



Bedford & Coleytown Middle School Music Reopening of School Guide 2020-2021



The primary focus of our reopening is the safety of all students and teachers. Secondly, we aim to maintain the quality of the Westport Public Schools' music program in the age of COVID-19. This document abbreviates hundreds of pages of documents related to music practice in order to give guidance and clearly communicate expectations.

Equipment: Students should not share classroom materials such as pencils, sheet music, music stands, rosin, etc.

Facility: Wherever possible, one-way traffic patterns will be established for entering and exiting the room, pick-up, and storage of instruments. The storage of student instruments cases will be assigned by class cohort groupings within the music department for the ease of exit and entry into the facility keeping social distancing. Groups will utilize outdoor areas and other large spaces as available to distance students.

Curriculum: All current course offerings will be offered during the school day with co-curricular experiences offered as we are able. We will continue to deliver a standards-based curriculum focused on *The Four Artistic Processes: Creating, Performing, Responding, and Connecting*, though it must be acknowledged that the delivery, instructional methods, and specific skills will differ from pre-pandemic times. Virtual performances will occur and key assessments will measure student progress. Innovative practices will provide student musicians with connections to the community and new opportunities for performing.

Music Instruction: Due to smaller class sizes in the hybrid schedule, there may be a shift in the curriculum for performance-based classes focusing on solo and small ensemble performance. Class instruction in-school and online will continue to include community-building experiences strengthening the social/emotional connections that are inherent in music-making. Project-based learning will include exploration of personal interests, community engagement, global issues, and artistic inquiry. Online software including Smartmusic (Band/Orch), MusicFirst (Vocal), Soundtrap (Music Tech) and Noteflight (all) will be utilized to effectively offer students at home, either full or part-time, the opportunity to develop knowledge, skills, and habits of practice.

Instrumental Lessons: Students will have individual, asynchronous virtual lessons each week while in the Hybrid Model with video-based feedback to student submissions of lesson material and performance music.

Performance Ensembles: Students will often be divided into smaller groups to allow social distancing. When students are not performing they will work on music literacy, composition, and/or project-based learning to enhance musicianship and performance practices online. When performing, students will face forward at all times.

String players will maintain distancing of 6 by 6 feet when performing in all instructional spaces. Students must wear masks at all times.

Singers will maintain distancing of 9 by 6 feet when performing in all instructional spaces. Singers will wear masks at all times, this includes when they are performing. Total singing time will be <30 minutes with time between groups to allow for aerosols to dissipate.

Wind and brass students will maintain distancing of 12 feet* when playing wind or brass instruments in all instructional spaces and will maintain 6 feet when not performing. Students must wear surgical masks with a small slit cut. Instrument bell covers will be provided to students. The total playing time will be <30 minutes.

Live Performances: In-person concerts will occur when approved by the district in coordination with our local health district, State Department of Education, and the Governor's office.

[Addendum 7 Adapt, Advance, Achieve: CT's Plan to Learn and Grow Together](#) (CSDE 8/14/20) - Recommendations came from these primary sources:

University of Colorado and University of Maryland Aerosol Research for the Performing Arts, second study released on August 6, 2020 <https://www.nfhs.org/media/4030003/aerosol-study-prelim-results-round-2-final.pdf>

Performing Arts recommendations:

1. Perform inside or outside 6 feet social distancing with masks (vocalists and wind players)
2. Wind players should use an individual mask and an instrument mask (bell cover)
3. Keep the rehearsals to 30 minutes each

New York Reopening of Schools document, July 15, 2020

<http://www.nysed.gov/common/nysed/files/programs/reopening-schools/nys-p12-school-reopening-guidance.pdf>

Performing Arts recommendations:

1. Do not share instruments
2. Perform 12 feet between wind players and vocalists with masks on
3. Find outdoor areas for performing also

KEEPING ARTS ED SAFE AT SCHOOL

MASK Everything!

ACTORS, SINGERS, DANCERS, INSTRUMENTALISTS, INSTRUMENTS, TEACHERS

DISTANCE 6 FEET with Mask

TIMING

OUTDOOR

- Playing Instruments, Singing, Acting, or Dancing (Masks strongly recommended)
- 30 minute blocks with 6ft spacing
- 5 minute pause between blocks

INDOORS

- Playing Instruments, Singing, Acting, or Dancing (Masks required)
- 30 minutes with 6 ft spacing
- Minimum one air change between class

MATERIALS MATTER

2 LAYERS or more of DENSE FABRIC for instruments

WELL-FITTING MASKS for students

Proper HYGIENE

Instruments, Spaces, People

AIRFLOW / FILTRATION

Good ventilation and air change rate for the space.

NFHS NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

Source: International Coalition of Performing Arts Aerosol Study 8/6/2020 <https://bit.ly/33r1EmK> • <https://www.artsednj.org/covid19>

ARTS ED NJ