

Corona del Sol Marching Band Families,



We write to you today with heavy hearts. Our primary responsibility as educators is to make sure your students are safe and healthy while in our care. To that end, in consultation with our Corona del Sol Administration and Band Booster Board, **we have decided to cancel the trip to Prescott for Band Camp (scheduled for the week of July 13)**. Unfortunately, we don't have enough information in regards to how the COVID-19 epidemic will play out in the weeks and months ahead, and we don't want to make a decision that would jeopardize the health of students, parent volunteers, and staff. We are also very cognizant of families that are out of work right now, and we want to reduce financial burdens so that students can still participate in the Aztec Marching Band. It would be irresponsible of our organization to charge fees for a trip that would most likely be canceled by the state or school district.

Our plan is to assume school will start "in person" on August 3<sup>rd</sup> as normal. **We plan to move our Band Camp to an "in-town" camp at Corona del Sol on the week of July 20 and the week of July 27.** The two weeks before school starting will be used for music and marching rehearsals to prepare us for the season. Because we don't yet know the direction of the state or district in regards to social distancing, class sizes, online schooling, and other factors – we will wait on scheduling specific times for Band Camp at CdS. We'd ask for you to plan for your student to be available these two weeks, and we will plan more specific times for rehearsals/activities as we get closer to July 20.

We've been speaking with our new student leaders in the Band Council about the importance of being flexible and working to accept the things we can't change. We can't change how the COVID-19 virus will progress in our state, but we can work to make sure we are prepared with multiple plans for multiple scenarios. We aren't in control of the epidemic, but we ARE in control of our response to it. The Band Staff is committed to providing a great marching band experience for our students and we are developing an online curriculum to replace our usual summer training in the months of June and July so we are ready to march, play, dance, spin, and perform a show! We will begin online instruction the week of June 1 – we will send more information on this separately.

With Marching Band, we are only as strong as our weakest member. Therefore, all online summer instruction will be MANDATORY and all members will participate fully, and complete all assignments ON TIME so the staff and section leaders can provide feedback. It's all or nothing, and your leaders will ensure that it is all.

Our California trip is scheduled for mid-November, and we will keep this on the calendar until we get more guidance on travel from our district. If we end up going to California, it will be a separate trip fee that will be assessed later. If we decide not to go, the fee will not be assessed. We will keep you informed as we move into the fall semester.

Taking out the Band Camp lodging costs and California trip fees, **the total Marching Band Fees will be reduced to \$375 per student for the 2020 season** (originally \$825). This would cover our show registration fees, t-shirt, staff instruction, and transportation to local shows. There will be other incidentals that will be charged separately if needed (marching shoes, gloves, flip folders, etc.). Fees can be paid on [coronabands.com](http://coronabands.com) (click on "Parents" then "Online Store")

- **July 15 – Payment #1 due (\$200)**
- **September 1 – Payment #2 due (\$175)**
- October 2 – California Trip Fee due (approx. \$250 – TBA. Fee will not be assessed if we don't go)
- Color Guard Costume Fee (guard members only) – Approx. \$225 (more info will be sent separately).

We hope you are all doing well and we can't wait to start working on our show together! If you haven't done so already, please fill out the [Google Information Form](#) on [coronabands.com](http://coronabands.com) so we can stay in touch more effectively over the summer. Although we are physically apart, your band family will support you and be there for you!

**David DuPlessis** – Director of Bands  
**Alex Holste** – Associate Director of Bands  
**Scott Werner** – Director of Percussion  
**Brandy DuBose** – Director of Color Guard

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