



POST-PANDEMIC PLANNING GUIDE FOR MUSIC EDUCATORS VOLUME 2

Let's Talk Minimizing Risk in Music

There is still a great deal of concern relating to the spread of COVID-19 in our schools, so it's important that we are prepared to address this head on. Fortunately, there are significant studies underway that directly address how to minimize risk in the music classroom. You can review the key takeaways from the most recent findings in a [long](#) and [abbreviated](#) format.

- It's important we use the appropriate vocabulary when communicating these findings. These measures do not make music “safe,” but rather, “significantly reduce risk,” in some cases by up to 90%. We want to ensure that we are communicating this information accurately.

We also want to communicate this information to our key decision makers in an easy-to-follow format, so that they can make the best decision possible. Don't assume they know what you know! You can use [this email template](#) to communicate this important information about safety measures to your decision makers.

GOAL: Get Your Community Involved

It's vitally important that our community supports the arts, and who better to lead this charge than music teachers? The National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM) recently launched an initiative called “[ARTS ARE EDUCATION.](#)” ([View Press Release](#)) This is an easy, turnkey way to share the importance of music with your community and gather support.

Get your community involved:

- Take the [ARTS ARE EDUCATION Pledge](#).
- Ask parents to take the [ARTS ARE EDUCATION pledge](#).
- Involve your building administration and build support for the arts by making them aware of this initiative. You can use [this email template](#) to open the conversation.
- Request time (or enlist a few passionate band parents!) to speak to your school board about the importance of music education and ask them to support the ARTS ARE EDUCATION initiative by signing the pledge.
- Budget decisions are already underway. Parents asking the school board to pledge support of the arts makes music a budgetary priority.



POST-PANDEMIC PLANNING GUIDE FOR MUSIC EDUCATORS VOLUME 2

RECRUITING TIP: It's Elementary

Recruiting can never start too early, and elementary school music teachers are a great ally in this activity. Here are some things to do now to kick-off recruiting alongside your elementary school teacher:

- Begin collecting student testimonials to share later with prospective students at the elementary school. Current students can use Flipgrid or another video recording software to record a few lines about why they joined band, orchestra or choir. View this [Example Recording](#) for inspiration.
- Arrange with the teachers of the elementary programs to meet with their classes via Google Meet or other platform to provide an engaging session on “exciting music opportunities at the middle school.” This would be a great time to share videos of current high school or middle school students having fun making music! For now, just get a date set. We will send some content ideas in our next blast, but here’s a [sneak peak](#) of some great ideas if you’d like to get started.

About The Authors

The MusicEdNow team is a cross-industry committee joined by a common goal to help music teachers navigate the challenges facing music programs. It was formed in 2020 and includes an experienced team of educators, non-profit organizations, and industry leaders.