



**Texas Bandmasters Association
Convention/Clinic July 26-28, 2018**

Slow and Steady Wins the Race

**CLINICIANS:
Corey Graves, Robert Herrings**

**HENRY B. GONZALEZ CONVENTION CENTER
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS**

Slow and Steady Wins the Race

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Mr. Robert T. Herrings, Artie Henry Middle School, Leander ISD

Recruitment - "If you build it, they will come."

- Which kids do you want?
- Market to the "band kid."
- How do you get them there?

Sixth Grade Year: The Age of Innocence

- What are your priorities?
 - Tone
 - Articulation
 - Rhythm
 - Technique
 - Style
- ~~Marketing~~ Marketing – The _____ Document
 - "A goal without a plan is just a wish." - Plan, plan, plan!
 - Make adjustments
 - Keep everyone informed of expectations
 - Use (and adjust) this document from year to year as a benchmark
- Private Lessons
 - Educate parents on the value and benefit
 - Invite the teachers into your classes to perform for students
- The Fall Semester – Where the Magic Begins
 - The First Week
 - Band Hall Guidelines
 - Procedures
 - Posture
 - Breathing
 - Parts of the instrument
 - Theory
 - The First Six Weeks - The Details Matter
 - Holding the Instrument with Correct Posture and Hand Position
 - First Sounds on the Mouthpiece
 - Go Slow ... or Pay the Price Later
 - Teach a Skill, Not a Song
 - Note Naming Quizzes
 - Speed Drills
 - Basic Rhythm
 - Pulse Drills
 - Foot Tap

- First Sounds on the Instrument
- First Chair Tests on Simple Skills
- Articulation
- The 2nd & 3rd Six Weeks
 - Continue Building on the First Six Weeks Skills
 - Learning How to Practice
 - Long Tone Exercises
 - Reading in
 - 5-8 Note Range Extension
 - Elementary Slurs
 - Instrument Specific Fundamentals
- The Spring Semester – Pedal to the Metal
 - What can you do now that the fundamentals are set?
 - Develop the Stars
 - End of the Year Goals
 - Scales

Seventh Grade Year: Marcia, Marcia, Marcia!

- What are your priorities?
 - Overall - Building on the Sixth Grade Year
 - Continuation of Building Fundamental Tone
 - Brass especially
 - Understanding of Rhythm
 - Expansion of Range
 - The Fall Semester
 - Develop the Individual
 - Pass Off Sheets
 - All-Region Auditions
 - Recording Projects
 - Individual Hearings
 - The Spring Semester
 - Develop the Ensemble
 - Solo & Ensemble
 - Full range of scales (within their ability)
 - Minor Scales (top band students)

The Eighth Grade Year – We Love Them... Until April

- Building on the Seventh Grade Year
- Bridging the Gap from Middle School to High School
 - What Skills Do You Need?