

Science Supports Safe Music & Band Classes

Music & Band Classes are essential to a student's social and emotional well being.

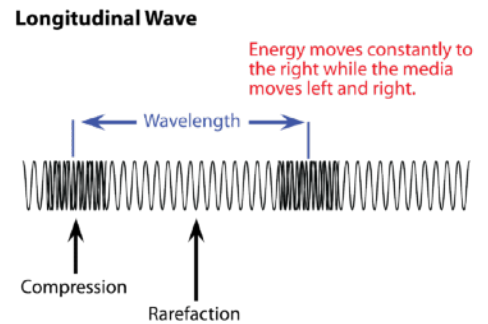
The programs must be allowed to continue in an adapted yet meaningful way that promotes cumulative learning in a safe and consistent way.

Please view the short video created by Nashville Music Scoring that demonstrates the physics of musical sound in a wind blown instrument. <https://youtu.be/AsLHFwtpABU>



The Vienna Philharmonic & Bamberg Symphony studies show “no increased risk to orchestral musicians”.

Instruments themselves are not transmitters. Three vibrations occur to hear sound. 1. The object vibrates. 2. The air molecules vibrate. 3. The ear drum vibrates. This means that while sound is projected throughout the room, streams of air from the instruments are not.



Children do not forcefully expel air in the same way as adults due to the fact that their lungs are still developing.

Increase in airspace, time, and physical distancing between musicians are the most effective ways to mitigate the risks of playing an instrument. These mitigation strategies mean that participating in a band class presents a similar risk to participating in a math or reading class.



Rehearsing and performing outdoors can allow for a lower risk to participants, although with proper safety procedures and protocols, indoor band and drumline rehearsals can also be safe.

Music Learning Band Program

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Citations & References

1. Nashville Music Scoring Instrument & Air Demonstration (2:56): <https://youtu.be/AsLHFwtpABU>
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3. Longitudinal Sounds Waves Demonstrated in a Spring: <http://salfordacoustics.co.uk/sound-waves/waves-transverse-introduction/longitudinal-waves>
4. Low Exhaled Breath Droplet Formation May Explain Why Children Are Poor Transmitters: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1id5IXIn8H2DmlWsiJplwQdAdeXzwZwmg/view>
5. West Point Band Risk Mitigation Guidance: <https://www.westpointband.com/westpointmusicresearchcenter/army-band-covid-19-risk-mitigation-for-large-groups.html>
6. UIL Texas Summer Guidance: https://www.uiltexas.org/files/policy/6-22-2020_Marching_Band.pdf
7. Harvard Reopening Guidance for Healthy Buildings & Healthy Schools: <https://schools.forhealth.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/19/2020/06/Harvard-Healthy-Buildings-Program-Schools-For-Health-Reopening-Covid19-June2020.pdf>
8. International Coalition Study Resource Page: <https://www.nfhs.org/articles/unprecedented-international-coalition-led-by-performing-arts-organizations-to-commission-covid-19-study/>
9. University of Colorado Boulder Study Statement of Work: <https://www.nfhs.org/media/3812357/risk-of-transmission-instrument-playing-vsfinal.pdf>
10. American Scientist Article on the importance of Music Education in Schools: <https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/1UJ3jxtxDOAJtejH8PwvPt1YDGPFPss3g>
11. Vienna Philharmonic Symphony Study (in German): <https://wien.orf.at/stories/3049099>

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