

California Music Educators Association

CDPH Update:

California Department of Public Health Schools [Guidance](#), updated on October 14, 2020

".... outdoor singing and band practice is permitted provided that precautions such as physical distancing and mask-wearing are implemented to the maximum extent possible."

[Applicability](#)

Does this guidance allow for singing or playing instruments?

"Yes, outdoor singing and band practice are permitted, provided that precautions such as physical distancing and mask wearing are implemented to the maximum extent possible. Playing of wind instruments (any instrument played by the mouth, such as a trumpet or clarinet) is strongly discouraged. School officials, staff, parents, and students should be aware of the increased likelihood for transmission from exhaled droplets during singing and band practice, and physical distancing beyond 6 feet is strongly recommended for any of these activities."

CMEA's response

Please note that playing and/or performing is one of four artistic processes in the California Music Standards, in alignment with California State Education Code, Section 51210 and 51220.

For **outdoor** only, CMEA recommends: *see references below for guidance on each point*

- to **only** sing or play wind instruments **outside** with the correct PPE (Personal Protection Equipment) and physically distanced six feet or more.
- wearing correct fitting masks for singers, all instrumentalists of all ages, instructors, and instrument covers are required.
- correct face masks and bell covers with MERV 13 for singing and playing wind instruments.
- teachers use a voice projection system to avoid voice and aerosol projection. Limit talking.
- to identify an outside location where spit valves can be emptied safely with physical distancing
- to maintain hygiene.

From NFHS Study

Masks

- Student
- Instruments
- Materials

Distance

- 6-foot CDC guidance
- Applies indoors and outdoors
- 9x6 for trombone

Time

- 30-minute rehearsal
- Clear room for minimum 1 air change before next rehearsal period

Air Flow

- Outdoors is best
- HEPA Filtration
- ACH Rates

Hygiene

- Spit Valves
- Handwashing
- Storage Areas

REFERENCES

1. California Department of Public Health Schools Guidance FAQs - updated 10/14/20 [Click here](#)
2. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - [Click here](#)
3. NAFME Guidance for Music Education - [Click here](#)
4. NFHS Aerosol Study - Round Two - [Click here](#)
5. NFHS Preliminary Recommendations - [Click here](#)
6. NFHS Aerosol Study FAQs - [Click here](#)