



Jonathan Hart, Ph.D., *Superintendent*
Stacey Brown, Ed.D., *Supervisor of Humanities*

jhart@readington.k12.nj.us
sbrown@readington.k12.nj.us

P.O. Box 807 • 52 Readington Road • Whitehouse Station, NJ 08889 • (908)-534-2195 • (908) 349-3032 fax

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Dear Readington Family,

We are pleased to announce that students participating in the Chorus Program at Readington Middle School (RMS) will have the opportunity to begin vocal practice during in-person classes. The guidelines below have been developed following research and best practices in order to create the safest environment possible.

General guidelines for all students:

Students will receive and must use the singing mask provided by the school when participating in activities that involve singing. When students are not singing, they must wear a mask that meets district guidelines.

Vocal practice in class will be limited to no longer than 30 minutes, and students will be positioned to sing forward-facing.

Routines will be established for students to enter the classroom, sanitize their hands, and set up needed materials. Wherever possible, one-way traffic patterns for entry and exit of rehearsal rooms and access to areas such as music folder storage, sinks, and sanitizing stations will be created.

Students will wipe down their music stand and seat at the start and end of each class, in-class storage of personal materials will be limited, and students will be seated six feet apart.

At least one period, currently 55 minutes, will occur between classes to allow for adequate air exchange. Whenever it is possible, students will practice outdoors.

Should the COVID-19 Activity Level Index score become 3 (orange) or greater, in-person vocal practice may be suspended or continue only when an outdoor location is available.

The county CALI score is currently yellow, and we hope to begin in-person practice as soon as possible; however, the CALI score could change. If that occurs, we will reevaluate our program and protocols to ensure we created the safest environment possible before continuing in-person practice. We know arts education plays a critical role in our students' development, including addressing essential social and emotional learning needs. Please know that the Readington Township School District remains committed to working with you to ensure that a high-quality well-rounded education remains available to our students. If you have any concerns regarding our RMS Choral Music Program, please feel free to contact me. I am happy to answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,