

Dear Choir & Orchestra Parents,

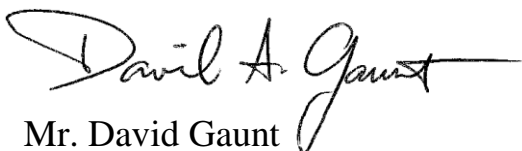
August 17th, 2020

Welcome to a gloriously unpredictable year of music at Reno High School!

Here is the run-down:

1. I am in a new room! I am now in **IA-3**, just across and down the hall from my last room. It's 50% larger than IA-4 was and has air conditioning instead of a swamp cooler – woo hoo! It will still need some work to put it in tip top shape, but we are ready to begin the year with full social distancing!
2. Email is the best way to reach me – dgaunt@washoeschools.net – or a note in my box in the office. You can also check my website, www.washoeschools.net/dgaunt - basically the reverse of my email address. Every letter, schedule, and handout I give to your student will be posted on the class site. When things get back to normal, it will also include a concert calendar!
3. There is no semester's event schedule, since all concerts are cancelled for the foreseeable future. We **WILL** be recording virtual concert videos, and I will need your permission in order to publish them. I'm not quite sure how to do that at this point, since I can't send home a permission form for you to sign without letting it sit for a week in "quarantine," but as I learn, I will post the information on the website ASAP.
4. Orchestra and Choir each have unique challenges this year, but I am confident we can overcome them if we stick together and give it our all. Orchestra faces a shortage of instruments, as we cannot share instruments due to cleaning difficulties and preventative measures, but I am working hard to provide as many as possible. Contact me if there are difficulties. Choir cannot sing in the building, but we **CAN** sing outside provided we can space out far enough and the weather cooperates. I'm not sure yet how that will impact videos, but we will figure it out.
5. Graduation is anywhere from June 11th to June 20th, and I am hoping that by then we will have a handle on the pandemic. Assuming we do, graduation will be a **REQUIRED EVENT**, so **please** take this into account when scheduling your summer trips. More info will come as it is provided by the District.

Thank you for loaning me your student for the year – I promise it will be one to remember!



Mr. David Gaunt
Director, RHS Choirs & Orchestras