

Welcome Back and New Information from the CSH Music Department

Dear Parents,

I hope you all had a safe, healthy and restful summer with your families! I hope this email serves to alleviate any concerns you may have regarding your child's instrumental music instruction come September.

Our primary concern while planning for the fall is **student safety**. Based on the New York State and CDC guidelines as well as recommendations from the National Association for Music Education and the New York State School Music Association, I am happy to inform you all that your children will have the opportunity to continue their instrumental instruction in the fall!

Grade 4 Band

I'm sure your children are excited to get started! If you have not already done so, please rent your child's instrument. You may use any vendor you would like but we have also provided a list of vendors we recommend for your convenience. Your children will receive pull-out instruction the way they always have in the past. Students will receive a schedule from their teachers, and will be scheduled for a lesson once a week on a day they are in school. They will need to make sure they bring their instrument to school on their lesson day.

Here are the new safety procedures in place for instrumental music instruction:

- Students will only be grouped with other students in their cohort (ie. students in 4M A day will only be in a lesson group with other students in 4 M A day. The Cohort model will be maintained.)
- All of the students will be spaced 12 feet apart for their lessons. This is recommended by the CDC in their guidelines for wind performance.
- Students will be provided with a specialized face mask with a flap opening to play their instrument through, as well as a bell cover for their instrument. The University of Colorado aerosol study on wind instruments has proven that these mitigation techniques make performing a wind instrument even safer than talking in terms of aerosol emission!
- Students will not be sharing any items at all - including instruments, mouthpieces, drum sticks or music.
- All music used will be viewed digitally on the students' Chromebooks.

Grade 4 Orchestra

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- All of the students will be spaced 6 feet apart for their lessons. This is recommended by the CDC in their guidelines.
- Students will be required to wear their masks the way they do for their normal instruction.
- Students will not be sharing any items at all - including instruments, bows, rosin or music.
- All music used will be viewed digitally on the students' Chromebooks.

Grade 5-6 Band

If you have not already done so, please rent your child's instrument. You may use any vendor you would like but we have also provided a list of vendors we recommend for your convenience. These instruments will stay at home except for morning rehearsals. To start the year, the **students will receive their music lessons virtually.** They will receive a schedule from their teachers, and will receive a lesson once a week on their virtual day. These lessons will be 30 minutes in length, and will be coordinated with the classroom teachers so as to not interfere with the introduction of new material.

Morning rehearsals will look slightly different however. Students will receive a morning rehearsal time on a rotating basis. These rehearsals will consist of small groups of students to work on chamber music - rather than a full band rehearsal. Lessons and morning rehearsals will not begin until September 29th, to give the students time to acclimate themselves to their new schedules.

Here are the new safety procedures in place for in-person morning rehearsals:

- Students will only be grouped with other students in their classroom cohort.
- Based on CDC guidelines for wind performance, all students will be spaced 12 feet apart for in-person playing.
- Students will be provided with both a specialized face mask with a flap opening to play their instrument through, as well as a bell cover for their instrument. (The University of Colorado aerosol study on wind instruments has proven that these mitigation techniques make performing a wind instrument even safer than talking in terms of aerosol emission!)
- Students will not be sharing any items at all - including instruments, mouthpieces, drum sticks or music.
- All music used will be viewed digitally on the students' Chromebooks.

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Here are the new safety procedures for in-person morning rehearsals:

- Students will only be grouped with other students in their cohort
- Based on the CDC Guidelines for orchestra, all of the students will be spaced 6 feet apart for their lessons.

- Students will be required to wear their masks the way they do for their normal instruction.
- Students will not be sharing any items at all - including instruments, bows, rosin or music.
- All music used will be viewed digitally on the students' Chromebooks.

Grade 7-8 Band

If you have not already done so, please make sure your child has purchased or rented their own instrument. You may use any vendor you would like but we have also provided a list of vendors we recommend for your convenience. Students will not be permitted to share instruments this year, so it is imperative that each student has their own. If your child plays a larger instrument (Tuba, Baritone Saxophone, Tenor Saxophone), we may be able to accommodate an in school instrument for sole student use. Please reach out to me if this applies to your child.

Here are the new safety procedures in place for our classes:

- Based on the CDC Guidance for wind performance, all of the students will be spaced 12 feet apart in the auditorium.
- Students will receive both a specialized face mask with a flap opening to play their instrument through, as well as a bell cover for their instrument. The University of Colorado aerosol study on wind instruments has proven that these mitigation techniques make performing a wind instrument even safer than talking in terms of aerosol emission!
- Students will not be sharing any items at all - including instruments, mouthpieces, drumsticks or music.
- All music used will be viewed digitally on the students' Chromebooks.

The many exciting extra-curricular music activities that are offered to your children at the Jr/Sr high will still be available to the students! These include the Jr. High Jazz Band, Music Club and Jr. High Musical. More information on these will go out at the start of the year.

Grade 7-8 Orchestra

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we recommend for your convenience. Students will not be permitted to share instruments this year, so it is imperative that each student has their own.

Here are the new safety procedures in place for our classes:

- Based on the CDC Guidelines, all of the students will be spaced 6 feet apart in the band room for class.
- Students will be required to wear their masks the way they do for their normal instruction.
- Students will not be sharing any items at all - including instruments, bows, rosin or music.
- All music used will be viewed digitally on the students' Chromebooks.

The many exciting extra-curricular music activities that are offered to your children at the Jr/Sr high will still be available to your children! These include the Jr. High Jazz Band, Music Club and Jr. High Musical. More information on these will go out at the start of the year.

Grade 9-12 Band

If you have not already done so, please make sure your child has either purchased or rented their own instrument. You may use any vendor you would like but we have also provided a list of vendors we recommend for your convenience. Students will not be permitted to share instruments this year, so it is imperative that each student has their own. If your child plays a larger instrument (Tuba, Baritone Saxophone, Tenor Saxophone), we may be able to accommodate an in school instrument for sole student use. Please reach out to me if this applies to your child.

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- All music used will be viewed digitally on the students' Chromebooks.

Extra curricular music activities will still be available to your children. These include the Sr. High Jazz Band, Music Club, Symphony Orchestra and Sr. High Musical. More information on these will go out at the start of the year.

Grade 9-12 Orchestra

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Here are the new safety procedures in place for our classes:

- Based on the CDC Guidelines, all of the students will be spaced 6 feet apart in the band room for class.
- Students will be required to wear their masks the way they do for their normal instruction.
- Students will not be sharing any items at all -including instruments, bows, rosin or music.
- All music used will be viewed digitally on the students' Chromebooks.

Extra curricular music activities will still be available to your children. These include the Jr. High Jazz Band, Music Club and Jr. High Musical. More information on these will go out at the start of the year.

We are all looking forward to seeing your children again in person and are especially looking forward to being able to provide a safe and fun musical performance experience.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me. Thank you for your continued support of the music program here at Cold Spring Harbor!

Sincerely,

Brent Chiarello
K-12 Music Coordinator
Director of Bands
Cold Spring Harbor Jr./Sr. High School
82 Turkey Lane - Cold Spring Harbor, NY 11724
(631) 367-6880