# Reopening Schools 2020 - 2021

Board of Education Work Session
June 15, 2020

# Desired Outcomes

**By the end of today's Work Session, Board members will have . . . .**

- Reviewed the DHHS and DPI Guidelines and the implications.

- Gained Insight into parents' input gathered from the Thoughtexchange survey.

- Received an overview of the BAC meeting agenda and protocol for seeking input from parents and community members.

- Received an overview of the factors being considered with Transportation and School Building Occupancy.

- Provided input to consider as plans for reopening schools are developed.

# Guidance Documents

Cathy Moore, Superintendent

Dr. Lloyd Gardner, Chief of Staff

# Guidelines

**Department of Health and Human Services**

*Strong Schools NC Public Health Toolkit*

**Department of Public Instruction**

Overview and Synthesis

*Lighting Our Way Forward: Summary Document*

Comprehensive Report

*Lighting Our Way Forward: North Carolina's Guidebook for Reopening Public Schools*

## Engage in Council

*(one person at a time share his/her thoughts)*

## Engage in Dialogue

*(either build upon others' comments or seek clarification)*

From the two documents, what do you identify as the top implications that we need to consider for our work?

What did you hear that intrigues you or that you would like to know more about?

# Community Input

Dr. Lloyd Gardner, Chief of Staff

Beth Hodge, Senior Director, Innovative and Strategic Initiatives

# What are your thoughts, questions, and suggestions to make sure our students and families feel safe and supported as we plan for the new school year?

**4** Participant groups

**25,884** Participants

**33,832** Thoughts

**1,141,770** Ratings

# Please select the option that best describes your involvement with our schools:



| % | 👤 | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 92% | (21,456) | ⬛ | Parent/Guardian of a K-12 student |
| 5% | (1,105) | 🟦 | K-12 Student |
| 1% | (325) | 🟦 | Community Member (not a parent/guardian of a current student) |
| 2% | (409) | 🟦 | Other |

# If you qualify for school district yellow bus transportation, do you plan to use it in the fall?



| % | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 34% | (7,655) | ■ | Yes |
| 43% | (9,595) | ■ | No |
| 23% | (5,087) | ■ | Not applicable |

# Does your child receive special education services?



| % | 👤 | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 12% | (2,658) | ■ | Yes |
| 80% | (17,926) | ■ | No |
| 8% | (1,728) | ■ | Not applicable |

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# Is anyone in your household in a high risk group for COVID-19?



| % | 👤 | |
|---|---|---|
| 31% | (6,955) | ■ Yes |
| 63% | (14,021) | ■ No |
| 6% | (1,322) | ■ Do not know |

# Based on the information you have now, how comfortable do you think you will be sending your child back to school, or going back to school, if the health orders allow it?
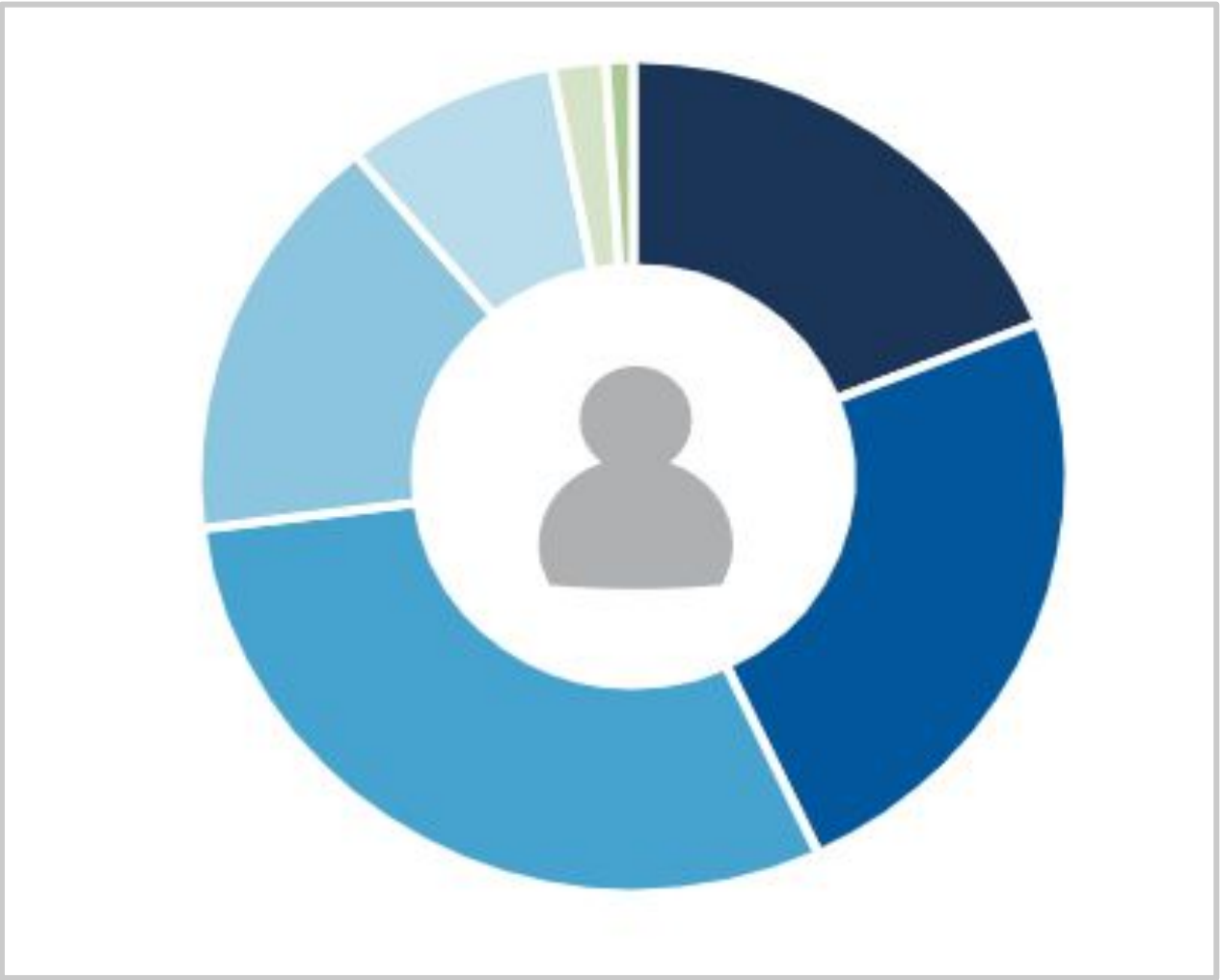


| % | 👤 | |
|---|---|---|
| 19% | (4,239) | Extremely comfortable |
| 24% | (5,599) | Somewhat comfortable |
| 30% | (6,908) | Hesitant and concerned |
| 16% | (3,633) | Extremely uncomfortable |
| 8% | (1,931) | I won't send my child to school until there is a vaccine and/or treatment |
| 2% | (502) | I don't know how I feel |
| 1% | (112) | Not applicable |
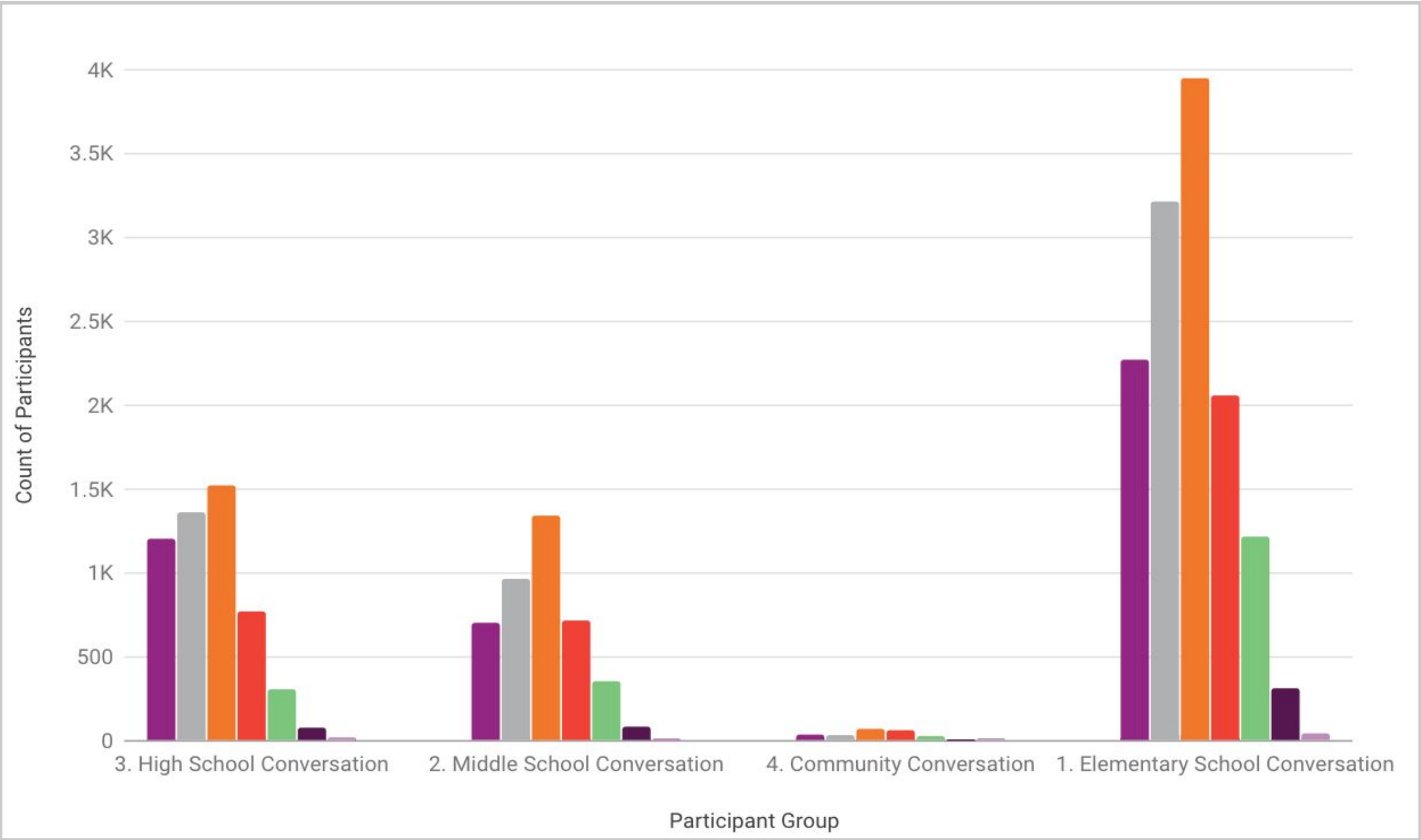


Extremely com
Somewhat con
Hesitant and c
Extremely unc

I won't send my child to school until there is a vaccine and/or treatment
I don't know how I feel
Not applicable

# At this time, if you could choose the learning model for your child next year, would you choose:



| % | 👤 | |
|---|---|---|
| 35% | (7,869) | ■ Back in school building |
| 35% | (7,827) | ■ A blended school/home model |
| 22% | (5,013) | ■ Fully online model |
| 8% | (1,785) | ■ Not sure |
| 0% | (85) | ■ Not applicable |
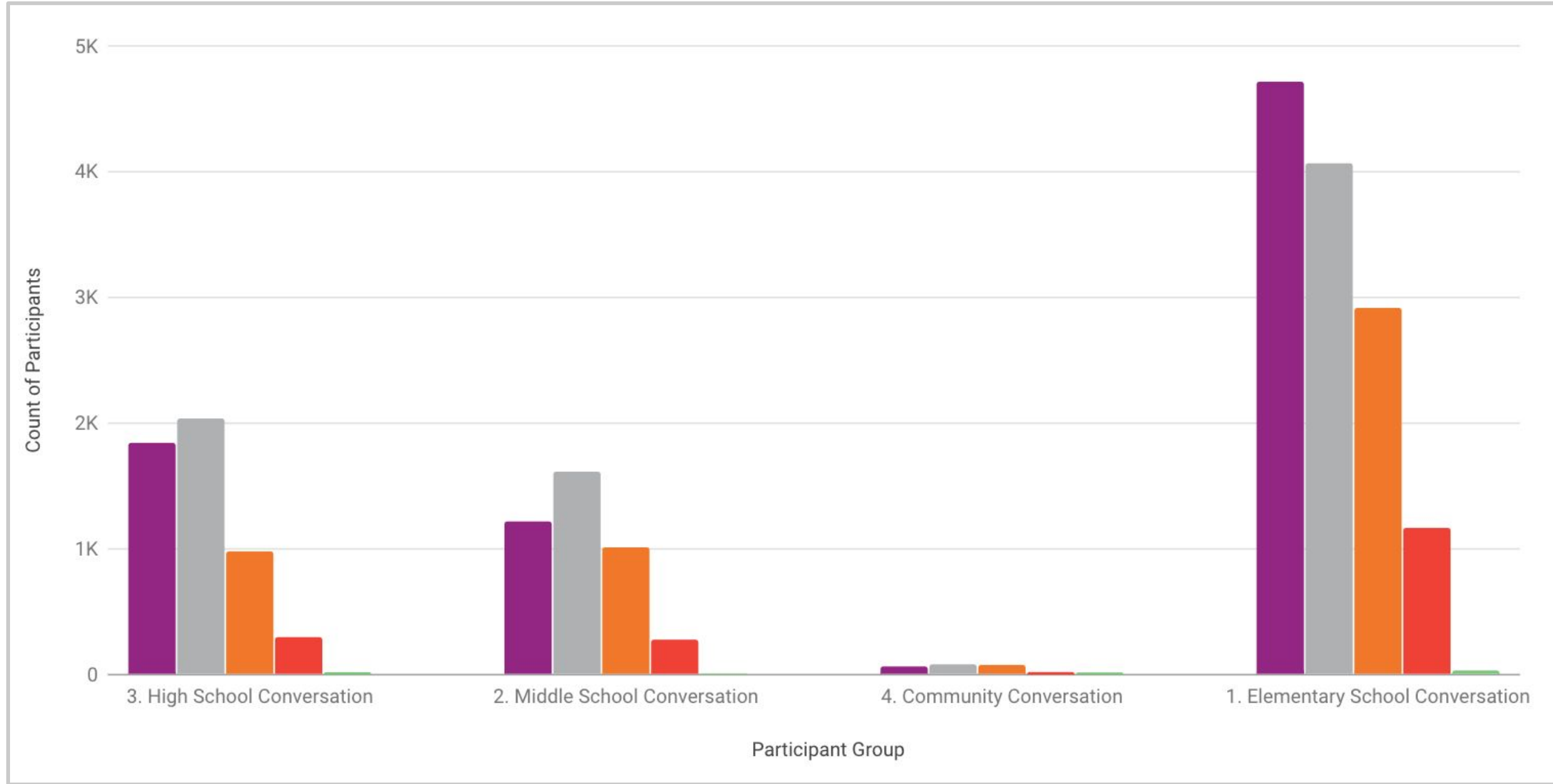


■ Back in school building
■ A blended school/home model
■ Fully online model
■ Not sure
■ Not applicable

# Summary Themes and Themes

**Learning & Instruction**
- Accountability & Quality of Online Learning
- Assignment & Grading Online
- Attendance & Recess
- Expectations for Students
- Flexibility of Online Learning
- General Thoughts on Learning & Instruction
- Interact & Engage Students Online
- Live Teaching Online
- Reliable & Consistent Online Platform

**Plan and Decision Making**
- A Timely, Clear, and Sound Plan
- Engaging Teachers and Families in Planning

**Stop and Reduce Spreading & Exposure**
- Cleaning & Sanitation
- Face Covering
- Other Ways to Reduce Risk
- Protocol of Potential Exposure
- Safety & Well-being
- Social Distancing

**Support**
- Support for Students & Families
- Support for Teachers & Staff
- Support/Protect High-risk Individuals

**Appreciation**
- Appreciation

**Communications**
- Clear, Timely, Transparent Communication
- Communication (general)

Elementary School Top Rated Themes

Stop and Reduce Spreading & Exposure

Learning & Instruction

Support

Communications

Plan and Decision Making

Appreciation

Ot..

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Middle School
Top Rated Themes

Learning & Instruction

Stop and Reduce Spreading & Exposure

Support

Plan and Decisio...

Communications

Appreciation

Ot...

High School
Top Rated Themes

**Learning & Instruction**

**Stop and Reduce Spreading & Exposure**

**Support**

**Plan and Decision Making**

**Communications**

**Appreciation**
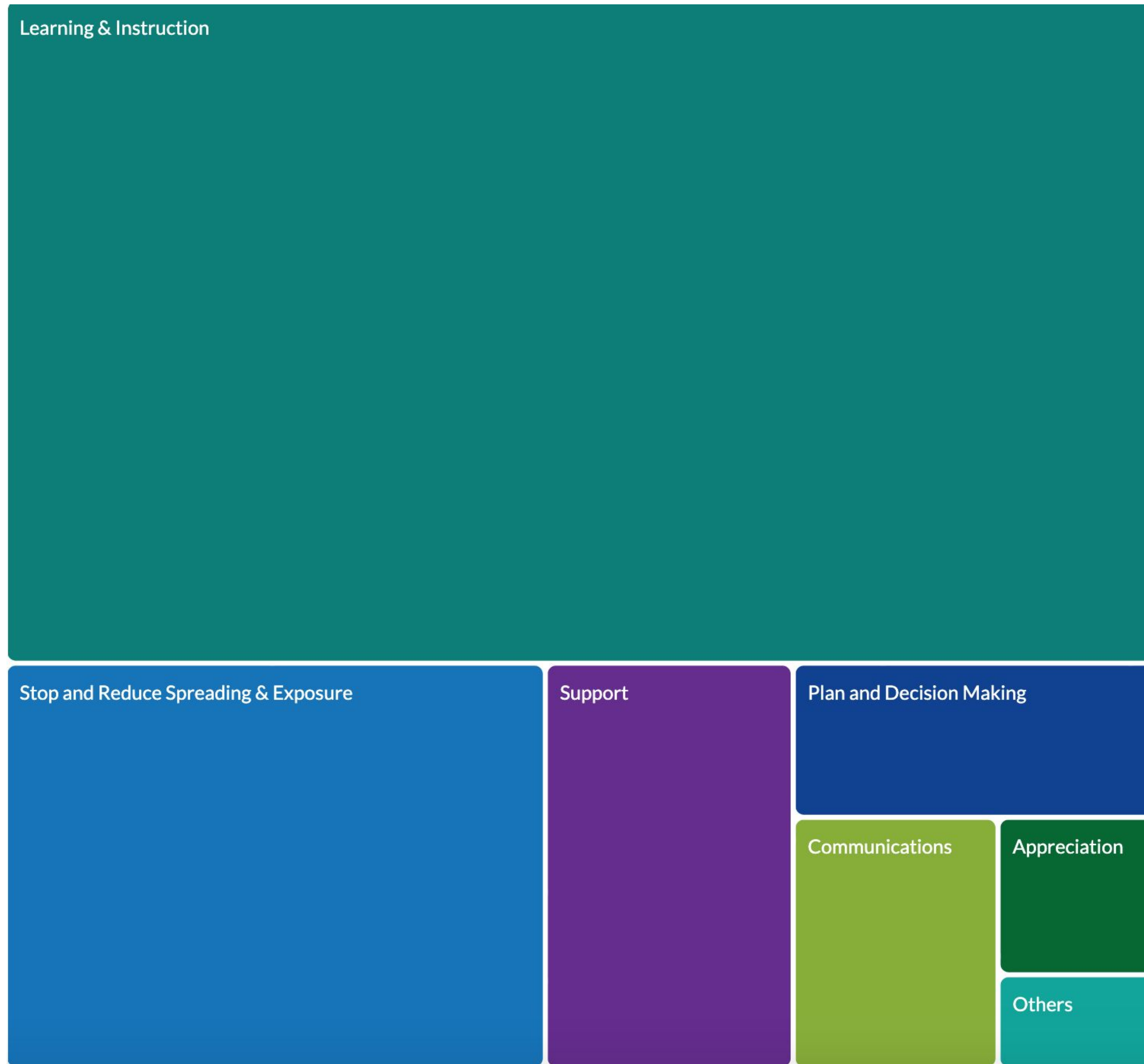
**Others**

What are your reactions to the top emerging themes you see reflected in the responses?

# Board Advisory Council Protocol

Seydric Williams, Northwestern Area Superintendent

Leigh Ann Alford-Keith, Special Assistant to the Northern Area Superintendent

# Board Advisory Council Meetings

- [Protocol for Board Advisory Committee Meetings](#)

- [BAC Meeting Schedule and Facilitators](#)

- [Board Advisory Council RSVP Form - June 2020](#)

# Planning Considerations

Transportation and Facilities

# Transportation

Bob Snidemiller, Senior Director, Office of Transportation

**Questions/Critical needs (applies to yellow bus and contract transportation)**

How will we reopen?

- Social distancing requirements?
- Impact on bus/cab capacities?
- How many students (riders) per bus/cab run on any given day?
- Regular board approved bell schedules?
- Tolerance for staggered arrival and departure times?
- How many bus drivers and safety assistants return (60 drivers over the age of 65)?

Other questions?

- How can we best support the method of opening?
- Can siblings share a seat (increase capacity on bus)?
- Expand the No Transport Zone (NTZ) – require more parent transport?
- Reduce # of stops (create "neighborhood express stops") to reduce run times?
- PPE required on buses and contract vehicles?

# Transportation-School Opening 2020 - 2021

## Considerations

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| ~11 people (students and staff) on a 72 passenger bus | This is a major factor in determining school schedules | Need to survey parents to understand ridership expectations |
| Need to survey staff to understand driver capacity | This virus amplifies existing difficulties with bus driver shortages | An extra adult will likely be needed on the bus to assist with health screenings: a nurse? |

The base plan (no social distancing requirements)

- Build routes for **2020-21** as usual based on student assignments
- Allows us to "spin" adjusted plans due to social distance requirements
- Allows us to convert to business as usual once all restrictions lifted
- Not many changes from current year

Base plan adjustments (with social distancing requirements)

- Supports the method of opening
- **6 FT of distancing = 11 students per bus run, 4 FT = 22 students per bus run** (11 riders = roughly 20% of average assigned riders/run)
- We may need 2 (more?) trips for each bus run depending the on SD requirements and the daily school/bus rosters.
- Adjust bell schedules/arrival and departure times to allow for more runs per bus to each school

# Social Distancing School Bus Capacities
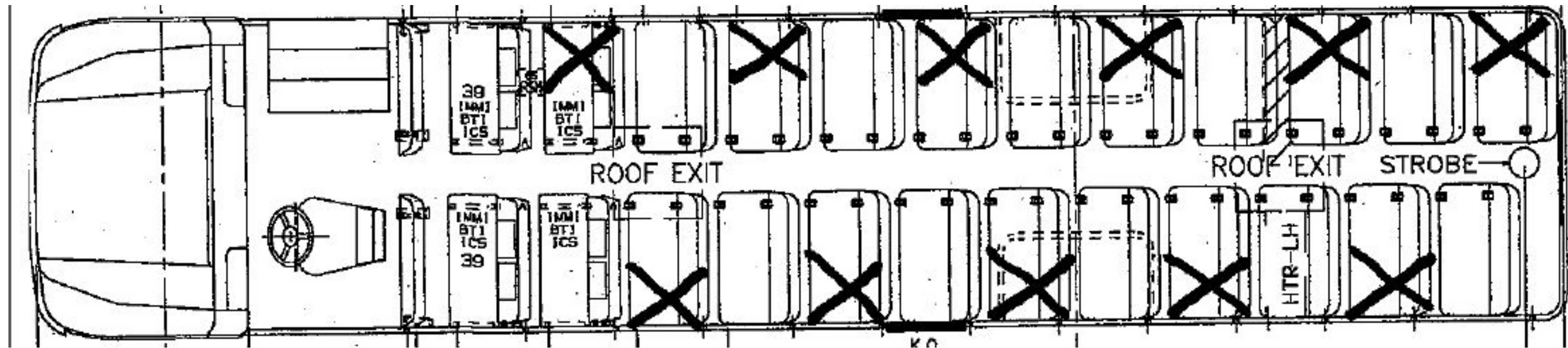


6ft distancing

11 passengers
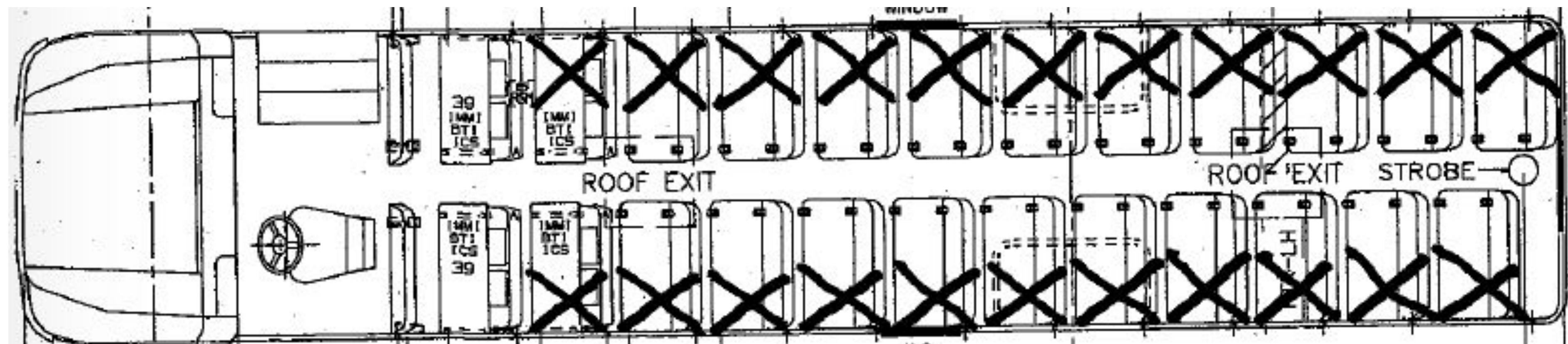


4ft distancing

22 passengers

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# Transportation-School Opening 2020 - 2021

The next 2 slides represent data from our routing system. The analysis is mathematical only.

Staff is running actual routing analysis based on the same assumptions to see how the actual outcome matches our mathematical outcomes.

# Transportation-School Opening 2020 - 2021

Opening plan = 50% school attendance
Data source: TIMS routing system

| | Base Plan | Adj. plan (Cap 11) | Adj. plan (Cap 22) |
|---|---|---|---|
| # of buses | 750 | 750 | 750 |
| # of runs | 2047 | 4012 | 2047 |
| # of trips (AVG) | 1 | 1.96 | .98 |
| # of trips(range) | 1 | .05 – 3.95 | .03 – 1.98 |
| Arrival window | Normal | 45 minutes more between tiers (more with health screens) | Normal (heatlh screens?) |
| # of riders | 70000 | 35000 | 35000 |

# Transportation-School Opening 2020 - 2021

Opening plan = 20% school attendance
Data source: TIMS routing system

|  | **Base Plan** | **Adj. plan (Cap 11)** | **Adj. plan (Cap 22)** |
|---|---|---|---|
| # of buses | 750 | 750 | 750 |
| # of runs | 2047 | 2047 | 2047 |
| # of trips (AVG) | 1 | .78 | .39 |
| # of trips(range) | 1 | .03 - 1.58 | .01 - .79 |
| Arrival window | Normal | Normal (health screens could impact) | Normal |
| # of riders | 70000 | 14000 | 14000 |

**Conclusion**

- **50% attendance** with limited capacity of **11 people** on a bus would impact bell schedules and arrival/departure times.
- **50% attendance** with limited capacity of **22 people** on a bus would not have as significant an impact as restriction to 11 people (without health screening) on bell schedules and arrival/departure times.
- Calculations do not factor in the potential time needed health screen riders (temp check & forms)
- Calculations to not factor in a potential reduced return of bus & cab drivers
- Would Spec Ed follow the same attendance model?

# School Building Occupancy

Elizabeth Sharpe, Director, Facilities Design and Construction

# Social Distancing Guidelines

- Capacities at individual schools will vary and are dependent on the actual built spaces, furnishings, and built-in components that reduce flexibility and the usable square footage.

- In general, **50 square feet per student** accommodates 6' of social distancing, circulation, and teaching.

- Most classrooms will be limited to **16 – 18 students**.

- Not all schools have the same classroom furniture.

- Many of our schools only have tables and may have to request classroom desks from ERD to make the space work.

Moseley Architects

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# Elementary School Guidelines



= 50 SF per Student

| Teaching Space | Number of Spaces & Square Footage | Capacity with social distancing @ 50 SF/student | Number of Classrooms Needed |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Regular Classroom K-3 | 24 @ 1050 | 504 (17 students / class) | 0 Classrooms |
| Regular Classroom 4-5 | 8 @ 900 | 144 (18 students / class) | 3 Classrooms |
| Media Center | 1 @ 3,220 | 64  (2 classes @ 20 students) | |
| Dining | 1 @ 2,900 | 58  (2 classes @ 20 students) | |
| Gym | 1 @ 2,900 | 58  (2 classes @ 20 students) | |

Accommodates  approx. 700 student Elementary School
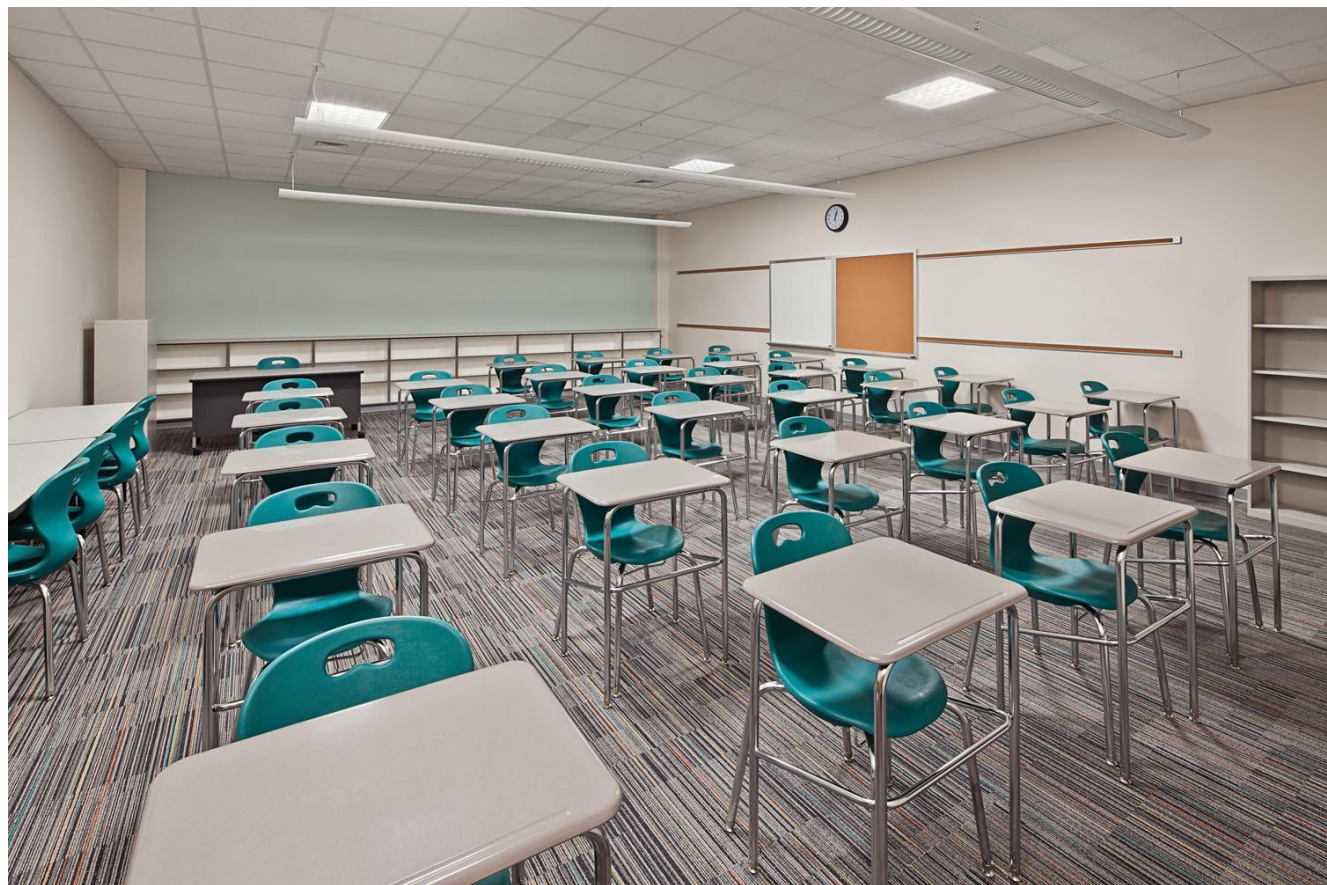
# Middle School Guidelines



$=$ 50 SF per Student

| Teaching Space | Number of Spaces & Square Footage | Capacity with social distancing @ 50 SF/student | Number of Classrooms Needed |
|---|---|---|---|
| Regular Classroom | 40 @ 850 | 680 (17 students / class) | 22 Classrooms |
| All other Classrooms | 19 @ 1,100 | 380 (20 students / class) | 6 Classrooms |
| Media Center | 1 @ 6,670 | 78 (3 classes @ 22 students) | |
| Dining | 1 @ 6383 | 78 (3 classes @ 22 students) | |
| Gym | 1 @ 12,000 | 156 (4 classes @ 22 students) | |

Accommodates approx. 1200 student Middle School

# High School Guidelines



$=$ 50 SF per Student

| Teaching Space | Number of Spaces & Square Footage | Capacity with social distancing @ 50 SF/student | Number Classrooms Needed |
|---|---|---|---|
| Regular Classroom | 50 @ 850 | 850 (17 students / class) | 27 Classrooms |
| All other Classrooms | 41 @ 1,200 | 984 (24 students / class) | 4 Classrooms |
| Media Center | 1 @ 11,045 | 120 (6 classes @ 20 students) | |
| Dining | 1 @ 10,364 | 80 (4 classes @ 20 students) | |
| Gyms | 2 @ 22,500 | 160 (8 classes @ 20 students) | |

Accommodates approx. 2200 student High School
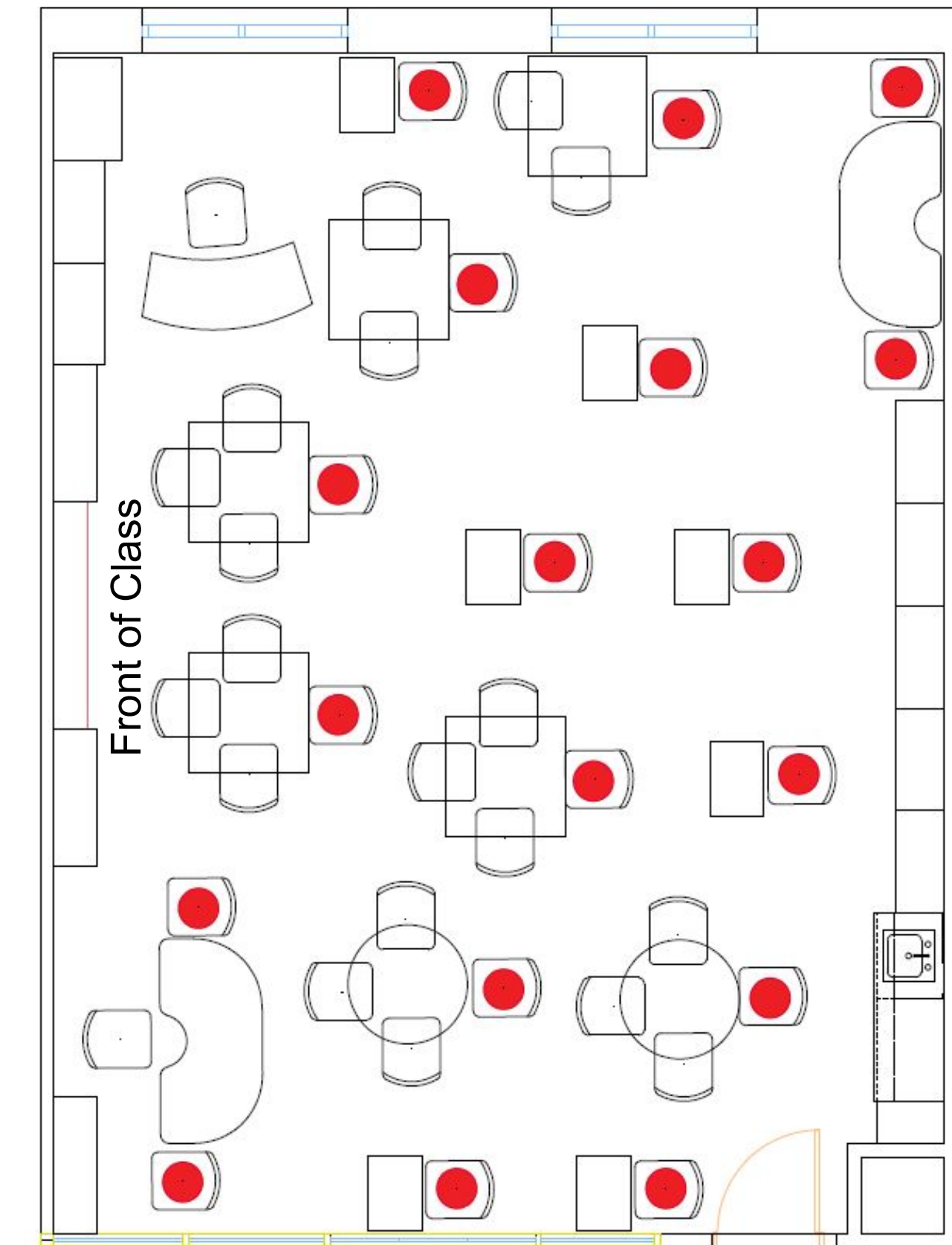
# Examples of Furniture Layouts

- All Students will sit 6' Apart for Social Distancing Indicated by Red Dot
- All Students are Facing Front
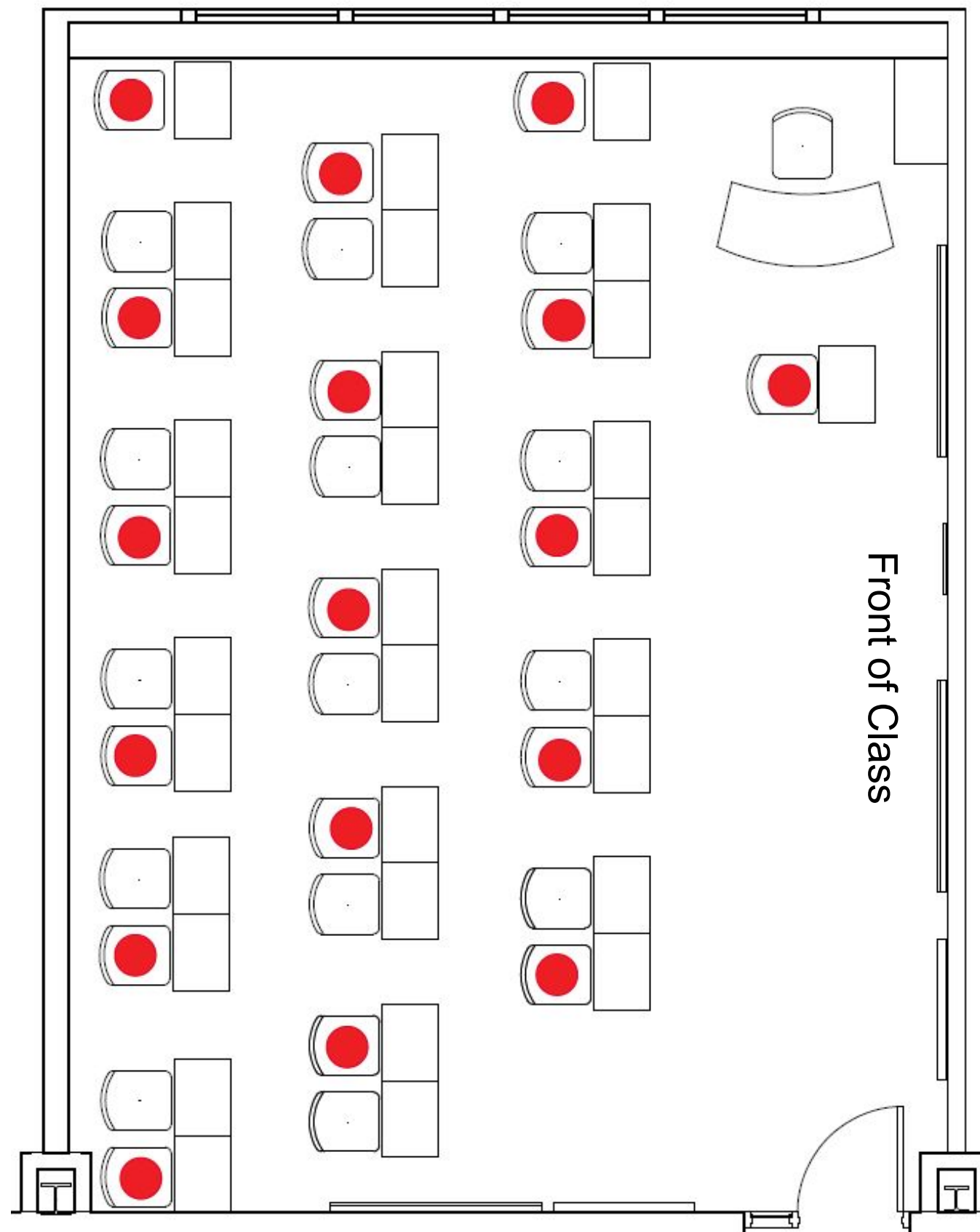


High School Classroom
17 Students at Desks
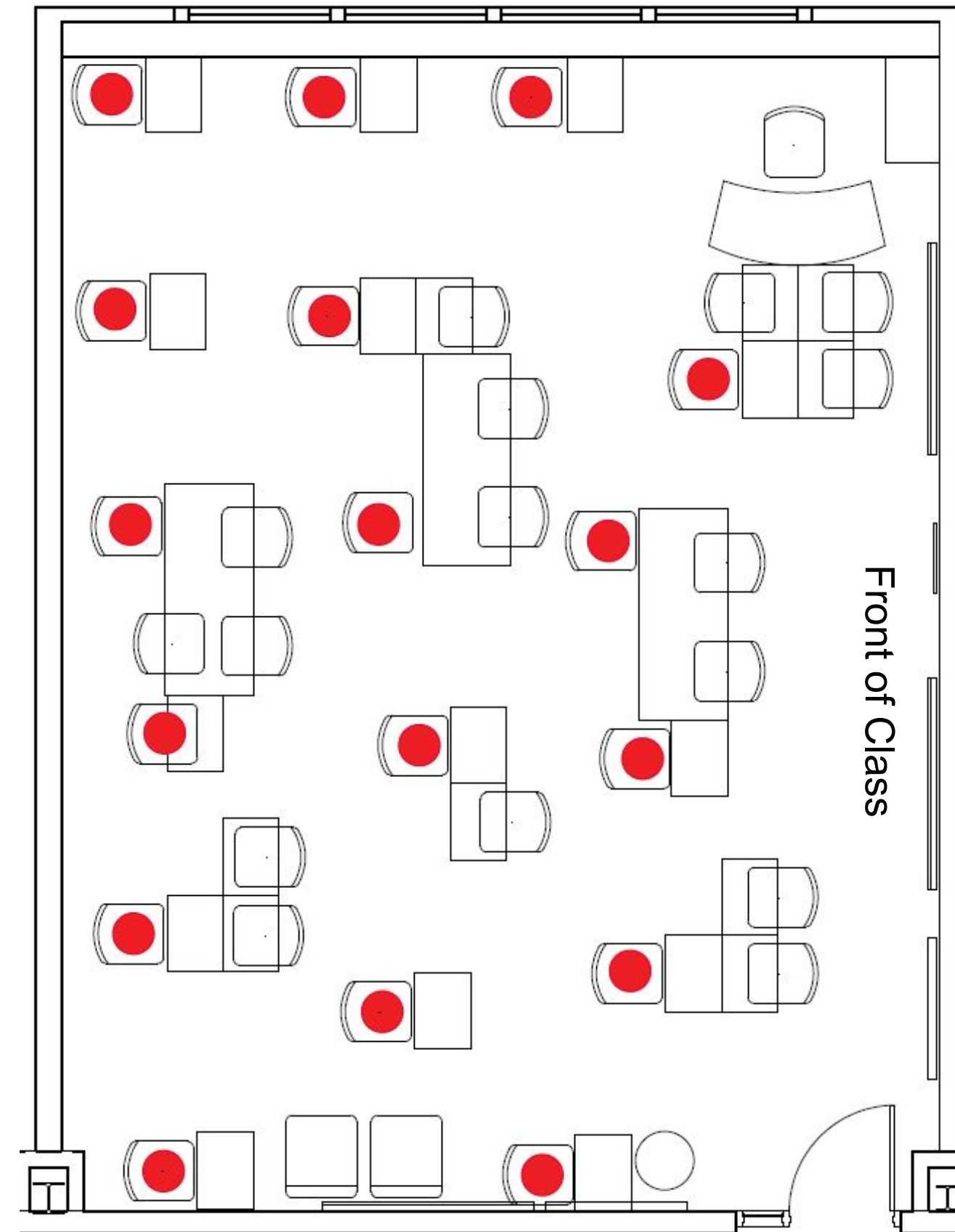


High School Classroom
17 Students at
Desks and Tables



Second Grade Classroom
18 Students at
Desks and Tables

# Reopening 2020 - 2021 Input Opportunity

Dr. Lloyd Gardner, Chief of Staff

Beth Hodge, Senior Director, Innovative and Strategic Initiatives

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# Group Map Protocol

**Four Categories:  Political, Economic, Social, Technological**

- **Political:** What policies will we need to change?  Will we need to work differently with other elected bodies?
- **Economic:** What financial factors as related to our schools, families, and employees should we consider?
- **Social:** How does operating our schools under current health guidelines affect students, families, and employees?
- **Technological:** What opportunities exist for innovative thinking and the redesign of schooling?

# Group Map Protocol

- Join us at: https://join.groupmap.com/666-118-249

- Enter your email address in order to return to this page tomorrow

- You will see a page that says "Welcome" with our objective

- You will then be taken to a page with a multi-colored table.  We will begin with the "Brainstorm" button.

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# Next Steps

**BOE Work Session June 16**

- Opportunity will be provided to continue this discussion
- Link to Thoughtexchange data