

**So Now You're a Band Director – NOW What?  
A Guide to Success for the Young Teacher**

**1. What were your initial reasons to become a Music Educator?**

- Influence young musicians/students
- Continue your own music experience and/or development
- Fun!

**2. What is Your Mission?**

- Provide a musical experience for your students
- Instill discipline that will transfer to other career fields
- Instruction in goal setting, prioritizing, performing
- Foster an appreciation for the musician's path

**3. Sources for Growth**

- Attending professional concerts
- Attending performances of colleagues
- Listening to professional ensembles
- Listening to your own ensemble's recordings, concert and/or rehearsals
- Discovering music
- Remembering what you have learned in previous years
- Graduate study
  - Reading (not limited to music!)
- Score study
- Influence of experienced musicians and educators
- Discussions with colleagues – “talking shop”
- Convention attendance and participation
- Adjudicating Region/Area/State auditions

**4. Personal Growth Process**

- Musical development
- Ear chops - awareness, remembering
- Brain chops - teaching methods, styles, what works and what doesn't
- Events that shape you, some of which are non-musical
- Performance experiences, both competitive and not

**5. The “Real” Process**

- Development of the skill comes before achievement of the art
- Reaching the point of temporary satisfaction

**6. The Three Most Important Things to Remember from this Session**

- Determine Your Mission
- Development of the skill comes before achievement of the art
- The process is more important than the product