



ALLEN HIGH SCHOOL

ESCADRILLE

300 RIVERCREST BLVD ▶ ALLEN, TX 75002 ▶ WWW.ALLENBAND.COM

March 15, 2020

Dear parents and students,

On behalf of all the directors and staff, I hope this message finds you and your family healthy and well. We are exploring some uncharted territory and am writing to you as I always do on Sunday evenings. The administration, teachers, and staff in AISD all appreciate your patience as we go through the next few weeks together.

For now, we have an extended Spring Break. There are no expected assignments, practice expectations, or performance submissions due this week. However, I ask that you all take advantage of your available time while practicing social distance etiquette. Spend your time with your family. Call your friends and distant family you don't speak with on a regular basis. Read a book. Of course – practice your instrument!

The tentative spring calendar is printed below – but as you know most of our calendar is based on in-person classes/events. We obviously need to reschedule drum major auditions as that was planned for tomorrow and Tuesday. Drum major auditions and the rest of the calendar will be in discussion this week. I will keep in touch if we do auditions in person when we can return on campus or through Canvas. Thanks for your patience as our calendar is now all tentative.

Here are some things you can do while you are at home:

- **Practice!** What's better than non-required practicing?!?!?!?!?
- **Continue taking private lessons via distance learning platform.** Please note that many if not all of our private lesson staff rely on their lessons as their sole source of income. See Information below.
- **Watch concerts online.** The Berlin Philharmonic Digital Concert Hall and the Metropolitan Opera are offering free access for the next month. You can watch some of the world's finest musicians perform at the world most iconic venues from your living room! See below for more information.
- **Exercise at home!** We are planning a fantastic marching show next year. While we want to keep fit for marching band, let's face it – we all need to get off the couch when we are at home. It's just a good idea to find resources we can do to stay fit. See below for a cool link: marching band health. The site has videos of live and archived workouts you do at your leisure.

One of the things I will miss this week is the time we spend together. Our program is special because of the people that make it happen. Please read the announcements below and/or attached. Looking forward to the time we can make music together again!

All the best,
Dr. Obado

TWIB NOTES: 3/15

ALLEN ISD EXTENDS SPRING BREAK THROUGH MARCH 16-20 (FROM WWW.ALLENISD.ORG)

Out of precaution for the ongoing concern with coronavirus (COVID-19), Allen ISD will be extending Spring Break through March 16-20 as we assess the situation in our community. All meetings, campus events, practices, and extracurricular activities are suspended the week of March 16-20. This includes Kids Club. Due to the March 11, 2020 announcement by the World Health Organization that the outbreak of the new coronavirus has been declared a pandemic, updated announcements by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and information from medical professionals and state and federal health officials, this action is being taken in an attempt to minimize health and safety risks to the Allen ISD community.

AISD officials are currently planning for other considerations during this closure, such as potential learning opportunities and providing meals to students who receive free or reduced breakfast and lunch. Updates will be emailed to parents and guardians via the email address listed on file in [Skyward Family Access](#). Individuals may update their email address by logging into Skyward. Updates will also be provided at www.allenisd.org/coronavirus. We will provide information on additional student support should it become necessary to extend closure beyond next week.

Allen ISD leadership and the Board of Trustees will continue to remain in constant communication with state and local health officials and the Texas Education Agency. The District would like to thank our parents, staff, and community members for their patience and understanding during this time. Please continue to care for yourself, family, and those around you and adhere to the preventative measures as recommended by public health officials, such as limiting interaction and practicing social distancing.

PRIVATE LESSON INFORMATION

Please support our Private Lesson Staff. Many if not all of our private lesson staff rely on their lessons as their sole source of income. Take the time to e-mail or call your teacher if you are able to continue taking lessons from an online/virtual platform. The only option AISD can support regarding lessons is via some type of distance learning platform (i.e. Skype, FaceTime, Google Hang Outs, etc.) Even if you are not currently taking lessons and are interested, I encourage you to go to

https://www.allenband.com/content.aspx?page_id=22&club_id=207916&module_id=318368

ONLINE RESOURCES

- Berlin Philharmonic Virtual Concert Hall: <https://www.digitalconcerthall.com/en/home>
 - Scroll halfway down the page. There is a voucher code that you will need to redeem by March 31st for FREE ACCESS.
 - Hundreds of concert covering six decades. Great conductors and soloists. More than 40 live broadcasts in High Definition.
- The Metropolitan Opera: <https://www.metopera.org>
 - Starting Monday, March 16, the Met will stream encore presentations from the award-winning *Live in HD* series on the home page for free
 - Here is the press release, instructions, and live stream schedule:
<https://www.metopera.org/about/press-releases/met-to-launch-nightly-met-opera->

[streams-a-free-series-of-encore-live-in-hd-presentations-streamed-on-the-company-website-during-the-coronavirus-closure/](#)

- Marching Health: Best on Facebook and Instagram
 - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MarchingHealth/>
 - Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/marchinghealth/>
 - Tips, workouts, stories, videos on staying in shape with a marching band perspective

SPRING 2020 CALENDAR (ALL EVENTS ARE CANCELED OR TENTATIVE UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE)

Items crossed out have been canceled. All other events are the original proposed dates and may be adjusted.

~~March 16-17: Drum Major Auditions~~ Drum Major Auditions postponed

~~March 21: TCU Jazz Festival~~

~~March 23: Pre-UIL Festival @ Coppell HS (AHS WE, WS, SYM 1, SYM 2, LFC WE, LFC SYM)~~

April 6-7: SLT Auditions

April 9: Pre-UIL Concert

April 16: Freshman Band Orientation – New SLTs, AHS WE/WS & LFC WE = required attendance

April 21: UIL Concert & Sight-Reading Festival

May 1: Encore/Jazz Show

May 2: Grand Prairie Jazz Festival

May 5: Jazz Spring Concert (LFC)

May 9: Premiere Solo & Ensemble Contest @ Coppell

May 14-15: Spring Concerts (PAC)

May 16: Banquet