



# *2020 Student Information*

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**Welcome to the 2020-2021 edition of the James Logan Band and Color Guard.**

This year will be very different from any other year in the band's history, but we are committed to making it the best year possible. Now that the New Haven Unified School District has created a plan for the opening of school, and we know that we are starting the year virtually, it is time to give you as much information as we can about the coming year.

## **Goals for the Year**

Our goals for the year can be summed up in the following:

- Make music together
- Navigate new technology
- Maintain the quality of the program
- Be ready to transition back to in-person learning

When we went to virtual learning last spring, we knew that some students were in situations that made playing an instrument difficult, so we tried an academic approach. We are not taking that approach this year, we will be playing our instruments and making music. In order to do this, we are going to need to learn new ways to make this happen. Students will get the opportunity to record music to a click track and combine recordings with other students. It will be a different side of music than we have previously learned about, but it will be performance based. We will all be learning how to do this, as this is new for all of us.

One of the biggest worries that band directors across the country are experiencing right now is the wondering of what band programs will look like when this pandemic is finally over. We want to make sure that we are ready to pick up right where we left off as an elite program in all areas. If you have found it difficult to stay motivated during the last four months, trust me, you are not alone!! But, please do not quit on us, we want everyone to stay in the program. I have to believe that this is temporary and we will be back in the classroom, hopefully this year. When that happens, I want to be ready!

## **Virtual Marching Band**

I know that it is a great source of disappointment for the many of you that love marching band. The James Logan Band is such an iconic figure in California pageantry, and it feels really strange to not be headed to band camp. We do want everyone to have some sort of pageantry experience. I'd imagine that most of you have seen one of the multiscreen videos where musicians are making music together from different locations. We are looking at putting together something like that. We are in discussions with our designers to make a world class production. We are looking at the theme of "The Best of Logan," celebrating some of the best moments of Logan shows from the last 20 years or so. For those of you wondering, yes, there will be a t-shirt! More info on this will follow in the coming weeks.

## **School Instruments**

I know that there are many of you that need to get school instruments. We are in a unique situation also where we cannot share any instruments. It is going to be a struggle to get an instrument in the hands of every student, particularly for the instruments that tend to share like tubas, French horns, trombones and euphoniums. We may have to use some sousaphones and mellophones to substitute. Below is a google form for all to fill out regarding your situation with reopening the school. We will go through these submissions and contact you again about picking up instruments. If you are able, you will get a better instrument renting through Allegro Music in Fremont. They are currently open right now and would likely love the business.

**Logan band Reopening Survey:** [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1MA-a84AbmplHwdKC9BRP9cJljG6JK - 5Mk2yLGmPuMk/edit?ts=5f10956a](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1MA-a84AbmplHwdKC9BRP9cJljG6JK-5Mk2yLGmPuMk/edit?ts=5f10956a)

## **Registration**

All band and color guard students will need to register for band on the James Logan Band Website. Registration will go live on the website the week before school begins, the week of August 3rd. Please check the website and fill out all needed paperwork.

## Financial Information

We have always said that our biggest financial obligation was to maintain the quality of education happening in the program, and that trips were secondary to that. This is the year where we will need to put our money where our mouth is per se. This is a unique situation again in that, as of now, all of our large events that make up our budget are on hold. There is no Logan Marching Band Show. The Winter Spectacular is doubtful at this point. Levi's stadium is up in the air. We are going to be more reliant on fair share donations than ever before. We will have far less expenses this year, but we do have many expenses that we need to cover. We need to maintain several of our staff members that will be working with students either remotely or in person when the time comes. We have world class designers that have already laid out a great marching band show, but we are now asking to create a virtual show as well. Last year, before the pandemic, we put down the initial payment for a new semi trailer that will be arriving this fall. Additionally, there are many operating costs to the band. We need your help. Please do all you can to reach your fair share donation. All donations are tax deductible as well.

We are asking for a fair share donation of \$300 per student for the 2020-2021 school year. This will cover what we plan to do in terms of virtual marching band, operating costs, and allow us to maintain our commitment to our key staff members. This is almost a thousand dollars less than we ask in a typical year!! This year will not have the usual trip to WBA Championships, but there will be several notable performances in virtual mode. We are committed to making this the best year possible for all!!

## Class Lists

We have been waiting to see what was happening with the opening of the school year before posting class lists. Now that we know, you will see band placements attached at the end of this email. [Mailchimp doesn't allow sending attachments, so please view the band placements for 2020-2021 at [this link](#)] All freshmen do their first year in concert band. That one is easy, the rest were not as easy. We are taking more students into the Wind Symphony and Symphonic Band than ever before. This is for one main reason: auditions were not equitable, so we wanted to give more students the opportunity. We will likely return to a slightly smaller Wind Symphony in 2021, but that decision is for a year from now. As always, if you like your placement, congratulations. Work hard and maintain your place. If you are not happy with your placement, I am truly sorry. I do want to make every student happy, although that just isn't possible. If your placement is important to you, work hard now and earn it the next chance you get.

## Questions:

Please contact us with any questions. This is new for all of us, but we will figure it out by working together in the best interest of the students in the James Logan Band and Color Guard.

Sincerely,

Dr. Adam Wilke: [awilke@nhusd.k12.ca.us](mailto:awilke@nhusd.k12.ca.us)

Patrick Refsnider: [prefsnider@nhusd.k12.ca.us](mailto:prefsnider@nhusd.k12.ca.us)

Chris Carrasco: [ccarrasco@nhusd.k12.ca.us](mailto:ccarrasco@nhusd.k12.ca.us)

Mark Metzger: [mmetzger@nhusd.k12.ca.us](mailto:mmetzger@nhusd.k12.ca.us)

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

If there are any additional questions or concerns, always feel free to email the band directors or the Band Booster Board. There are many people available to assist with any information that may be needed.

### **Adam Wilke**

Director of Bands  
[awilke@nhusd.k12.ca.us](mailto:awilke@nhusd.k12.ca.us)

### **Patrick Refsnider**

Associate Director of Bands  
[prefsnider@nhusd.k12.ca.us](mailto:prefsnider@nhusd.k12.ca.us)

### **Chris Carrasco**

Assistant Director of Bands  
[ccarrasco@nhusd.k12.ca.us](mailto:ccarrasco@nhusd.k12.ca.us)

### **Mark Devlin**

Band Booster President  
[president@loganband.org](mailto:president@loganband.org)

### **Jeremiah Reyes**

Band Booster Vice President  
[vp@loganband.org](mailto:vp@loganband.org)

### **Sandra Sharp**

Band Booster General Treasurer  
[general@loganband.org](mailto:general@loganband.org)

### **Lori Viswanathan**

Band Booster Student Treasurer  
[treasurer@loganband.org](mailto:treasurer@loganband.org)

### **Currently Open**

Band Booster Secretary  
[secretary@loganband.org](mailto:secretary@loganband.org)

### **Kathryn Devlin**

Levi's Stadium Coordinator  
[levi@loganband.org](mailto:levi@loganband.org)