



**Texas Bandmasters Association  
Convention/Clinic July 22-24, 2021**

**Playing Catch Up: Rebuilding and  
Remediation for the MS Band**

**CLINICIANS:**

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

## Metzger MS - Judson ISD

- Opened in 2004
- 1,025 - Enrollment (20-21)
- 3C - Classification
- 76% Eco. Disadvantaged
- 22% Mobility Rate
- 2 Band Directors
- No Private Lessons
- 7 Period School Day
- Sectionals only PM (No AM)



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## Metzger MS - Judson ISD

- Beginning Band Students - "Face to Face Only"
  - "Second "1st Day of School" - October 26
- #1 Goal was to set embouchures before Christmas
- Business as usual until cases of exposure/  
14 day quarantines happened.
- Modified approach to method book
- Taught only 3 of the 7 Region Band Scales
- Advanced Articulations - Triplets and Sixteenth notes (Last fundamental taught)



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## Metzger MS - Judson ISD

### Action Plan

- Be sensitive to students. Welcome them back!
- Plan it out - Set small achievable goals for your students.
- Program easier music to start. Resume method books.
- Utilize Staff - Split Rehearsals
- Model On Every Instrument
- Accept, Adapt, Achieve
- NV Fall Concert = Typical EOY Beg. Band Concert
- V Fall Concert = 1-2 songs then show and tell for parents.
- UIL Prep - plan conservatively - Re-Established culture of success



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## Metzger MS - Judson ISD

*"You can adopt sustainable and consistent actions that help you achieve your goals; although, results do not materialize overnight, the good news is as you start to adopt good habits, you will be rewarded with small achievements."*

*"No matter how great the talent or efforts, some things just take time. You can't produce a baby in 9 months by getting 9 women pregnant. Take the sensible path."*



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## Walsh MS - Round Rock ISD

- Opened in 2008
- 1,382 Enrollment (20-21)
- 3C - Classification
- 11% Eco, Disadvantaged
- 5% Mobility Rate
- 3 Band Directors
- Private Lessons
- 7 Period School Day
- Sectionals AM and PM



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## Walsh MS - Round Rock ISD

- 4 Weeks Virtual
- 4 Weeks
  - 10% in pods without instruments, 90% Virtual
- Remainder of year 20-40% in person 60-80% online
- Before and after school sectionals in person for all grades with moderate participation
- Virtual performances
- Spring Concert in person



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## Walsh MS - Round Rock ISD

### Action Plan for Non-Varsity Bands

- Take nothing for granted! (Logistically, Musically, Culturally)
- Follow sequence and benchmarks for beginner year and do the easy things at a proficient level.
- Set them up for success by starting with small, achievable goals.
- Adaptable assessments - meet them where they are. Differentiate to reach EVERY child. Tracks for easier and harder difficulty within each skill.
- Use staff when possible to split classes into woodwinds/brass. Pick exercises and music purposefully to fit their needs.
- Solo recital and chamber music concert in October.
- Ensemble music - unison and full flex, or written out unison lines from full piece.

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## Walsh MS - Round Rock ISD

- We're not all in the same boat. Find what works for your situation. Be creative and don't assume anything.
- Great groups do the easy things perfectly. Don't compromise quality of fundamentals to keep your normal pace and play your normal repertoire.

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## Oliveira MS - Brownsville ISD

- Opened in 1979
- 996 - Enrollment (19-20)
- 3C - Classification
- 94.8% - Eco. Disadvantage
- 13.6% - Mobility Rate
- 4 Band Directors
- No Private Lessons
- 9 Period School Day

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## Oliveira MS - Brownsville ISD

- Fall 2020 Semester was 100% virtual.
- No beginner band instruments were passed out until the end of the Fall semester.
- Worked on lots of music theory. Even game puzzles relating to band. Lots of pressure from academics forced us to lay it easy on the band students.
- We tried our best to maintain what was at the 8th grade level and teach the 7th grade level as much as possible.
- Simple chromatic scales and fun solos were used to keep students learning and interested in the program.
- Only 13 students in band attended in-person Spring of 2021.
- Gained about 40 students from other electives.
- Lost about 6 instruments. (kids moved - I will find them)
- Be compassionate toward the students...

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## Oliveira MS - Brownsville ISD

### Action Plan

- Use staff wisely and teach homogeneous classes as much as possible. Teach sections only in the Fall and combine in the Spring.
- Use after-school sectionals for Region music and incentive opportunities.
- Play as much as possible in performance opportunities with very simple songs. Unisons and slowly add chords. (Non-Varsity and Varsity)
- Parade, Parade, Parade!!! City of Brownsville, Six Flags, and other valley opportunities to showcase the students.
- Travel in the Fall to San Antonio and to Dallas in the Spring for those who meet our simple requirements. Nothing should be given for free regarding trips. Must pass classes and stay out of trouble.
- Every student has a unique background; be understanding.
- The goal is to send all groups to UIL except beginners in 6th grade.

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## Questions

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THANK YOU!

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