



DENISON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC DEPARTMENT

**Denison High School
Touch of Gold Marching Band**

***Student Musician
Return to Campus Plan***

Melissa Lewis, Director of Bands

2020

Dear Students and Parents,

On behalf of the Denison ISD Instrumental Music Department, we are pleased to present this outline for the Phase 1 plan to return our student-musicians to campus for summer band camp. The health and safety of our students is our number one priority and the following guidance is based on what is currently known about the coronavirus disease (COVID-19). We have designed this guidance to help prevent workplace exposures to COVID-19 for all students, marching technicians and staff and will be updated as additional information becomes available.

The following guidelines were adapted from the existing “Athlete Return to Campus Plan” designed by Denison ISD Athletics. We have also adopted recommendations from a variety of state and national music education organizations as well including TEA, UIL, Texas Music Educators Association, National Association for Music Education and the College National Band Directors Association.

The band staff will continue to work closely with UIL, campus administration, the State of Texas, Grayson County and the City of Denison health officials, so that timely and accurate information can guide appropriate responses. Local conditions will influence the decisions that public health officials make regarding community- level strategies.

As with athletics, we will expect staff and students to conduct themselves as if they are contagious. The policies in our plan are designed to minimize risk for yourself and others. It is vital to the health and safety of everyone involved in the Touch of Gold Marching Band that our students and staff are fully conscious of this at all times and take responsibility for following these guidelines seriously.

Sincerely,

Melissa Hatheway Lewis

Director of Bands

Denison High School

I. Key Principles

- Limiting personal interaction. Both face-to-face interaction and person-to-person contact will be limited to essential activities that cannot be performed in an alternative (virtual or remote) fashion. When such activities are required, social distancing and other infection-spreading mitigating measures will be emphasized.
 - Our staff will keep a 1:15 teacher to student ratio as much as possible.
 - Rehearsals will be conducted outside as much as possible.
 - Students will adhere to social distancing policies as recommended by local, state and national organizations.
- Hygiene – hand washing will be emphasized before, during, and after band rehearsals when practicable.
- Cleaning and sanitation – routine and enhanced cleaning and sanitation measures will be implemented for rehearsal spaces and band equipment such as music stands and chairs.
- Safe access to facilities – Facility entry and exit points will be coordinated to minimize personal interaction and facilitate social distancing.
- Screening Procedures for Students and Staff – Daily symptom and temperature screening assessment will be required for all students.
 - Staff will continue to be screened on a daily basis.

II. Overall Guidelines and Response Strategies

1. Sanitization

A. Disinfection and Sanitation

- Facilities Cleaning – facilities will be disinfected and sanitized per industry guidelines, before, during, and after daily summer band rehearsals.
 - Emphasis will be given to ensuring disinfecting high touch surfaces and surfaces that are used by multiple students, such as music stands and chairs.

- *Students will be encouraged to use their flip folder instead of a music stand, or to bring their own collapsible music stand from home.*
- Enhanced Cleaning – specific facilities in which an individual with a confirmed COVID-19 positive has been identified will undergo enhanced disinfection per CDC and industry guidelines.
- Equipment Sharing – students will not share any musical instruments or accessories. In the event a student needs to borrow any school-owned equipment such as a mouthpiece, etc. it will be cleaned prior to being given to a student.

B. Students and Staff

- Both students and staff will sanitize their hands before, during, and after rehearsal. There will be multiple hand sanitizing stations spread out all band rehearsal areas.
- There will be no high fives, back slaps, or any other physical encouragement. In addition, staff will refrain from touching any student’s instrument unless wearing appropriate PPE.
- 6-foot social distancing will be kept when not actively playing an instrument.
- 10-foot social distancing will be kept when actively playing an instrument.
- Students and staff will wear a cloth face mask unless actively playing an instrument.
 - Percussion and color guard students will be encouraged to wear a mask at all times.

2. Student Requirements for Summer Band

- Students will check in and complete the screening process each day from their phone before arriving.
 - The screening questions will be made available on the band website and Schoology.
- Students will stay home if they answered “YES” to any screening questions or if they do not feel well. Students and parents should let the Head Band Director know if their student is staying home via email prior to the rehearsal start time.
- Students will park or be dropped off at the Auditorium parking lot at the back of the high school.
- Students will get in the check in line for the screening process and keep at least six feet between each other at all times.

- Students will use hand sanitizer before entering the facility, during water breaks, and when leaving rehearsal.
- Six Foot Rule – Maintain six feet of space between each other. This includes during rehearsals, on water breaks or lunch, and in common areas including restrooms.
- Physical Contact – Limit physical contact with others. Do not shake hands, hug, fist-bump or high five.
- Restrooms – Students are required to wash hands. Only one student will be allowed in the restroom at a time.
 - Trash cans will be placed near doors to encourage students to open the door with the paper towel used to dry hands.
 - Other than using the restroom, locker room and/or dressing room use is not allowed for any reason. Students should not change clothes and/or shoes in between morning and afternoon rehearsals.
- Hydration Consideration – Water will not be provided for students.
 - Students will be required to bring their own individually labeled water bottles. They are prohibited from sharing water bottles.
 - If a student needs to refill their water bottle, they can utilize the water bottle filling stations on campus.

3. Staff Requirements for Summer Band

- Staff will check in and complete the screening process each day from their phone before arriving.
- Staff will stay home if they answered “YES” to any screening questions or if they do not feel well. Staff will inform their supervisor if they are not able to attend prior to the beginning of rehearsal.
- Staff will get temperature checked and maintain social distancing at all times.
- Staff will wear cloth face coverings at all times.
- Staff will use hand sanitizer before entering the facility, during rehearsals and when leaving.
- Staff will bring their own labeled water bottle.

III. Daily Screening Process for Summer Band

1. Before Arriving to Campus

A. Daily Screening Questionnaire - Every student will have filled out screening questionnaire on their phone. If a student answers “YES” on any question they will stay at home and email the Head Band Director to let them know.

All students are required to complete the online COVID-19 Daily Screening Questionnaire for symptoms prior to leaving home, including checking your temperature if you can.

Screening questions:

- Any contact with person who is/was positive for COVID–19; or
- New or worsening cough or shortness of breath/difficulty breathing; or
- Fever (subjective or >99.6); or
- At least two of the following symptoms: chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, diarrhea.

B. Temperature Check – Every student is required to have their temperature checked upon first entry to the campus. Temperature check stations will be staffed by Denison ISD band staff wearing appropriate PPE. They will confirm receipt of the student’s COVID-19 screening questionnaire answers and will make sure questions have been answered and temperature has been taken prior to entry. If a student has an elevated temperature, they will be directed to return home.

C. Hand Sanitizing Station – A hand sanitizing station will be set up outside next to the screening checkpoint. All students must sanitize their hands prior to entry/re-entry into band rehearsals.

2. Entry and Exit Procedures

- All students are required to enter any indoor rehearsal area via the entrance predetermined. Students will park in the Auditorium parking lot only. The screening checkpoint will be managed by the band staff. This is **THE ONLY permissible entry** for students and staff. All other entry points will be inaccessible and locked.

- If students need to use the restroom during rehearsal, there will be one permissible entrance.
- **Six feet social distancing** indicators will be set up along the sidewalk as students line up for the screening checkpoint. The denotations will assist in keeping students at a safe distance from each other as they are waiting to get screened prior to entering rehearsal.
- Students must exit the route predetermined by the band staff, while practicing social distancing, and avoiding contact with other students and staff.
- Students must sanitize their hands when they exit the rehearsal space.
- Parents **MUST** stay in their cars during pick up process.

3. Sectionals and Student Groupings

- Students will be grouped according to instrument section and playing part, as coordinated by DISD staff to minimize exposure.
- The same group of students will rehearse together in music and marching rehearsals.
- If a student develops symptoms, all students in his/her specific rehearsal group will be removed until the student is cleared.

A. Indoor Regulations

- Students should stay 10 feet away from other students when actively playing their instrument, and 6 feet away when not actively playing their instrument.
- Capacity is 50% of building
 - Formula: Divide sq. ft. by 50. Multiply that number by .5.
 - Indoor rehearsals will not exceed this capacity in order to maintain proper social distancing while playing instruments.

B. Outdoor Regulations

- Students should stay 10 feet away from other students when actively playing their instrument, and 6 feet away when not actively playing their instrument.
 - This includes during water breaks, etc.

4. Procedures and Policies

- Both students and staff will sanitize their hands before, during, and after rehearsal. There will be multiple hand sanitizing stations spread out all over the band rehearsal areas.
- There will be no high fives, back slaps, or any other physical encouragement.
- 6-foot social distancing will be kept when not actively playing your instrument.
- 10-foot social distancing will be kept when actively playing your instrument.
- Students should wear a face covering when not actively playing your instrument. Color guard and percussion students should wear a face covering at all times.
- Percussion equipment and mallets will be disinfected and wiped after every rehearsal.
 - Students should always use the same mallets and not share equipment.

IV. COVID-19 Symptoms, Testing and Management

1. COVID-19 Symptoms or Positive Test

- Management of COVID-19 Positives – confirmed COVID-19 positives will be managed by the Licensed Athletic Trainer for DISD, per current public health guidelines. Management will include testing, isolation, and symptom management as well as return-to-activity clearance.
- Students who appear to have symptoms or who become sick during the day will be immediately separated from other students and staff and instructed to return home. Direction will be provided by DISD LAT'S regarding symptom monitoring, quarantine, and testing.
- A symptomatic student will be managed as a presumptive COVID-19 positive and all precautions will remain in place until testing confirmation is received.
- Students who are presumed or confirmed COVID-19 positive cannot report to campus until cleared to do so by the Athletic Trainer and the Head Band Director by meeting the criteria listed below:
 1. Resolution of fever **without** the use of fever-reducing medications **AND** Improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath), **AND**

2. Negative results of an FDA Emergency Use Authorized COVID-19 molecular assay for detection of SARS-CoV-2 RNA from at least two consecutive respiratory specimens collected \geq 24 hours apart (*total of **two** negative specimens*).
3. The student is symptom free for 72 hours without the use of medication, **and** at least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.

2. Positive COVID-19 Test Result

- If a student tests positive for COVID-19, he/she is to self-isolate until 10 days from onset of symptoms AND 72 hours of being symptom free without medications

3. Contact with Positive COVID-19 Test Result

- If a student has been in **close contact with someone who has tested positive** for COVID-19 or has a family member that lives with them that has tested positive for COVID -19:
 1. Students should inform the Head Band Director via email and quarantine for 14 days.
 2. Athletic Trainer will notify Denison Public Health.
 3. Head Band Director will notify students who may have been exposed to COVID-19 and provide guidance. Students in the same section and/or rehearsal group may be sent home to self-quarantine for at least 14 days or until a confirmed negative test result is received. Contact tracing will be overseen by the Head Band Director at Athletic Trainer.

4. Parent/Guardian Communication Plan

- Newsletter will be sent both electronically and mailed to students that will include details on the Return to Campus Plan.
- Information will be updated on the Denison Bands website regularly.
- The Head Band Director will host a parent/guardian meeting via Zoom.
- The Head Band Director will educate the students via Zoom meetings before they arrive for the first day of Summer Band Camp. Information will be shared on Schoology.
- Constant & detailed communication via email with parents/guardians

V. Summer Band Camp

A. Preparing Staff and Students

- As the color guard and percussion students have camp in July prior to the beginning of Summer Band Camp, information will be shared with these two student groups prior to the first day of their camp.
- All band, color guard and percussion staff members will meet and go over procedures prior to the first day of camp.
- **Week of July 20th** – Students will be required to participate in a Zoom meeting with band staff for orientation. They will go over entry and exit procedures, the screening questionnaire and required cloth face coverings.

B. Preparing Facilities

- Sanitation supplies delivered, installed, and placed in predetermined places around the band rehearsal areas.
- Trash Cans delivered and placed strategically for paper towels use near restroom doors.
- Social Distancing Signs, Hand Sanitizing Signs, and Check-In Signs will be made and hung strategically.
- Sidewalks will be marked for social distancing spots during the Check-In process
- Indoor rehearsal areas marked for social distancing spots (where to put chairs and stands to maintain 10 feet separation while playing).
- Hand Sanitizing stations will be set up throughout the facility for use.