



October 21, 2021

Superintendent's Message: Visual and Performing Arts New Protocols

Dear Parents, Guardians, Staff and Students,

This week I have great news for all of our talented student musicians who play a wind instrument, singers and performing artists, music and theatre teachers and families, regarding COVID protocols.

Effective immediately, we are updating our health guidelines and will now allow for daily instruction and rehearsals to be held indoors. This guidance now aligns with Centers for Disease Control guidelines. This is important as we are experiencing cooler outdoor temperatures along with wind and other elements that make outdoor activities a challenge.

SMMUSD has specific protocols that include the installation of MERV 13 filters in classroom and other indoor air systems, and air exchangers, to ensure the continued health and safety of students and staff while singing, performing and playing instruments.

The protocols for indoor instruction and rehearsal include social distancing and special personal protective equipment that includes special masks for singers, special masks for playing wind instruments, as well as bell covers for some wind instruments, to minimize the spread of aerosol germs.

Schools have implemented a requirement for all guests attending performances and concerts must show proof of COVID vaccination OR negative PCR test within 72 hours of the performance date. Please check with your school site for specific information on these requirements.

SMMUSD is state and nationally recognized for its music and arts programs and with these measures in place we may continue to provide opportunities for students while maintaining all necessary health and safety protocols.

It brings me great joy to see our students practicing together and performing again in person.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Dr. Ben Drati, Superintendent