



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

**The Complete Marching Season
Part 3: The Fall Semester: ALL
Things Matter**

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Part 3 – FALL SEMESTER

- Academics/Eligibility
 - Prioritize grades from the very beginning
 - Begin talking about grades during summer band
 - Remind students of academic responsibilities and their importance
 - Know the process for checking grades on your campus
 - Assigned staff member(s) to ensure a weekly check occurs
 - Elevates student awareness and again shows you prioritize their academic success
 - *Failure to do homework is typically the reason students do not pass their classes*
 - Be cognizant of outside responsibilities brought on by the students' participation in band
 - Allow students time to complete homework during band class if they have been out late due to band responsibilities
 - This shows both parents and faculty that you hold academics as high in value as your band class
 - District Band Nights
 - Thursday Night Games
 - Contests during the week
 - Homecoming activities
- Systems/Processes/Procedures
 - Clear communication is imperative to establishing trust and positive relationships
 - Must be explained and then continually assessed to ensure the students are doing what is being asked.
 - Remember that the smallest detail matters
 - Classroom procedures
 - Game/Contest procedures
 - Halftime procedures (flip folders, etc.)
 - Field entry/exit for games and contests
 - How to wear your uniform
- Pacing the season (show instruction)
 - Macro vs. Micro
 - What's Important Early, Mid, Late
 - Being able to prioritize appropriately will ensure success in the long run
- Pacing the season (culture)
 - In addition to teaching our students the show it is also our jobs to look out for and monitor their physical and emotional health throughout the season
 - "other duties"
 - Student leadership and how they can help
 - As the season progresses both teachers and students will get tired...we must recognize this fatigue in ourselves, our staff and our students and address it accordingly
 - With fatigue comes elevated emotions
 - It is our ability to navigate this time of the season that will ensure the health of the culture in the organization and continued growth of the program for years to come
 - Students, parents, and administration will watch (sometimes subconsciously) how you manage this time of year
- All-State audition process
 - Region Sectionals
 - Individual Region Listening(s)
 - Opportunities for individual practice during band class
 - BLASEPHEMY, I know but I am absolutely serious!
- Drumline Contest
 - Yes or No
 - No correct answer here
 - Early, Late or both
- Music Pass-Off

- During Summer Band and throughout the first Six/Nine Week period
- Live Listening
 - Most value as specific individual feedback can be given
- SmartMusic
- Should student leaders complete these listenings?
- Contests
 - Performance, Show Warmups
 - Show day schedules
 - Remember to teach the parents when to cheer
- Faculty Cohesiveness
 - Within the staff and across the entire high school faculty
 - Participate in activities outside of the band class
 - Pep Rallies, Homecoming, Faculty/Student tournaments, etc
 - Observations of your band kids in their academic classes
 - Emails of support to academic faculty
 - Front Office Visits
 - SO VERY IMPORTANT
- Dance Team Practice
 - #1 MOST IMPORTANT – Perform your dance team music at the same level as any other music you have.
 - Remember this is their most important performance of the week.
 - This shows that you value the student dancers and respect the dance faculty
 - You will win over so many faculty members by simply learning the music and performing it with the highest levels of excellence.
 - Be flexible in terms of tempos, etc.