

TBA Academy 2013

Brian Merrill

With TBA, TCDA and TODA meeting at the same time, this year the TBA Academy was open to new and young teachers from all three organizations. Over 160 attendees put in eight hours of intensive training on all aspects of being a professional educator. Topics included classroom management, discipline and motivation, legal issues facing music teachers, proper handling of money, communication with parents and administrators, booster clubs, building a culture of success, and the role of UIL, TMEA, and TEA. This daylong session strives to “connect the dots” between university training and the expectations on the job.

Special thanks to an outstanding Academy faculty: Richard Floyd, Robert Floyd, Tom Waggoner, Brian Coatney, Lynne Jackson, Theresa Whatley, Randy Gilmore, Will Pitts, Holly Wardell, Rick Ghinelli, Robert Bryant, Danny Detrick, Mark Chandler, and Tim Lautzenheiser. Additional thanks to Alfredo Vélez, David Devoto, Jeff Rice, Kenneth Griffin, Sharon Lutz, and Mike Brashear for their support and efforts in making this year such a huge success.

The TBA Academy for New Band, Choir, and Orchestra Directors will be back in 2014. Everyone involved in the hiring of new teachers should encourage attendance to the Academy. Young directors who have been through this training are better prepared to assume the responsibilities of a professional educator.

“The TBA Academy is just what any new music teacher needs before starting a career in music.”

Michael Cortes, Assistant Band Director,
Rhodes Middle School, San Antonio ISD

“This academy was influential and inspirational. No matter whether you teach band, choir or orchestra, you will leave the academy as a better music educator.”

Brittany Elliff, Assistant Choir Director,
Spillane Middle School, Cypress-Fairbanks ISD

“The TBA Academy was an inspiring day of clinics with some amazing teachers! Every young teacher should attend the Academy.”

Josh Howe, Assistant Band Director,
Spence Talented and Gifted Academy, Dallas ISD

“Even as a second year teacher, I learned a fantastic amount from the TBA Academy. I’m excited to go into year two with even more tools in my teacher toolbox.”

Marie Parisot, Assistant Choir Director,
Arnold Middle School, Cypress-Fairbanks ISD
