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Hesse Pride of the Tribe Family,

It looks like we are all starting down a path that we have never been down before and not quite sure when it will all end. With that being said, I hope you and your families are doing well. Nothing is more important than your health and your safety. The good news is music is a way that we can break up the monotony and escape the confined feelings we have during this very unusual time. I hope we, as teachers, can provide some kind of direction that will keep you forward thinking, educationally inspired, and maybe not just going stir crazy. They main goal for us, as your directors, is to keep you playing.

Each week Mr. LaBonte and I will post your weekly lessons on the band website under the tab called "Online Assignments". Please be patient with us as we try to keep things going and at the same time not to bore you to tears. These online assignments will start basic and will continue to evolve as we grow in this process.

Because we are required to take attendance based on participation during the week, ALL ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE DUE ON THURSDAYS BY MIDNIGHT. New assignments for the week will be posted on Fridays, starting this Friday. There are 4 categories to our weekly online lessons.

1. **Playing assignments** (scales, etudes, music, etc.)

Students will need to record these assignments and send them to [Seminolebandonline@gmail.com](mailto:Seminolebandonline@gmail.com) by midnight on Thursday of that same week. If students do not have the ability to record and email, a phone performance can be recorded on the band office voice mail, 407.320.5161.

2. **Listening assignments** (YouTube videos)

Students will listen to/watch videos and then comment on the music with general observations and sometimes comments on specific musical elements, such as rhythm. Five to ten sentences **enclosed in the email you send with the audio recordings**. In the observations discuss what you thought was interesting about the performance, likes or dislikes.

3. **Theory/History/Leadership assignments** (handout, video, ppt, website, etc.)

This is the "continue to grow" section. This will be a skill building or knowledge based assignment. Each assignment, under this category, will be explained at the beginning of each week.

4. **Practice Logs**

We need you to understand that practicing your instrument is paramount during this time. If we are basically playing 50 minutes a day during the school day we need you to be practicing 30 minutes 4-5 times per week. Simply Download the practice log (should be posted on band website Wednesday 4/1/2020 - no joke)

**What to practice?** Go through the warm-up routines (concert style or marching style). Work on mouthpiece exercise, lip-slurs, fingering patterns (like 5 note extended speed drill), chromatic sequence, scales, range builders, music, s/e music next year, etc.

You will need to have a "business before pleasure" mindset. Get your assignments done before you playing the endless hours of video games.

I wish we could be together. Human beings need to be social and work together. To me, our band is a family and I truly miss you. Be Safe, Be Smart, and Keep Practicing.

P.L. Malcolm,  
Seminole Band