



# ***MMEA Resource Fall 2020: Choral***

## **Fall 2020 Guidance for Music Education**

Prepared by the National Federation of State High School Associations  
and the National Association for Music Education

<https://nafme.org/my-classroom/fall-2020-guidance-music-education-from-nfhs-nafme/>

## **American Choral Directors Association resources:**

<https://acda.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/ACDA-COVID-19-Committee-Report.pdf>

<https://acda.org/resources-for-choral-professionals-during-a-pandemic/>

## **Suggested Reading Resources: Rehearsal Guide: Choral Singing in the Time of COVID 19; CHORUS AMERICA; May, 2020**

[https://www.chorusamerica.org/resource/tool/rehearsal-guide-choral-singing-time-covid19?fbclid=IwARoZk9l5ISC9q9lDY4f862xyoaiMSuB\\_oxDlZjbHrNwg11\\_CzgkQnzpeZUc](https://www.chorusamerica.org/resource/tool/rehearsal-guide-choral-singing-time-covid19?fbclid=IwARoZk9l5ISC9q9lDY4f862xyoaiMSuB_oxDlZjbHrNwg11_CzgkQnzpeZUc)

# **Missouri Music Educators Association Addendum to the Missouri School Board guidelines for reopening.**

Missouri Music Educators Association Covid-19 Recommendations CDC's current guidance, updated in March 2020, is for the implementation of social distancing practices and provides a suggestion for how school classes may be modified to accommodate social distancing, which is included in the recommendations for modifications below. ALL efforts should be made to modify activities rather than canceling Music Education classes and activities. Music Education can be modified like all other classes.

## **MMEA Ensemble/Classroom Guidelines**

1. Reorganize to allow for smaller classes and social distancing (Goal: 6 feet).
2. Alternate schedule - minimize numbers of students in the music classrooms, require social distancing (Goal: 6 feet).
3. Determine room capacity. What is square footage of your room?
  - 3.1. Students at 6 feet apart = 36 square feet per student.
  - 3.2. 20 students in class multiplied by 36 square feet = 720 square feet needed for safe environment.
  - 3.3. Mark chair location with tape on floor. Straight/flat rows facing the same direction is recommended.
4. Utilize other available classrooms for sectionals or group rehearsals where social distancing is achievable.
5. Limited and monitored restroom usage.
6. Teachers use controlled entrance and exits so students are not entering and exiting through the same door if possible.
7. Use separate partitions in the open spaces (large classrooms);

- 7.1. utilize markings on classroom floor/wall/practice field (marching band) - (student section/work stations).
8. Manage social distancing when moving students to/from multiple rehearsal spaces
9. Students should be provided their own equipment for class/prohibit equipment sharing.
10. Disinfect equipment between classes.
11. Students disinfect hands in and out of the music classrooms (hand-sanitizing stations).
12. Avoid touching, choreography, singing/playing in circles.
13. Blended Learning/Flipped classroom for concepts and skills relating to each standard.
14. Teachers have access to technology to broadcast instruction due to increased social distancing (ex. Megaphone or microphone).
15. Teachers have the ability to communicate for safety purposes. (ex. Walkie talkie).
16. Conductors face chorus from 10 to 20 ft. away from the first row of singers. Possibly wear goggles or install a plexiglass shield.
17. Bell coverings for instruments and flute guards for flutes should be utilized for indoor rehearsals.
18. Self-Management - Individualized programs-multiple activity stations allowing for personal choice with personal recording (record keeping, personalized logs, goal setting, etc).
19. Activities that require close contact or potential contact with another person should not be included. Provide lessons that include no contact activities and no or limited equipment (e.g. solo, small ensemble, sectional rehearsals, etc).
20. Equipment and practice rooms should consider strategies for social distancing throughout the activity.
21. All efforts should be made at every level to assist students in creating personal activities and rehearsal plans that include logging and reporting of learning processes,

achievement of standards and all available assessment benchmarks. If indoor rehearsals are not recommended, utilize other avenues of music learning such as music theory, music appreciation, songwriting, music history, and instrument classes such as guitar and ukulele.

22. Prepare to see students less frequently and for abbreviated in person classes. Work with administrators and stay informed of scheduling options.
23. Limit any nonessential visitors, volunteers, and activities involving external individuals, groups or organizations.

## Locker Rooms and/or Lockers in Hallways

1. Teachers should stagger access to lockers for instrument storage.
2. Students should not be allowed to share lockers.

## Physical Activity in the Music Classroom

1. Protocols for Physical movement modification can be utilized to adapt activities such as before-and after-school programs, extracurricular rehearsals, and practices.
2. Students should not engage in activities for the purpose of stretching or “warm-ups” that would require elevated heart rates or exasperated breathing - extreme social distancing should be observed.
3. Students should be provided a mask to wear when singing.
4. Outdoor rehearsals that follow social distancing guidelines are recommended.

# General Music and Elementary Music Ensembles

1. Restructure General Music and Elementary Music ensembles to allow for social distancing (Goal: 6 feet).
2. Minimize the numbers of students in the ensembles, separate students into different rehearsal groups, and/or change the rehearsal venue to allow for social distancing.
  - 2.1. half day schedule
  - 2.2. A day/B day schedule
  - 2.3. maintain distance within the classroom
  - 2.4. mark spots on the floor with stickers or dot spots
3. Control entrances and exits.
4. Stagger student arrival and dismissal from rehearsals.
5. Rehearse outside whenever feasible (weather permitting).
6. Provide students with assigned seats or assigned areas - marking their spots with tape or other markings on the ground when possible.
7. Manage social distancing before, during, and after the rehearsal.
8. If students are using instruments during the rehearsal/class period, they must stay on the same instrument for the entirety of the rehearsal/class period.
  - 8.1. After each rehearsal/class period, all instruments must be properly cleaned and sanitized prior to further use.
9. If students need to use music, they must bring their own music and may not share with others. Music can also be projected on a screen for all students to view or students can view music on their own device. (Teachers will need to purchase the correct amount of music in order to not violate copyright laws).
10. Students will disinfect their hands in and out of the rehearsal space.

11. Teachers have access to technology to broadcast instruction due to practicing effective social distancing. (large screens to project on, microphones/megaphones, speakers to play accompaniment for students at a reasonable volume, etc.)
12. Teachers should refrain from teaching songs where students are required to touch and/or violate social distancing guidelines. (i.e.: play parties, group dances, etc.) If the movements can be adjusted in order to not violate social distancing guidelines, these songs may continue to be part of instruction.
13. All students face the same direction as much as possible.
14. Provide masks and gloves.