



PREPARE FOR POSSIBILITY

Dance, Vocal and Instrumental Music, Traditional and Digital Visual Art, Creative Writing, and Acting are a part of every student's schedule – ART EVERY DAY. Our extensive arts program is integrated into our solid academic curriculum. The Arts Academy in the Woods is chartered by the Macomb Intermediate School District's Board of Education

The Arts Academy in the Woods Board of Directors has considered input from stakeholders at public Board meetings and through the [Reopening the Arts Academy Community Survey](#)

The Academy's Directors want to ensure all stakeholders that regardless of our reopening status and plans, we will have an entirely virtual learning option for all families who cannot or who choose not to return to face to face instruction. Those families who choose online instruction will be supported and instructed by Arts Academy in the Wood's incredible teaching staff according the Academy's vision and curriculum.

The Academy's Board anticipates that the Academy's administration and staff have collaboratively built a plan for multiple reopening scenarios in response to the [Return to School Road Map](#) and the [MI Safe Start Plan](#)

The Board anticipated that the reopening phases would be highly aligned with current health and safety benchmarks as described in the plan. For example in Phase 4, we expect to see these benchmarks met:

- The number of new cases and deaths has fallen for a period of time, but overall case levels are still high.
- Most new outbreaks are quickly identified, traced, and contained due to robust testing infrastructure and rapid contact tracing.
- Health system capacity can typically handle these new outbreaks, and therefore case fatality rate does not rise above typical levels.
- The overall number of infected individuals still indicate the need for distancing to stop transmission and move to the next phase.

At this time, the Academy's Board of Directors do not feel that those benchmarks have been met, particularly in Macomb, Wayne, and Oakland Counties where our staff and students primarily live. Due to the Board's concern for the health and safety of our community, the Board has directed our administration to implement protocols for 100% virtual learning until such time as the local communities are reaching those benchmarks.

The Academy will implement full virtual learning for the first quarter, ending on November 11. The Board of Directors will evaluate the current state of the spread of disease at our October Board meeting (10/12/2020) and decide on a plan for second Quarter.

The Board of Directors will evaluate our plan for Second semester (third and fourth quarter) at our January meeting (01/11/2021) and our fourth quarter plan at a Special meeting tentatively scheduled for March 22.

Our staff and administration will continue planning to ensure that we have plans to provide appropriate and necessary resources for all of our community members.