



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

**Anticipate Success: Cultivating
Excellence & Culture Through a
Procedure Based System**

**CLINICIANS:
Todd Dixon, Mark Schroeder**

ANTICIPATE SUCCESS

Cultivating Excellence & Culture Through a Procedure Based System



TEXAS BANDMASTERS ASSOCIATION CONVENTION | THURSDAY, JULY 25, 2019 AT 9:00AM | CC 214AB

TODD DIXON & MARK SCHROEDER, WYLIE HIGH SCHOOL

Excellence – “If excellence is a habit (which it is), then students must consistently play in ways that are fundamentally excellent nearly all the time.” – Robert A. Duke, PH.D

Culture – Culture is the sum total of the learned behavior of a group of people that are generally considered to be the tradition of that people and are transmitted from generation to generation

- Rehearsal etiquette
- Approach to instrument
- Tone Quality
- Pride in accomplishment / not humor in missing the mark
- Quality, thought-out traditions
- What YOU value, THEY value

Procedures – An established or official way of doing something; Have a procedure and timeline for everything

Aspects of the Program

- Pedagogy
- Organization of musical concepts
- Daily Organization
- Communication

Benefits

- Avoids Conflict and Consequences
- Can go from Director to Student Lead
- Gives students input
- Creates a more thoughtful young person

How to Establish Procedures

- Plan as a staff
 - Find time to meet that is dedicated to planning
 - A retreat is a fun format to do this
- Begin with the end in mind
- Start with the calendar
- Follow through with procedures as a staff
- Follow up as a staff and discuss how it went/ what to modify
 - It is always a game to find a way that EVERY child can be successful

Pedagogy as a Procedure

- How to hold the instrument is the #1 procedure to build upon
- Pictures are easier for all levels to understand
- Go through each instrument and agree on all details
- Agree to hold each other accountable
- Agree to hold students accountable daily – it should be the ONLY way they do things, because that is all they know.
- It needs to be visible
- What YOU value, THEY value





Organization of Musical Concepts

- Rules of Sound
- It needs to be visible
- What YOU value, THEY value

Daily Organization

Update your Tech

- Use the same computers
- Document sharing

Daily Procedures

- Daily slide if technology is available (can use white board by hand)
- Sets expectations
- Gives information about rehearsal
- Gives information about upcoming events
- Avoids conflict and consequences

Band Binder

- Organize it in a way that works for you
- Organize it for ALL instruments the same way
- We are CONSTANTLY teaching their minds how to organize
- Be as detailed as you can
- What YOU value / THEY value
- WHS Band Binder
 - Tab 1 – Information
 - Tab 2 – Individual Warm Ups
 - Tab 3 – Ensemble Daily Drill
 - Tab 4 – Rhythm / Theory / Scales
 - Tab 5 – Private Lesson Assignments
 - Tab 6 – Master Class / All-State Assignments
 - Tab 7 – Solo & Ensemble Entry Forms and Information
 - Tab 8 – Band Music
- Provide pencils if you want them to have pencils. You can purchase them with your school name or mission statement.

“The single biggest problem in communication is the illusion that it has taken place.” – George Bernard Shaw

Communication – Find something that works for you and your community

- Weekly Communication
 - Email
 - Text (remind or similar)
 - Social Media if applicable (Have a band account, not your personal social media)
 - Print it out
 - Put it on your daily slide in class
- Website that is up to date
- People receive communication differently, we must be relevant to their informational gathering style...within reason.
- Communication procedure to counselors

Anticipate Success for your program with an expectation of excellence and a positive culture – With a thoughtful procedural mindset and system, you can have a procedure for most everything that has consistent communication with buy in by all staff members.

