

Making it work, When you're the ONE! (The Only One)

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"Vision without execution is just hallucination"-anonymous

I. Ensemble/ School/ Community Assessment-

a. What are you working with?

- If you are new to this organization, how has the band been in the past 10 years?
- If it has been positive, how can you continue with the limited or no additional staff?
- If it has not been a good experience, how you change it?
- Have a plan and a vision.
- Living up to expectations.
- Administration. Supportive vs. unsupportive. Support for what you need to accomplish.
- Take 2!

b. Focus on the important now!

- School Song, Fight Song Star Spangled Banner
- Find what works for you and your students
- If anyone wants to join band, let them! Don't gatekeep!

c. What can you fix? Supplement? Realistic vs. idealistic

- What can you change now vs later? What is needed?
- How will this impact the group, school, community?
- What can you realistically do vs what is our idealistic view?
- Supplement parts to meet the needs of the ensemble.
- Fix one note - apply to others.

d. Factors? External vs. Internal

- What influences are affecting the program?
- Are they positive or negative?

- Do you want to change it?
- e. Give the kids a voice in choice.
 - Play what the kids like.
- f. Respect traditions -You don't have to use them all.
- g. Positive attitude - Foster them.

II. The Band / Elementary Student

- a. Knowing your kids?
 - Building and fostering a positive environment.
 - Know when behaviors change.
 - Assess the situation.
 - Teach to their language, don't be afraid, it's ok!
 - Transfers.
- b. Empower the kids - Ownership
 - Give them assignments, tasks. Know when to step away.
 - Let the student leaders lead.
- c. Teaching respect of facilities and equipment.
- d. What does your feeder look like?
 - If by yourself, how can you grow the program?
- e. Enrichment - getting them out of their comfort zone
 - Giving them opportunities, they had before.
- f. Know when to be serious and when to work. Know when to joke.
- g. Have fun days.
 - Fun competitions
 - Stickers are king
 - Load up on the gifts!

III. Budget Assessment

- a. What is needed now vs later?
 - Yearly expenses
 1. Competition Fees and expenses
 2. Planning out supply needs.
 3. Instruments vs Uniforms?
 4. Travel expenses for the year?
- b. What can you do if you need the now?

Instrument limitations? Music?

IV. Time Budgeting

- a. Planning the year. (Year Before?)
 - What are you working with?
 - What is influencing the time line?
- b. Adjustment Benchmark
 - Pick a time for benchmark assessment, adjust as needed.
 - Invite clinician's to listen to/ work with your band
 - Attend Pre U.I.L.
- c. Tentative outcome - Idealistic
 - What is the goal outlook for this year?
 - Next year?
- d. What works vs. what doesn't work. Adapt.

V. Working with others

- a. Other Organizations your students are involved with.
 - Coaches, sponsors, core teachers, etc.
- b. Working on relationships with the admin(s), teachers, and staff
 - Stay out of the lounge
- c. Working with other sponsors
 - Working to figure out schedules. (FFA, Athletics, Academics)
- d. You are all in this together! There is enough room for everyone!
 - Slow to speak, first to listen
 - Leave your ego at the door.
- e. Working with other schools/ band programs.

VI. Community Outreach

- a. Finding help in the band community nearby.
 - Schools nearby
 - music store
 - retired
- b. Mentors
 - Find someone to help. TMEA, ATSSB, etc.

- c. Members of the immediate community
- c. Active band people in the area? Community involvement
How can they help?
- d. Band Community Spokesman
 - Having your students talk to middle school/elementary about band.
- e. Record often-Listen to recording
 - Send recording to people.
- f. Family!
 - Family member formerly band? Great!
 - Alumni band, building positive influence for kids.
- g. Being a F.A.C.E
Fairly
Active
Community
Enthusiast
- h. Be seen!
 - Attend sporting events, shows, plays etc.

VII. You!

- a. Finding you time.
- b. Decompress.
- c. Avoiding Burn Out!
- d. Never stay for the kids. They will be fine.