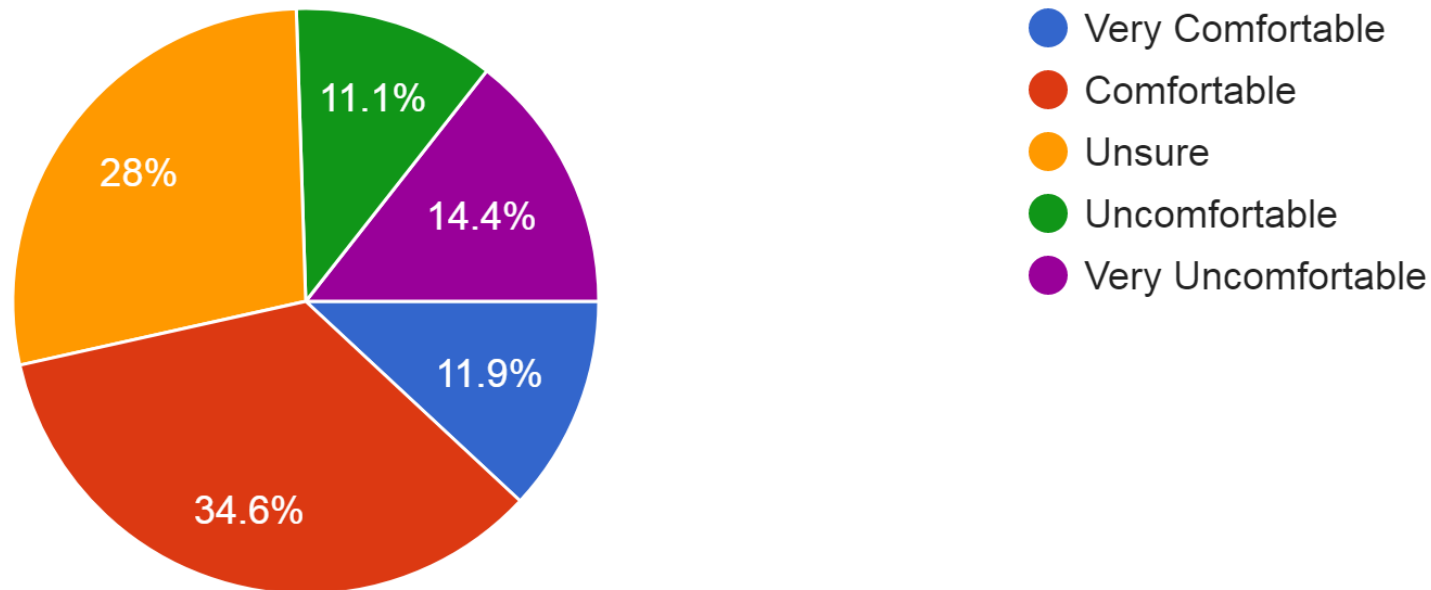
243 responses



# Faculty/Staff Return to Work Survey Results

How comfortable would you feel teaching/working with students returning to school in person if schools have fewer students in the building at one time and rules are in place to limit contact among students?

243 responses



# Themes from Open-Ended Responses

Faculty/staff explained their feedback and input regarding school reopening:

- Need access to more digital resources.
- Many staff members are older and have underlying health conditions that put them at a higher risk for experiencing severe complications if they become infected with the coronavirus.
- Face-to-face instruction needed for remote learning.
- Increased accountability for students for their classwork.
- Regularly scheduled meetings of classes.
- Challenging for students and staff to wear masks all day.
- Concerns about the ability to adequately clean and disinfect classrooms and frequently touched surfaces throughout the day to keep students and staff safe.

# Communications Plan

- Information and updates posted on District website, Facebook, and Twitter on a biweekly basis.
- Health and Safety Plan was posted on District website on Wednesday, July 15, 2020.
- School Reopening Plan Presentation during Board Meeting on Thursday, July 16, 2020.

# Communications Plan

- Community Forums via Zoom for families and community members on Wednesday, July 22, 2020, and Thursday, July 23, 2020, from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
- Virtual Town Halls for faculty/staff on Friday, July 24, 2020, at 9:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.
- Receiver votes on the Health and Safety Plan during the Receiver's Special Meeting with the Public on Tuesday, July 28, 2020, at 6:00 p.m.



# A Special Thank You...

Pandemic School Reopening Task Force Team Members:

- Dr. Carol D. Birks
- Ronald Simonson
- Dr. Joanne Barnett
- Anthony Johnson
- Thomas Johnson
- Nikki Monroe-Hines
- Marvin Newton
- Dr. Jala Olds-Pearson
- Carlena Parker
- Dr. Eric Pugh
- John Shelton
- Robert Whitaker