The Grand Haven Music Teachers are committed to providing a quality music education for all students in our classroom. We recognize that this year will look different, but we are committed to providing your students opportunities to engage in music and continue to provide the social-emotional learning and connectivity that so many of our students seek from their school music community.

During this difficult and unprecedented time, the mental health of our students remains our top priority. Music education can have positive effects on a student’s mental health. With the changes that are impacting our traditional school environments, music education is more critical than ever before to the ongoing development and health of our students. Music has long been reported to contribute to the positive social and emotional growth of students. Participating in music classes allows them the stability of being in a peer group, enabling them the opportunity to feel accepted by others. Additional benefits to music instruction include maintaining focus, recognizing individual artistic ability, relating with others, and being a part of a team. Music instruction is uniquely positioned to scaffold this social emotional learning for our students.

Regardless of COVID-19 restrictions, the music staff is committed to providing our students a meaningful and standard-based music education. The music staff realizes that students enroll in a performing arts class out of a desire to play an instrument or sing. In that spirit, our lessons will incorporate authentic performance as much and as safely as possible while exploring other aspects of our Michigan Music Standards. Our performances will look much different than in the past but will still be meaningful to student development.

Until the Governor's orders change, there will be no in-public performances. We will work to find creative ways to share our music with our community: virtual concerts, pre-recorded concerts, etc.

Any equipment (shared instruments, stands, chairs, etc) used will be cleaned before the next class.

As you know, the guidelines and health recommendations continue to change as we learn more about COVID-19. The music staff will continue to adjust our plan to comply with CDC, NFHS, district, state, and county guidelines. The safety of your student is our top priority. Below you will find an overview of what your student can expect from their music class. Please reach out to your student’s teacher if you have any questions or concerns.
**White Pines 5th Grade Music**

During the first marking period, students will receive general music instruction in addition to learning about band, orchestra and choir where they will then choose a class for the remainder of the year.

**White Pines 6th Grade Choir**

You MUST choose the in-person learning option in order for your student to participate in choir or any other performing arts course first semester. We WILL wear a mask 100% of the time when indoors, no matter what.

What to expect in 6th Grade Choir:

- Weather permitting, we will sing and rehearse outside with 6x6 social distancing - please dress appropriately for the weather.
- If outside is not an option, we will sing with masks and social distancing in the auditorium for no longer than 30 minutes (per NFHS guidelines)
- If the auditorium is not available, students will work on non-singing music skills in the choir room through ukulele lessons (instruments provided), audio looping projects, and other creative musicianship projects.

Students are asked to provide their own 3-RING BINDER for Choir Class

**White Pines 6th Grade Band**

You MUST choose the in-person learning option in order for your student to participate in band or any other performing arts course first semester. We WILL wear a mask 100% of the time when indoors, no matter what.

What to expect in 6th Grade Band:

- Weather permitting, we will rehearse outside with 6x6 social distancing - please dress appropriately for the weather.
- If outside is not an option, we will rehearse with masks and social distancing in the band room for no longer than 30 minutes (per NFHS guidelines). Masks must be “instrumental performer masks” with a slit for mouthpiece placement.
- Students will work on non-performance music skills in the band room through composition, audio looping projects, and other creative musicianship projects.
- Students will be asked to provide and use a COVID INSTRUMENT COVER in class. If you need assistance, please contact your director.
- Students will be asked to provide and use “instrumental performer masks” with a slit for mouthpiece placement. If you need assistance, please contact your director.
White Pines 6th Grade Orchestra

You MUST choose the in-person learning option in order for your student to participate in choir or any other performing arts course first semester. We WILL wear a mask 100% of the time when indoors, no matter what.

What to expect in 6th Grade White Pines Orchestras:

- Students social distance when possible according to school guidelines
- Stands/chairs/equipment will be sanitized at the end of each class
- Students will have their own music

Lakeshore Choir

You MUST choose the in-person learning option in order for your student to participate in choir or any other performing arts course first semester. We WILL wear a mask 100% of the time when indoors, no matter what.

What to expect in Lakeshore Choir:

- Weather permitting, we will sing and rehearse outside with 6x6 social distancing - please dress appropriately for the weather.
- If outside is not an option, we will sing with masks and social distancing in the auditorium or cafeteria for no longer than 30 minutes (per NFHS guidelines)
- If a large indoor space is not available, students will work on non-singing music skills in the choir room through audio looping projects, songwriting workshops, or other creative musicianship projects
- All students will be provided one GH Choir Mask that can be worn while singing. This blue cloth mask with the GH Choir Logo has additional structure to make singing more comfortable and should be washed daily. Additional cloth choir masks can be purchased for $10. Students may choose to wear a regular mask instead.

Students are asked to provide their own 3-RING BINDER for Choir Class

Lakeshore Band

You MUST choose the in-person learning option in order for your student to participate in band or any other performing arts course first semester. We WILL wear a mask 100% of the time when indoors, no matter what.

What to expect in Lakeshore Band:

- Weather permitting, we will rehearse outside with 6x6 social distancing - please dress appropriately for the weather.
- If outside is not an option, we will rehearse with masks and social distancing in the auditorium or band room for no longer than 30 minutes (per NFHS guidelines)
Students may work on non-performance music skills in the band room through audio looping projects, composition, or other creative musicianship projects.

- Students will be asked to provide and use a COVID INSTRUMENT COVER in class. If you need assistance, please contact your director.
- Students will be asked to provide and use “instrumental performer masks” with a slit for mouthpiece placement. If you need assistance, please contact your director.

**Lakeshore Orchestra**

You MUST choose the in-person learning option in order for your student to participate in orchestra or any other performing arts course first semester. We WILL wear a mask 100% of the time.

What to expect in Lakeshore orchestras:

- Students social distance when possible according to school guidelines
- Stands/chairs/equipment will be sanitized at the end of each class
- Students will have their own music

**High School Choir**

You MUST choose the in-person learning option in order for your student to participate in choir or any other performing arts course first semester. We WILL wear a mask 100% of the time when indoors, no matter what.

- Weather permitting, we will sing and rehearse outside with 6x6 social distancing - please dress appropriately for the weather.
- If outside is not an option, we will sing with masks and social distance as much as possible according to school guidelines in the choir room, auditorium or other rooms in the music suite (as they are available) for no longer than 30 minutes per room (per NFHS guidelines). During the 90 minute class time, we will rotate spaces in the music suite so singing is not more than 30 minutes in each space.
- There may be times where rooms/spaces needed for rotation are not available. During these times, students will work on non-singing music skills in the choir room. This could include music theory, vocal pedagogy, music history, creative musicianship projects, etc.
- All students will be provided one GH Choir “Singing” Mask that can be worn while singing. This blue cloth mask with the GH Choir Logo has additional structure to make singing more comfortable and should be washed daily. Additional cloth choir masks can be purchased for $10. Students may choose to wear a regular mask instead.
- Students will each have their own copy of music and will be expected to bring their folder and music to class each day.

Students are asked to provide their own 3-RING BINDER and a PENCIL for Choir Class.
High School Band

You MUST choose the in-person learning option in order for your student to participate in band or any other performing arts course first semester. We WILL wear a mask 100% of the time when indoors, no matter what.

What to expect in High School Band:

- Weather permitting, we will rehearse outside with 6x6 social distancing - please dress appropriately for the weather.
- If outside is not an option, we will rehearse with masks and social distancing in the auditorium or band room for no longer than 30 minutes (per NFHS guidelines).
- Students may work on non-performance music skills in the band room through audio looping projects, composition, or other creative musicianship projects.
- Students will be asked to provide and use a COVID INSTRUMENT COVER in class. If you need assistance, please contact your director.
- Students will be asked to provide and use “instrumental performer masks” with a slit for mouthpiece placement. If you need assistance, please contact your director.

High School Orchestra

You MUST choose the in-person learning option in order for your student to participate in orchestra or any other performing arts course first semester. We WILL wear a mask 100% of the time.

What to expect in the high school orchestras:

- Students social distance when possible according to school guidelines
- Stands/chairs/equipment will be sanitized at the end of each class
- Students will have their own music