



VERMONT COMMONS SCHOOL

SCHOLARSHIP. COMMUNITY. GLOBAL RESPONSIBILITY.

Second Semester, 2020-21 School Year

Goals in our scenario planning:

1. Uncompromised Scholarship
2. Sustained Community
3. Minimized health risk to Faculty and Students
4. Respond to Parent/Guardian and Student request for learning in core academic classes in the building





Feedback Summary

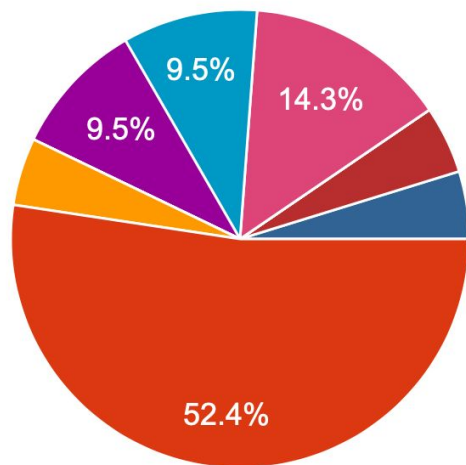
Results from surveys and forums with three stakeholder groups: Faculty, Parents/Guardians, and Students



Some Key Figures from Faculty Survey Data

What is your preferred version of Vermont Commons in the second semester this year?

21 responses

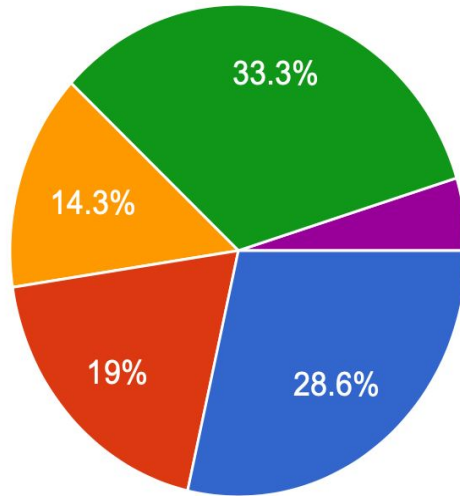


- 1. Move all teaching and learning online
- 2. Continue the hybrid version we've b...
- 3. Adjust our current hybrid model by...
- 4. Open the building to a handful of st...
- 5. Move classes and instruction mostl...
- 6. Move classes and instruction into th...
- 7. Move classes and instruction into th...
- 8. Move classes and instruction into th...

▲ 1/2 ▼

What is your comfort level with scenario 1 (fully online)?

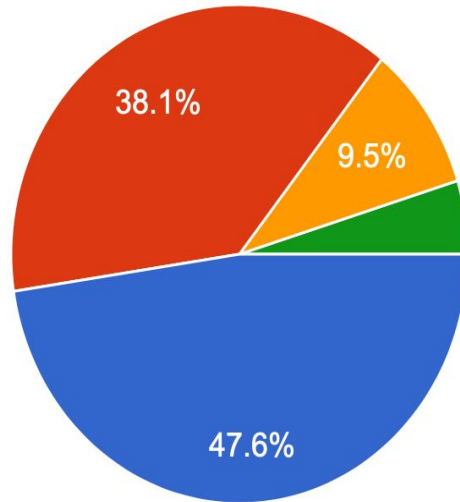
21 responses



- I am completely comfortable with this option.
- I am somewhat comfortable with this option.
- I am neither comfortable nor uncomfortable with this option.
- I am somewhat uncomfortable with this option.
- I am completely uncomfortable with this option.

What is your comfort level with scenario 2 (continue our current hybrid model)?

21 responses

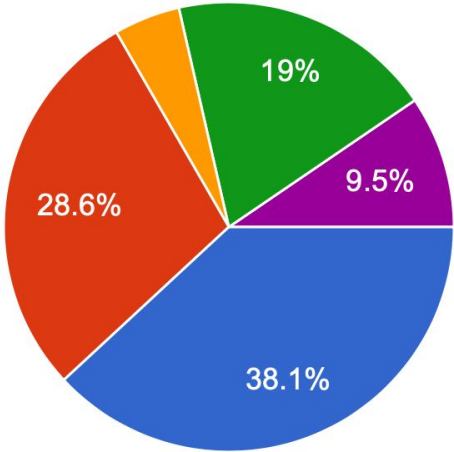


- I am completely comfortable with this option.
- I am somewhat comfortable with this option.
- I am neither comfortable nor uncomfortable with this option.
- I am somewhat uncomfortable with this option.
- I am completely uncomfortable with this option.



What is your comfort level with scenario 3 (adjust our current hybrid model with more in-person and less on-line)?

21 responses

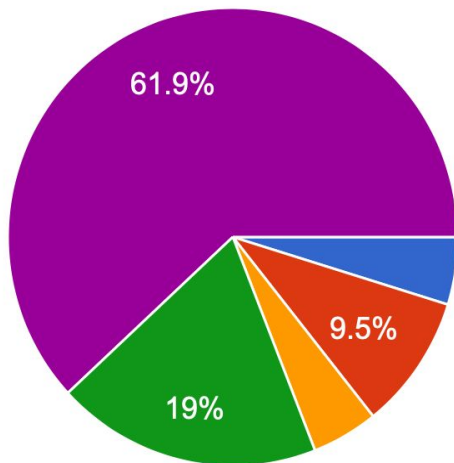


- I am completely comfortable with this option.
- I am somewhat comfortable with this option.
- I am neither comfortable nor uncomfortable with this option.
- I am somewhat uncomfortable with this option.
- I am completely uncomfortable with this option.



What is your comfort level with scenario 8 (all students and all faculty teach and learn in the building)?

21 responses

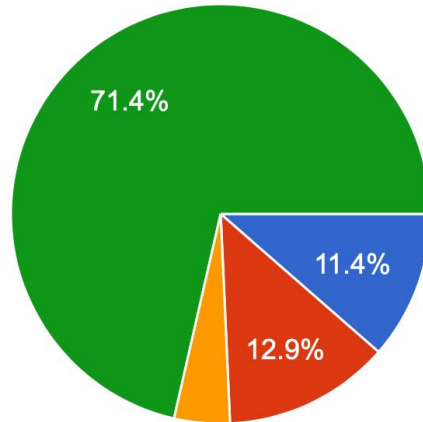


- I am completely comfortable with this option.
- I am somewhat comfortable with this option.
- I am neither comfortable nor uncomfortable with this option.
- I am somewhat uncomfortable with this option.
- I am completely uncomfortable with this option.

Some Key Figures from Parent/Guardian Survey

Based on your child's or children's current needs, what should be the main goal of the lesson plans, programs, and activities in the second semester?

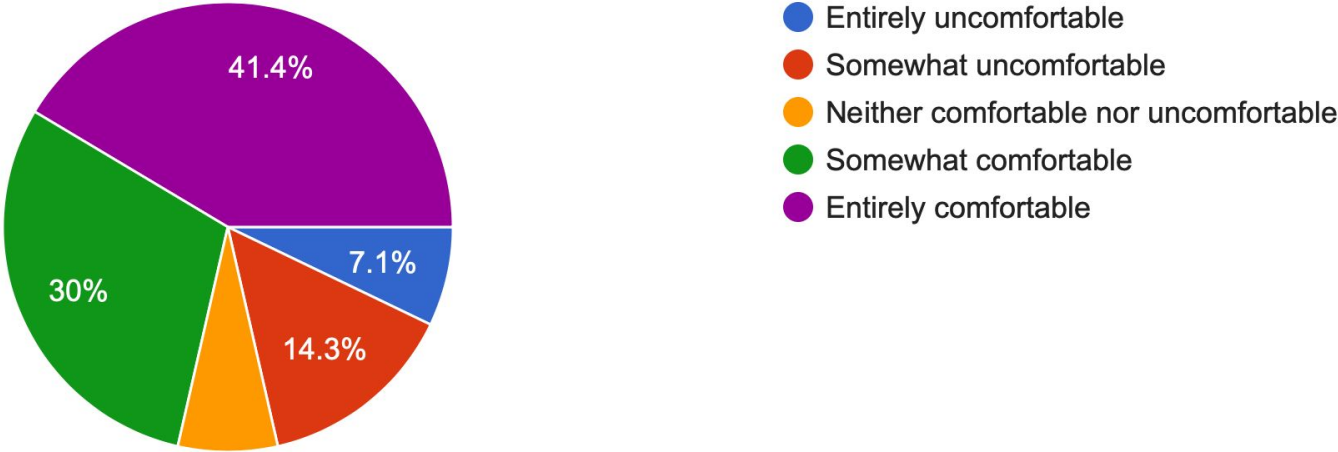
70 responses



- Continuing to challenge my child(/children) so he/she/they can get into or succeed in the best possible next leve...
- Helping my child(/children) continue his/her/their social-emotional development
- Preventing my child(/children) from falling further behind or continuing to struggle to learn
- Offering an environment that is both academically challenging and emotion...



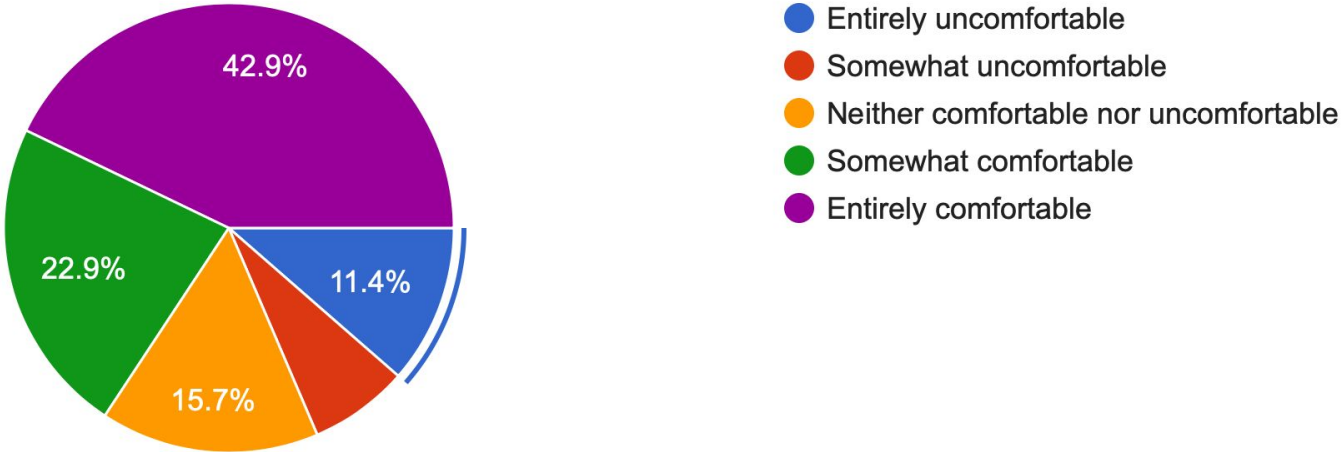
If our school adheres to federal and local Health Department guidelines for schools for returning to indoors instruction, how comfortable or uncomf... the school building at 75 Green Mountain Drive?
70 responses





If staffing, building constraints, and/or state & federal health and safety mandates indicated a continuation of a hybrid program (i.e., a blend of ...about your child(ren) continuing in a hybrid model?

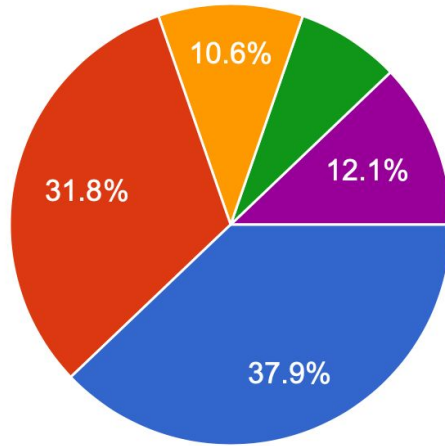
70 responses



Some Key Figures from Student Survey Data

How comfortable do you feel if we return to the building?

66 responses

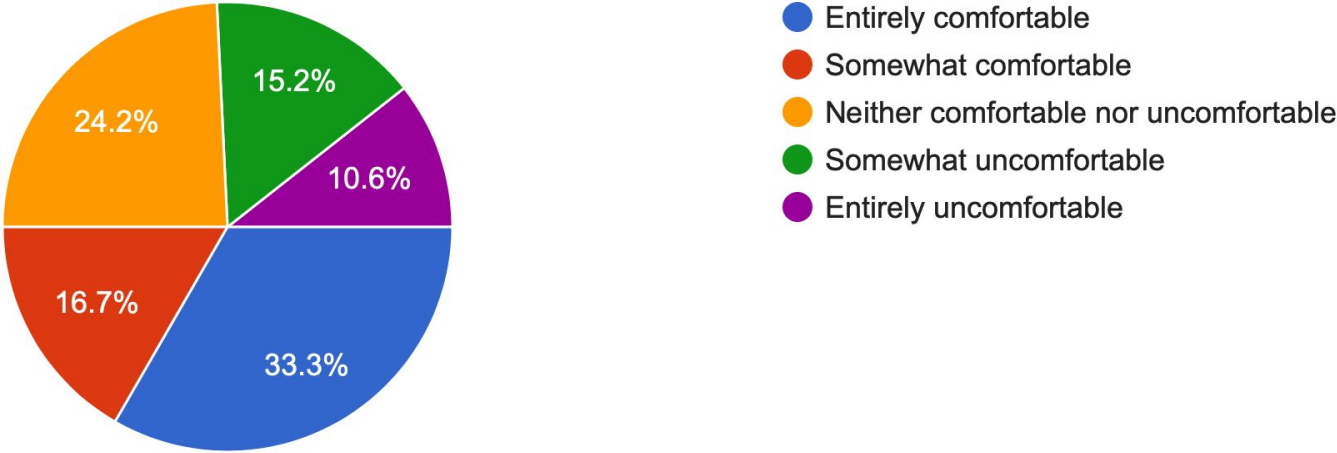


- Entirely comfortable
- Somewhat comfortable
- Neither comfortable nor uncomfortable
- Somewhat uncomfortable
- Entirely uncomfortable



How comfortable do you feel if we continue our current program of online classes and in-person Wednesdays?

66 responses





Scenario Planning

Faculty and Administrative Team sessions and joint sessions of the senior Admin Team and Board Executive Committee



The Second Semester Program: Consistency and Quality with a Path Towards Returning to the Building



Not a Semester-long
decision.

Dependent on conditions and
circumstances at the time.

Manageable and Workable



The overall academic schedule for classes and Encounter Experiences implemented in the first semester will remain the same (core classes Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday morning; Encounter Ex or Core Group Gatherings outside in person on Wednesdays).



Students will return to the school building one day a week with their core group (i.e., grade-level) classmates and a “pod” of 1 - 2 teachers and one administrator for their classes. This will happen Mondays, Tuesday, Thursdays, and Fridays.



The faculty and administrators joining that Core Group pod in the building will be consistent.



We will have two Core Group pods in the building at a time, one pod to a floor.



The faculty and administrators will not cross over pods, nor floors, in the building.



To the extent possible, both teachers assigned to a pod will actually teach those students that day of the week so that they can provide a period of in-person instruction.



During a class period taught by a teacher who is not in their pod, students will be taught remotely by the teacher and supervised in the classroom by the pod's administrator or teacher/s.



The pod's teacher/s and administrator will supervise their students during breaks and lunch, student arrival and departure, and Health Department guidance on health and safety.



In-person attendance at school in these pods is **optional**: **families may choose to continue to have their students attend all of their classes remotely.**

All on-site classes will be interactively taught and streamed via Zoom to any students at home simultaneously with those attending class in person.



All Health Department and Agency of Education guidelines for COVID safety protocols in place at the time will be followed while on campus, including health screenings, social distancing, limited movement, mask wearing, sanitation, etc.

Might the “Spigot Open” Farther During the Second Semester?



If/as conditions improve in the pandemic, subsequent steps may include, but are not limited to:

- Teachers crossing pods to do more direct instruction during their day on campus
- Having students on campus for core-class instruction two days/week (i.e., four pods on campus each day).

What are the Conditions that make this workable and manageable?



- The Governor is allowing in-person learning for Middle and High School Students
 - HVAC upgrade is complete
 - Tech upgrade is complete
 - Public Health benchmarks are met
 - Sufficient staffing (sanitation, aids, and/or new faculty) in place
 - Sufficient Faculty professional development on Hy-flex instruction
 - Other conditions not listed here may arise as the pandemic progresses and need to be addressed accordingly.
-

Some Key Questions



- What if someone becomes sick?
- What if a pod's faculty/administrator can't pass the health screening?
- Many independent schools are requiring families of students who plan to come into the building to agree to follow at-home COVID-preventing behaviors. Will Vermont Commons follow this trend?
- Many independent schools are requiring parents/guardians of students who will come into the building to sign waivers holding the school harmless in the case of COVID-related illness, impairment, or death. Will Vermont Commons follow this trend?
- Some independent schools have COVID advisory committees consisting of parents and alums working in public health, research, or medicine directly related to COVID. Will Vermont Commons have one, now that students will be in the building?
- If the State of Vermont adds a COVID vaccine to its list of required vaccinations for students for attendance in person at schools, will Vermont Commons follow this state requirement?

What's next?

1. FAQ's document coming soon
2. Follow-up Parent/Guardian forums tomorrow morning and Friday at lunch
3. Student forums tomorrow at lunch and during after-school office hours
4. Work with students and teachers to continue ongoing adjustments to first semester program over next five weeks: morning meeting/advisory timing, homework load, **and** optimize the Semester 2 daily/weekly schedule
5. Stay Safe and Healthy, and Finish the First Semester Successfully and Strongly!!

