



# Pulse on Mandatory E-learning/Online Learning Qualitative Results Summary

## Introduction

Recently, the TDSB surveyed its student, parent, and secondary teacher communities regarding its mandatory e-learning plan. The [results](#) of this survey indicate most students, secondary teachers, and parents do not support the mandatory e-learning a mandatory requirement for graduation.

The following report summarizes the reasons why most students, staff, and parents are not in favour of mandatory e-learning.

## Methodology

All students, parents, and secondary teachers who responded to the survey were asked to provide explanations for the following two questions:

In your opinion, would









*I would not feel as motivated to persevere through academic obstacles.*

Students with Special Education Needs were also concerned that the extra and/or specialized sup




*E-learning works for students who are highly motivated; it's not flexible enough to accommodate the different learning styles of individuals. When it comes to learning, there is no substitute for personal interaction from an engaged, caring teacher.*

*My son has taken a course online, he really didn't have the same level of interest, connections, attentive amongst other things he would when in a class. If the child does not have self-discipline then the student would fail.*

Similar to students and staff, parents of students with Special Education X3(,)T{3( )T3(s)Tϕline (r)Tϕ





already have sufficient access to online learning as part of their current learning experience in classrooms.

*E-learning isn't necessary for learning how to use tech for today's generation. We're already using tech every day; we use additional resources online, whether because it's embedded in our work or need extra materials to further our understanding.*

*Being taught in-person is a much more effective way of teaching than learning online. A lot of school work is already done online (i.e., writing essays, demo labs for science, digital art).*

Students were worried about what courses would be offered online. Some students felt certain subjects required hands on experience in the classroom. They were concerned that difficult or complex subjects could not be adequately taught online, and could negatively impact their success in high school and post-secondary.

*The courses I would like to take are very difficult and complex. I would rather have more time to receive help from a teacher in my school.*

*I will be taking math and all sciences, and I do not see how I am supposed to learn these subjects online. I will not be able to learn the topics well which will affect how I do in University.*

*I am taking multiple courses in grade 11 that require hands on experience in a classroom so it would not be ideal for me to pursue e-learning.*

Students reported that that some of their peers might not take the courses a





That said, t





*I have done an e-learning summer course, and it was useful in the sense that I got to learn to be inde*



Other educators mentioned that stuk iBDC1 0 n



*This decision is not based in any research, it is purely motivated by a desire to cut costs, using our students to subsidize corporate tax cuts.*

*No other jurisdiction in the world is requiring such online learning. It is untested. Why would I use my child as a test case?*

Some parents also shared that their child had tried online learning and had found it difficult, mostly due to a lack of support. Other issues raised included lack of engagement, poor quality of courses, and technical issues with the platform (i.e., system crashing, poor sound, difficulty uploading homework). Parents said students do not need more stress.

*My eldest who is a very strong student had to drop an online course because she was learning nothing and felt totally unsupported.*

*I have an older son who took some high school classes online and they were all of much lower quality than the courses offered by real teachers in real schools!*

*Having seen my daughter do her Grade 10 Civics Course online, I know that it is not worth the stress.*