



Setting the Table

Addressing the Music Teacher Shortage, Teacher Licensure Examinations, and Fostering Conditions for Success

Tomisha Price-Brock, PhD

PRODIGIOUS[™]
MUSIC CONCEPTS

Overview

The focus of this session is the impact of teacher licensure examinations on the growing music teacher shortage and the continued lack of diversity of certified music educators across the nation. The discussion will address five critical areas or pillars: Recruitment & Retention, Diagnostics, Curriculum & Instruction, Faculty Competence, and Test Awareness & Preparation.

Current Trends

According to a report by the Brookings Institute (2022), the teacher shortage across the nation has once again become a critical topic. Shortages are driven by several issues, including a decrease in the teacher pipeline, COVID-19, and high rates of turnover.

Music Teacher Candidates, especially BIPOC candidates, continue to face challenges with passing the Praxis and other Teacher Licensure Exams.

Recruitment and Retention

- It begins in middle school
- Set expectations early
- Communication between colleges/universities and K-12 music programs
- Motivating and engaging interest in careers in music and music education
- RECRUITING IS EVERYONE'S JOB!!!!
- “What’s your target?”



Diagnostics

- Deficiencies entering the program
- Placement Exams, Relevance, and the need for Reconstruction
- Remediation
- Establish Support Early
- Have courageous and honest conversations about ability, expectations, and steps to complete the program
- Be upfront about program requirements



Curriculum & Instruction

- Content, Relevance, and “Shelf Life”
- Pacing
- Alignment
- Assessments (Type and Quality)
- Differentiated Instruction and Activities/Projects



Faculty Competence

- Exam Awareness
- Student Advising and Mentorship
- Test Preparation Resources
- Adapting to Educational Trends (i.e., Technology and Podcasting)
- Synergy (Team teaching and collaboration within the department and between departments)

Test Awareness and Preparation

- Understanding the Praxis and other Music Teacher Licensure Exams
- Creating a Study Plan
- Acknowledging and Overcoming Anxiety
- Resources
- Get a support group
- Be honest with yourself
- Home testing vs. Exam Center
- Final Thoughts



Questions???



For more
information...



Dr. Tomisha Price-Brock



tlbrock@prodigiousmusicconcepts.org



(470) 771-9447



www.pmconcepts.org

References

- Brock, T. (2020). *Black Music Teacher Candidates' Preparation and Performance on the Praxis Music Examination* (Publication No. 27829815) [Doctoral dissertation, University of North Carolina at Greensboro]. ProQuest Dissertations Publishing.
- Garcia, E., Kraft, M., & Schwartz, H. (2022). "Are we at a crisis point with the public teacher workforce? Education scholars share their perspectives." Retrieved from <https://www.brookings.edu/blog/brown-center-chalkboard/2022/08/26/are-we-at-a-crisis-point-with-the-public-teacher-workforce-education-scholars-share-their-perspectives/>.

