September 6, 2021

Dear Heatherwood Band Families,

Welcome to the beginning of the school year! I am very excited about what you will accomplish in band this year! It is with great excitement that I look forward to welcoming all band students back into the classroom to make music. It will undoubtedly be a unique year, but I can’t wait to get started. For those wondering, students will not need instruments on the first day of school. Beginner will get more information separately about instrument selection and rentals. Intermediate (Concert Band) and Advanced (Symphonic Band) students will start playing on Friday.

I have posted a copy of the Class Syllabus for all classes on my teacher site and will also post on Canvas once my site is up and running. I will also continue to post various resources online for everyone. Students in Beginning Bands and Concert/Intermediate Bands will start the year using Essential Elements Book 1 for Band, and Advanced/Symphonic Band Students will need Essential Elements Book 2 for Band. These can be purchased at a music store like Kennelly Keys or online. All other music will be supplied by the school.

One big detail that I’m sure you are all wondering about is masks and safety in the band room. The short version is that masks are required for all when not playing an instrument. Students will have school provided bell covers and instrument specific masks available for them to use. Students and families are welcome to purchase their own instrument specific masks through a music store or online. Additionally, in the case of flutes and other instruments where it is not easy to where a mask and play at the same time, students may lower or remove their mask when not playing and put it back on when they do not have an instrument up their mouths. We will have students spaced more than 3-feet-apart, at all times. For more detailed information please check out my teacher site: <https://www.everettsd.org/hms-mlundquist>.

We are in the approval process for concert dates and I will post them as soon as they are confirmed. As we approach our first concert, I will let you know what kind of parameters we will have for performances.

We have a Band Boosters organization which supports our students by paying for professional musicians who come in periodically to work with the students, and also by purchasing instruments and supplementing field trips. I will really need some help this year from our boosters, but we need some new parents to chip-in and help out. Please consider taking on a role this year. Heatherwood’s Band Boosters is part of a larger group that oversee’s performing arts at Heatherwood, Gateway, and Jackson.

My planning period this year is 1st period, which most days is from 8:15-9:05. I also teach Jazz Band 1 at Jackson High School from 6:30am-7:30am. Speaking of Jazz Band, we plan to reintroduce the Jazz Band Club at Heatherwood, a little later this fall. More information on that to come shortly. Please email or call if you need to get in touch with me. I look forward to meeting and working with all of you and am excited to get started this year.

Best regards,

**Michael Lundquist**

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