

How HMHS students feel about school during COVID-19 (September-November) - By: Sophie Levine

How do you like having fewer, longer periods? And which type of schooling do you prefer more: hybrid or virtual?

Morgan Heberley, 12th grade, hybrid student

"I like the hybrid schedule because it's less stressful to only have 4 classes a day. I like being able to have more time devoted to each class and to move at a...slower pace. I'm glad to be in school even for a little bit with my classmates and friends, but I also like having classes from home some days."

If you could go back to school full time, would you want to?

Helene Usher, 10th grade, hybrid student

"Yes. I feel like I learn much better in a classroom setting...I get a lot more out of it when...I'm learning with my classmates."

How is virtual learning now similar or different from virtual learning in the spring? Is it better or worse? Why?

Ian Romea, 10th grade, virtual student

"In the spring, classes were held with regular school in mind, so the workload was much less. Now...the work is...harder...other students and I feel a lack of motivation...it is really hard to dedicate yourself to schoolwork."

How scared are you now (because of the virus) to go near other people? Has it had an effect on you socially? In terms of actual fear of the virus or a kind of social awkwardness?

Lili Ali, 10th grade, hybrid student

"I am more cautious...around other people...I am scared that if I were to get [the virus], I could spread it to others who could potentially become very sick. I am more careful while hanging out with friends and going in public."

Regarding the hybrid schedule, was there a difference in your expectations versus the reality? What you thought it would be like compared to what it actually was like (positive or negative)?

Jane Kinney, 11th grade, hybrid student

"I think learning with the hybrid system is a bit more challenging than I thought it would be...It's hard to learn virtually, especially on Wednesdays when all the classes are online and there's less time for breaks. However, I think the teachers have done a great job adapting to the new format, and many have found creative ways to incorporate students from both groups, which really helps unite classes."

Do you think the school is adequately handling COVID-19 in terms of school precautions (social distancing, mask reinforcement)?

Brynne Finer, 9th grade, hybrid student

"I think HMHS is handling the virus very well. Everyone keeps their masks on and listens and respects the rules. The basic rules are definitely helping to stop the spread."