



# UNIVERSITY

# UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL BAND

## THIS ISSUE

New Developments

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### FROM THE DESK OF MR. BROWN

The situation regarding safety protocols for football games continues to develop. The latest statement from Orange County Public Schools says that after the first football game, which is September 17, safety procedures will be re-evaluated to determine if it is safe to have bands performing live in the stadium again. At some point, the answer to that question will be “yes” and the University Band will have a grand and victorious return to live performance. As to whether that will happen this month, or next month, or later this semester, or in the spring, that remains to be determined. On the one hand, our school has been highly successful in following (and actually going well beyond) CDC guidelines, sanitizing facilities (our custodians are literally disinfecting the band room multiple times a day), and enacting policies to keep everyone safe; on the other hand, we’ve all seen (in the case of Olympia) that OCPS will not hesitate to shut down an entire school campus at the first sign of spread. In any case, our principal has told us to start formulating a plan, in the event we do get the green light.

Most likely, even if we do get the go-ahead, we will still have some flexibility in if and how we return to live performance. The current plan is to produce digital recordings of the stands tunes, fight song, and national anthem, which will be played at the games without the need for face-to-face rehearsal or performance. However, we may begin considering other options as well: once again we find ourselves considering about half a dozen different plans so that we can adapt quickly and efficiently.

We would like to hear from you, as the preferences and comfort level of our families certainly need to be taken into account as these decisions are made. I can assure you we will not do anything we believe will put students in harm’s way, but beyond that, if you have any insights you would like to contribute to the discussion, please feel free to send us an email ([director@UHSband.com](mailto:director@UHSband.com), [willis@UHSband.com](mailto:willis@UHSband.com)) and let us know your thoughts.

## SNAPRAISE

Our SnapRaise fundraiser is up and running and off to a great start! Please remember that all students are expected to participate. Full participation means the following:

- You have created a profile on SnapRaise
- You have uploaded a photo of yourself
- You have entered and sent twenty (20) email invitations

Right now, about 50% of our band has performed these three tasks. Please help support the band by doing your part!

Parents, you can also help by sharing the link on social media! Use the QR code here or find the link at [www.UHSband.com](http://www.UHSband.com).



## CONCESSIONS CLEANUP



Thank you to **Neil Thatcher, Kim Knarr, Nate Thatcher, Ryan Soto, Noah Brockhoff, Valentina Betancur, and Samantha Cavallaro** for volunteering your time last week to help us to get the concession stand cleaned and ready for the return of football season!

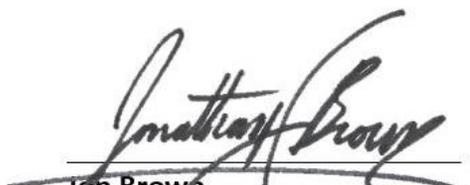
## THOUGHTS FROM THE DRUM MAJOR

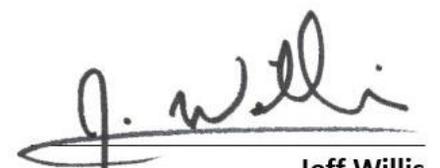


While I believe Launched is the safest and optimal option for me, being a band student learning from home is strange and definitely not ideal. It's weird seeing bandmates as heads in a box on a screen as opposed to people with whom I could get into the most random yet fulfilling of conversations. I also know we all miss marching, camaraderie, the thrill of competition, and the energy that playing in an ensemble creates. Yet, like everything else in life, there are pros as well as cons. I think that this time is a gift for us to improve upon our musicality. Personally, I have been trying to set up a daily practice schedule and am looking forward to opportunities to perform solo repertoire and learn music theory in classes. Band is characterized by music and having the ability to individually hone in on fundamentals will allow us to create and comprise the ensembles we so love and cherish. I am going to graduate in the spring, but I still cannot wait to see how this band will have grown next time it gets to take the field and do everything normally once more. Let's take advantage of this time and do what we must to be the best we can be. Please stay safe and keep working hard! This, too, shall pass!

- *Kayla*

As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact one of your band directors!

  
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