



2021 BACK TO SCHOOL PARENT REPORT



This school year has begun differently than most parents envisioned given the unexpected challenges and disruptions that continue to be caused by COVID-19. Given the realities many parents are facing with another uncertain year, Varsity Tutors conducted a survey of nearly 1,200 parents of K-12 students to better understand their feelings heading into fall.

35% of students remain in an online-only or hybrid learning environment. For those that started the year in-person, **53%** have already had to quarantine due to COVID exposure.



Online or hybrid learning continues to tax parents' time. **81%** are spending **4+ hours** per week assisting their children's academics, and over **15%** are spending **10+ hours** per week.

More parents than ever are weighing homeschooling as an option. **55%** of parents have recently considered homeschooling and an additional **18%** of parents might consider homeschooling in the future.



87% of parents would be willing to spend additional money in the event of school closures and disruptions this school year. **41%** would spend over **\$500** to help their children, while **17%** would be willing to spend over **\$1,000**.



PARENT SENTIMENT HEADING INTO THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR



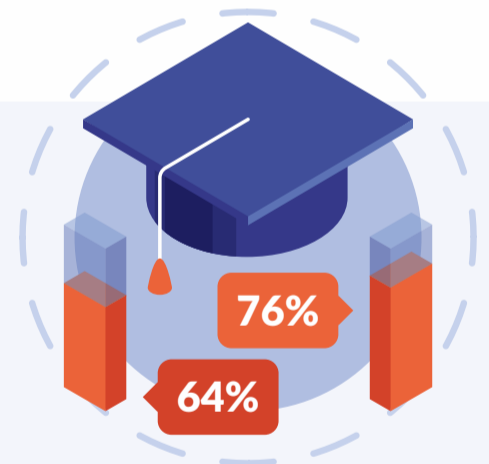
COVID's effects on schooling have weighed heavily:



90%

of parents are concerned the current crisis will have long term education impacts, up from **63%** in 2020. **34%** of parents are very concerned, the highest percentage among five answer choices.

76% of parents are worried about their kids keeping up with their grade level and **64%** are worried about college admissions and standardized test scores.



The most common words many parents used to describe their feelings about starting this new school year were: "Nervous", "Anxious" and "Scared".



But, "Optimistic" was another word used frequently and **55%** of parents are feeling more optimistic about the upcoming school year compared to last year.



EXTRACURRICULARS: AN OVERLOOKED VICTIM OF THE PANDEMIC



Parents' worries extend beyond academics. Parents expressed concerns about extracurriculars, which had been facing cuts pre-COVID, but are now accelerating.

50% of parents say that their children's schools either don't have or could have better extracurricular activities for their children's interests.



75% say their children's school has cut or will soon cut extracurricular programs.



78% of parents worry about cuts to extracurricular activities this school year.





IMPACT OF SCHOOL DISRUPTIONS ON PARENTS



Parents are feeling the stress as their work and family lives remain intertwined.

66% worry that supporting their children academically has had / will have negative impacts on their and/or their spouse's career(s).



69% of parents say that remote learning is disruptive to their ability to fulfill work duties.



70% worry about the impacts on their home life and family dynamics.



WHAT IS THE PLAN TO SUPPORT THEIR CHILDREN?



Supplemental learning remains top of mind for many parents to help fill the gaps left from school disruptions and a variety of online options.

80% of parents are likely to use supplemental learning resources like tutoring and classes this school year, up from **74%** in 2020.



79% are likely to seek online 1:1 tutoring.



76% are likely to seek online after school classes.

Parents are prepared: **37%** have already made plans for supplemental learning for their children this school year with an additional **32%** knowing what they will be seeking out when the need arises.