

MS & HS PERFORMING ARTS EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

UNIVERSAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR BAND, CHOIR, DANCE, DRAMA, GUITAR, MARIACHI, ORCHESTRA

REQUIRED: FACIAL COVERINGS SHOULD BE WORN AT ALL TIMES

- All rehearsals must maintain a student-to-teacher/instructor ratio of 9:1
- Students must be screened via questions and touchless thermometer upon arrival to rehearsal
- Students are should be encouraged to self-screen prior to arrival to rehearsal
- Screening information must be recorded on Student/Director Monitoring Form (Can be found @ aps.edu/fine-arts)
- Doors should be opened at the beginning and end of class to ensure students are not touching door handles
- One-way traffic patterns should be established for entering and exiting the room
- Maintain minimum indoor physical distance of 9x6 between all people indicated by floor/ground markings
- All performers should be facing in the same direction to the extent possible
- Outdoor rehearsals are encouraged
- Indoor rehearsals should be limited to 30 minutes followed by at least 20 minutes to allow the central HVAC system to provide appropriate dilution air into the space
- Students should not share classroom materials such as pencils, sheet music/scripts, music stands, rosin, etc.
- Disinfect chairs, stands, equipment/props after each use
- Anyone who enters the room should bring or be given a 70% alcohol wipe to wipe all surfaces before and after touching. The wipe should be discarded properly upon leaving the storage area (NFHS)
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APPENDIX: SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR BAND

REQUIRED: FACIAL COVERINGS SHOULD BE WORN AT ALL TIMES

- Outdoor rehearsals when possible is considered best practice. If rehearsing outdoors, playing should stop for approximately five minutes after each 30-minute segment to allow the aerosol to disperse
- Open-air tents, those with high rooftops and without walls, may be considered as a means to shelter performers outdoors (NFHS)
- Instrument bell covers should be used in both indoor and outdoor settings. It is recommended that bell covers be multi-layered and made of a non-stretchy material that has a Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value (MERV) of 13 ([readily available in sheets from online retailers](#)); however, any type of covering is better than nothing. (NFHS)
- A mask with a small slit for a mouthpiece access should be worn while playing. Masks in combination with the use of a multi-layered bell cover reduced particle concentrations and should be considered as an effective mitigation strategy (NFHS)
- Spit valves should not be emptied on the floor. It is recommended to use a puppy pad (or similar) to catch the contents of the spit valve and discard (NFHS)
- Trombones should have an additional three feet of distancing making their space 9x6 and the player should be seated three feet in front of the back line, leaving an additional six feet in front of them due to the extended nature of the instrument and slide that can be in extended position (NFHS)
- Specific wind instrument cleaning guidelines can be found at: [NAfME Instrument Cleaning Guidelines](#).
- Percussion students should not share mallets/sticks unless they are disinfected between players
- Alternatively, students could wear gloves
- The Percussive Arts Society has additional specific guidelines regarding proper care and cleaning of percussion instruments in the following publication: [Managing COVID-19 Protocols in Administering Percussion Performance Curriculum](#)

CONTACT INFORMATION

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DISCLAIMER: *The intent of this document is to offer guidelines to assist with extracurricular activities.*

BEGINNING BAND

- Routines and procedures should be put in place by teachers for conducting instrument fittings for beginners
- Teachers must use strict sanitization procedures as outlined by the National Association for Music Education (NAfME) in the [Fall 2020 Guidance for Music Education](#) which currently include using only sanitizable, non-porous (acrylic, plastic, metal) mouthpieces and accessories to be sanitized in the dishwasher and/or hot soapy water AND then sprayed with 70% isopropyl alcohol and allow to air dry
- The teacher shall maintain a 6-foot distance between students and consider holding fittings outdoors
- Students and teachers should use hand sanitizer before and after each instrument trial

MS & HS SCHOOL PERFORMING ARTS EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

APPENDIX: SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR CHOIR

REQUIRED: FACIAL COVERINGS SHOULD BE WORN AT ALL TIMES

- The use of well-fitted surgical masks has been shown to reduce the amount of aerosol transmission while singing (NFHS)
- It is preferred that outdoor spaces (weather permitting) be used for rehearsals. Open-air tents – those with high rooftops and without walls may be considered as a means to shelter performers outdoors (NFHS)
- Use of physical barriers between rows and/or between individual singers is recommended
- Clean and disinfect each barrier using approved products after each use
- Pivot instructional strategies to reduce the number of singers singing at any given time
- Avoid or minimize vocal warmups that reinforce projections, articulation, and vibration

MS & HS PERFORMING ARTS EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

APPENDIX: SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR DANCE

REQUIRED: FACIAL COVERINGS SHOULD BE WORN AT ALL TIMES

- Students will be asked to come to class already for rehearsal in comfortable/dance attire
- If dancers need to change, changing screens that can be easily broken down that allow for privacy and social distancing should be provided
- Floor, barres, and mirrors can be used safely by all students in the classroom
- Students should not share dance bands, blocks, or mats
- Individual equipment should be provided for each student and disinfected after each use

MS & HS PERFORMING ARTS EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

APPENDIX: SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR DRAMA

REQUIRED: FACIAL COVERINGS SHOULD BE WORN AT ALL TIMES

- No sharing of any voice amplification equipment during a single rehearsal or performance
- Disinfect all technical hardware (microphones, rigging, sound and light boards, etc.)
- Curtains and drops should be flown out or drawn open during rehearsals
- Launder all costumes and disinfect wigs with shampoo and baking soda or alcohol-based spray after each rehearsal
- Put procedures in place when distributing costumes, props, scripts to avoid clustered groups or dense lines of students
- Avoid or minimize vocal warmups that reinforce projections, articulation, and vibration
- Stagger technical production work with rehearsal schedule to ensure physical distancing in all workspaces
- Avoid overlapping technical production work with rehearsals
- Limit the number of people in dressing rooms, green rooms, backstage and all other production areas

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- In accordance with NMDOH/CDC guidelines, consider using plastic face shields (1 per student) that could be sanitized between classes/rehearsals
- Additionally, the Educational Theatre Association has the following published guidance: *Recommendations for Reopening School Theatre Programs*

MS & HS PERFORMING ARTS EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

APPENDIX: SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR GUITAR & ORCHESTRA

REQUIRED: FACIAL COVERINGS SHOULD BE WORN AT ALL TIMES

- It is recommended that when possible, students should have an assigned instrument to use at school and another issued for home use
- Guitar and orchestra students will need access to individual tuners to tune their instruments as these accessories should not be shared
- If a student requires instrument adjustment/repairs, students and/or parents should contact the teacher to set up a socially-distanced appointment to assess any repair needs
- In the event that the teacher cannot complete the repair, arrangements should be made for the instrument to be delivered to a repair shop for adjustment/repairs with teacher instruction and approval
- If an instrument is sent to a shop for repairs, it will need to be stored and remain untouched for 3 days before the student may retrieve and use the instrument

INSTRUMENT CARE

- Instrument varnish is very delicate and many CDC recommended products that advertise the ability to sanitize and clean coronaviruses will not work for the purposes of cleaning varnished wooden instruments including gels, anything alcohol-based, strong dyes (blue colored soap for example), moisturizers, and bleaches
- Establish and provide students with an appropriate instrument cleaning protocol
- Establish and provide students with a protocol for assistance with small adjustments such as tuning, broken strings, fallen bridge, etc.

BEGINNING GUITAR/ORCHESTRA

- Student instruments will need to be cleaned and prepared with finger tapes, dots, etc. and will need to sit for 3 days before distribution
- Provide students/guardians with clear instructions for tuning a stringed instrument
- It is recommended that students tune their own instruments
- If the teacher must tune an instrument, the teacher will wash/disinfect hands before/after coming in contact with instrument parts

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APPENDIX: SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR MARIACHI

REQUIRED: FACIAL COVERINGS SHOULD BE WORN AT ALL TIMES

Mariachi Ensembles should follow Special Considerations for Band, Choir and Guitar/Orchestra

University of Colorado study, American Choral Directors Association (ACDA), and recommendations of the National Association for Music Education (NAfME), National Federation of High School Associations (NFHS) and NM Music Educators Association

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