



COVID-19 Update Board Meeting October 27, 2020

COVID-19 Case Management

As of 4:30 pm today, the OCDSB has reported:

- Student cases – 48 active; 65 resolved
 - Staff cases – 13 active; 5 resolved
 - No classes, cohort or schools closed at this time
-
- Students and staff can feel confident that the safety measures in place are helping to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in school



COVID-19 Case Management

- Our work with Ottawa Public Health and other school districts continues;
- The case management, contact tracing and community notification has improved;
- Notification of positive cases generally comes from parent to school, is confirmed with OPH, contact tracing is completed and letters sent to community and high risk contacts;



COVID-19 Case Management

- Case management process is stabilizing, but the volume of work associated with case management is very high;
- Currently able to manage school based staffing with occasional teachers and where required, redeployments;
- Working to fill staffing vacancies;



Thoughtexchange Results



Thoughtexchange Surveys

Five surveys were conducted to gather feedback from:

- 1) Students attending school virtually (OCV);
- 2) Students attending school in-person (elementary & secondary);
- 3) Parents/guardians of students attending school virtually (OCV);
- 4) Parents/guardians of students attending school in-person; and
- 5) Staff.

Each participant group was asked:

- a series of survey questions; and
- an open-ended question about their experience so far this year.



Participation Rates

👤 21,936 Participants

💬 25,380 Thoughts Shared

★ 546,749 Star Ratings Assigned

Rates by Group	Participants	Thoughts	Ratings
Virtual Students	1,644	1,049	29,038
In-Person Students	5,309	3,976	105,767
Virtual Parents/Guardians	3,254	4,731	91,097
In-Person Parents/Guardians	8,954	10,469	211,202
Staff	2,775	5,155	109,645



Links to Summary Reports

Links to the summary of the closed-ended survey questions, as well as the thoughts shared in response to the open-ended question about how the school year is going so far.

[Link to Summary Report for Staff](#)

[Link to Summary Report for Students \(Virtual\)](#)

[Link to Summary Report for Students \(In-Person\)](#)

[Link to Summary Report for Parents/Guardians \(Virtual\)](#)

[Link to Summary Report for Parents/Guardians \(In-Person\)](#)

Note. Participation numbers will continue to increase as new participants join the exchange to Discover the results; our reported participation rates are based on the Share and Star steps only.



Key Findings

- Overall, the return to school is greatly appreciated by parents;
- General comfort of students and parents with safety practices in place;
- Students are engaged in learning;
- Secondary in person learning model is the change which generated the most feedback;
- Heightened concerns about amount of change and impact on student and staff well-being;
- Staff are happy to be engaged with students, but the volume of work and feelings of pressure are very high in all areas;
- The system needs stability;



Highlights from Employees

Comfort with health and safety precautions

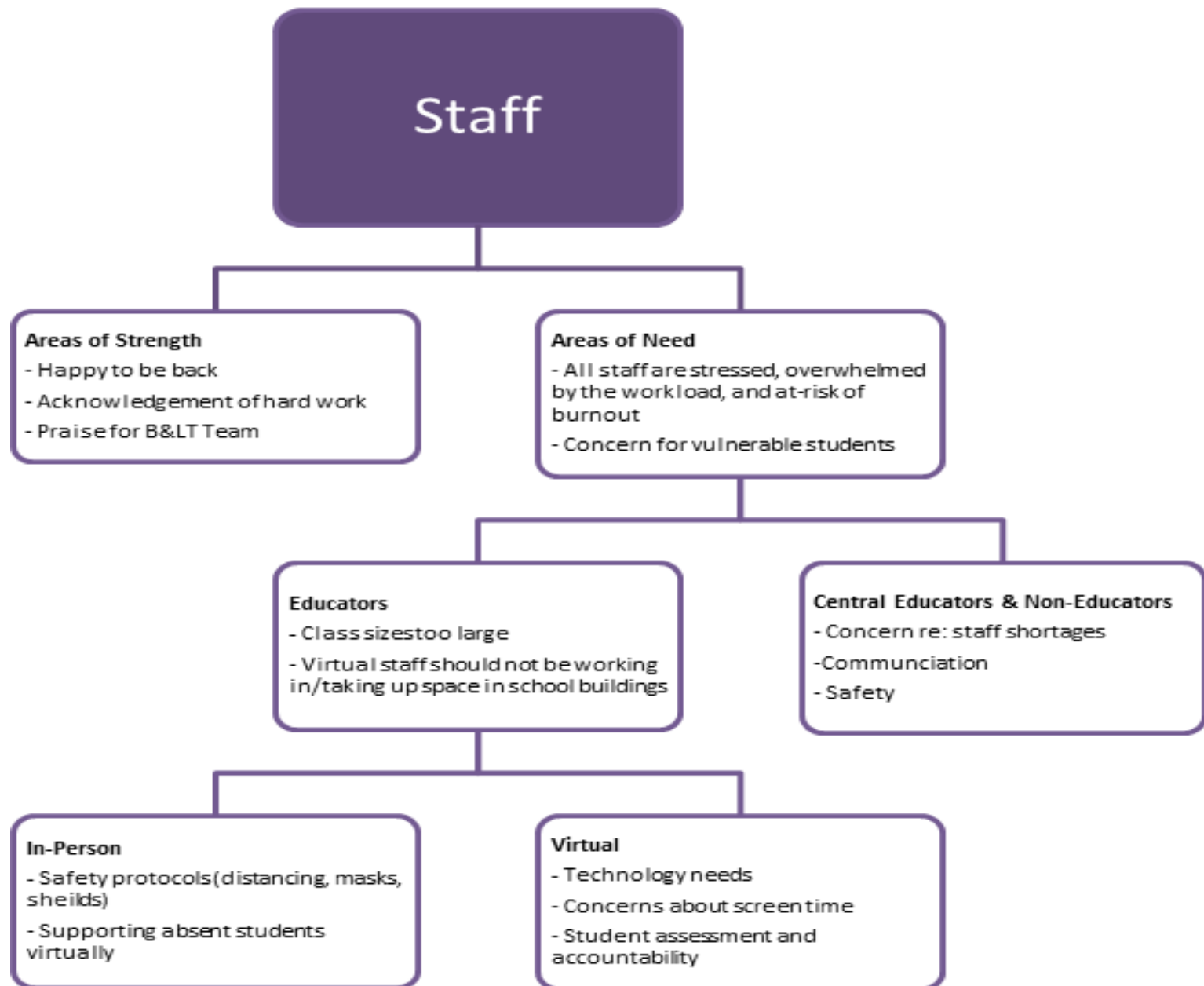
- 56% of staff respondents feel comfortable or very comfortable with the health and safety precautions in place;

Comfort with Technology

- 77% of staff respondents feel comfortable or very comfortable using technology in their role;



Highlights from Qualitative Themes



Highlights from Students and Parents

	Virtual Learning	In-Person Learning
Comfort using technology and feeling supported by teachers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Most OCV students and their parents indicated that it was easy to participate in online lessons;• They are getting the support they need from teachers;• They are finding it easy to use the online learning platforms.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Most students are comfortable using the online learning platforms.

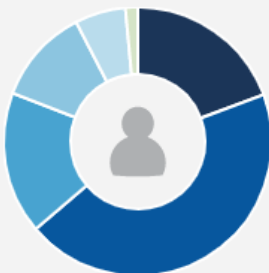


Safety Precautions in School (Student & Parents)

STUDENTS

63% of student respondents feel comfortable with safety precautions

I am comfortable with the health and safety precautions being taken in my school related to COVID-19.

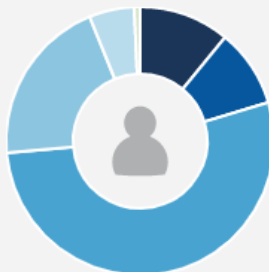


%	Person Icon	
19%	(835)	Strongly agree
44%	(1919)	Agree
17%	(740)	Neither agree nor disagree
12%	(498)	Disagree
6%	(264)	Strongly disagree
2%	(64)	Prefer not to answer

PARENTS

73% of parent respondents feel comfortable with safety precautions

How comfortable are you with the health and safety precautions being taken at your child's school related to COVID-19?

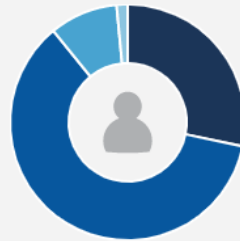


%	Person Icon	
11%	(912)	Very uncomfortable
9%	(785)	Uncomfortable
53%	(4441)	Comfortable
20%	(1687)	Very comfortable
6%	(455)	Not sure
1%	(58)	Prefer not to answer

Student Engagement (Student Perspective)

IN PERSON
89% of
respondents
are somewhat
or very
engaged

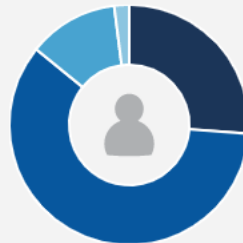
How would you describe your level of engagement in learning so far this year (e.g., interest, motivation, participation)?



%	Person Icon	
28%	(1293)	Very engaged
61%	(2786)	Somewhat engaged
9%	(429)	Not at all engaged
2%	(69)	Prefer not to answer

VIRTUAL
86% of
respondents
are somewhat
or very
engaged

How would you describe your level of engagement in virtual learning so far this year (e.g., interest, motivation, participation)?



%	Person Icon	
26%	(351)	Very engaged
60%	(802)	Somewhat engaged
12%	(163)	Not at all engaged
2%	(27)	Prefer not to answer



Student Engagement

- The majority of students and their parents/guardians reported that students are feeling *somewhat engaged or very engaged* in their learning;
- Engagement is slightly greater among elementary students.
- Parent perceptions of student engagement were greater than engagement reported by students.

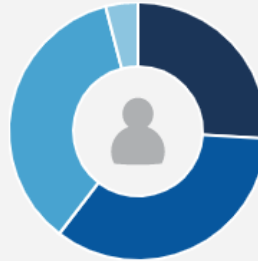


Mental Health and Well-Being

IN PERSON

61% of respondents feel well-being has improved or stayed same

Since returning to school in September, how has being back in school impacted your well-being (e.g., how you feel socially, emotionally, and/or mentally)?

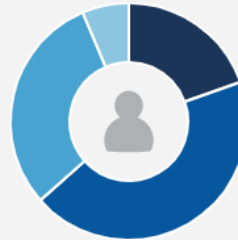


%		
26%	(1154)	My well-being has improved since returning to school.
35%	(1539)	My well-being has stayed the same since returning to school.
35%	(1583)	My well-being has worsened since returning to school.
4%	(180)	Prefer not to answer

VIRTUAL

64% of respondents feel well-being has improved or stayed same

Since returning to virtual school in September, how has being back in school impacted your well-being (e.g., how you feel socially, emotionally, and/or mentally)?



%		
20%	(255)	My well-being has improved since returning to virtual school.
44%	(571)	My well-being has stayed the same since returning to virtual school.
30%	(393)	My well-being has worsened since returning to virtual school.
6%	(83)	Prefer not to answer



Mental Health and Well-Being

- Overall students feel their well-being has improved or remained the same since returning to school in person (elementary) and virtually (elementary and secondary);
- Secondary in person students were more likely to indicate that their well-being had declined;
- Nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ of elementary in person parents indicated their child's well-being had improved since returning to school, while secondary parents had mixed feelings.



Use of Technology

	Virtual Learning	In Person
Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 82% of students in OCV find it easy to use the online learning platform;• 49% of OCV students report stable internet at home; 35% sometimes have problems, and 15% report regular internet difficulties;• Most students use a computer or tablet of their own;	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• For in person learners, 66% of student respondents and 54% of parent respondents feel comfortable accessing learning resources and materials using the virtual learning environment;



Highlights from Qualitative Themes

Students Attending Virtually (OCV)

Areas of Strength

- Happy to have opportunity to learn online

Areas of Need

- Strain and need for breaks
- More engagement and support
- Need for social connections
- Challenges learning in virtual environment
- Workload
- Schedules (for secondary students)
- Mental health (for secondary students)

Students Attending In-Person

Areas of Strength

- Social interactions and connections
- Satisfaction with safety measures
- Benefits of learning in-person vs. virtually

Areas of Need

- Mental health
- Workload and stress
- More engagement and support
- Pace and challenges with current schedules (for secondary students)
- Class lengths and breaks (for secondary students)
- Challenges with at-home learning (for secondary students)

Highlights from Qualitative Themes

Parents/Guardians of Students Attending Virtually

Areas of Strength

- Mental health
- Learning platforms and technology
- Praise and appreciation for educators
- Benefits of routine and schedules

Areas of Need

- More opportunities for social connections
- More support from teachers
- More feedback (for secondary students)
- Course offerings (for secondary students)

Parents/Guardians of Students Attending In-Person

Areas of Strength

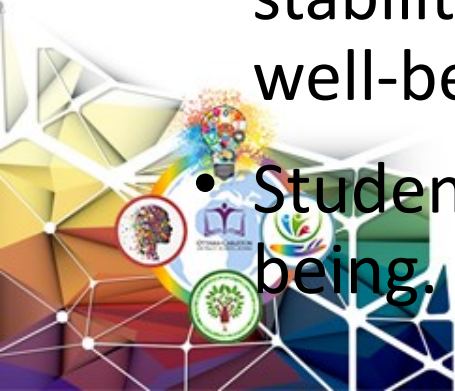
- Staff appreciation
- Social interactions and connections
- Mental health
- Benefits of learning in-person vs. virtually

Areas of Need

- Support and communication
- More supports for virtual learning (for elementary students)
- Challenges with at-home learning (for secondary students)
- Dissatisfaction with current schedules (for secondary students)
- Pace and length of classes (for secondary students)

Summary

- Collecting feedback is extremely useful to enhancing practice;
- Data highlights key areas of need for both operational and communications practices;
- School is a very important foundation to the routine of family life;
- System and families have experienced significant amounts of change and finding ways to bring stability and calm will support student learning and well-being;
- Student well-being grows out of employee well-being.



Next Steps

- Share Results with Stakeholders
- Respond to Key Questions
- Further explore the data, key themes, and trends overall and within specific groups;
- Use data to inform tailored supports, tip-sheets for staff, frequently asked questions, and modifications to practices.
- Hold meetings with various departments and managers to ensure that departments are empowered to use the Discover Dashboards to inform their work.

