

BYRAM HILLS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Fine Arts Department

Updated Safety Protocols for Arts Instruction

As of February 12, 2021



General Safety Precautions & Protocols

In addition to the District and school-wide safety precautions and protocols, additional measures will take place for fine arts instruction as per guidelines provided by the NYS Department of Health, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, the New York State School Music Association, and review of procedures in local school districts and universities. All faculty members will receive training on these safety precautions and protocols.

- Ventilation in large instructional spaces will include Merv-13 filters and will be monitored. Doors/windows will be utilized to increase air flow.
- Hand sanitizing will take place before and after rehearsals for instrumental music instruction.
- Face coverings will be worn by all students and staff.
- Minimum social distancing will be 6 feet for instruction and 12 feet for practice and performance.
- Seating will be assigned and marked to ensure proper social distancing minimums are met.
- Singing in school will be permitted in situations where students remain masked and spaced a minimum of 12 feet apart. Regular face coverings will be worn by all.
- Band members will be permitted to play wind instruments in school provided they are spaced a minimum of 12 feet apart.
- Instrument bells will not be directed toward others.
- School-issued instrumental music masks and bell covers will be used by all wind players in the band. Percussionists may wear their normal face coverings.
- Flute players require unique safety protocols, given the manner in which a tone is generated on the instrument. The District will provide a 3-sided barrier for flute students to play behind while wearing a school-issued face shield. Students will wear their normal face coverings once they exit the barrier.

- All school-issued special instrumental face masks are adjustable and will require laundering after each rehearsal. Students will swap their instrumental face mask and their normal face covering before and after rehearsal.
- Wind players will clear spit valves directly into a cloth/tissue and dispose of properly.
- Instructional spaces will be cleaned according to the return to school plan for Byram Hills. Special cleaning between periods will occur.
- Travel to music festivals, performances and museums remains on hold. All field trips will be virtual.
- NYSSMA (New York State School Music Association) adjudications will be virtual this year. Participating students will work with their music teachers to submit video performances to be reviewed by NYSSMA officials.

Each musical instrument is unique and will require small changes to safety protocols. See chart below for specific details per instrument.

<p>Normal Face Covering and hand sanitizing before and after playing.</p> <p>6 feet apart while playing</p>	<p>School-issued instrumental face mask, school-issued bell cover, and hand sanitizing before and after playing.</p> <p>12 feet apart while playing</p>	<p>School-issued face shield, seating behind school-provided clear barrier, and hand sanitizing before and after playing.</p> <p>12 feet apart while playing</p>
<p>Violin Viola Cello Double Bass Percussion</p>	<p>Oboe Clarinet Bass Clarinet Alto Saxophone Tenor Saxophone Baritone Saxophone Bassoon Trumpet French Horn Trombone Baritone Tuba</p>	<p>Flute</p>

Coman Hill Elementary School

Instructional Space at Coman Hill

- Art and Music teachers travel to academic teachers' classrooms instead of teaching in their respective arts classrooms.
- Teachers will collaborate with the classroom aides to engage students in both cohorts simultaneously through prepared activities and/or synchronous teaching (via google meet).
- At times, teachers may toggle between cohorts, spending equal time teaching live to both cohorts of students.

Classroom Activities at Coman Hill

- Teachers will minimize use of shared materials, supplies, and musical instruments. Any items touched by students will be cleaned before anyone else uses the object.
- Teachers will photograph student work to be assessed and displayed virtually.
- Students will maintain social distance of 6 feet apart from others and will refrain from singing. Students may hum.

Performances at Coman Hill

- Students will demonstrate learned skills through virtual performances and classroom performance.
- Although public performances with an audience, including concerts and art showcases remain on hold, the Fine Arts Department is developing innovative ideas for student performances for the spring to showcase student work.

Wampus Elementary School

Instructional Spaces at Wampus

- Art and Music teachers travel to academic teachers' classrooms instead of teaching in their respective arts classrooms.

- Teachers will collaborate with the classroom aides to engage students in both cohorts simultaneously through prepared activities and/or synchronous teaching (via google meet).
- At times, teachers may toggle between cohorts, spending equal time teaching live to both cohorts of students.

Classroom Activities at Wampus

- Teachers will minimize use of shared materials, supplies, and musical instruments. Any items touched by students will be sanitized before anyone else uses the object.
- Teachers will photograph student work to be assessed and displayed virtually.
- Students will maintain social distance of 6 feet apart from others and will refrain from singing in general music or encore classes. Students may hum.
- Singing MAY occur, provided students are spaced a minimum of 12' apart in all directions while wearing masks. Options for utilizing the gym or outdoor areas for chorus will be explored in consultation with building administration as warmer weather arrives.

Instrumental Music at Wampus

Changes were made to the master schedule and room assignments this year to provide a safe environment for all students to learn. Band and string orchestra classes were temporarily suspended.

In consultation with building administration, the Fine Arts Department will offer families an opportunity for students to receive some instrumental music instruction in small groups before or after school beginning in the spring. A Google Form will be sent out to all families where students can sign up for small group instruction. Safety protocols will be in place. (See “Instrument Playing” below.)

Instrument Playing at Wampus

Students who choose to participate in the small instrumental group lessons before or after school will comply with the following Covid-19 safety protocols:

- Instrument Face Masks – students will wear an instrument face mask while playing instruments. (The District will provide appropriate instrument face masks.)

- Instrument Bell Covers - students will cover the bell of their instrument with a cover. (The District will provide bell covers.)
- Flute players will play behind a clear barrier and wear a school issued face shield.
- Wind instrument players (band) will be positioned no less than 12 feet apart in all directions.
- String players (orchestra) will be positioned 6-12 feet apart in all directions.
- Music stands will not be shared while in use.
- Instrument bells will not be aimed toward anyone.
- Teachers will ensure proper social distance of all students.
- Students will clear spit valves directly into a cloth/tissue and dispose properly.
- Students will sanitize their hands before and after rehearsal.

The location of the instrumental groups will be determined in consultation with building administration to consider appropriate safety precautions.

Performances at Wampus

- Students will demonstrate learned skills through virtual performances and classroom performance.
- Although public performances with an audience, including concerts, musical theatre productions, and art showcases remain on hold, the Fine Arts Department is developing innovative ideas for student performances for the spring to showcase student work.

H. C. Crittenden Middle School

Instructional Spaces at HCC

Arts classrooms are set up to accommodate students 6-12 feet apart based on the activity. Teachers will provide a combination of synchronous/asynchronous instruction simultaneously to students in-person and those students who are learning from home. Assigned seating will reflect necessary social distance requirements. Classroom spaces include the auditorium, cafeteria, arts classrooms, and “non-arts” classrooms.

Classroom Activities at HCC

- Teachers will minimize use of shared materials and supplies. Instruments will not be shared.
- Any items touched by students will be cleaned before anyone else uses the object.
- Teachers will photograph student work to be assessed and displayed virtually.
- Students will maintain a minimum distance of 6-12 feet apart from others.
- Singing may occur provided students are masked and distanced 12 feet apart in all directions.
- Playing orchestra instruments in school will continue per safety protocols below.
- In consultation with the building administration and the Fine Arts Department, playing band instruments in school (band had been temporarily suspended) will resume in the spring with updated safety protocols. (See “Instrument Playing” below.)

Instrument Playing at HCC

- Instrument Face Masks – students will wear a special instrument face mask while playing instruments. (The District will provide appropriate instrument face masks.)
- Wind instrument players (band) will be positioned no less than 12 feet apart in all directions.
- String players (orchestra) will be positioned no less than 6 feet apart in all directions.
- Music stands will not be shared while in use.
- Instrument bells should not be aimed at anyone.
- Teachers will ensure proper social distance of all students.
- Students will utilize an instrument bell cover and/or be seated behind a clear barrier. (This depends upon the instrument.)
- Students will clear spit valves directly into a cloth/tissue and dispose properly.
- Students will sanitize their hands before and after rehearsal.
- Weather permitting, band and choir students will rehearse outdoors while maintaining minimum social distance of 12 feet apart.

Performances at HCC

Students will demonstrate learned skills through virtual performances and classroom performance. Although public performances with an audience, including concerts,

theatre productions, and art showcases, remain on hold, the Fine Arts Department is developing innovative ideas for student performances for the spring to showcase student work.

Byram Hills High School

Instructional Space at BHHS

- Seating in all arts classes will be assigned and reflect safety protocols including social distance of 6-12 feet, depending on the activity.
- Large instructional spaces will be utilized when available to accommodate more students singing and playing instruments.
- Teachers will provide a combination of synchronous/asynchronous instruction simultaneously to students in-person and those students who are learning from home.
- Large instructional spaces include the orchestra room, band room, choral room, football field, and bleachers.

Classroom Activities at BHHS

- Teachers will minimize use of shared materials, supplies, and musical instruments.
- Any items touched by students will be sanitized before anyone else uses the object.
- Teachers will photograph student work to be assessed and displayed virtually.
- Students will maintain a minimum distance of 6 feet apart from others.
- Singing may occur provided students are masked and distanced 12 feet apart in all directions.
- In consultation with the building administration and the Fine Arts Department, playing band instruments in school (band had been temporarily suspended) will resume in the spring with updated safety protocols. (See “Instrument Playing” below.)

Extracurricular Activities at BHHS

Participation in the musical theatre production will include virtual and in-person rehearsals, adhering to all safety protocols included in this document. Preparations are underway for a modified live performance by The Varley Players of *Fiddler on the Roof*.

Participation in all arts related extracurricular activities and clubs including Jazz Choir, Jazz Band, The Byram Beat, NYSSMA adjudication, Tri-M, and the Art Honor Society will include virtual and in-person rehearsals when appropriate, adhering to all safety protocols included in this document.

Instrument Playing at BHHS

- Instrument Face Masks – students will wear an instrument face mask while playing instruments. (The District will provide appropriate instrument face masks.)
- Wind instrument players (band) will be positioned no less than 12 feet apart in all directions.
- String players (orchestra) will be positioned no less than 6 feet apart in all directions.
- Music stands will not be shared while in use.
- Instrument bells should not be aimed at anyone.
- Teachers will ensure proper social distance of all students.
- Students will utilize an instrument bell cover and/or be seated behind a clear barrier. (This depends upon the instrument.)
- Students will clear spit valves directly into a cloth/tissue and dispose properly.
- Students will sanitize their hands before and after rehearsal.
- Weather permitting, band and choir students will rehearse outdoors.

Performances at BHHS

Students will demonstrate learned skills through virtual performances and classroom performance. Although public performances with an audience, including concerts, theatre productions, and art showcases, remain on hold, the Fine Arts Department is developing innovative ideas for student performances for the spring to showcase student work.