

School Reopenings



“Members of the media, PLEASE speak with teachers. All of these articles about re-opening school completely leave out the staff that make schools function.”

What is public perception regarding school reopenings?

Overview

Despite the Federal Government's position, in many cases school boards, superintendents, and administrators have failed to provide clear guidance about reopenings. Moreover, inconsistencies and indecision among local school officials have stymied reopening plans and heightened uncertainty with teachers, parents, and students regarding safety and the quality of education. To showcase ENODO's capabilities, advanced data analytics were applied to online conversations to reveal unique insights associated with school reopenings across the U.S. and in Virginia's Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS).

Key Findings

- 77% of national and 68% of FCPS discussions express negative sentiment with the topic of school reopenings
 - Uncertainty featured as a common theme among stakeholders
- Lack of leadership stems from underlying grievances that administrators have forgotten their core function—educate children
 - School administrators seen as taking a political stand instead of engaging with teachers and parents
 - ❑ [Fairfax County Public School Superintendent Mr. Brabrand's comments](#) directed toward Education Secretary Ms. DeVos

Data Analytics

ENODO's data analytics platform collected and synthesized 82,134 Tweets, 71,654 Facebook posts, 62,045 news sites, 40,787 RSS feeds, and 31,948 blogs over a 90-day period to produce this report.

“Reopening schools isn't about the virus. It's about teacher's political agenda.” @BevDery, [Twitter](#)

Sentiment Analysis

Measured public perceptions from online discussions associated with school reopenings across the U.S. and within Fairfax, VA:

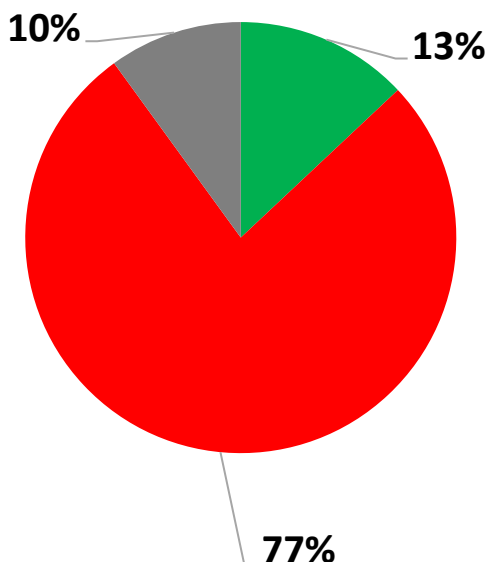
National:

- Negative sentiment (77%) is primarily due to confusion and uncertainty among parents towards the future of their children's education

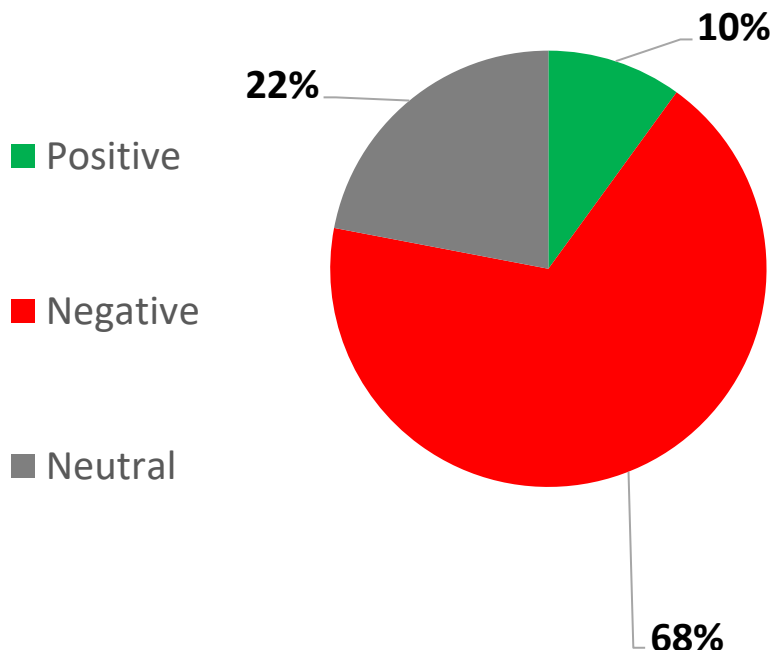
Fairfax County:

- Negative sentiment (68%) is associated with anxiety toward the re-opening of schools—no decision on how to open schools
- Neutral sentiment (22%) is attributed to the lack of a coherent plan to reopen schools—virtual learning vs. in-person classes

National



Fairfax County



***“When do you want children to return???* January September 2021 ??? Because many people aren’t getting the vaccine...and won’t get the supplies they need or working laptops.... sacrifice.”**

Maria Natoli, [Facebook](#)

Topic Modeling: National

Revealed three (3) trending topics from online discussions related to school reopenings across the U.S.:

Uncertainty:

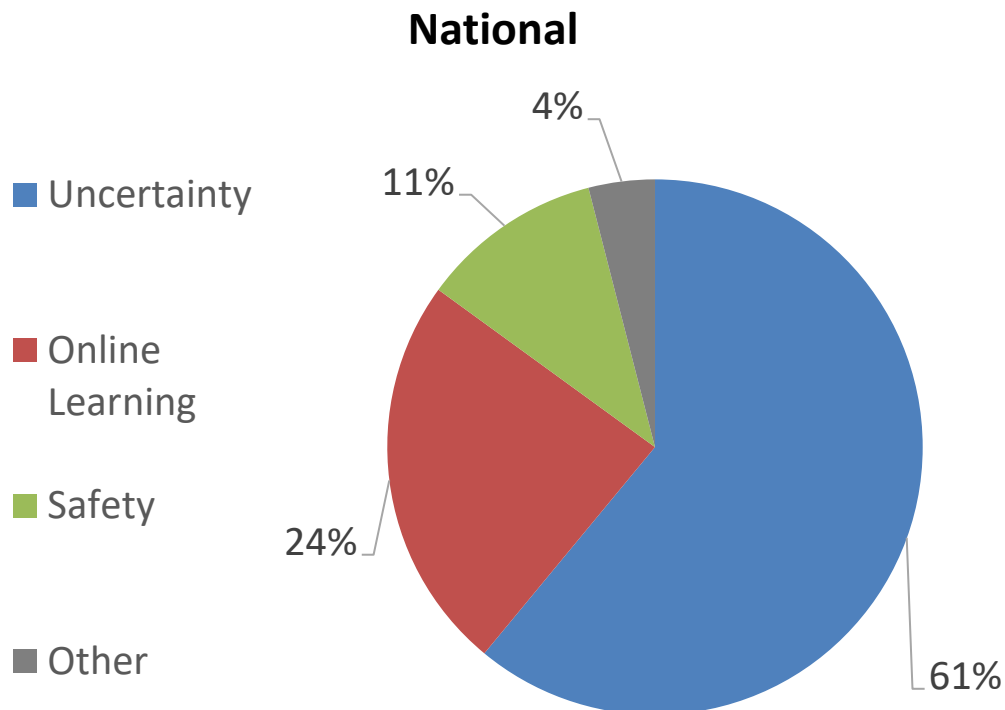
- 61% expressed uncertainty on the future of schools re-opening in the upcoming academic year

Online Learning:

- 24% were concerned with the long-term implications of online learning tools

Safety:

- 11% were interested to understand the safety protocols in classrooms



“We are essential workers. We must go back. Our kids need us. If grocery workers or garbage men decided they weren't going to work, that would not be okay. @saneman3000, [Twitter](#)

Topic Modeling: Fairfax County

Revealed the three (3) trending topics from online discussions related to school reopenings within the Fairfax County Public School system:

Leadership:

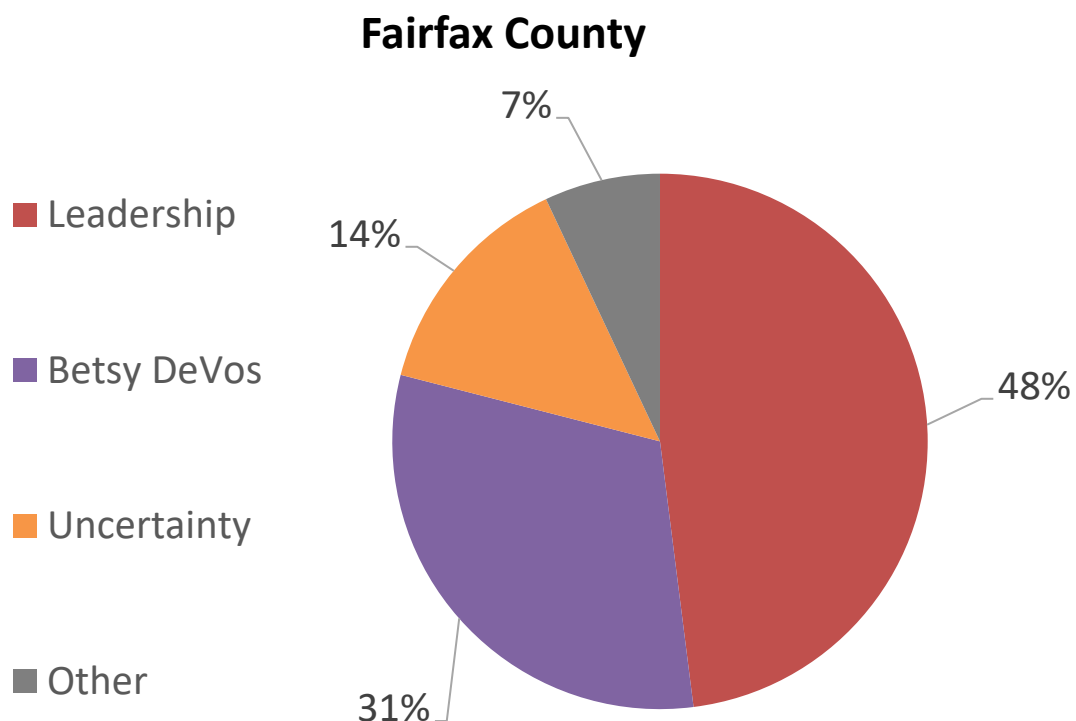
- 48% discussed the void of leadership among school administrators

Betsy DeVos:

- 31% were interested in discussions between U.S. Secretary of Education Ms. Besty DeVos and FCPS Superintendent Mr. Scott Brabrand

Uncertainty:

- 14% associated the uncertainty surrounding the future of school reopenings and quality of education





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