

## DASS GROVE BANDOS

## THE SOUND OF GRIZZLY PRIDE

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Mike Howell, Director of Bands Alex Larsen, Director of Bands

July 14, 2020

Marching Band Parents, Students, and Staff,

I apologize for the multiple messages today but wanted to respond to a few questions that have been raised since the Governor's announcement this afternoon.

As of today, our specific plan for the OG Marching Band is to keep our band camp dates (July 26 – August 7) reserved as it has been posted since February.

We certainly understand that there is some confusion as to how we would possibly be able to do this given the "Safer at Home" Phase 2 restrictions that are remaining in place for an additional three weeks.

The band staff and I are currently working on plans and updates to the specific camp schedule that would allow us to meet with our students while still observing the protocols in place for this. Currently, we are allowed to meet outside with a group of 25 (which includes instructors) for a total of 90 minutes per day.

Many questions have arisen specifically related to playing instruments, having access to our band room and facilities, etc. I am currently in conversations with school and district officials, as well as my fellow band directors to see how best to make all this work. Keep in mind that we are also dealing with the good old "heat restriction" protocols, meaning we must not be outside between 10:30am and 6:00pm if above 90 degrees. Geez!!

Needless to say, band camp (and the entire season) will look quite different that it has in the past. My goal at this point is to do the best and the most we can given our circumstances. I know that you understand that student and staff safety is our number one concern and we cannot compromise that by ignoring the procedures set forth by our district and state.

I promise that as I get more information and a specific plan in place, I will share immediately. For now, continue to keep July 26 – August 7 on your calendar for band camp 2020!