

EXAMPLE: Sample Letter from Bill Thomas, Shawnee Mission School District Performing Arts Coordinator (Kansas City, Kansas Metro area) to parents:

SMSD Performing Arts Back-to-school plan 2021

Keeping schools safe and open is a top priority for the 2021-2022 school year.

SMSD recognizes the strongest mitigation measures may be found in the immunity gained from vaccines.

SMSD reserves the right to change the mitigation measures at any point by action of the Board of Education or superintendent as necessary.

Music groups will return to rehearsing and performing this year. Audiences will be allowed to attend. However, we have learned a lot about streaming events using YouTube Live Streaming, Facebook Live or the NFHS network and all are still viable options for sharing performances if desired. Proper copyright procedures must still be followed.

- It is strongly recommended to utilize outdoor spaces to play and sing whenever possible. Masking outdoors is not required.
- It is strongly recommended to use bell covers to reduce aerosolized material.
- Social distancing of 3 feet or greater in rehearsal spaces is recommended.
- All bus riders must wear masks for daily routes or field trips.
- Masks are required for all children at the elementary level until such a time as all students have the opportunity to be fully vaccinated.
- Staff working in elementary settings that are fully vaccinated may opt out of masking with proof of vaccination. External building visitors must wear a mask (elementary)
- At the secondary level, it is strongly recommended that unvaccinated individuals continue to mask until fully vaccinated.
- Individuals who are ill should stay home.