EXAMPLE: Message to Lincoln, Nebraska Public School Band Directors from Lance Nielsen, Supervisor of Music

Below is what has been distributed to Lincoln PS marching band directors. Similar items will be sent to all music teachers in August. Although the current plan is to go back to prepandemic practices, things could change. We are close to a 70% vaccination rate in our community. Communities next door are not so high a rate, which could influence what we will eventually implement.

Message to Band Directors:

(1) Protocols are pretty much back to normal. If you are rehearsing outside, no masks are needed. I would strongly recommend that students have water bottles clearly marked with student names (no sharing of personal items). If you are rehearsing inside before August 2, we still follow the summer protocols. For students fully vaccinated, masks are optional; not vaccinated, masks required.

(2) Parent volunteers are allowed to be in the building to help with uniforms or other things. At events that take place outside of the normal school day, vaccination status is based on a self-identified system. For volunteers, visitors and families who are fully vaccinated face coverings are OPTIONAL. For volunteers, visitors and families who are not fully vaccinated face coverings are REQUIRED.

All guests must perform the self-screening for symptoms prior to entering a building and adhere to the face covering protocols.

(3) Remind students that if they are not feeling well, they must stay home.

(4) Bell covers are not required.

(5) Certain protocols that we learned last year are simply good practice to continue even after the pandemic.

- hand sanitizer available for students
- during cold season, wear a mask if you have a cold or teach students to cover their mouth if they are coughing.
- feel sick, don’t stick it out, go home!!
- extra space between people never hurts. The 3 feet between musicians is a good habit to continue if you have room in the music room.

NOTE: All of the above protocols could change at any time, especially if the Delta variant becomes more prominent.