



# Weekly Cadence

4/7/20

*Cadence - A rhythmic pattern performed with drums to keep a marching unit synchronized.*

## **Kids First!**

**A 🎵 from senior Caitlin Townsend,**

Welcome to Caitlin's Corona Quarantine Cadence message! As a senior, these feel like some seriously disappointing times, if I'm honest. Our senior year was cut short abruptly and we didn't even get to say goodbye to the past 4 years of our lives. We probably won't get a graduation or prom, during my first (and last) year in wind ensemble, CPA was cancelled, lots of summer trips have been cancelled, etc. and there's nothing we can do about it except take it day by day. I've mostly been lounging around, reading books, and studying for my AP exams, but I'd much rather be with my friends. What helps me, is the thought that we'll get through it. The United States has fared much worse and fought many greater things, so I try to keep in mind that this is not the End of Times.

The Revolutionary War, the Civil War, the Great Depression, World War 1, the 1918 flu pandemic, World War 2, 9/11, etc. We have to create new normals all the time and this is just a temporary new normal the same way it has been throughout history. Nobody would've chosen this if we had the option and we're all a bit scared and worried, but we'll get through it the same way we always have. United. Brave. Strong. Let's go onward and upward, thanks Franklin!

**A longer 🎵 from Mr. Campos & Mrs. V,**

Hello Franklin Families! We hope everyone is doing well considering the current circumstances, and that you have been able to get a little of this warm sun while staying safe. We miss your students faces a ton and cannot wait for life to return to normal and to continue the hard work that is marching band, concert band, and more. As we work toward whatever future is coming, it will take ALL OF US to create a fantastic production and learning experience for these kiddos. The phrase we found "Focus on the team not the dream" still stands true. Everything below is important for everyone to know so please read it all.

### Winter Guard – Good News First!

Shout out to the Guard and their Instructors! The guard had a fantastic season placing the highest (by a lot) that they have ever placed in TFB history. Their scores only 2 weeks out from the Winter Guard International would very likely have had them in World Finals! Please remember to commend those students and their staff Levi Brandenburg, Michael Horvath, Laura Ann Grayson, and Sally Clark. Here is a link to a video of their show: <https://youtu.be/1f9NDopZxWg>

### Marching Band

We cannot definitively know as to when we will return, or what that will mean for the fall schedule but we are planning for multiple scenarios. Currently the fall shows music is in production and we have been meeting online to develop it. As we plan, we are taking this opportunity to get ahead on some projects that will better our band in the long run. One project is our Visual and Musical Video Manual/Tutorials on how to play or march in our style. These will be able to be used for years to help all students in their development. This is an opportunity for these current students to leave a lasting legacy on the Franklin Band by helping in the creation of these resources. Please help us in encouraging/pushing your kids to take part in these leadership roles and activities and to complete them on time.

### Seniors – Band Banquet

The thing that has weighed the heaviest on us is the experience of these seniors. This class has dealt with some very challenging situations and has been incredible through every step. Typically, our band banquet is an event to celebrate the year and our seniors. We will not be having our typical banquet this year, but instead will eventually have some big celebration tailgate with games, awards, and a moment to honor our seniors before they head off to college. This will be able to include more people and be free!

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### Calendar

We are going forward with our current calendar for all events regarding marching band. If we cannot rejoin in person we will find creative online ways to get work done until we can come together again. We believe that stability and structure are important. While the world has too much shifting sand right now, our schedule and 'do what you can' attitude can be rock solid. Just to be clear we will only rejoin in person once it has been made incredibly clear by school, state, and federal officials that it is safe and legal.

### Cost of Band

Regardless of the show or contests we will be scaling back the budget as much as possible next year. We will be working toward building a stronger base in fundraising as always, but it we know it is important that after such a hard period for so many people across our entire country we want to provide an education and experience that is affordable. This may mean we operate a bit more drum corps style in some areas such as lodging and travel. If we need to scale back from certain contests as well, we will. Most of the lessons, values, and greatest days are had right in the classroom and in parking lot in Franklin, TN. Also, concert F whole notes is FREE! We feel we must press on but know that financial hardship or issues will not prevent anyone from being a part of this program. We will shift as we need to. Remember the march-a-thon was an incredible event that our students will never forget, and it was not a competition.

### **Fundraising – Flag Sales – URGENT**

We are currently working on some great solutions to make our flag sale and installation still work because 1) distribution could be incredibly limited person to person contact for those installing and 2) no contact at all for community members. Our flag sale has an average revenue between **\$55,000-\$90,000 per year!** This is our largest fundraiser and currently we are behind in sales and cash flow to set us up for when we return to marching band season. We must begin to work on this now. The flag team has already met and are working to contact people for renewals. However, we will be reaching out to all our parents and students to help spread the word so that we can keep going strong in the future. Be on the lookout for that communication in separate posts and emails. The more we fundraise the less band costs next year regardless of the activity.

### Auditions & Classes for Next Year

We will assign audition music for chair placements going into next year. Please encourage your kids to work on this for these video auditions. This is for concert band only. There is no grade but we need to know if your child cannot make a video as we will start the year in chairs and ensembles based on these auditions.

### Current Classes & Smart Music

While all our concerts are canceled, musicianship is not a thing that can take too much of a break. The same loss of fitness from not hitting the gym happens for hands and faces. We have not assigned anything for a grade, but we have provided resources through Google Classroom and Smart Music. Please take a moment to talk to your child or sit down with them and have them walk you through what this is. Everything is centered around fundamentals and enjoyment. In the chaos of today, music – even when stressing over getting the right notes- is an escape into the things you can control right here and now in your hands. There are powerful lessons in this kind of practice as it grounds us. This is one of the reasons musicians are willing to practice so many hours. We eventually matured to see past any frustration because we realized the bigger picture of small gains and wins over time. We climb in the wardrobe once again to challenge ourselves, go on an adventure, learn some lessons, and then step back into the real world forgetting the issues that we thought were so important when left.

### Recruitment

It is crucial we keep working on recruitment from 5<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade in TFB. Please help spread the word to unsure families about our program and encourage your children to help with this in the projects we will give them soon. Especially talk to those you know in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade who are not in band about color guard! We will be sending out recruitment videos for them soon enough!

Thank you all for staying strong and being so positive during this crisis. If you need anything, please let us know. We are a community of support and strength because we are there for each other. So don't be shy in letting us know you need help! Take care, God bless, and stay healthy.