

ARLINGTON CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MUSIC DEPARTMENT  
SECONDARY SCHOOLS HYBRID REPORT

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# Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide updates and information about the positive continuation of music education in the Arlington Central School District in the 2020-21 school year.

The incredible support and encouragement of our district administration and board of education has allowed teachers to provide opportunities for our students in spite of the challenges that are being faced. Other districts have not been so fortunate and we truly appreciate the opportunity to keep music education alive and well in the Arlington Central School District.



Reports from each school...



# LAGRANGE MIDDLE SCHOOL

- The stage doors have been opened up in the band/ orchestra room in order to expand the room size and extend it onto the stage area
- The cafeteria is being utilized for the largest group (25 students), which fills up the entire cafeteria. Teachers are rolling out a projection cart and portable computer for live-streaming and presenting to the class.



# LAGRANGE MIDDLE SCHOOL POSITIVE AND PROACTIVE HAPPENINGS

- Creatively utilizing, coordinating, and sharing spaces for rehearsals (cafeteria, combining band room and stage spaces) so students can safely physically distance.
- Combined 8th Grade Band Night (UVMS & LMS) - prior to the start of hybrid.
- Coordinating band teachers' schedules and availability to ensure every student is in a lesson group where they can succeed.
- Reaching out to local grocery stores to procure necessary PPE and aerosol mitigation for band rehearsals.
- Using pre-existing technology infrastructure (desktop, Chromebooks, projection carts) in new ways to creatively engage remote and in-person students, while ensuring equitable instruction, no matter the method of instruction or where a student physically is.
- Organizing and implementing and staffing music and supply pick up for remote only students.



# UNION VALE MIDDLE SCHOOL

- The main rehearsal room has been cleared and we are utilizing the storage room and the large room. The main room can accommodate 13 students at 12 feet and the storage room can accommodate 6 students at 12 feet.
- The cafeteria is being utilized for 2 periods and the teachers are using chromebooks to livestream.
- Using a 2nd projector for the students in the storage room so that they have the same equitable experience as the students in the main room.
- Removed all extra equipment, file cabinets, and tables to increase usable space.



# UNION VALE MIDDLE SCHOOL POSITIVE AND PROACTIVE HAPPENINGS

- Combined 8th Grade Band Night (UVMS & LMS) - prior to the start of hybrid.
- Reaching out to local grocery stores to procure necessary PPE and aerosol mitigation for band rehearsals.
- Using pre-existing technology infrastructure (desktop, Chromebooks, projection carts) in new ways to creatively engage remote and in-person students, while ensuring equitable instruction, no matter the method of instruction or where a student physically is.
- Creatively utilizing, coordinating, and sharing spaces for rehearsals (stage, instrument storage room) so students can safely physically distance.
- Organizing and implementing and staffing music and supply pick up for remote only students



# ARLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

- All rehearsal spaces have been adjusted to allow for 6ft to 12ft distancing
- Extra equipment that is not needed for rehearsals has been moved to temporary storage to maximize the space
- Even with the largest cohorts, rehearsals can safely and effectively take place
- Band rehearsals held in the auditorium are using the entire lower level to allow for distancing with larger cohorts





# ARLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL POSITIVE AND PROACTIVE HAPPENINGS

(click on any links to view pictures or videos)

- The Arlington Marching Band had a month of rehearsals and was able to perform a socially-distanced family show on Halloween. - [CLICK HERE TO VIEW PHOTOS FROM THE EVENT](#)  
- [CLICK HERE TO VIEW A VIDEO OF THE EVENT.](#)
- High School Band Directors Darrell Keech and Evan R zodkiewicz are [team-teaching their bands together](#) to provide engagement and connection with both the students at home and in-person. The teacher in charge is the one directly working with in-person students and the other is working with the online students on any particular day.
- High School Jazz Ensemble Directors Rich Guillen and Evan R zodkiewicz carried out successful virtual auditions for our 3 jazz ensembles. Those groups will hopefully begin in-person and/or remote evening rehearsals in January.
- All band and orchestra students are working on solo, small ensemble, or flexible/adapted instrumentation versions of ensemble music in their small cohorts and over remote/live-streaming instruction.
- High School Orchestra Directors [Elizabeth Handman, Danielle Stier, and Jon Handman](#) are [team-teaching](#) 3 out of 5 orchestras (Chamber Orchestra and Philharmonia are being taught by just the “main” teacher).



# ARLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL POSITIVE AND PROACTIVE HAPPENINGS - Continued

(click on any links to view pictures or videos)

- The HS orchestra teachers purchased or repaired enough school violins and violas to ensure that no student has to bring their instrument to school and carry it around with them all day. The ASOA purchased instrument-safe sanitizer for both middle schools and the high school so that the string instruments can be properly sanitized at the end of each day.
- Admiral Players presented “Follies: A Musicological Journey Through 99 Years of Broadway History”. This was a live-streamed musical review featuring students in solo and small group performances, with pre-show and intermission music provided by the Arlington HS Jazz Machine.
  - [CLICK HERE TO VIEW PHOTOS FROM THE EVENT](#)
  - [CLICK HERE TO VIEW A VIDEO OF THE PERFORMANCE](#) (unable to share video link outside of ACSD)
- The AHS Wind Ensemble students and their director, Richard Guillen, prepared [virtual performances of holiday music \(click here to access playlist\)](#) that was posted to [YouTube](#) and shared with the Arlington Music community in December. Those performances were also featured at the Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce Virtual Holiday Breakfast on Dec. 16th. [Past performances from our Holiday Brass Choir were also shared \(click here for that playlist\).](#)

# Distancing/Spacing, Technology, and PPE

Band	Orchestra	Chorus	GM/Piano	Theater Arts
Students are spaced 12 ft apart	Students are spaced 6 ft apart	Students are spaced 6 ft apart	Students are spaced 6 ft apart	Students are spaced 6 ft apart
Space is being used innovatively	Students are wearing masks	Students are wearing masks	Students are wearing masks	Students are wearing masks
Teachers are live streaming and playing together at home and at school	Teachers are live streaming and playing together at home and at school	Teachers are live streaming and playing together at home and at school	Teachers are live streaming and teaching/playing together at home and at school	Teachers are live streaming and teaching together at home and at school
Personal Protective Equipment designed specifically for Band: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Customized playing masks</li> <li>• Customized brass bell covers</li> <li>• Flute guards/ face shields</li> <li>• Aerosol mitigation: Absorbent “moisture pads” (meat pads donated from local grocery stores) to absorb the condensation of brass instruments</li> </ul>				



# VIDEOS

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Please click the links below view videos of how ACSD music teachers are successfully teaching in the hybrid model.

[Middle Schools](#)

[High School](#)

[Holiday Virtual Playlist](#)



# SPECIAL THANKS FOR DONATIONS

- UVMS PTA- Donated \$400.00 to purchase plastic flute guards for the flute students at Union Vale Middle School
- Arlington Band Boosters Incorporated - Donated materials and helped to create musician masks masks and bell covers for high school band students
- Arlington Symphony Orchestra Association- Donated *Steri- Spray* Instrument Disinfectant Spray to clean and disinfect string instruments
- Stop and Shop, Adams Fairacre Farms, Shop Rite, Tops Grocery Stores - Donations of “moisture pads” used to collect the condensation of wind instruments
- Arlington High School Student Government (Sarah Ball and Dylan Fox, Co-Presidents) and the PPE for ALL Organization - Donated 70 face shields for music students



# TECHNOLOGY NEEDS...

On December 16, 2020, the ACSD Music Coordinators met with Dr. Ellen McDonnell, ACSD Director of Innovative Technology, to discuss needs for the music department. Items and needs discussed and to be explored for future use include:

- MusicFirst (and suite of apps)
- Sight Reading Factory
- Tone Savvy
- Sibelius and Finale Music writing programs

Details to follow as information is obtained.



# ACSD Music Re-Entry Guidance Information

For detailed information about ACSD Music Re-Entry Guidance, please click HERE or paste the link below into your browser:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1hN9h1fpvEQ48JvRkgiCQMR9YKZ5QYSkE1XPHRuaQTug/edit?usp=sharing>

**THANK YOU!**