June 8, 2020

Lawrence Community Bands
2020-21 Season Update

Dear Band Member,

As we begin to understand how Covid-19 is spread, we have learned that "aerosolized particles" are a significant issue. These viral particles remain in the air around us as we speak and breathe. Anecdotal evidence has been put forward that singing and playing a wind instrument are particularly "effective" at spreading the virus; a study is taking place in Colorado right now and hopes to offer solutions that will get us back to ensemble music-making soon.

In the meantime, however, we have made the difficult decision not to hold Symphonic Band or Wind Ensemble during the first semester of 2020-21. We'll continue to monitor the data put forward by scientists and, if it seems likely that we can return in January, we'll schedule auditions for Wind Ensemble in November or so. We might even be able to do two sessions—a winter term and a spring term—rather than our typical fall and winter term so that you will have the same length of experience over the course of the year! That is yet to be determined, but we're doing our best to think creatively about how to provide you with the very best experience possible.

Mr. Ross and Ms. Acy are so very sorry not to be able to make music with you this fall, but they look forward to a return to their ensembles as soon as it's safe to do so. In the meantime, if you paid for or put down a deposit for Symphonic Band, you will receive a refund by the end of this month.

We'll be in touch later this fall when we have more information regarding when the band can play together again. For now, keep practicing at home, consider online/virtual private lessons (offered by most of our teachers—fill out the interest form on our website for more information), and do your best to keep yourself and those around you healthy.

Sincerely,
Karen L. Bruno, director
Lawrence Community Music School