Beginning Band - Setting Up for Success

To view an example, please visit http://www.aingerband.org/instrumentation-project.html

Director Name: _____

School: _____

County: _____

Contact e-mail _____

Contact Phone Number _____

Purpose

To offer band directors multiple suggestions for starting students in a beginning band in such a way that the students, parents, and director are happy with the results. Students and parents should be involved in the instrument selection process to gain trust with the director and to avoid obvious physical, mental, or aural problems that could lead a student to an unsuccessful first year that could result in a student dropping band the following year. Directors should also work towards building a balanced beginning band with proportionate instrumentation.

This sheet is for you to provide us with some information about your beginning band process. Please answer the following questions as thoroughly as possible.

Step One

Question: How do you work with local or online vendors?

a) Does your school provide instruments for the students? If so, which instruments?

b) Does your school county require an instrument rental fee for school instruments?

c) Do the vendors come to you, or do you hand out their flyers?

d) Do you or the vendors provide the students with an instrument/accessory selection guide?

e) Other comments?

Question: Which method(s) do you use to help a student select an instrument?

a) How do you introduce the instrument families?

b) What are some expectations for certain instruments? (For example: Oboe players must be "A" students…No referrals to play percussion…physical limitations…)

c) Do you host an instrument try-out night or do this during class?

d) Do you invite professional musicians or vendors to demonstrate/perform for your students?

e) Are there other considerations that help you/the student decide on an instrument? (Previous experience, behavior…)

f) How do you select percussion students? Do you have a rhythm test?

g) When do you test students?

h) Other Comments?

Beginning Band Instrumentation Results (Current Year)	
Oboe- (example 2)	**Trumpet/Cornet-** (14)
Flute- (8)	**Trombone-** (12)
Clarinet- (30)	**Baritone/Euphonium-** (6)
Bassoon- (2)	**Tuba-** (7)
Alto Sax- (5)	**Percussion-** (14)
Tenor Sax- (0)	**Other-**
Horn- (8)	

Step Three (The Waiting Game…)

Question: What do you do with students while waiting for instruments?

    a) Teach counting and rhythms? Note reading? Guest performers?

    b) How much time do you allow for students to acquire an instrument?

    c) What do you do if a student does not acquire an instrument?

Step Four

Question: When do you allow instruments to go home?

    a) Do you use a pass-off system?

        1) Assembly/Holding p/o?

        2) Maintenance p/o?

        3) Other?

Auxiliary Materials

    1) Which method book(s) do you use?

If you would like, please provide letters to parents, rubrics, instrument selection guides, pictures, powerpoints, videos, or any other media. This would be very beneficial to our project! You can email them along with this to either:

Tim Ostrow-   Tim_Ostrow@ccps.k12.fl.us , Cell 941-441-5399

Ian Ackroyd-   Ian_Ackroyd@sarasota.k12.fl.us , Cell 941-302-3294

Thank you again for taking the time to complete these questions. You feedback is essential for our research! For any questions or comments, please don't hesitate to contact us using the email addresses provided above.

Consent

By submitting this survey and all auxiliary materials, you agree that the information can be shared for the purposes of the project and presentation scheduled for the FMEA convention in 2014. This information will also be posted as an online resource for music educators. In order to use student depictions, you must have sought and received consent from the students and their parent(s) to use their image/video.