

AFT CONNECTICUT

PSRP MEMBERSHIP
SCHOOL BUILDING REOPENING
JULY 2020

Prepared by:

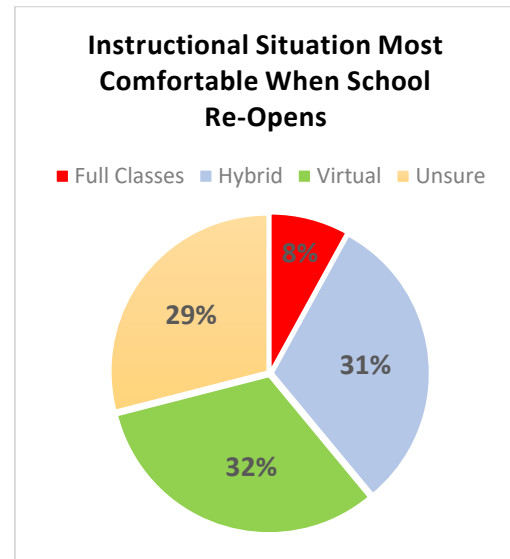
DFM Research

Saint Paul, Minnesota

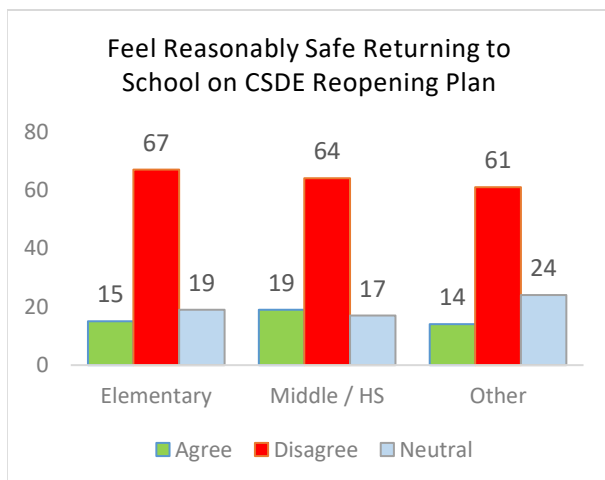
Executive Summary:

American Federation of Teachers Connecticut (AFT CT) PSRP members overwhelmingly oppose returning to a full classes with face-to-face instruction, even when following Center of Disease Control (CDC) guidelines. Only eight percent want to return to that scenario, based on an August survey of AFT CT PSRP members. The AFT CT PSRP membership survey was conducted from July 28 – August 3, 2020, consisting of 437 members who sufficiently completed the online survey. With regards to returning to school with full classes, the crosstab data presents the complete picture. Consider:

- Like teachers, just eight percent of PSRP members support full classes with fact-to-face instruction.
- Length of service is a factor, with 15 percent of those working five years or less wanting full classes, while five years or more service are in the five to seven percent range.
- Middle and High School PSRP members are more in favor of digital only (42%) setting than elementary schools.
- PSRPs by a two-to-one margin are more likely to be uncertain instructional situation to reopen schools compared to teachers – 29 percent of PRSPs to 14 percent of teachers.



The survey results show that no matter how you frame the questions, PSRPs are very concerned (the data show a lot of intensity, with words like strongly and extreme being the majority response to most questions) about going back to the classroom in the fall. When asked about risk factors, 66 percent responded with ‘extreme’ concern having interactions with non-compliant students (Q4c), while 63 percent ‘strongly’ agree with the statement that they are concerned about students not following CDC guidelines (Q14). This is a key point found in the survey, PSRPs (like teachers) have intense feeling/beliefs on these issues, not lukewarm or blasé.

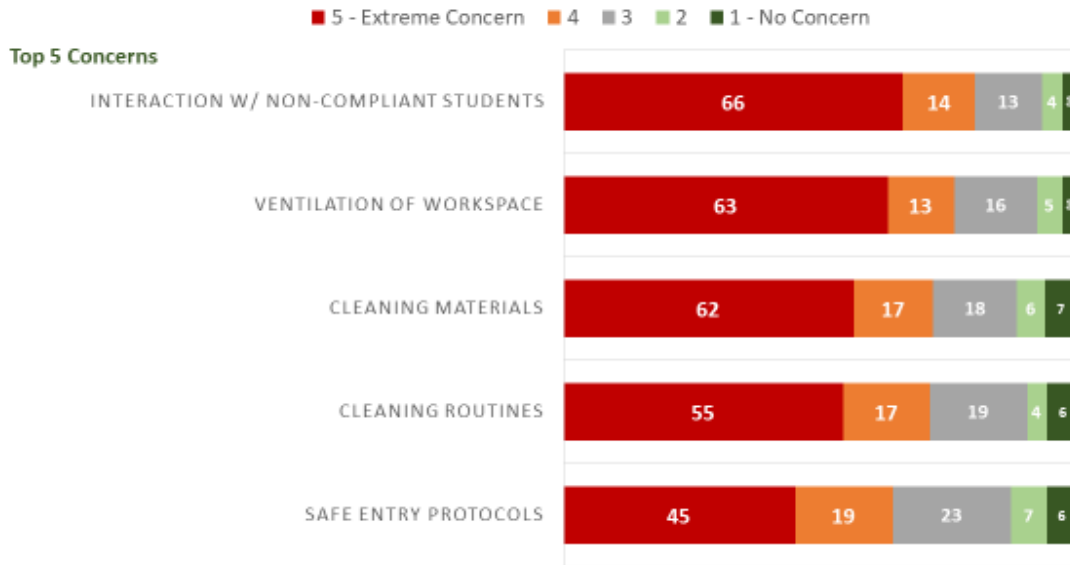


Question eight get right to the crux of the issue, do PSRPs feel safe returning to school this fall based on the CSDE plan. The answer is a clear ‘no’. Overall, 65 percent disagree about feeling safe. Only 16 percent agree that they will feel safe in a full classroom setting.

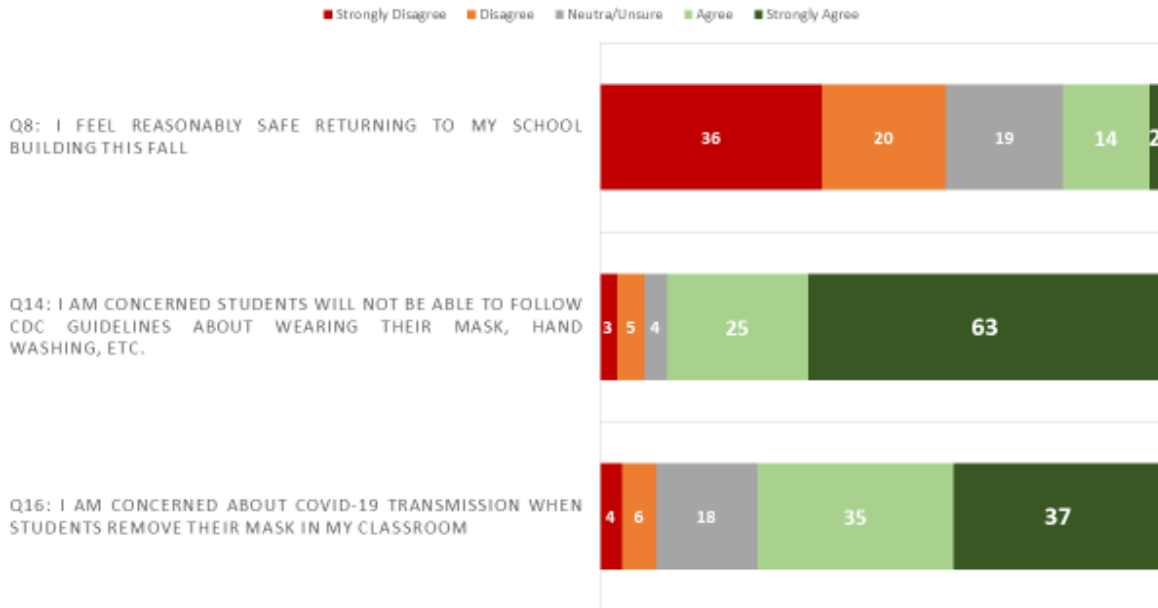
When you combine the two above questions, review the demographics and the data as a whole, only one-in-seven AFT CT PSRP members are in favor and comfortable returning to a full classroom for fall reopening of schools. The vast majority are not.

Key Findings:

Q4: Using a scale of 1 to 5, rate your risk factor concern about exposure to COVID-19 when school reopens? (1 being 'no concern' and 5 being 'extreme concern')



WHICH BEST DESCRIBES YOUR FEELINGS ABOUT THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT?



Topline:

Interviews: 437 AFT Connecticut PSRP Members via Online Survey (sufficiently completed)
Margin of Error: Self-Selection Sample
Interview Dates: July 28-August 3, 2020
Sample: List provided by AFT Connecticut.
Survey Sponsor: AFT Connecticut

Q4: Using a scale of 1 to 5, rate your risk factor concern about exposure to COVID-19 when school reopens? (1 being 'no concern' and 5 being 'extreme concern')

Interactions with Other Staff

1 – No concern.....	11%
2	11
3 – Some concern	30
4	20
5 – Extreme concern	29

Interactions with Compliant Students

1 – No concern.....	8%
2	9
3 – Some concern	31
4	18
5 – Extreme concern	34

Interactions with Non-Compliant Students

1 – No concern.....	3%
2	4
3 – Some concern	13
4	14
5 – Extreme concern	66

Cleaning Materials in Workspace

1 – No concern.....	7%
2	6
3 – Some concern	18
4	17
5 – Extreme concern	52

Cleaning Routines

1 – No concern.....	6%
2	4
3 – Some concern	19
4	17
5 – Extreme concern	55

Ventilation of Your Workspace

1 – No concern	3%
2	5
3 – Some concern	16
4	13
5 – Extreme concern	63

Parents/Volunteers/Vendors Entering the Building

1 – No concern	4%
2	7
3 – Some concern	24
4	17
5 – Extreme concern	48

Access to science-based PPE

1 – No concern	7%
2	9
3 – Some concern	24
4	19
5 – Extreme concern	41

Safe Entry Protocols to Enter Building (Temperature Checks, Parent Pick Up)

1 – No concern	6%
2	7
3 – Some concern	23
4	19
5 – Extreme concern	45

Q4z: And which risk factors concerns you the MOST about exposure to COVID-19 when school reopens? (CHOOSE UP TO THREE)

Interactions with Other Staff	29%
Interactions with Compliant Students	27
Interactions with Non-Compliant Students	77
Cleaning Materials in Workplace	34
Cleaning Routines	42
Ventilation of Your Workspace	63
Parents/Volunteers/Vendors Entering the Building	30
Access to science-based PPE	22
Safe Entry Protocols to Enter Building	41

Q5: Which best describes your concern about student safety?

I believe all students can return safely to school full time	3%
I believe the majority of students can return safely to school full time .	15
I am concerned that the districts will be unable to meet the minimum AAP/CDC requirements to keep students safe	41
I do not believe it is safe for students to return to school	41

Q6: Which of the following instructional situations would you be most comfortable with when school reopens?

Full Classes Face to Face following CDC guidelines	8%
Reduced Face to Face Hybrid Model following CDC guidelines	31
Completely Virtual Distance Learning	32
Unsure	29

Q7: Which best describes your feelings about the following statement?

"I believe that my district has the funds available to meet the AAP/CDC minimum requirements for a safe return to school"

Strongly agree	3%
Agree	10
Disagree	28
Strongly disagree	29
Neutral / Unsure	31

Q8: Which best describes your feelings about the following statement?

"Based on the **CSDE reopening plan**, I feel reasonably safe returning to my school building this fall."

Strongly agree	2%
Agree	14
Disagree	29
Strongly disagree	36
Neutral / Unsure	19

Q9: Which best describes your feelings about the following statement?

"Based on **my local reopening plan**, I feel reasonably safe returning to my school building this fall."

Strongly agree	3%
Agree	14
Disagree	27
Strongly disagree	35
Neutral / Unsure	22

Q10: Based on your prior student numbers, is there enough “usable space” in classrooms to support a full class of appropriately socially distanced students?

Yes	4%
No	84
Unsure	12

Q11: Based on usable space in classrooms and social distancing guidelines, estimate what you think would be the safe number of students in class?

7 - 9	38%
10 - 12	37
13 - 15	12
Other	13

Q12: Using AAP guidance for 6 feet of social distance among adults, how should Data Team Meetings, Faculty Meetings, PPT Meetings, Parent/Teacher conferences, Trainings, other staff meetings be conducted?

Virtual	71%
In-Person	7
Unsure	22

Q13: Do you feel confident that the facilities in your district will have the appropriate ventilation necessary to provide a safe environment for teaching and learning?

Yes	7%
No	67
Unsure	25

Q14: Which best describes your feelings about the following statement?

"I am concerned students will not be able to follow CDC guidelines about wearing their masks, hand washing, etc. at all required times during the day."

Strongly agree	63%
Agree	25
Disagree	5
Strongly disagree	3
Neutral / Unsure	4

Q15: If a Public Health Official toured your classroom/building before you returned to school to establish a maximum student capacity for each room, would you feel more confident in returning to school?

Yes	38%
No	24
Unsure	39

Q16: Which best describes your feelings about the following statement?

"I am concerned about COVID-19 transmission when students remove their masks to eat/drink in classrooms."

Strongly agree	37%
Agree	35
Disagree	6
Strongly disagree	4
Neutral / Unsure	18

Q17: Providing you with which of the following types of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)/supplies would make you more confident in returning to school? (SELECT ALL THAT APPLY)

Medical grade Masks (N95)	74%
Plexiglass Around Teacher Desk	45
Plexiglass Around Student Desk/Station	61
Hand Sanitizer (with appropriate strength)	83
Nitrile Gloves	58
Classroom Bottle of Disinfectant Spray <i>Proven</i> to Kill COVID-19	84
Evidence of Effective Ventilation	81
Other PPE (please specify)	25

Q18: How do you rate your proficiency in these areas?

Social Emotional Learning

None	4%
Limited	13
Developing	30
Proficient	47
Expert	6

Equity and Diversity

None	3%
Limited	12
Developing	26
Proficient	50
Expert	9

Trauma Informed Care

None	14%
Limited	23
Developing	33
Proficient	27
Expert	2

Restorative Practice

None	10%
Limited	17
Developing	38
Proficient	32
Expert	3

Remote Learning

None	7%
Limited	18
Developing	40
Proficient	29
Expert	5

Q19: In which of the following areas would you like to receive training? Select all that apply

Socio-Emotional Learning	50%
Equity and Diversity	34
Trauma-Informed Care	55
Remote Learning topics (platforms, tech, planning)	72
Other area (please specify)	7

Q21: Which best describes your comfort with your ability to support students remotely during Distance Learning instruction:

Very confident	20%
Confident	33
Developing	34
Not confident	13

Q22: If school buildings reopen, what is the single most significant factor which would prevent your ability to return to in-person learning?

Access to Day-care	2
Need to care for elderly/special needs dependents	5
You fall into one of the CDC high risk categories	28
A member of your household falls into one of the CDC high risk categories	24
Public transportation is sporadic or unavailable	1
Other	8
None	32