



**Texas Bandmasters Association
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**Stop Wasting Time Teaching New
Exercises - Let Us Do It for You –
An Interactive Look at the
UDB Virtual Curriculum**

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Stop Wasting Time Teaching New Exercises Let Us Do It for You: An Interactive Look at the



VIRTUAL CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

In developing the Virtual Curriculum, a foundational question was asked:

What if every student knew all of the foundational concepts of marching and movement before they arrived at summer band?

The implications to this were vast. You, the band director, could spend less time on introducing concepts and spend more time on refining and perfecting. Just imagine how much instructional time would be saved if every student knew how to read the field markings. Younger students would feel more confident and older students would be reminded of the little details it takes to perform at a high level. The whole band on a cultural level would be jump started. Additionally, it would provide familiar instructional resources band directors could include in their weekly instruction with minimal effort or work on their end.

The UDB Virtual Curriculum provides students with a scaffolded instructional approach to learning the basics of marching and movement from a series of world class educators. Each module (5-10 minutes in length) introduces an essential marching or movement skill and an easy exercise to reinforce it. Modules have been carefully crafted to fit in any rehearsal space whether it be the performers living room, band hall, or practice field!

DESIGNED FOR SUMMER AND IN-SEASON TRAINING

The Virtual Curriculum was designed for both summer student-guided learning and in-season director guided instruction. During the summer months, students can work through the training sequence on their own at home. Each lesson is carefully designed to introduce a skill in a scaffolded sequence, breakdown an exercise to work the skill, and a full exercise run set to music for the student rep. Students will have everything they need to feel comfortable on Day 1 of band camp.

Exercises in the virtual curriculum were designed so that directors could easily incorporate them into their instructional routine. Additionally, choreography sequences were designed so that directors could apply the entire sequence or small count combinations of the sequence into the fall production.

SUMMER TRAINING PROGRAM EXAMPLE:

Although the Virtual Curriculum is designed as a 12 week training program, it can be easily tailored to fit the needs of your program. Below is an example of an eight week summer training program routine for your students. Each week introduces one new marching and movement skill and builds towards having students prepared for summer band camp.

	Movement Mondays	Marching Thursday's
Week 1	Positions	Posture
Week 2	Passe	50-50: Forward March
Week 3	Plie	50-50: Backward March
Week 4	Forced Arch and Lunges	Cross Count Subdivision
Week 5	Chasse	Moving Through Space
Week 6	Chaine	Slides
Week 7	Slow Choreo	Direction Changes
Week 8	Fast Choreo	Reading the Field

GETTING THE MOST OUT OF SUMMER TRAINING

Your time to rest and recharge is important. To protect that time, each module is paired with communication templates for you to pre-schedule to send to your students while you are out of the office!

Email Example:

Hello Band Family!

Happy Marching Thursday's! Today we are working through "[Moving Through Space](#)." This is the first step in learning how to set drill! For our upperclassmen, be sure to pay special attention to how Lindsey breaks down "mid-sets!"

Sincerely,

Mr. E

Text/Remind/Message Example:

Happy Movement Monday! Today's challenge is forced arches and lunges! [Click here](#) to work through it!

IN-SEASON TRAINING EXAMPLE

Below is an example on how to use the exercise taught in the Virtual Curriculum to support the concepts you are working on once school starts. To have the greatest impact, we'd recommend continuing to make it part of your regular routine. For example, every Monday is "Movement Monday" where your class/rehearsal starts with a short movement training.

	Season Focus	VC Module Exercise
Week 1	Setting Opener	Moving Through Space
Week 2	Setting Opener	Slides
Week 3	Producing Opener	Plie & Ronde Jambe
Week 4	Setting Ballad	Flutter Run
Week 5	Producing Ballad	Slow Choreo
Week 6	Cleaning Opener and Ballad	Direction Changes
Week 7	Setting Closer	Cross Counts
Week 8	Producing Closer	Fast Choreo
Week 9	Cleaning Drill	Curved Pathways
Week 10	Refining Production Moments	Movement Improv

Directors Tips: In addition to the training modules, each module is paired with a short Directors Tip to help build pedagogical tools to support the skills in the module.

HOW TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE VIRTUAL CURRICULUM

Anyone can access the Virtual Curriculum with a subscription on Stride TV (stridetv.com)!

Do you want access for your full band? UDB will bundle access at a discount. Be sure to inquire with your UDB order!

