

Ontario-Montclair

School District

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Superintendent

June 12, 2020

Dear OMSD Students, Families, Staff and Community:

Although Summer vacation has just begun, I hope you are finding time to enjoy your family while staying healthy and safe. Please know that the Ontario-Montclair School District (OMSD) will continue to work hard throughout the summer months to prepare for whatever next school year will bring. Today, I want to again thank you for your valuable participation and input in our two recent surveys.

In late May, we conducted an initial *ThoughtExchange* survey for students, parents, staff and community members regarding returning to school this upcoming Fall. Your input and thoughts were critical in helping identify a number of important preferences of our stakeholders as we began making decisions on how best to return to school on August 6, 2020.

Our second and most recent survey asked more specific questions based on the first *ThoughtExchange* results, along with the valuable input received from our Return to School Subcommittees and Superintendent's Advisory Group. This survey closed yesterday which was completed by over 1,600 staff members and almost 26% of our families (3,770) and the results will continue to provide continued insight as we move forward in planning.

Please find the results of our second survey below.

Question	Staff	Family
Respondents	1,618	3,770
Evaluation of Distance Learning	Teachers reported high use and value of: Zoom, Phone calls, Class Dojo, Google Classroom, Email, District Learning Packet, Text Message, School Loop, iReady online, US Mail, Remind App	Parents were very complimentary in their rating of all questions asked, including student access to materials and teacher, and the value of the learning opportunities.
	Teachers reported high value in live class and individual use of zoom, providing feedback to students, building relationships virtually (SEL), flexibility to access learning on family schedule.	Parents were very complimentary about the strategies used in instruction and communication and rated all methods very effective or effective (with few exceptions).

“Our Community, Our Children, Our Commitment, Our Future”

	<p>Teachers only (not on family survey)</p> <p>Comments made by teachers about how to improve distance learning centered around:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chromebook and internet access • Accountability for students and families to do the work/grading • Teachers and aides need to work from school • Training and support on tech for families • PD on Distance Learning • Parent compact • Uniform communication platform • Coordinate zoom meetings to not conflict • Common expectations from teacher to teacher, school to school 	
Preference for Return to School	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Blended learning 2. Start online and assess 3. All year Distance Learning 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Blended learning 2. Start online and assess 3. All year Distance Learning 4. Independent study
Readiness to return in person	<p>69% I am ready to return</p> <p>20% I am nervous/need help</p> <p>3% Will consider options</p> <p>8% Other</p>	<p>57% I am ready to return</p> <p>20% Consider online academy</p> <p>15% I am nervous/need help</p> <p>8% Other</p>
Readiness if we start virtually	<p>64% I am ready/equipped</p> <p>27% I will need PD</p> <p>1.5% Will consider options</p> <p>7.5 Other</p>	
How concerned 1 - not concerned 5 - very concerned	<p>1 - 20%</p> <p>2 - 17%</p> <p>3 - 25%</p> <p>4 - 18%</p> <p>5 - 20%</p>	<p>1 - 10%</p> <p>2 - 7%</p> <p>3 - 21%</p> <p>4 - 16%</p> <p>5 - 46%</p>
Employer requires you to work outside of the home?		<p>Yes - 55%</p> <p>No - 45%</p>
Are you able to provide childcare if not on campus every day?		<p>Yes - 70%</p> <p>No - 30%</p>
Do you have reliable internet?		<p>Yes - 93%</p> <p>No - 7%</p>
Suggestions about returning to school	<p>Similar suggestions were shared from both staff and families:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concern with young students wearing masks • Students need to socialize • We need to come back to school • Concerns about childcare • Social distancing will be important • Students have social-emotional needs • Students need to be in-person to build a relationship with their new teacher • Clear expectations need to be set • Distance Learning was hard 	

At this time no changes to our 2020-2021 calendar have been made and our first day of school will be August 6, 2020.

I know you have many questions about next school year, and because of your effort and input, next week I will be making a decision on how schools will open. These decisions are not easy and require collaborative planning and much work. A follow up communication with important information will be sent to all stakeholders on June 19, 2020.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I want to thank you for your continued partnership and investment in our most precious commodity, our children.

Sincerely,
James Q. Hammond, Ed.D.
Superintendent