

October 2020

Dear Readington Families,

Decades of research in education and neuroscience points to the intellectual, academic, and social-emotional benefits of studying music. Whether students attend school in-person, remotely, or in a hybrid fashion, arts education creates a welcoming school environment and a healthy, inclusive school community. It is an integral part of building and strengthening connectedness during this time of social isolation and social distancing.

In order to continue to provide performing arts experiences to students as we transition to a hybrid learning model, we will offer students in fourth through eighth-grade several different opportunities. Fifth through eighth-grade instrumental music will take place in a remote or hybrid setting depending on the grade level and instrument. More information regarding remote and hybrid instruction for our Instrumental Music Program can be located [HERE](#). Middle school chorus will continue to take place in a remote setting. Students will practice and record their instrumental and choral music with the purpose of performing, but school performances are planned to be streamed online without live audiences until further notice.

Fourth-grade instrumental music will begin in January, and families can look forward to communication from their building band and orchestra teachers. Learning a new instrument is an exciting experience. We hope students take advantage of the opportunity to participate in the individual introductory lessons that will take place virtually during the school day.

The Readington Township School District is committed to providing a safe environment for our award-winning music program that promotes long-term participation in this important educational experience. As new information regarding the safety of these activities becomes available, we will revisit and potentially revise the structure of lessons and performances outlined above. If you have any questions about the arts program, please contact your child's building music teacher or an administrator.

Sincerely,

