

The following guidelines are a summary of those developed for Visual Art and Music teachers with students physically in the schools during the COVID-19 pandemic. They are being provided to families to help make decisions regarding virtual or in-person learning.

Emerging research shows that COVID-19 is easily spread through aerosols emitted from person to person and has an increased risk of spread in activities such as talking, shouting, singing, and playing instruments. These guidelines are subject to change as more is learned about COVID-19.

General Protocols for All Classes

1. Masks should be worn at all times by teachers and students during class.
2. Students should be seated at a minimum of 6 feet apart.
3. The teacher should maintain accurate seating charts for contact tracing. Students should keep their same seat in order to minimize the spread of COVID-19.

Visual Arts

1. Students may bring in their own supplies (pencils, markers, etc.) to use during class. For school-owned materials, students can be assigned their own tools for use during one class period (e.g. personal paintbrush, personal set of pencils, etc.).
2. After each class period, the teacher must properly sanitize used equipment prior to distribution to another student.
3. No wet sculpture mediums such as clay or paper mache should be used.

Band

1. Because air is forced through wind instruments and, thus, spread further than speaking, at this time students will not be allowed to play wind instruments during in-person instruction.
2. Percussionists may play instruments during in-person instruction provided they use their own equipment. If they use school-issued equipment, the teacher must properly sanitize equipment prior to being used by another student.

Orchestra

String instruments may be played during in-person instruction provided students use their own equipment. If they use school-issued equipment, the teacher must properly sanitize equipment prior to being used by another student.

Chorus/Choir

1. Any shared equipment should be issued to only one student per period and properly sanitized between uses.
2. Because aerosols are spread faster and easier when singers are forcing air out during singing, at this time, students will not be permitted to sing during in-person instruction.

For more information, please contact your student's teacher or school principal.