



September 2020

A number of considerations have been executed as a result of the concern with providing music instruction in schools and the potential of spreading the COVID-19 virus.

Fairfield Public Schools has taken into consideration and planned for music education in our K-12 schools to keep students and families safe and healthy. These precautions were established by the State of Connecticut's Department of Education and taken from [Addendum 7: COVID-19 Reopening Considerations for Connecticut K-12 Programs](#). Please feel free to read the entire document for specific information regarding the performing arts guidelines and the study which informed it.

Overall, listed below are the requirements our music teachers will follow as we begin the 2020-2021 school year:

- ♪ A focus on music literacy where appropriate during class and between performances.

- ♪ A remote program in the hybrid model (k-5) offering synchronous instruction through Google meet and delivered by each building's dedicated music teacher. Grades 6-12 will offer on-site and in-person instruction at reduced capacity in the hybrid model. Both elementary and secondary students opting for remote only instruction will have asynchronous and synchronous time with their music teacher.

- ♪ All students facing in the same direction when performing.

- ♪ Face masks and coverings worn at all times.

- ♪ Use of larger spaces including cafeterias, auditoriums, gymnasiums, outdoor locations, and other more spacious building areas.

- ♪ Students maintaining a 9x6 space between non-wind instrumentalists, singers, players, and instructors, as well as a 12 foot distance for wind instruments.

- ♪ A hybrid model which reduces class capacity to 50% for all classes.

- ♪ Indoor rehearsals of 30 minutes followed by 20 minutes of no rehearsal to allow the HVAC system to recycle and dilute the air.

- ♪ Cloth coverings for instruments that require them

- ♪ Other district protocols in place for all academic areas including minimizing the sharing of materials between students, one way traffic patterns, mask wearing, frequent hand washing, social distancing, Plexiglas barriers for the teacher facing students, smaller group sizes, small group instruction, and cohorting.

We realize that some of these factors will constrain the typical program characteristics but are taking them in order to keep students, faculty, and staff safe and healthy.