

Train Young Bands to Sound Great Today! Warm-Up, Instrument Fundamentals, Ensemble Techniques, and Teaching Strategies.

Overview: Beginning and Young Band Rehearsal Demonstration-An efficient and effective method for young bands. Develop an ensemble sound that is aesthetically satisfying so the young musician will be engaged, rewarded and loving BAND! Young musicians can sound mature; they might just play easier music! Teach young bands like little professionals. Withhold no information regarding skill mastery. Expect and teach high-level ensemble skills daily. Praise students excessively. They will love coming to the band room!

HOW YOUNG BANDS CAN SOUND GREAT TODAY!

“The student musicians should sound like us; they only play easier songs.”

Allow individual warm up time:

Build a “get-down-to-business” culture that enhances their anxiousness to PLAY!

How they enter the room and get themselves, each other and their section ready should indicate they enjoy BAND.

Woodwinds check reeds.

Everyone checks his/her instrument, reed, pitch with chromatic and practice review.

Section leaders check for section readiness (tuner, pencil or high-lighter, stand height, & music).

Agenda is placed on board. Each student puts music in order for the rehearsal.

Our tuning ritual:

Purposes of the warm-up:

- 1. To Tune**
- 2. Podium Skills-THE WARM UP ESTABLISHES WHAT YOU WANT THE BAND TO SOUND LIKE AND YOUR LAWS OF THE PODIUM.**

- **Begin in everyone’s comfort zone.**
- **Begin with pitch everyday (no announcements please)!**
- **Check instrument tendencies.**
- **Concert F scale-Check for posture, hand position, horn carriage, tuning EVERY note, match pitch, instrument tendencies, sections requiring vibrato, entrances, releases, focus and watching the conductor.**
- **Ear training. Chords.**
- **Scales applicable to the rehearsal’s agenda.**
- **Tune EVERYTHING EVERY MINUTE, EVERY SECOND!**

Rehearsal:

- 1. Address “how to play the instrument correctly” constantly.**
- 2. Notes and rhythms are important; effort, pitch and playing the instrument correctly are MORE important.**
- 3. Always check the band sound.**
- 4. Ask questions-require THEM to listen, diagnose and fix.**
- 5. Require leadership.**
- 6. Praise, praise praise!**
- 7. Are the individual instrument skills correct?**
- 8. Check for section performance. Posture, breathing, entrances, releases, blend of parts, balance of parts, which voice is dominant, are all instrument timbres heard?**
- 9. Ensemble blend and balance. Entrances, releases, all colors present, chords balanced, vertical and horizontal tuning (correct tessitura).**
- 10. Check for understanding of role-melody, counter-melody, harmony, accompaniment or rhythmical lines, chord progression.**
- 11. Praise, praise, praise.**
- 12. Chord balance throughout. Begin with rehearsal squares. Know your chord analysis.**
- 13. Constantly remedy their sound and HOW they play the instrument. Offer a physical solution to their problems.**
- 14. Praise, praise and praise.**
- 15. Tune, tune, tune and then tune some more.**