# School Re-entry for School Counselors: High School Edition

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# HELLO

Who do we have in the room today?

use the chat to say hello and what school district you are from?



# Are you ready to go back to school?

HOW PREPARED DO YOU FEEL FOR RETURNING TO CAMPUS?

I = NOT AT ALL PREPARED

5 = COMPLETELY PREPARED















# Introductions: Rachel Kusher, Ed.S

- Former district coordinator in Gwinnett County, GA
- Current School Counselor Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida (Broward County Public Schools)
- Average caseload: 600-800 high school level, four counselor minimum per school. Large high schools (my school is 3,300)
  - Current Emerging Leader with Florida School Counseling Association

# Introductions: Sandi Logan-McKibben, PhD, NCC, NCSC, ACS, BC-TMH

- Former School Counselor in Southern California
- \* Average caseload: 1,200 (split between 2 schools)
- Ist School Counselor at both of my schools (no job description or CSCP in place)
- Former President of Orange County Chapter of CASC

# Challenges Returning to School

- Feelings of disconnection/isolation & being overwhelmed or nervous (students & staff)
- · Academic progress or lack thereof may be difficult to ascertain
- NO ONE has all the answers or necessary info; the situation remains fluid
- Will need to build new systems/protocols for operations and communications
- · At risk of being utilized in non-counseling responsibilities









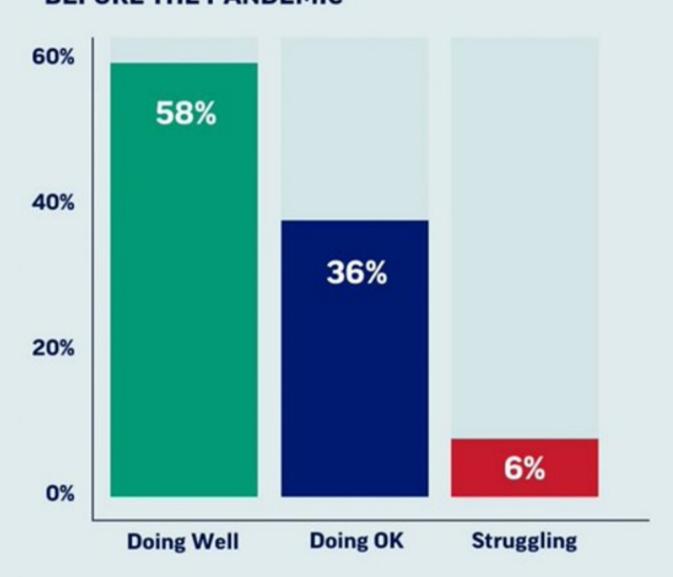




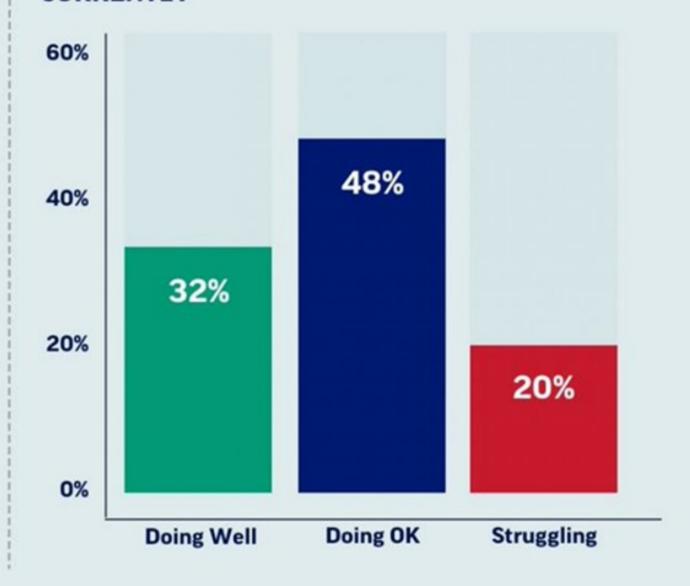


# Students report significant academic decline since COVID





### **CURRENTLY**









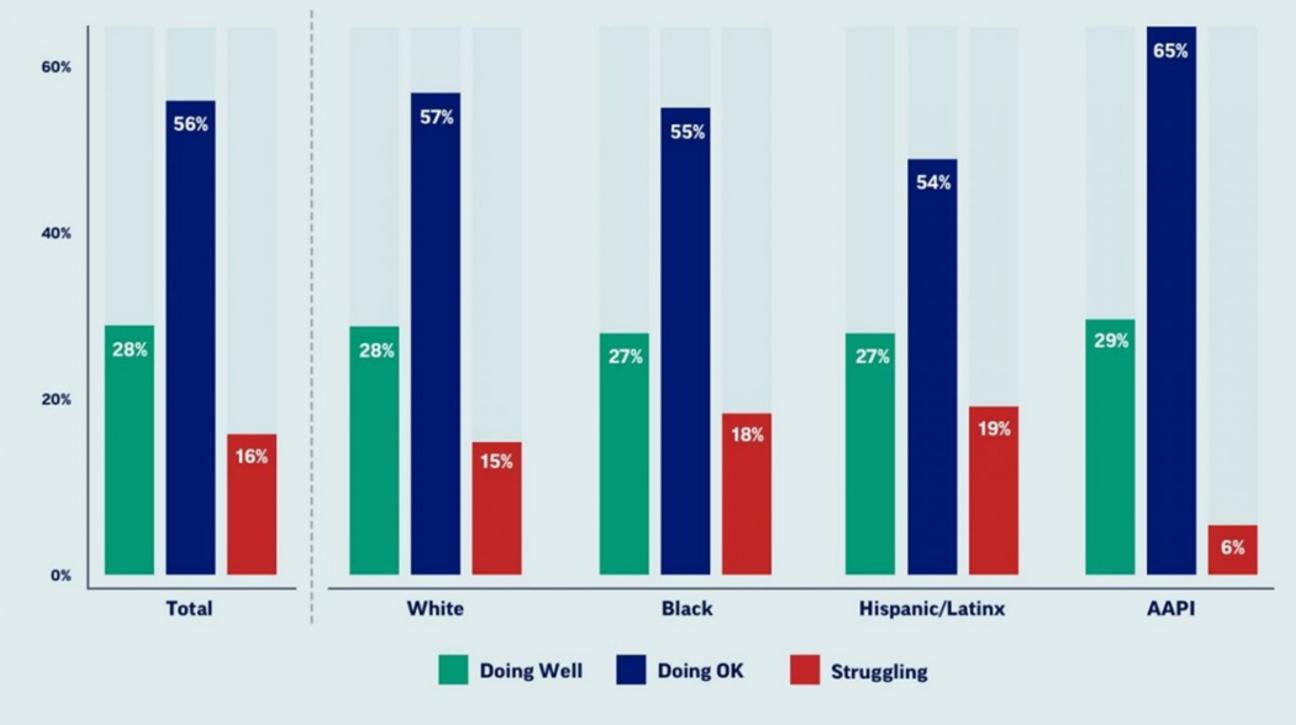






### Most students 'doing OK'

Black and Hispanic/Latinx students are most likely to struggle.















# 4 in 10 know someone who got sick; suffer from financial hardship

A friend got sick with coronavirus	40
At least one of the adults in your household lost income due to the coronavirus	39
A family member who does not live with you got sick with coronavirus	36
At least one of the adults in your household lost their job due to the coronavirus	27
You personally lost a job or income	15
Someone in your household got sick with coronavirus	11
You personally got sick with coronavirus	7













# Best Practices



### VIRTUAL OFFICE

-Teams tiles for Sychronous learners



### DAILY SEL IN EXTENDED IST PERIOD

- -Teacher led
- District provided resouce



### COUNSELOR FORMS



- -Students and parents
- -QR codes



### USEFUL APPS



### NEEDS ASSESSMENT

-Students (Minute Meetings)

- -Canva
  - -Google (forms, sheets, voice, slides)
  - -Microsoft (calendar, virtual meetings)
  - -Class dojo
  - -Social media
  - -Iphone notes app



### ATTENDANCE

- -Tracking who's where



# 3 Must-do's

### FAMILY/STUDENT OUTREACH

- Consistent interaction with students and families not being academically successful
- Check-ins for all students social/emotional wellbeing upon return (mindfulness)

### NEEDS ASSESSMENT

- Assess the students via Microsoft Forms, Google Forms, etc to determine your school's needs to drive program
- What small groups, classroom lessons, and school wide initiatives are necessary for growth and healing?

### FLEXIBILITY

- Plan to be flexible and responsive to the needs of your school.
- Consistent communications with all adminstrators, teachers, families and students





# 3 things you should refrain from doing:

### BUSINESS AS USUAL

- Refrain from assuming that school is business as usual
- It takes time for students and teachers to adjust to the "new normal"

# ASSUME STUDENTS ARE IN THE KNOW

- Remember this is the second first day of school for many of your students!
- Some have never been on campus, need maps, procedures, bell schedule, etc.

### WORKING IN ISOLATION

- Refrain from working by yourself
- It can be lonely in office with door shut all day. Make time to collaborate and have fun with colleagues!

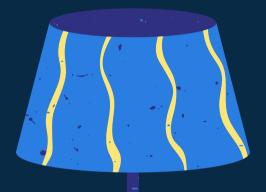


# Group Discussion

Identify one of the MUST DO's that you will return to your school committing to do.

What barriers might you need to consider? Who are your allies that can support your efforts?







# Takeaway(s)

- 1. Collaboration & Communication are key.
- 2. Having an "I can, I will" mindset is helpful.
- 3. Operate with a sense of establishing NEW norms; not just the status quo.
- 4. You can't do ALL THE THINGS; give yourself/others grace.
- 5. Student well-being should be at the forefront of all that you do.



Send yourself an email RIGHT NOW... about your commitment!

## Self-care



### SCHEDULING BREAKS

Build-in time into your schedule for some "breathers"



### JOY

Make sure that you are doing things personally and professionally that bring you joy



- Fitness
- Nutrition
- Personal relationships
- Hobbies
- Music

# Q & A





How can we be of assistance and support to your school

re-entry?







# Resources

### ASCA Virtual School Counseling Resources

### Planning for Uncertainty: An Educator's Guide to Navigating the COVID-19 ERA

1-Dialogue with stakeholders, 2-Consider your school climate, 3-Apply an equity lens

### The Role of SEL in Reintegrating to In-Person Learning: 6 Tenets to Guide Your Transition

- 1. Educator resilience must come first.
- 2. Check-in one students' SL and well-being--early and often.
- 3. Build & strengthen Tier 1 SEL supports.
- 4. Every child deserves individualized support from a caring adult.
- 5. Help students heal & cope through trauma-response SEL.
- 6. Partner with caregivers & community organizations to smooth the transition for students.

# Feel free to get in touch

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