



**Texas Bandmasters Association  
Virtual Convention July 20-22, 2020**

**First Chair to Last Chair: Developing  
and Regenerating Buy-in for Non  
Varsity and Sub Non-Varsity Bands**

**CLINICIANS:  
Susan Meyer Patterson, Jana Harvey**



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## First Chair to Last Chair: Regenerating Buy-In for Non Varsity and Sub Non Varsity Bands

**July 20, 2020 10:00am**

**Presenters:**

*Susan Meyer Patterson, Director of Bands, retired,  
McCullough Jr. High, The Woodlands, Conroe ISD*

*Jana Harvey, Associate Director of Bands  
Flower Mound High School, Flower Mound, Lewisville ISD*

How do we keep our NV and Sub NV students engaged and moving forward?

### **BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS**

#### ***Middle School***

##### ***In-Person Instruction***

- Get to know them and encourage them to get to know each other!
- “Three Things About Me” Card
- Show kindness, compassion, love.
- Do NOT ever say “we’re behind”.
- Create opportunities for students to build relationships with all staff members.

##### ***Virtual Instruction***

- Say their name! Play lots of name games.
- Use Google Form or online assignment for “Get to Know”
- Bitmoji Classroom (See image at end of handout)
  - Here’s how I learned!

- Designate different “Spirit Days”
  - School Colors
  - Bring your Pet
  - Scavenger Hunts about their Summer, or about them!

***Relationships are key to learning, key to teamwork, key to success.***

***Relationships ➔ Accountability ➔ Ownership***

## ***High School***

### ***In-Person Instruction***

- Get to know them as people and vice versa
- Be your authentic self
- Be leery of the “silent” rehearsal

### ***Virtual Instruction***

- I have found this to be almost easier in building relationships.
- Virtual section check-in’s – make them turn their camera on!
  - Have them help find everyone!!!
  - Be creative – You don’t always have to play!
  - Scavenger Hunt
  - Bake cookies
  - Virtual section lunch
- Ask silly questions on whatever interface you are using
  - What’s the best thing you have watched on Netflix?
  - What is the first restaurant you will visit after quarantine?

***No matter how and where you are teaching, use your student leaders to help you! Their relationships with one another will go a long way to keep them engaged and active in the program.***

***The more engaged they are, the harder they will try.***



# **INCREASED ENGAGEMENT**

## ***Middle School***

### **PARENTS: Online meetings or required videos to watch.**

- Explain the process to them.
- Will keep them supportive and not overwhelmed.

***Create, continue, and utilize student leaders, even if you haven't had them in your NV or Sub NV Bands before!***

### ***In-Person Instruction***

- Incentives: Name on Wall, Sticker Chart
- Scales and Progressive Rhythm Charts with prizes
- Playing alone for class with teacher and student feedback.
- Involve private lesson staff for ownership and accountability.
- Create opportunities for success and improvement.
- Don't compare to last year!

### ***Virtual Instruction***

Schedule must be consistent.

- Full Band & Small Group Sectionals.
- Continue reinforcing RELATIONSHIPS!
- Assess what is working and be flexible.
- Attendance / "Sound Check" on Concert F.
  - Connect with absent students immediately.
  - Utilize google phone to text students.
  - Offer solutions to help them be there next time!
- Create Class Agenda on Google Slide, just like you do in band hall.
- Structure as close to "in person" band as possible.
- "Down the Row"
- Call – Response
- Full group play with leader, track, recording.

## **High School**

### ***In-Person Instruction***

- Marching Band
  - What do they enjoy about marching band?
- TMEA/ATSSB All Region Process
  - If you have students online only, this might be a great place to start with those students.
- Involve Private Lesson Staff
  - Masterclasses (In-person / Virtual)
- Student Leaders – Sectionals
- Vary the assignments...find something they like
  - Acapella App – Chamber Ensemble Introduction
  - Sightreading Computer Games – Monster Musician Reader

***It is so important, that I will repeat it again...No matter how and where you are teaching, use your student leaders to help you!***

***Their relationships with one another will go a long way to keep them engaged and active in the program.***

***The more engaged they are, the harder they will try.***

***Student engagement is the product of motivation and active learning. It is a product rather than a sum because it will not occur if either element is missing.***

# STRATEGIES FOR LEARNING

## ***Middle School***

### *Evaluate Your Normal Curriculum – What is Appropriate?*

- ***In-Person Instruction***

- Teach them how online band will work.
- Spend time showing them WHERE assignments will be and HOW to submit them correctly.
- Remind them: These grades count and assignments are required!
  
- Split – small group sectionals utilizing all staff.
  - Instrument specific fundamentals and pedagogy.
- Split - small group mixed instrumentation to have “real band”.
  - Remember: They don’t know what full band really is!
  - Level appropriate full band music, flex band, duets, trios, quartets.
  - Look at grade 1 and .5 literature.
  - Must be achievable for students’ success!

- ***Virtual Instruction***

- Platforms
  - Canvas, Schoology, Google Classroom
  - Students must use camera!
    - Check out device from school if needed.
- I loved using:
  - Wheel of Names (see image on last page of handout)
  - Sightreading Factory
- Other great programs:
  - Smart Music
  - MuseScore
  - Flipgrid

## **High School**

- Technique Assignments
  - Give a minimum tempo requirement
  - Spend time on these in class
    - Half-time / Real-time simultaneous
  - Have students perform for the class to build confidence
    - Do this after you have listened to passoffs
    - Give the student a heads up
- Music Assignments
  - Be creative!
  - Use technology - this is their world!
  - Continue to use individual pass-off submissions
    - Do not overwhelm them with assignments
- Have them play in front of one another...
  - This takes some time to develop.

***If you are teaching online, be careful not to overwhelm them.***

***As teachers we get excited and can "over-assign".***

***I was guilty of this in March. They will shut down.***

***Keep things in perspective and move forward even if the progress is slow.***

***It's ok!***

*You can teach a student a lesson for a day,  
but if you can teach them to learn  
by creating curiosity,  
they will continue  
the learning process  
as long as they live.*

## **ASSESSMENT**

### ***Middle School and High School***

- At this point, we recommend using online assessment, regardless of in-person or online school.
  - Routine and Consistent.
  - You are still hearing students play individually if you are in school face-to-face!
  - Canvas / Google Assignments
  - Must upload to the assignment! Teach them how.
  - YOU evaluate using video/audio.
  - Give specific feedback!

Keep Sharing, Keep Collaborating. Use all the resources available.

Thank you to TBA and TMEA for providing up to date information for us!

### ***OUR CONTACT INFORMATION:***

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## Susan's Bitmoji Office (Make your band hall!)



## Wheel of Names - super fun and easy!

Inbox - bandmeyerpatterson@ x TBA Presenter Support Page | x TBA Session Additions x Wheel of Names | Random nam x +

wheelofnames.com TBA Session Additions

Apps Gmail YouTube Maps TBA Presenter Su...

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Shuffle Sort Add image

Ali  
Sammie  
Trevor  
Susan  
Jana  
Patrick  
Gabriel  
Tyler  
Sydney  
|

9 entries

"When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, 'Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.' " -- Mister Rogers