**Back to Dance Plan**

JFK Bismarck South Families:

I have been thinking a lot about how we can safely conduct dance classes in person. It is impossible to predict how things will go, and things can change quickly, but I am trying to think through some possible scenarios and have a plan so we can all move forward on the same page, together.

Classes and choreography will look different this year. The main threshold for risk from contact seems to be “less than 6 feet for more than 15 minutes,” so that is our goal. We will use my sticky spot markers at class to help dancers maintain spacing while we dance. We will not connect in kick lines or do close group work, such as formations. **Masks will be required for adults who wait inside the building during class.** For PreK-1st grade, we will try to maintain distance at class, but the nature of young children will make that impossible to enforce entirely. Of course, if things improve later in the season, some of these restrictions could relax.

If it is not possible to hold our traditional dance shows, performances may need to be Family Night style, one class at a time, with a limited number in the audience. I know it’s not ideal, but it’s better than nothing. Let’s all keep our fingers crossed for a better scenario for our girls, but I am committed to still making this dance season as fun for them as I possibly can. **Just For Kix policy is that uniform items can be returned for refund if they are not worn, so you are not out that money if it turns out that we cannot perform at all.**

It goes without saying - participating in any group activity will carry a risk. For all of us. Just For Kix will require parents to sign a waiver releasing me and the company from liability due to COVID-19. Regarding closures, it may be hard to follow what schools do if they selectively close (by class, grade, or building), so instead, we will try to follow the lead of our local Parks and Recreation programming. It may be necessary for me to isolate if I am identified as a close contact of a dancer at some point this season, in which case we could do a couple weeks of Zoom classes to get through short periods. If this situation ends up occurring frequently, I may have to reevaluate at that time. I am considering live-streaming classes in the BAND app for dancers who need to isolate or who don’t feel comfortable attending class in person for whatever reason.

**Please read this document in its entirety.** The following pages outline information regarding our upcoming open house, class requirements (adjusted dismissal times), masks, uniform returns (worst-case scenario), and performances.

I am always here for you! If you have ANY questions and concerns, please feel free to contact me.

**Other Important Topics:**

* Back-to-Dance Open House
  + Monday, August 17, 2020
  + House of Prayer Lutheran Church
  + 6:00 to 7:00 pm
  + Currently, we are unable to do uniform sizing. I will have registration packets and instructions to help you size your dancer at home.
  + The purpose of our open house this year will mostly for me to greet your dancer and hand out end-of-year pins and certificates from last year. I am also happy to answer any questions about this plan or our season to the best of my ability.
    - Keep in mind, as much as I’d LOVE to greet your dancer with a hug or high five, but elbow bumps will have to do for now ☹.
* My goal is to keep our classes meeting in person, while keeping your family and mine safe.
  + Threshold for risk seems to be close contact, less than 6 feet for more than 15 minutes, so that is what we are shooting for.
    - Spot markers at class
    - No connected kick lines or formations
    - If I approach your dancer, I will wear a mask
    - Masks on adults in the building
    - Masks on dancers 4th grade and up when they are not dancing
    - Hand sanitizer or hand washing before class
    - I will wipe high-touch areas frequently
      * Notice that I am not requiring a COVID fee for our program, so these supplies will paid for out of my pocket. If you wish to donate cleaning supplies, please contact me.
    - No shared props, so dancers may need to bring a few things from home
      * Water bottle (WATER FOUNTAIN WILL BE CLOSED)
      * Hair ties
      * Shoes and socks
    - Dancers have disinfecting wipes in their dance bag
  + Doors will remain locked this year and all classes will dismiss 5 minutes early to allow for safe, contact-free entry and exit between each group.
  + These restrictions may relax if the situation improves
* Performances
  + We don’t know yet what these will be
  + One class at a time, Family Night style?
  + Competitions? Shows? Let’s hope for the best!
  + Uniforms can be returned if they are not worn
  + Size off last year’s uniform or using a tape measure and size charts I will provide
* Closures
  + BPS may selectively close by class, grade, or school if an outbreak occurs. If so, we may go by what Parks and Recreation does
  + If I need to isolate because I am identified as a close contact, we can get by with Zoom classes via the BAND app for a couple weeks
  + I could livestream via BAND for those dancers who need to isolate
    - I still need to figure out logistics/devices. Please let me know ahead of time if you are interested in your dancer participating in virtual classes ONLY.
* Questions?
  + Kelsie Howes, Director

(701) 226-4491

[bismarcksouth\_nd@justforkix.com](mailto:bismarcksouth_nd@justforkix.com)