Dear Parents and Students,

I am writing to formally inform all of you of some changes in our upcoming events. Obviously, given the current circumstances surrounding the COVID-19 outbreak, we have experienced some cancellations. Prior to schools being closed across the state, the 8th Grade MPA event for 3/25 was cancelled statewide by the NC Bandmasters Association, and the 7th Grade Field Trip on 4/3 was cancelled by Davidson County. Given the updates regarding COVID-19, these cancellations were completely necessary. Our first priority always will be the safety and wellbeing of our students. I spoke with the 7th and 8th graders last Friday, and while this was disappointing news for them to hear, it is necessary for us to take every precaution we can to keep them safe and healthy.

The 8th Grade Band has worked incredibly hard preparing for MPA since January, and I am extremely proud of each and every one of them. I told them today that it's not about the destination – it's about the journey. Making music with the people you care about is what matters. Putting forth your best effort and improving as a musician each and every day is what matters. These 8th graders have accomplished that, and they have indeed made their journey a very worthwhile and memorable one.

Moving forward into the calendar, we still have a Spring Concert coming up that is scheduled for Monday, May 18th. All students will be receiving weekly practice assignments on Google Classroom for their Spring Concert music while we are out of school. I hope everyone stays safe and healthy in the weeks ahead. Please feel free to email or call with any questions.

Sincerely, Mr. Alex Larsen

Band Director, Oak Grove Middle School

(336) 474-8250: alexanderlarsen@davidson.k12.nc.us