

The graphic features a central orange, irregularly shaped blob with a glossy, 3D effect. The background is a light blue grid. Scattered around the blob are several orange pencils of different colors (orange, yellow, brown) and several orange paper clips. Some pencils have long, wavy lines trailing behind them, suggesting motion or drawing. The text is centered within the orange blob.

Community Conversation about DL

December 3, 2020

Our Agenda for Tonight

1. Share out responses from the family survey about Distance Learning
2. Hear from Mr. Joe Spina, Bayside Social Studies teachers, about his transition to DL
3. A word from Mr. Cosmos, Bayside Principal, about what is coming up next for Bayside families
4. Discuss next steps for the data collected from the family survey



A few notes for us

Tonight is about:

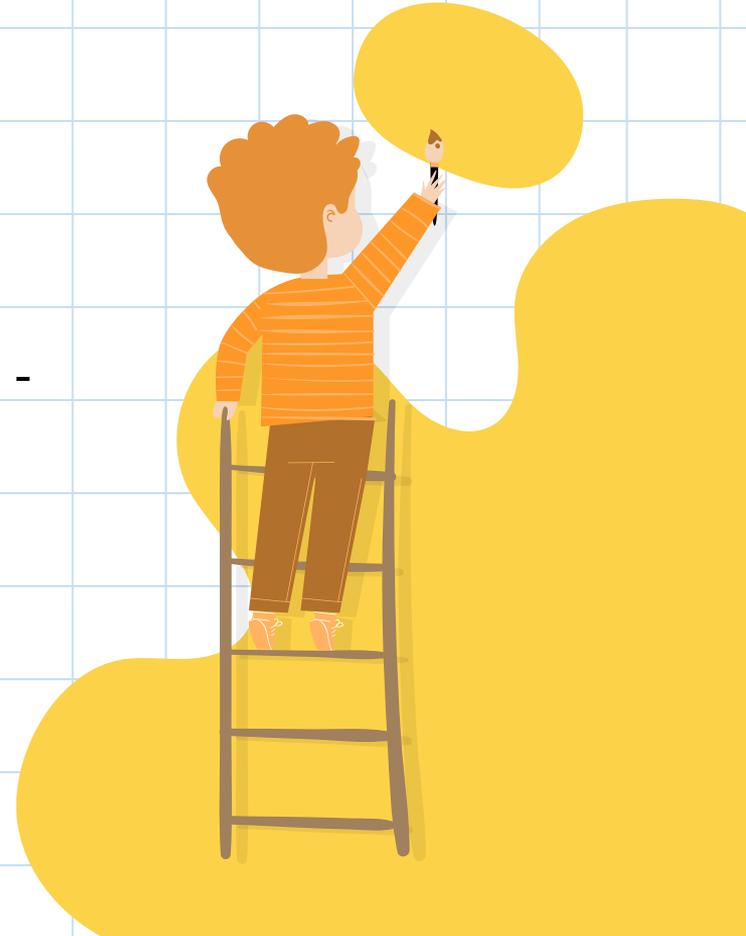
- sharing information from and about our community and what we've learned in DL to benefit all families
- learning from other families about ways to approach DL
- creating a respectful and calm setting for this discussion

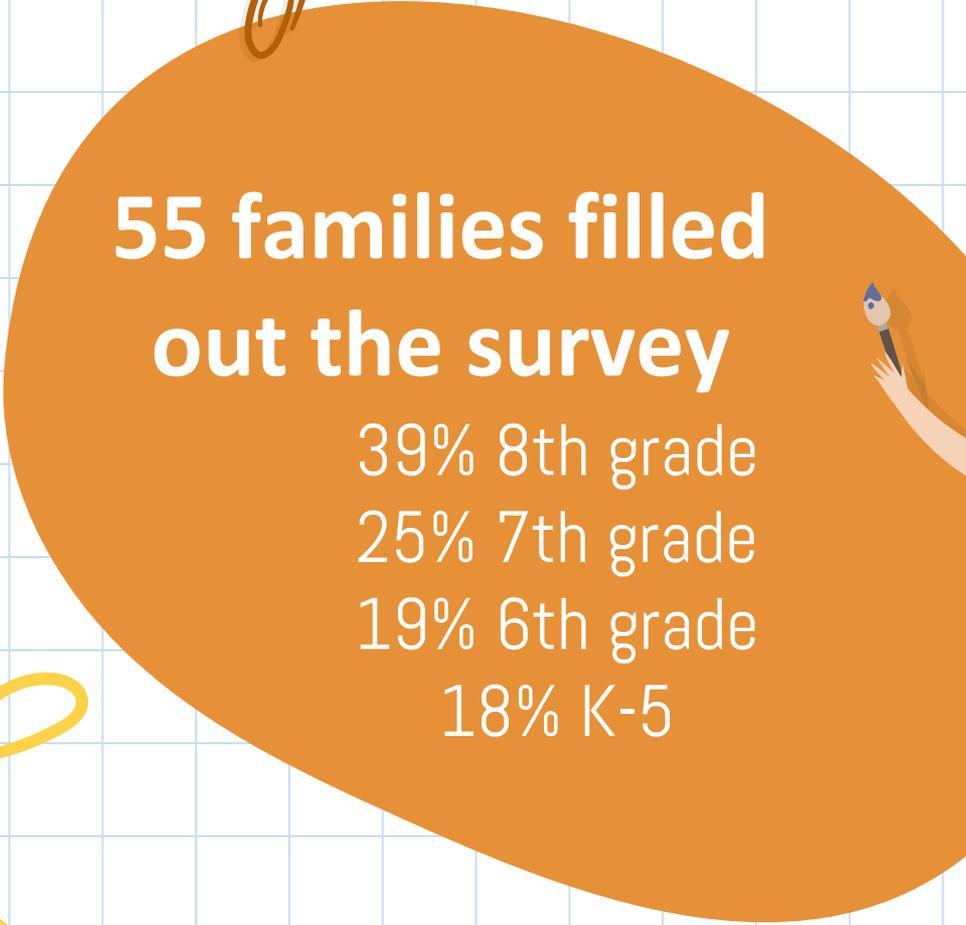
Tonight is NOT about:

- deciding whether or not Bayside will return to campus
 - having a debate about whether to reopen

Please be respectful, kind, and positive in tonight's meeting

There are MANY strong feelings about DL and our current situation - please take a deep breath and be reasonable and respectful to each other





**55 families filled
out the survey**

39% 8th grade
25% 7th grade
19% 6th grade
18% K-5



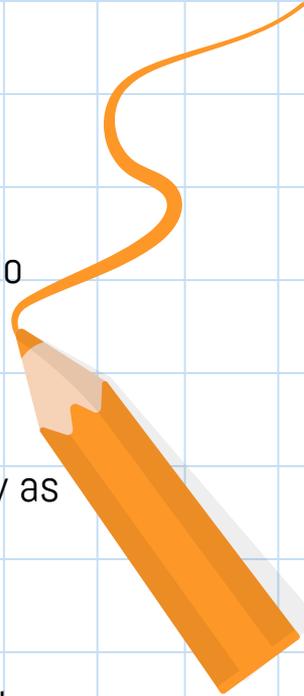
What have you learned about your child(ren) during DL?

- Kids need to have structure and someone checking in with them regularly
- It is hard for them to be very focused and get active participation at the beginning. It is getting better now.
- How difficult it is for the teachers to get the students to participate in class
- She wants to stay to herself a lot. Screentime is addictive and now the default activity.
- My child is an independent learner who can thrive without a traditional classroom
- They are resilient***
- I have learned what subjects my child enjoys learning about and that it is hard for him to focus
- His strength, courage, and determination to overcome the challenges



What have you learned about yourself during DL?

- I need to check on him more frequently
- I still remember middle school math - LOL!
- I don't like to educate my kids and am extremely grateful for their teachers
- I am enjoying having the kids at home - I cherish this intense bonding time
- It is extremely difficult to be her teacher while I work and have normal life things to do
- I have learned more about technology
- To be more patient and try to understand more
- I can take a back seat and allow my child to be accountable on her own
- Different students need very different guidance - my high school student is not nearly as successful but I'm positive he would have been in 7th grade
- Pick my battles
- I cannot focus myself as I am constantly having to change tasks
- I decided to leave my job...to be more present for the kids and our family...I still hope to continue with my own career...I feel privileged to have been able to take this pause for our family



Tips from your family to ours!

- Each family member has responsibilities to be involved in maintaining our household
- Separate a space for school work only. Not the same spot he does leisure activities
- Frequent breaks away from the screen by going outside
- Being well-fed! Regular meals and snacks
- Using a reward system
- Having my mother come in and help because without her my child would be even more behind
- We watched this video in the summer:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iSkbd6hRkXo>
- Keeping bedtimes and wake up times consistent
- Having children work together in the same room where mom & dad can walk by anytime and see what they're doing
- Making sure we are all in separate rooms during the work day
- Checking on homework, Schoolloop, and Google Classroom each day to make sure assignments are done
- Dinner time chat about the day
- We set up Alexa to announce the start of each period of the day



What has Bayside done that you think is successful?

Meetings by Zoom

Parent ed, GATE, and Mandarin Zoom meetings increase flexibility and attendance

Small Groups

Elementary afternoon groups allow more support

Consistent Schedule

Live teaching, more structure to classes

Communication

Appreciate consistent, honest, organized communication from teachers, counselors, admin

No Homework

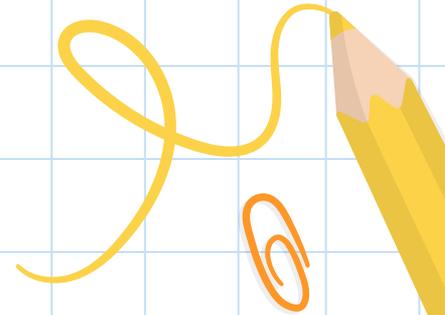
Stress relief, allows time for other activities/freedom

Keeping PE

Helps kids take a break and lighten the mood!

Google Classroom

Great to have consistency and organization



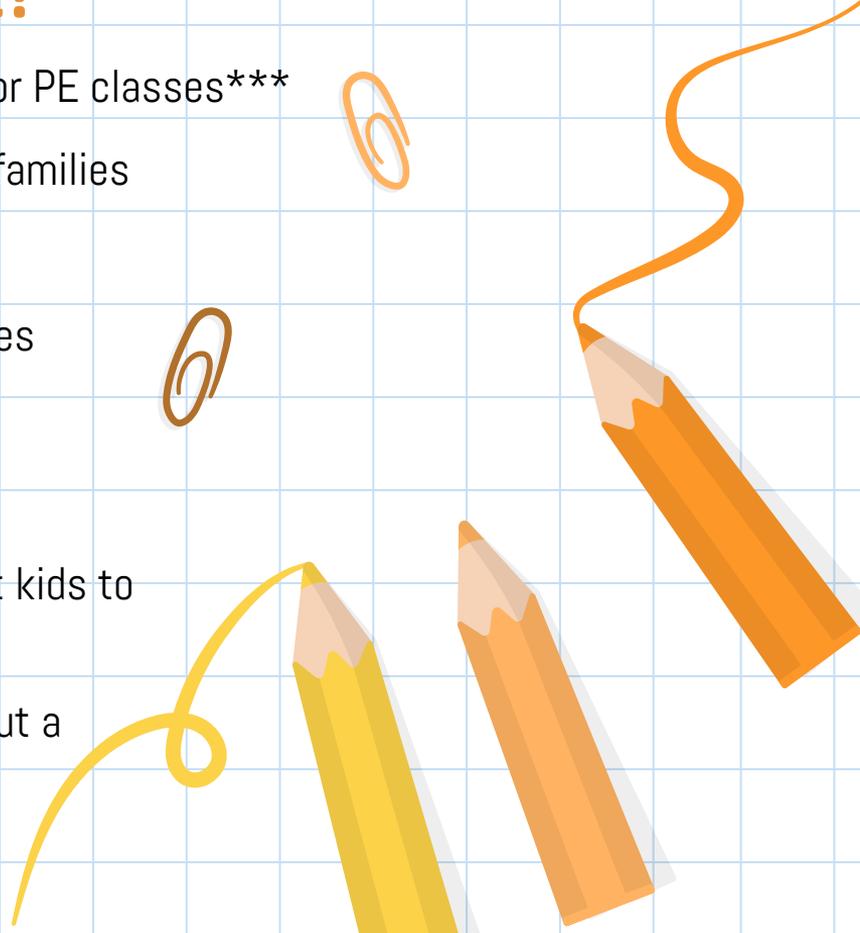
Let's hear from a Bayside teacher!

Introducing Joe Spina, social studies and AVID elective teacher



Advice for DL Improvement!

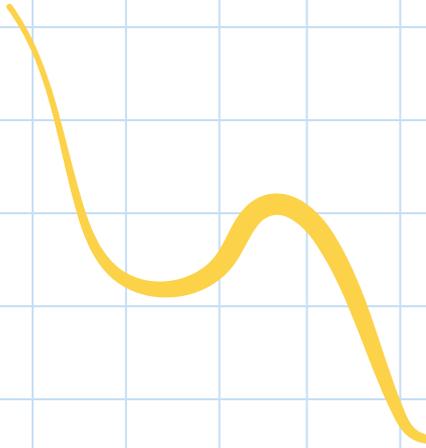
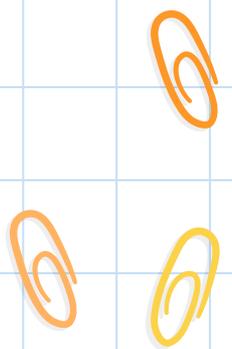
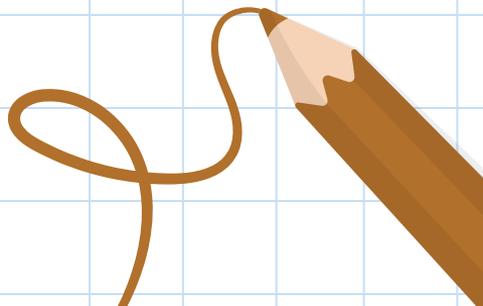
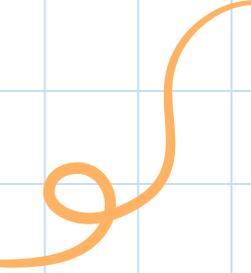
- Open campus for safe, outdoor social activities or PE classes***
- Assignments where students engage with their families
- Having school start at 9am for more sleep
- Hands on activities in classes, tactile experiences
- More breakout rooms/small groups
- Teachers encourage screen breaks
- Weekly 1:1 check ins with teachers - hard to get kids to self-advocate when they need support
- My son loves the little things teachers do that put a smile on his face! A quick gif or a silly opener



What parts of DL would you keep?

- Google Classroom
- Meetings and conferences via Zoom
- Giving technology to students to increase equity and access
- Keep a distance learning day 1 day per week to allow for more sleep
- The SEL period for non-academic discussion
- The “no homework” rule
- Keep focus on virtual skills so that our students can keep collaborating, learning, and presenting using online tools





Reopening

Let's remember --
take a breath, be
respectful, be
kind!

How are you feeling about the possibility of Bayside reopening?

COVID is out of control, in person learning is a horrible idea

NO WAY!

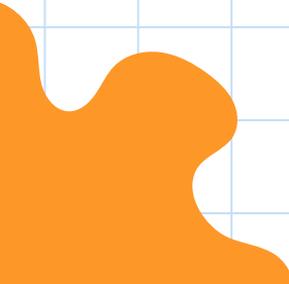
Until there is a vaccine, my children will not be attending

I still feel unsafe, but can we do small groups at school?

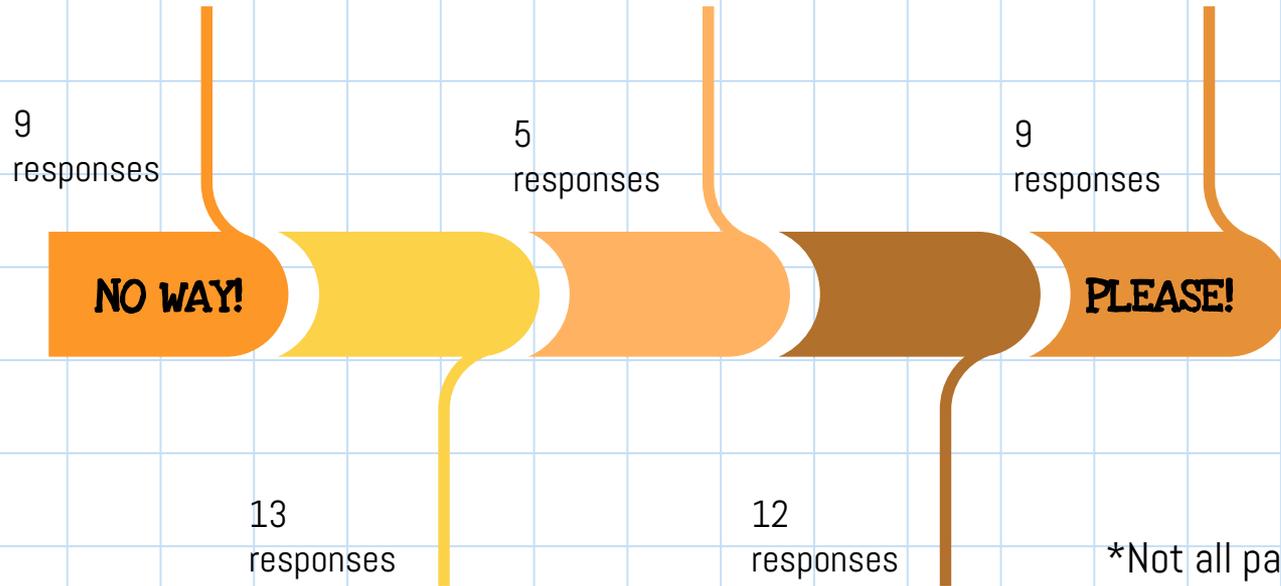
Good, as long as there are proper safety protocols

As soon as possible, our kids NEED this! Especially kids falling behind

PLEASE!



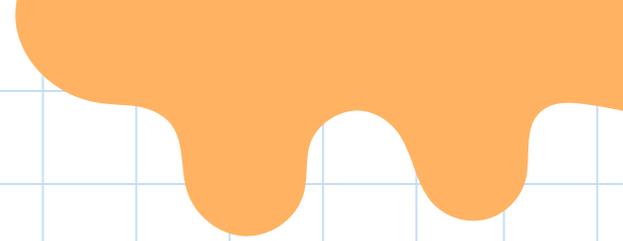
How are you feeling about the possibility of Bayside reopening?

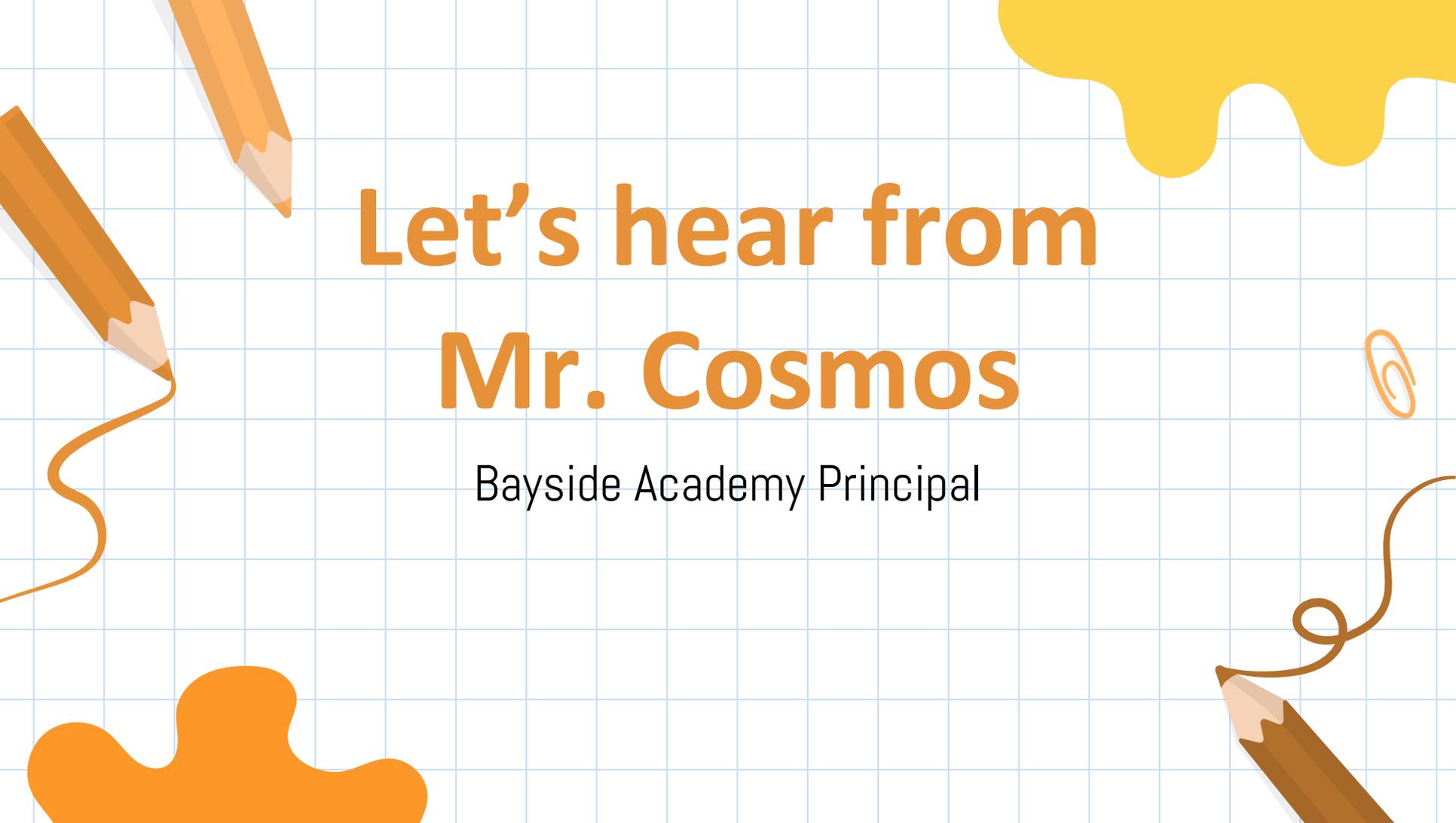


Not all participants in the survey answered this

What would help you feel prepared for a return in person?

- Information on safety protocols
- Q&A sessions in advance of opening
- In-person orientation in the new gym
- Providing testing for students and staff
- Knowing a middle school schedule prior to returning
- Significantly lower COVID rates in San Mateo county
- Temperature checks, PPE
- Regular updates via email
- Families sign a contract that they will self-isolate if anyone in household is exposed to COVID
 - Sense of shared responsibility: "It is scary when you don't know the other families in the class"
- Fewer students per classroom
- An available vaccine
- Nothing, until virus is under control





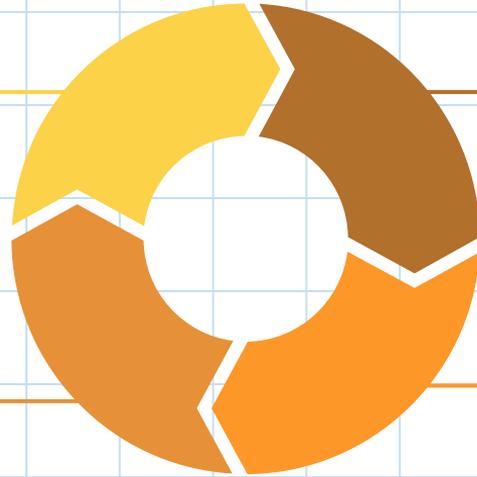
Let's hear from Mr. Cosmos

Bayside Academy Principal

How the decisions get made



County Health Orders



Guidance from San Mateo Foster City School District

Family choice

Plan at Bayside --
schedule, teachers,
campus, etc.



What are our next steps for the data collected here?

01

Share data from family survey with Bayside staff

02

Conduct a similar survey with our students!

03

Share student survey data with school community



The background is a light blue grid. In the top-left corner, there are two orange pencils pointing downwards. In the top-right corner, there is a large, irregular yellow shape. In the bottom-left corner, there is a smaller, irregular yellow shape. In the bottom-right corner, there is a brown pencil pointing upwards, with a yellow paperclip and a brown squiggly line above it.

As always, thank you for
being here

Lauren Alexander
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