

CALL OR SEND AN EMAIL TO YOUR SUPERVISOR/PRINCIPAL

The relationship that you have with your administration is critical.

DO THIS NOW: Write an email, call, or schedule a visit with your principal to let him/her know that:

1. You have recently become aware that there is considerable federal ESSER funding being provided to help ensure a safer return to in-person learning and to address the needs of the students including their social, emotional, and mental health needs—particularly those students who have been disproportionately impacted.

2. These funds are permitted to be used for *(e.g. reducing the risk of virus transmission and exposure to environmental health hazards -- reference the applicable uses that are appropriate to your request)*. NFHS, the National Federation of State High School Associations, has provided significant guidance to help mitigate aerosol transmission in vocal and instrumental music classes by way of scientific data from studies conducted at U.C. Boulder and the University of Maryland. An updated version of the NFHS mitigation strategies may be found at <https://www.nfhs.org/articles/unprecedented-international-coalition-led-by-performing-arts-organizations-to-commission-covid-19-study/>. Also attached is a copy of the recently-released, peer-reviewed article authored by the researchers is also available. <https://scholar.colorado.edu/concern/articles/hq37vp75r>

3. In consideration of the above, you would like to *(meet with the Performing Arts Team; meet with the district's Music Education Team; participate on the school-wide/district-wide committee; etc.)* to assemble a plan to address our students' needs through these federal resources. Not only could we provide enhanced safety measures for our students as outlined by the NFHS data, but we could also provide additional, more equitable opportunities for (name of school) students to become more actively engaged in learning when they return. There are many students who have not yet become involved in music-making who would find the benefits to be rewarding and life-changing.

Visit "<https://covid-relief-data.ed.gov>" to search for the total funds awarded to your district and consider attaching a copy of that information to this correspondence.