



Phillips Brooks School

Inspired learners. Inspiring life.

Head of School Office Hours

August 4, 2020
8:30 PM



Pulse Survey Results 7/29/2020

Participation

- Parents: 217
- Faculty-Staff: 55

Headlines

- Faculty-Staff apprehension: High and increasing since mid-July, similar to reports from other schools
- Gap between the level of educator and parent anxiety: 69% vs. 38%
- Families: Anxiety exists yet continued strong desire for on-campus instruction



Current thinking about reopening school

	ELC parents 6/5/20	ELC parents 7/29/20	K-5 parents 6/5/20	K-5 parents 7/29/20
Participate in on-campus learning to the extent possible	85%	87%	89%	76%



Current level of apprehension or anxiety about doing school with students on campus

Response	Parents 7/29/20	Faculty-Staff 7/29/20
Very high	16%	40%
High	22%	29%
Moderate	27%	24%
Low	18%	7%
Very low	17%	0%



How worried about being on campus with students and being exposed to COVID

Response	Faculty-Staff 7/29/20
Extremely worried	44%
Highly worried	22%
Moderately worried	29%
Somewhat worried	4%
Not at all worried	1%



Essential Notes

- Essential to build parent understanding of full distance learning enhancements given state mandates, COVID environment, and the complex year ahead
- Essential to ensure educators are comfortable with processes for health and safety that we have developed and continue to develop
- Every academic model: New design because of COVID, therefore requiring significant planning and numerous logistics to ensure excellent execution
- State's mandate means graduated approach to reopen campus



Student cohorts released today

Criteria for cohorts

- **Academics:** Balance learning styles, needs, and range of skills
- **Inclusive Classrooms:** Balance for diversity, equity, and inclusion
- **Work Habits:** Balance independence levels, executive function skills, collaboration approaches, energy levels, and more
- **Social-Emotional Dynamics:** Balance familiar connections and friendships with opportunities for new relationships



Student cohorts released today

Reminders

- Cohort-Building: Responsibility of PBS faculty and administrators
- Cannot accommodate cohort requests or changes
- Connection Teacher: First point of contact, like a faculty advisor in middle school
- Send your questionnaire answers to your Connection Teacher



Enhanced distance learning with improved structuring

Intentional Design

- **Timetable:** Responsive to your feedback, less synchronous time on Zoom
- **Schedule:** Addresses unique needs of online education, not analog nor mirror of on-campus education
- **Elasticity:** Cohesive schoolwide plan but elastic enough so teachers can flex for unique grade-level needs
- **Design:** Academics tailored specifically for distance learning, smaller groups with specialists, tighter instruction time to optimize student attention
- **Cohorts:** Thoughtful and smaller for higher engagement and effective academics
- **Delivery:** Small-group and project work to deepen student motivation, concrete activities for breaks, multiple avenues for teacher feedback and assessment
- **Creating normalcy:** How students show up to school and go about the day
- **Vehicle:** Expanded iPad program to include all students K–5, tech upgrades
- **Outcomes:** KPI's to drive ongoing excellence



Enhanced distance learning with improved structuring

PBS's Key Performance Indicators of Excellence

- **Rigorous:** Maintain our high educational standards
- **Schedule:** Routine, predictability, support
- **Connections:** High-touch interactions among teachers and peers
- **Teacher-Guided:** Meet the needs of a range of learners
- **Independence:** Small-group and project work to deepen student motivation
- **Individualized:** Multiple avenues for teacher feedback and assessment
- **Rally Points:** Energizing student enthusiasm with well-timed “exciters”



Enhanced distance learning with improved structuring

PBS Connection and Socialization Program

- Opportunities for students to meet in-person with peers and teachers during full distance learning
- Optimize emotional resilience, relationships, and SEL, all of which are essential for child development
- Details forthcoming
- Parent forums next week: 3-5, K-2, ELC