

# Distance Learning - 8th Grade Band

*To Boldly Learn in Ways We Have Not Learned Before...*



## Distance Learning - a new experience

I hope this will answer all of your questions and be a "one stop" source of information on our new distance learning experience. This is a new experience for me and you, so please keep me in the loop about how you feel it is working for you. I want to also remind you that while viruses are contagious things like kind words, helping others at home, and problem solving in our new distance learning experience are also contagious. Let's fill up our days with kind words, helping others, problem solving, creativity, and music together. As is always the case, our strength is in our sense of ensemble and how we work together and support each other. Let Mesner know how he can help and I will do my best to support you.

## What will I need?

1. **Instrument** (percussion we can check out drum pads and may be able to get a keyboard to you if needed - let me know)
2. **Folder/Music** (warm-up, Until the Scars, This Cruel Moon & In Dreams)
3. **Chromebook**
4. **Reeds, valve oil, mallets etc.**
5. Google Classroom (code = felp3qm)
6. Smartmusic (code = 3NME4-AFZE2)



Cardinal Heights will be open 7:30 a.m. through 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 16 and Wednesday, March 17 for you to collect any of these items from school. Please email Mesner if you think this will be difficult for you and we can find a solution

The work for this Thursday and Friday are in Google Classroom and Smartmusic now if you would like to start and work ahead.

## How will we communicate?

Our distance learning will be coordinated through Google Classroom. Each day Mesner will post some assignments for your band class. We will also be able to post ideas on the class stream in Google Classroom. Mr. Mesner will listen/look/grade assignments everyday and you will receive observations and feedback from him.



If you have questions you can reach Mr. Mesner in the following ways:

1. Email - [jrmesne@sunprairieschools.org](mailto:jrmesne@sunprairieschools.org)
2. My digital office hours will be each day 8:30 a.m. through 11:00 a.m. and the school district recommends using Zoom as a way to video conference if needed. A Zoom tutorial is available [here](#)
3. You can also just call me at 608-213-2524 if you need anything

Mr. Mesner is happy to help with any questions, listen to dad jokes, or funny stories about what your pet did the day before. Keep in touch.

## Should I develop a schedule and routine for school/class days?

I encourage you to keep a schedule and routine for school and class days. I recommend that you set your alarm (you might want to get up a little later than other school days) rather than getting into the habit of sleeping late. Get to bed at a normal school day type bed time rather than staying up late. Start your day the way you normally would and log-in for your distance learning for the day.



### **Mr. Mesner's day will look like this:**

5:30 - get up, take a walk, jump in the shower & get some coffee brewing  
(I do this because I'm old - don't get up this early)

7:00 - log-in and make sure assignments are ready for the day. Communicate with students via Google Classroom or email.

8:30 - Be available for any questions students have and help however I can.

11:30 - lunch

Noon - Listen or read assignments, grade things, or send feedback to students

4:00 - Another walk

6:00 - Dinner followed by the Berlin Philharmonic Digital Concert Hall!

10:30 - Go to sleep (again, I'm old...)

## What will most of these lessons look like?

In general we are going to keep doing the things that musicians do:

1. Develop our skills (warm-ups and scales)
2. Practice our music (Smartmusic, recordings, and good old fashioned practicing on our own)



3. Think and engage in music as a listening and communicative art (listening, questioning, thinking and sharing)
4. Problem solving and working creatively

All of our assignments will be designed to help us engage in music in these ways. If you have a question - check with Mr. Mesner.

Share your ideas - let's create music opportunities together!



## I need music supplies - can I still order from Ward Brodt?

Yes, if you use the Ward Brodt website

<https://www.wardbrodt.com/> you can order any music supplies you need and click the button "send this to me at Cardinal Heights" when you check out. Ward Brodt will deliver supplies to Mr. Mesner and he will get them to your house.

## I'm bored spending so much time at home - do you have any musical suggestions for how I spend my time?

**Boy, do I!**



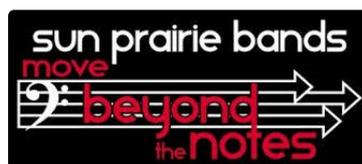
The Berlin Philharmonic Digital Concert Hall is offering free one month vouchers right now. They livestream and archive concerts and you can hear one of the world's greatest orchestras in the comfort of your own home. Click [here](#) to learn more.

Check out this performance of "Wine Dark Sea" (a very cool piece) by the University of Texas [here](#)

Work on your sight reading using this sight reading resource [here](#)

Scott Lang has made some of his music leadership online courses free right now. Learn more [here](#)

Check out the music on Sarah Willis's "Horn Hangouts" [here](#)



## Cardinal Heights Upper Middle School Bands

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