Hello Future Maverick Stampede members!

Greeting from CMU’s Music Department, and apologies for this message coming to you later than anticipated.

Despite our ongoing COVID-19 situation, I am eager to get our Fall 2020 season underway. I hope many of you might also be ready to have a great season too. Obviously, with many safety restrictions and state/county/city/campus ordinances in place, our season will have some significant differences from those past. Not to worry however, as I am determined to make this a great experience for all of us. We are going to have a great band, a lot of fun, and continue to build upon many of our important CMU Band traditions. Below are a more important details to take note of:

- Although we are still planning to have a great season, it is unlikely that we will be producing our traditional pregame and halftime field shows. While I know this may disappoint some, the silver lining is that this means our need for 6 hours/week of rehearsal will drastically be diminished. While not confirmed completely, it is likely that we will only rehearse as a full ensemble from approximately 6-7:30pm on Tuesday and Thursday evenings during the regular season. Our primary objective will be to rehearse and produced a lot of fun music to be performed both for ourselves and various campus/community events as they arise. We may also be parading to/from and performing in the stands at home football games, should these events still be happening (TBD by Athletics and the NCAA). This being said, if you or others have been contemplating being in the Maverick Stampede, but have been nervous about needing to make the larger time commitment associated with a ‘normal’ season, this would be the year to participate with us, in a much more limited time commitment scenario. Come join us and get the word-out to your friends that may also want to make great music and have fun with a large college band….all without needing to commit too much time and effort. It will be a fun and easy season, period!

- Yes, we are still having a preseason camp! We will meet from 4:30pm-8pm (with 30 minute break) Monday–Friday the week before the official fall term start (Aug.10-14). A detailed schedule of this camp is available on our website. Our primary goal will be to work on music both in sections and as a whole. We will also utilizes this time for organizing and going over various logistics necessary to run our band program for the remainder of the season. It is important that all members participate in this (easy) and camp. We, of course, will be practicing various safety protocols that have been set by CMU, our music department, and national collegiate music organizations that have helped to provide guidelines for us to still produce a great band. We will go over these during our first day(s) of camp, but in the meantime, please make sure you are prepared on the first day to wear an appropriate face covering (when not performing on a wind instrument), practice 6ft. social distancing, and other common sense protocols that I’m sure you are aware of from various campus/community guidelines. This will be enough for us to get started.
• If you haven’t already done so, please make sure you have registered both for our official CMU marching band course, AND ALSO register via our band website (so we can get more detailed information about who you are). Details about both of these registrations can be found here.
• If you will be living on campus, you will move-in to your dorm on Aug.9 (or some of you may be eligible to do this prior). Please make sure, however, that you are also prepared with various COVID-19 testing protocols from Residence life 10-14 days prior to this date. Details can be found on the Residence Life website.
• I will likely be sending out another message a few days before our camp, but in the meantime if you have further questions, please try to direct them to your section leader and/or one of our captains. Their names and contact information can be found on our website.

Thanks everyone and looking forward to seeing all of you soon. GO MAVS!
-Dr. Hinkle