**Revised and Updated September 17 Fall Marching Band Recommendations (***These recommendations are monitored frequently and subject to change at any time.)*

**General Requirements**

* All band activities outside the school day including marching band are voluntary.
* Covid-19 Waivers and Physicals must be completed for all student members prior to participating.
* Staff and students must be screened prior to each rehearsal. A monitoring questionnaire and monitoring form will be used for screening students and staff.
* Student and volunteer/staff screening must be completed and archived by each band director.
* If a student answers “yes” to any of the screening questions, the band student will not participate unless cleared by a physician or student stays home for 14 days prior to return.
	+ It is crucial that students displaying symptoms stay home and not attend rehearsals.
* Band Directors are responsible for tracking attendance in case contact tracing is needed at a later date.
	+ Band Directors need to keep accurate records of student’s placement in sections (pods) for each rehearsal.
* All participants must wear masks.
	+ Traditional facemasks for wind players are not required during playing. A second face mask with a horizontal slit is strongly recommended.
	+ Wind Players must wear masks when not playing
	+ It is suggested that students have more than one mask to allow for masks that become damp from sweat.
	+ Facemasks for percussion should be worn at all times.
	+ Color Guard students are permitted to move without masks outdoors when doing strenuous physical activity. Masks must be put back on at all other times.
* Instrument Masks/Bell covers are strongly recommended.
* No one can remain on campus following the rehearsal.
* Designated parking areas and drop-off /pick-up areas will be developed. Parents and other non-screened individual should not leave their cars to meet their students.
* Alternate entrance and egress points, if possible based on band size and adult resources, should be established when students arrive on campus. e.g.: Guard members dropped off in a different location than percussion and winds, etc.
* Contact your administrators and if advised by your administration contact the Pinellas School District Covid Team if a positive case of COVID-19 is reported.
* Student participation is voluntary. Students cannot be stigmatized for choosing not to participate due to concerns related to Covid-19.
* Students must arrive to marching band rehearsals already dressed out and prepared for rehearsal. If it is not possible for the student to leave and return, the student should arrive at the beginning of school dressed out in attire that is within dress code and deemed safe and acceptable for marching band rehearsal.
* Students will not share instruments, equipment, or any other materials.
* Each student participating should bring their own personal water bottle and towel. There will be no use of water fountains.
	+ Students will provide their own water container that is acceptable and sanitary. Band directors should communicate ahead of time to families these recommended parameters (size, brand, etc.).
* A designated water volunteer is allowed to help replenish water coolers/jugs as long as they satisfy screening requirements, wear a mask & gloves.
* If a lunch or snack break is scheduled on a Saturday rehearsal, students must bring a lunch and/or parents/guardians are responsible for providing food.
	+ Students must be socially distanced (preferably 8-10 feet) for snack/lunch time
	+ All snack/lunch eating must be outdoors.
* A clear and consistent process for instrument/equipment retrieval and return, moving through transitional spaces, and water breaks must be established, communicated, and upheld to ensure social distancing.
* Directors are responsible for all rehearsals. Student leaders are not permitted to call additional school rehearsals.

**Rehearsal Specifications:**

* 7.5 - 8 foot social distancing must be maintained between all students at all times including breaks.
* 4 hour maximum duration for any one rehearsal segment. Another 2 – 4 hour rehearsal segment can be scheduled if there is a 60 minute break between the two segments.
* Rehearsal duration segments will follow a 30-minute session follow by a 5-minute break.
	+ The 5 minutes can be used was water breaks.
	+ If providing a mask breaks – adhere to strict socially distancing.
* Individual Sections within the Full band ( brass, woodwinds, guard, percussions, or other experienced based grouping) cannot exceed a 75 section maximum, including students and teachers/staff/and volunteers
	+ Within the 75 maximum work group – there should clearly identifiable delineated sections for ease of contact tracing.
* There is no indoor wind playing.
* Instrument Masks/Bell covers are recommended. At this time, there is not one specific mask/cover recommended. Any cover is better than none.
* Saturday rehearsals are permitted and should follow site-based protocols with your administration and plant operations (disinfecting/sanitation, facility/documentation, Sonitrol)
* Indoor facilities may be used in the same capacity as school day guidelines (facility occupancy limitations, use of face masks, and social distancing, no wind playing indoors). The auditorium or other large indoor space may be used with greater numbers as long as social distancing is strictly followed for limited periods of time not to exceed 60 minutes. Students should remain with their sections or pods and socially distanced and masked when indoors.

**Football Game Information**

* Participation will vary by school and is not required. Communicate with your administration and coaching staff for the best way to support the school.
* Traveling to away games is not permitted.
* Playing the Nation Anthem, Alma Mater, Fight Song etc. at beginning of home game is permitted
* Half time musical presentation is permitted if it works at your school
* Seating in stands is limited and will vary by school. If you wish to provide a pep band in stands, consult with your administration and coaching staff for the number of seats available and build a band of that size.
* If the stands are not available, you can brainstorm with your staff to see if there is a safe place for students to sit/stand socially distanced during the game. This will vary by school and may not be an option at some schools.