



UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL BAND

THIS ISSUE

Class Updates

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Face-to-Face Procedures

FROM THE DESK OF MR. BROWN

Nearly everything about this school year has been thus far exceedingly strange and unusual, but we are beginning to see faint glimmers of normalcy peek through the clouds.

On Friday, those students who selected the Face-to-Face option returned to campus. Now, this still didn't look *normal* per se. As I understand it, only about 25% of our student population chose the Face-to-Face option, and the number of students physically present in our band classes ranged from zero to about ten. Fortunately, this makes it relatively easy to maintain "social distancing." The campus also has a strict facial covering policy. Mr. Willis and I have both been teaching largely from our offices, in an attempt to keep our LaunchED students engaged while also minimizing physical contact. Nevertheless, there is a big difference in seeing someone through a screen and having another person in the room with you, and both the old and new faces were definitely welcome sights and a step in the direction of knowing that we will, eventually, get past this.

In the meantime, we are continuing to structure our classes and experiment with different ways of making things work. For the most part, we are going to try to make sure that both our Face-to-Face and our LaunchED students are getting the same opportunities and a similar experience. Our design and color guard coordinator, Michael James, has begun a series of tutorial videos for our Eurhythmics, and our ensemble classes have established routines for individual practice time and lesson schedules. There are even some performance opportunities that have already been defined.

We have a long way to go yet before things are back to normal, but it was definitely encouraging to see the first few steps take shape this week.

BAND HISTORY NIGHT

Please join us on **Thursday, August 27**, from **4 o'clock** to about **6 o'clock PM** for our UHS Band History Night! We will be watching the marching band shows from 2013 to 2019 with our directors and staff sharing some commentary and memories. This will be a great chance to see where our program has been, learn about the legacy of which we are all a part, and stay excited about the future.



The meeting will take place in the Virtual Band Office, which you can find by visiting www.UHSband.com/hallway

RECITAL CONSORTIUM



Students who are interested can participate in our "Recital Consortium" over the next few months. This is a joint effort with a few other schools where students will perform solos across several rounds

until a few representatives are selected from each school to participate in a digital recital together. More information is available at



www.UHSband.com/consortium

BAND FACE-TO-FACE



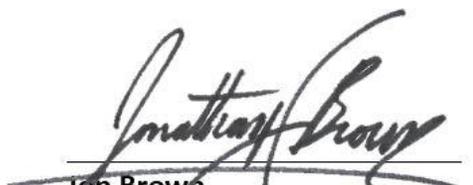
It's been great to see some of our band members in person again, and we are definitely looking forward to the day when we can all be together again! Until then, measures have been put in place to ensure that everyone can feel safe and secure.

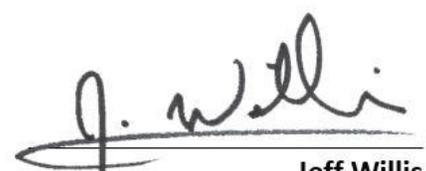
Our concert ensembles – Concert Band, Symphonic Band, and Wind Ensemble, as well as the Big Band – have been focusing primarily on individual solos and études. Whether at home or on campus, students are getting a pretty similar experience in terms of curriculum.

Due to various studies about the spread of aerosols via wind instruments, we are trying to keep playing in the band room to a minimum. During class, our students are collecting their

equipment and setting up individual practice spaces outdoors. There may be no marching band this fall, but the practice field is still being good to us!

As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact myself or Mr. Willis and we will do our best to make sure you have everything you need.


Jon Brown
Director of Bands
University High School


Jeff Willis
Associate Director of Bands
University High School