



**Texas Bandmasters Association  
Convention/Clinic July 25-27, 2019**

**Help! Summer Band Starts Next Week**

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

# Help! Summer Band Starts Next Week!

## Systems and Processes are the Key

*Bob Chreste & Jeremy Spicer, Clinicians*

- Have a plan
  - Create a general long-term schedule for summer band
    - Work backwards from your expectation at the end of summer band
    - Expect things to move slower than you want them to
  - Create a daily schedule
    - Stick to the same timeline each day
    - Allows the students the ability to pace their energy
    - Allow plenty of time for review
- Early percussion camp
  - Benefits of the “pulse of the marching band” to have a head start
  - The drumline instruments are “new” compared to the winds
- Physical conditioning
  - Get the students out of their summer bodies
  - Hired help
  - Dance workouts to get students accustomed to future choreography
  - Marching becomes the “easy” part
- Marching fundamentals
  - KEEP IT SIMPLE...it’s just walking
  - Basic dance concepts
  - Shape of the leg
  - Shape of the foot
  - Control of the upper body
  - Focus only on the concepts you’ll actually need
    - Forward March
    - Backward March
    - Slides
    - Direction Changes
    - Multiple Step Sizes
- Playing fundamentals
  - KEEP IT SIMPLE
    - Breathing (tubes?)
    - Long tones
    - Articulation/Style
    - Flexibility/Technique
    - Volume
  - ALWAYS MOVE YOUR FEET
  - Fundamentals should be at show tempos to create easy application
  - Focus on tone production...while moving the feet...at appropriate tempos
  - Create style exercises to replicate parts in your show
- Tempo selection
  - Have a plan to ensure success at final show tempos
  - Try to keep the tempos as concise as possible
  - Only work at necessary tempos

- Audition process/Spot assignments
  - Use the first week of summer band fundamentals to see who “gets it” and who doesn’t
  - ATTENDANCE
  - Based partially on band auditions in spring
  - You can hide bad players, you can’t hide bad movers
- What to do with your “extra” students (JV/Alternates/Shadows)
  - Write extra drill so that everyone marches at games
    - Develops students for the future
    - Makes it easier to fill holes for injuries/eligibility
  - Trading spots
    - Limits student development for the future
  - Prop movers
    - The least skilled students move the biggest objects on the field???
  - 2 marching bands
    - Competitive marching band (only primary marchers)
    - Pep Band (everyone)
      - Still limits development for the future
- Drill team/Stands tunes/Shorties
  - Learn ALL of these during the first week or two of summer band
  - Helps build their “faces”
  - Make your stand tunes the tunes you have to play for your drill team
  - Learn “shorties” to play in the stands
- Use of technology
  - Wireless met
    - Met must be in the back
    - Create a met “wall” on the back sideline
    - Tempo controlled from iPad/Dr. Beat connected to a wireless transmitter
      - Kenny Cable
  - Click tracks
    - This will simplify the drill learning process IMMENSELY!!!
    - Any tempo changes in the music are the same EVERY TIME!
  - Videos
    - Make daily rehearsal videos so students can see progress
    - Provide commentary
    - Make private or unlisted
    - Limit comments from students
- Social events
  - This is the hardest time of the year
  - There has to be time for fun
  - At least one activity a week
    - DCI at the movie theater
    - Parent Marching Night
    - Local fire truck hosedown
    - Water balloon fight

If you have any additional questions, please feel free to send an email to Bob or Jeremy at:  
*bcbandsolutions@gmail.com* OR *jeremy@studentsleading.org*

# NOIR

## Monday, July 30<sup>th</sup>

- 7:00 am** Band Hall Opens
- 7:15 am** Leadership Meeting
- Pass out name tags, assign locations & have extra locker info
  - Discuss daily agenda and clarify marching technique for day
  - Where to put belongings
  - Setup equipment
  - First day arrival roles
- 8:00 am** Full Band Meeting in Band Hall
- Review hand raise
  - Staff & Leader Introductions
  - Discuss Rules and Expectations
    - Where to go & not to go
    - Restrooms
    - Lockers....what goes in them....who does not have one?
  - Discuss daily agenda
  - Discuss workouts
  - NO INSTRUMENTS FOR MARCHING TODAY
- 8:20 am** Full Band Workout (Outside)
- 8:50 am** RELAX, BACK TO CAFETERIA & WATER BREAK
- 9:00 am** Introduce Posture & Breakdown of S-curve in group (PIT CAN WORK WITH GARZA)
- 5 points of alignment
  - Separation of body parts
  - Equal space over time
- 9:25 am** Teach Releve & Plie in 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> in group
- 9:50 am** Teach Tendus & Rond de jambe in group
- 10:10 am** Review Releve/Plie/Tendu/Rond de jambe in sections
- 10:30 am** Teach Lunges in group
- 10:45 am** Put it all together with Whatever it Takes
- 11:00 am** Review 2 step stepout & mark time in group then sections (drums can go with Garza)
- 11:30 am** LUNCH BREAK
- 12:15 pm** Full Band Meeting in Band Hall
- Discuss keeping band hall area clean
  - Signup for Remind
  - Discuss the year
    - Band Placements
    - Music Directory
    - Attendance
    - Summer Band schedule
    - St. Louis
  - Difference between MS & HS
  - Why do we do this?

- What is Fun?
- Discuss afternoon agenda and locations
- Keep cases in your lockers and have a pencil

1:00 pm

**Music Fundamentals**

- Oboe Master Class in Practice Room until 3:00pm
- ALL Winds in BH
  - Review Fundamentals & Rehearsal Protocol
  - Long Tones - LH 1 (down & up)
  - Technique - Tech 1
  - Articulations - Aggie 1

1:45 pm

**Review School Song & Fight Song in split WW/Brass (School Quarter = 96)(Fight Quarter = 120)**

- WW – Ensemble Room (Marx)
- Brass – Band Hall (Chreste)

2:40 pm

**Send students to Master Class locations**

2:45 pm

**Split into Master Classes**

- Locations
  - Flutes – Rachel (conference room)
  - Bassoons – Alonzo (practice room)
  - Clarinets – Luis (ensemble room)
  - Bass Clarinet – Robert (practice room)
  - Saxophones – Gene (uniform room)
  - Trumpets – Kyle (band hall)
  - Horns – Alyssa (black box)
  - Trombones – Jamey (storage room)
  - Euphoniums – Brian (practice room)
  - Tubas – Sumner (Tech Theater)
- Instrument Specific Fundamentals (your choice)

3:15 pm

**Begin Teaching Come Out and Play**

- Measure 1 – 21
- Quarter = 120

3:45 pm

**Introduce All-State Etudes**

- Discuss how to go about the learning/practicing process...slow & steady
- Help them understand how to figure out the music instead of just showing them how it goes
- Feel free to write in counts and go VERY slowly
- The majority of the students will not be able to just read the music
- Did I mention....go VERY slowly?
- If you only start on 1 etude today, that's fine. You'll have the rest of the week to get the students going on the music.

4:45 pm

**Dismiss from Split Rehearsals and go to Band Hall for Announcements**

4:50 pm

**Announcements in Band Hall (BE ON TIME, attire, hydration, eat healthy, schedule, All-state etudes, Print your music, forms issues, order duffel bags this week, student leader meeting at 7:30, start outside tomorrow, student leaders?, staff?)**

5:00 pm

**DISMISS**