



**Albuquerque Public Schools
Fine Arts Program**

912 Oak Street SE – Lincoln Complex, Building M
Albuquerque, NM 87106

Gina Rasinski – Director, Fine Arts
rasinski@aps.edu • (505) 880-8249 ext. 88041

TO: Parents, Students, and Community Members of Albuquerque Public Schools

FROM: Albuquerque Public Schools High School Band Directors and Fine Arts Administration

DATE: July 1, 2020

SUBJECT: Cancellation of 2020 APS Summer Marching Band Camps

The existence of Covid-19 has caused a reexamination of best practices in all aspects of society, and implementation of music education is no exception. In these trying times, the safety and health of our students, staff, and community is of the utmost concern. Given the rapidly changing reality of state guidelines and health mandates as well as the severity of the pandemic, it is important to provide timely information while ensuring the safety of our stakeholders.

It is the collective decision of the high school band directors and administrators in Albuquerque Public Schools to cancel all summer marching band camps this year. While we understand the disappointment this brings to many students, families, and teachers, we feel it necessary to make this difficult decision after much thoughtful consideration and discussion. We are still working as a team to develop and implement safe practices for future music-making in our classrooms.

As a district, we are still committed to the marching arts curriculum. While band camp has been canceled, other marching events (e.g. competitions, adjudications, football games, pep band, parades, etc) will be handled on a case-by-case basis as we receive new data and directives. Decisions pertaining to future involvement will be guided by safety guidelines.

We appreciate your continued support and understanding during this difficult time. As always, we are dedicated to providing quality, well-rounded music education for our students in our ever-evolving reality. We will overcome this situation together and will continue to support our students and families in every way possible.