



INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1) Make a copy of this Google Doc
- 2) Complete all cells highlighted in blue
- 3) Rename the Doc to match the title of your proposal
- 4) Submit your copy of the completed Doc to superintendent@csdecatur.net

Proposal to Return to In-Person Activity

Submitted by:	Rodney Thomas	Date:	9/9/2020
Title:	Athletics and Activities Director	School:	DHS
Brief title this proposal can be referred to as (try to keep to 5 words or less):			
DHS Band Return to In Person Activity			
Brief description of what is being proposed (try to keep to under 5 sentences):			
I am proposing that the in-person band rehearsals resume following the same safety protocols used during band camp.			
When do you propose beginning this activity in person, why do you propose that date, and what will the impact be if in-person activity is delayed until after that date?			
<p>September 15th. The band program followed a myriad of safety restrictions during camp that could easily restart if granted permission to be on campus. (These are detailed below.) The students receive a much lower quality experience via online sectionals. <u>It's impossible to work on ensemble concepts when making music online.</u> The main reason for this is that latency over video calls means students cannot play together, they can only play on mute, or individually. Additionally, almost all microphones our students use do not produce an accurate representation of what they sound like on the instrument due to the loss of fidelity, frequency/gain limitations on consumer laptops, and other noise-cancellation features.</p> <p>September 15th is specifically requested due to the availability and schedule of our team of section coaches. Sectionals are currently in progress on Tuesdays and Wednesdays through October. We cannot push these dates back due to the agreements with the hired staff. Bringing sectionals back to campus is our best use of instructional dollars (both from CSD and the Band Parent Association) since in person music instruction is much more beneficial to students than via Google Meet.</p>			
Describe the population of people who will be returning to in-person activities		Approximately how many people in each of those groups will be impacted by this	

<p>(students, staff, age levels, grades, programs, teams, etc.):</p>	<p>proposal (students, staff, volunteers, etc.):</p>
<p>Students Grades 8-12 Certified Staff Section Coaches Volunteers</p>	<p>110 students divided into two alternating groups 1 certified staff 11 section coaches Band parent volunteers as needed</p>
<p>Describe the <u>benefits</u> of returning to in-person for this activity and the <u>risks</u> of <u>NOT</u> returning to in-person:</p>	<p>Describe the <u>risks</u> of returning to in-person for this activity and the <u>benefits</u> of <u>NOT</u> returning to in-person:</p>
<p>There are several benefits to returning to in-person music making:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students can develop skills that are impossible to develop when online (e.g. you cannot assess tone or actually play together online.) 2. Students will reduce their screen time during marching band rehearsals. 3. Students will be able to enjoy the company of their peers, while adhering to physical distancing regulations. 4. Students cannot develop visual skills (e.g. how to move with their instrument) while at home. <p>The biggest risks to not returning:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The #1 reason why students do band is to play together. This is impossible online. 2. Students are exhausted from online learning and looking at screens. This may lead to burnout and a desire to quit our band program. 	<p>The risk is that if students and coaches are not diligent in trying to mitigate the COVID virus, then someone may contract it. The only benefit is that you will not catch the COVID virus during band rehearsal. However, this will not ensure that our students will not contract the virus via other methods or events.</p>
<p>Describe in detail the protocols, equipment, and other actions that will be implemented to protect the health and safety of the persons involved in this activity:</p>	
<p>Four Goals for our 2020 Season:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide safe instruction adapting guidelines from the Georgia High School Sport Association and National Federation for High School Sports. 2. Sustain and grow the community and culture of the Decatur Marching Band. 	

3. Establish fundamental concepts of music ([transferable throughout the GPS curriculum](#)) and marching.
4. Learn a production to share with a parent audience, football crowd, and/or competitive audience.

Safety Precautions:

1. The band will be divided into two groups, cutting the number of students on campus by half.
2. **All instruction will be outside.** Students (except percussion and sousaphones) will bring instruments home and back daily. Students will not rehearse inside.
3. Temperatures and health checks will take place daily following CSD and GSHA guidance.
4. No meals will be served on campus.
5. A single restroom will be designated for use at the stadium.
6. **Horns down, masks up.** Any time you're not playing your mask should be on, even if it's just in between exercises. Wear your mask during breathing exercises. While playing keep your mask down by your chin or around your neck, but do not take it off of your ears.
7. Sanitize hands upon arrival at DHS and before and after filling water bottles.
8. Stay in your chalk box at all times and keep six feet away from anyone, even while wearing masks. If necessary, instructors can go into the boxes, but only for very brief periods of time.
9. **Wear masks properly.** They should cover your mouth and nose at all times. If you have a mask with a hole for playing, it's best to wear a different mask without a hole when not playing.
10. One person in the bathroom at a time. Sanitize before and wash hands after.
11. Bell covers over all instruments at all times. No exceptions. Contact section leader to get one if needed.

Describe in detail how the above protocols, equipment, and other actions will be monitored to ensure compliance and fidelity of implementation, including who will be responsible for each aspect of monitoring:

Mr. Ehrlich will be responsible for overseeing these safety protocols. He will solicit the help of section coaches and band parent volunteers (who have been vetted out by CSD) for daily temperature checks and health screenings. Our band student leadership has used encouragement and guidance to remind their peers to follow our guidelines. Our band camp protocols were well followed, and all students were safe and healthy for the entirety of the event.

<p>Will this activity be voluntary, compulsory, or socially compulsory? If the answers vary by participant (such as students vs. staff), answer separately for each category of people.</p>	<p>What will happen for those normally involved in this activity if they choose not to participate when it returns to in-person? (Answer separately for each category of people if applicable.)</p>
<p>Voluntary</p>	<p>They will be free to rejoin the band as soon as they feel it is safe to do so.</p>
<p>Describe in detail any interactions this activity will have with others (such as other teams/clubs within the district, other teams/clubs outside the district, etc.), the risks such interactions would introduce, and how those risks will be mitigated.</p>	
<p>The band will not interact with other teams/clubs/ensembles.</p>	
<p>What other information, not already provided above, needs to be shared with the team evaluating this proposal?</p>	
<p>The band will perform in the stands in a designated area at home football games only. Social distancing will be adhered to while in the stands. Masks will be worn when not playing instruments. Band competitions have been postponed for now with no mention of rescheduling. Listed below is the questionnaire that band members will complete each day prior to practicing:</p> <p><u>Daily Workout Questionnaire</u></p> <p>Print Name: _____</p> <p>Please answer yes or no</p> <p>Now, or within the past 72 hours...</p> <p>Do you have a fever of 100F? What is your Temperature today?</p> <p>Have you had close contact (within 6 feet for at least 15 minutes) in the last 14 days with someone diagnosed with COVID-19, or has any health department or health care provider been in contact with you and advised you to quarantine?</p> <p>o Yes > The person should not be at practice/school. The person can return 14 days after the last time they had close contact with someone with COVID-19, or as listed below.</p> <p>o No > The person can be at school if they are not experiencing symptoms.</p>	

2. Since you were last at school, have you had any of these symptoms?

- o Fever or chills**
- o New cough**
- o Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing**
- o Fatigue o New loss of taste or smell**
- o Sore throat**
- o Muscle or body aches (outside of exercise fatigue)**
- o Congestion or runny nose**
- o Headache**
- o Nausea or vomiting**
- o Diarrhea**
- o Yes > The person should not be at practice/school and they should go home, stay away from other people, and call their health care provider.**

3. Since you were last at school, have you been diagnosed with COVID-19?

- o Yes The person should not be at practice/school and they should go home, stay away from other people until they've met CSD/DPH criteria**

Proposal Review

Reviewed by CSD COVID Response Team:
K. Beam, C. Burnett, D. Dude, M. Fehrman, L. Huddleston, E. Melton, S. Moore, S. Perez, R. Thomas

Status:
 Approved
 Denied

Date:
9/13/2020