



## About

Great Hearts Online is a virtual public charter school that offers a tuition-free, rigorous, classical liberal arts curriculum including advanced math and science, robust arts, and foreign language classes. Great Hearts Online launched in Texas on January 4, 2021 to serve nearly 300 new-to-Great Hearts scholars and over 500 scholars total in grades K-6. Assuming legislative approval, Great Hearts Online - Texas will expand to serve 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade scholars next year, and we will expand again in 2024-2025 to serve the early high school grades.

For 20 years, Great Hearts has served students with the same clear and steadfast purpose: *to cultivate the hearts and minds of students in pursuit of truth, goodness, and beauty*. This purpose lives on in Great Hearts Online: different tools but the same curriculum, culture, faculty, and heart. With Great Hearts Online, we realize our purpose in a way that removes traditional barriers, allows us to serve more students, deepens relationships with families, and strengthens our methods to holistic student formation.

## Why We Launched Great Hearts Online

COVID has reshaped families' preferences for types of schools and has accelerated the move away from traditional public schools. COVID has also changed the mode in which students experience school, catalyzing online learning adaption. Non-traditional school models - such as pods, microschools, and homeschooling - have gained popularity as learning supplements or alternatives.

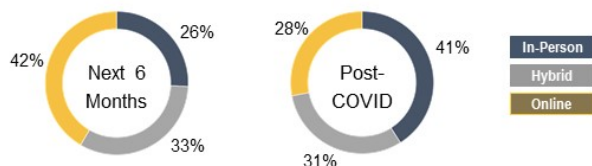
There are four key market forces that have informed our design:

1. Demand for Classical education is growing.
2. Online learning is here to stay.
3. Parents are making different school choices at unprecedented rates.
4. The most discerning families are creating their own options.

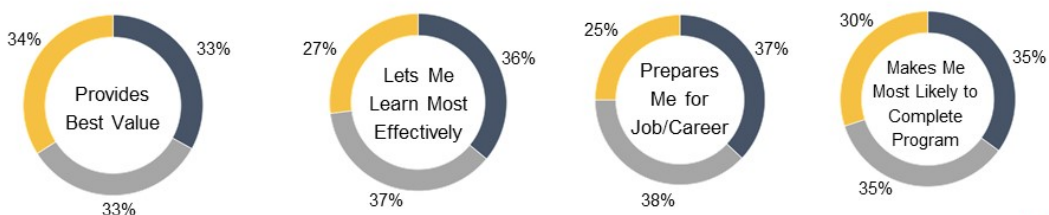
**While COVID has catalyzed the shift to online, there is a 'stickiness' that will remain after the pandemic.**

**Even after the pandemic, 28% of learners would prefer online learning.**

*If you were to enroll in education or training, what would you prefer?*



*Which type of learning mode...*



Source: Strada | Strada Public Viewpoint (Jul, 2020)

## Why Families Choose Great Hearts Online

Great Hearts Online is both timeless and revolutionary. Here's what families are signing up for:

1. [Remote Access to a Classical, Liberal Arts Institution](#): As the largest brick-and-mortar classical school system in the United States, Great Hearts has a strong track record of academic achievement and cultivating good people. We provide a rich, safe, timeless curriculum for students – and a wide liberal arts perspective with foreign language, music, art, physical education, daily science, daily history, and more.
2. [A Robust School Community](#): Most online schools are lonely and task oriented. We have hired an amazing faculty who are 100% online teachers. They are laser-focused on building relationships with students, providing excellent instruction, developing strong communities, and ensuring everyone is falling in love with learning. We believe classroom communities are vital, and we work daily to develop robust school communities.
3. [A Closer Parenting Perspective](#): Students are in closer daily contact with their families. Parents, guardians, and students alike enjoy the opportunities to connect throughout the day.
4. [Time and Place Flexibility](#): We've designed a schedule and a school day that is flexible. Afternoons are more flexible, and location is open to anywhere in the state of Texas!

## Who We Are Serving

Great Hearts Online is committed to serving a diverse student body, mirroring the communities in which our families live.

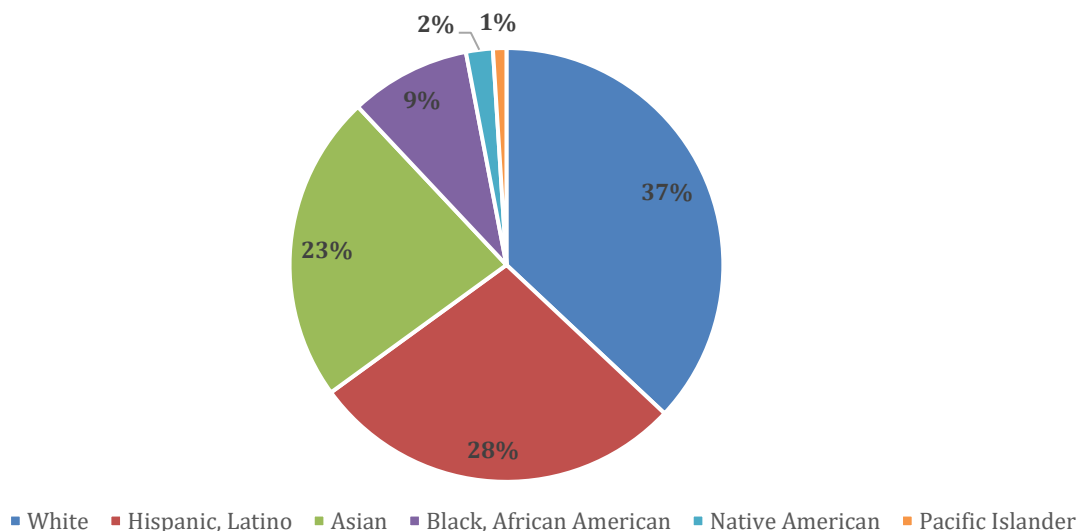
### Geographics

- 47% of scholars are from San Antonio
- 39% of scholars are from North Texas (Irving, Dallas, Fort Worth, and surrounding areas)
- 14% of scholars are from areas in Texas beyond San Antonio and North Texas

### What percentage of the student body receive Special Student Services?

- 10% SPED
- 11% ELL
- 7% 504 / RTI

### Ethnicity



## What Parents are Saying: Feb 2021 Survey

Our goal is for **Great Hearts Online** to truly be a best-in-class offering, competitive with the best brick-and-mortar schools and far superior to other online schools. Below are insights from our first parent survey.

Questions	Responses
My child and family are <u>more satisfied with GH Online</u> than what we experienced during the <u>Fall Semester</u> .	<b>84.8%</b> Agree or Strongly Agree
The <u>work</u> my child been asked to do is <u>meaningful and substantial</u> .	<b>91.2%</b> Agree or Strongly Agree
I am satisfied with the <u>level of support I receive as a parent</u> to set up my child for success with GH Online.	<b>87.4%</b> Agree or Strongly Agree
Overall, my child's experience of <u>Live Classes</u> (Zoom) has thus far been a positive one.	<b>95%</b> Agree or Strongly Agree
Overall, my child's experience of <u>Asynchronous Assignments</u> (Recorded Lessons, Guided Work) has thus far been a positive one.	<b>82.3%</b> Agree or Strongly Agree

When we start to look at specific family groups and where their children attended school before joining **GH Online**, more insights emerge. Parents are more satisfied with **GH Online** than their previous school selection across all school environments!

- Three out of four of fall semester **brick-and-mortar** families are more satisfied with **GH Online**.
- Almost 90% of fall semester **homeschool** families are more satisfied with **GH Online**.
- 92% of fall semester **district / ISD school** families are more satisfied with **GH Online**.
- 100% of fall semester charter school (not Great Hearts) families are more satisfied with **GH Online**.

Parents also shared that our strengths align to the value we are striving to provide! Parents are most valuing:

1. Time and place flexibility
2. Small class sizes
3. Excellent teachers and instruction
4. Classical curriculum and rich content

Here are two parent comments that stuck out to us in particular:

<p>"Thank you so much for this opportunity! We enjoy having our scholar learn from home. By doing so we have grown closer as a family, and we have all avoided poorly spent time which gives us more time to actually learn and grow together. My scholar also now has time to peruse many of his extra passions which is much broader than what he would be able to take on in a traditional school setting. The quality of instruction and responsiveness of the Great Hearts Online teachers continues to astound me. We recommend it to anyone looking for a school from home approach. We are very grateful!"</p>	<p>"Our daughter is enjoying school again! The distance learning program she had before was lacking. She is excited every morning to see her teacher and strives for excellence while completing her live assignments. She is also much more eager to complete her independent assignments through GH Online than through her distance learning. She is sharing stories about class and what she learned like she used to when she was at Brick-and-Mortar for Kindergarten. Distance learning in the fall and the lack of interaction with her teacher left her just feeling like she had to complete tedious work. There was no joy of learning in the fall. This new semester with GH Online has renewed her joy of learning!"</p>
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