

Hewitt-Trussville Middle/High Band Covid-19 Procedures.

Prepared by:

This guidance was prepared by the directors of the Trussville City School System with research from The National Federation of State High School Associations, National Association for Music Education, University of Maryland School of Music, University of Colorado School of Music and the West Point Music Research Center.

Purpose:

To describe the deliberate decision-making process undertaken by the Hewitt-Trussville Bands in returning to live music rehearsal and performance during elevated risk of airborne viral transmission specifically the Novel Coronavirus pandemic of 2020. This document is intended to serve as a guidebook for any large gatherings of musicians seeking to reduce risk of viral spread while maintaining practical needs of ensemble performance.

General Procedures:

- 1- Students will practice social distancing in every rehearsal scenario.
- 2- Students must sanitize hands every time they enter or exit the rehearsal facilities.
- 3- Facial coverings should be used when not playing an instrument. This includes while being transported or while not playing in the stands.
- 4- If a student falls ill during a rehearsal or performance, they will be isolated until they are picked up by a parent. Isolation room is room PA111. Isolation room will be disinfected once student has left the building.
- 5- If a student falls ill, they will need to bring proof of medical clearance before returning to the rehearsal/performance facility.
- 6- To facilitate social distancing, all students will enter and exit through designated points within the facility. Instrument storage and other confined areas may also be subject to designated entrance and exit points.

Outdoor Rehearsals/Performances:

- 1- All outdoor rehearsals will require social distancing measures.
- 2- Students WILL NOT be allowed to congregate in close proximity during water breaks or other pauses in rehearsal.
- 3- It is recommended that students wear facial coverings during instances where the students are not playing. Examples are while setting drill or while being transported.

- 4- Students are responsible for bringing their own water source to camp. This will allow students to carry water with them at all times. This will reduce congregating at water stations and would make sure students do not put bottles in a similar area.
- 5- Uniform fittings will be done virtually using the following links as guidelines for measurements.
 - a. Chest Measurement- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8zPQI-SWdI8>
 - b. Waist Measurement- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=inMjIAx_qg
 - c. Inseam Measurements- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OLgQbBUXyII>
 - d. Head Measurements- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hUFheWYULK4>
 - e. Staff evaluates measurements and matches students to uniforms (by numbers). This may work for issuing both concert and marching uniforms
 - f. Shoes: Shoe sizes will be collected via Google Form and ordered to be shipped to the school.
 - g. Due to COVID-19, uniforms will need to be taken and kept at home. Students are responsible for bringing uniforms on Friday for football games.
Rationale: students will sweat in the uniform; uniforms traditionally are put up in the same closet space by other students. This could potentially lead to cross contamination student to student.

Indoor Rehearsals/Performances:

- 1- Sanitation stations will be set up at the entrance and exit of the rehearsal facility.
- 2- Rehearsals will be held with 6 feet of social distance between members. Band room 1: 108-115 member. Band room 2: 72-80 students.

Research/Resources:

The following list of links is to research that has been instrumental to the development of this COVID-19 safety plan. This is not an exhaustive list as new developments are emerging daily on this subject.

- 1- National Federation of State High School Associations and the National Association for Music Education. https://www.nfhs.org/media/3812373/nafme_nfhs-guidance-for-fall-2020-review-june-19-2020-final.pdf
- 2- West Point Research Center. <https://www.westpointband.com/westpointmusicresearchcenter/army-band-covid-19-risk-mitigation-for-large-groups.html>
- 3- Link to various articles and university research. https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/18ZZZ_Rn42v-jHvW_0RCbQJH5U2Q-uL3e
- 4- Link to various hygiene and disinfection resources for music educators. <https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/18xvvINldRFZbb4s2Q0Nx-lycauWV17MI>
- 5- Specific to Band travel. <https://www.collegemarching.com/content/aac-sidelines-bands-for-2020>

- 6- Texas UIL COVID-19 policies. https://www.uiltexas.org/files/policy/Marching-Band-PR-Covid_20.pdf