

THE MIDWEST CLINIC
DECEMBER 18, 2014 9:30 A.M.
MEETING ROOM W185
CLINICIANS: JIM CUDE, DAVID WETLAND AND JON BUBBETT



It is good to have an end to
journey toward; it is the
journey that matters in the
end

Communicate

1. Coaches & Teachers-
Students should NOT
have to make choices
1. Parents
 - a. Charms
 - b. Remind 101
2. Administration

Invest

1. Be invested in the
school
 - a. Change doesn't
occur in 1-2 years
2. Be invested in the
community
 - a. Churches
 - b. Committees

Change Happens Slowly

1. Pick your battles
2. Change the things you
cannot live with at the
moment
3. Adapt your teaching
style

Attitude

1. Positivity
2. Build them up
3. Create a family
atmosphere

Resources

1. Use the resources
available
 - Student leadership
 - Parent Involvement
 - Smart Music
 - Colleges & Universities
 - Other Colleagues

Jim Cude
Whitesboro High School
1 Bearcat Dr. Whitesboro, TX 76273
cudej@whitesboroisd.org

Classroom Management

1. Starts on first day.
2. What do you want your rehearsals to look like?
3. Discipline and behavior plans are crucial.

Relationships

1. Start with one student at a time
2. The connection with students makes learning possible.
3. Be fair.
4. Say what you mean and mean what you say.
5. Don't be afraid to have fun with the students, but do it at appropriate times.

Philosophy of Program

1. Should guide direction of your program.
2. Helps you make tough decisions.
3. Guides choice of literature.
4. Helps you establish your curriculum.
5. Set high standards and expectations and constantly work toward them.
6. Be patient! "Inch by inch anything's a cinch, by the yard life is hard."

Pedagogy

1. We are teaching music to students through performance in band.
2. Continue to learn more about every instrument throughout your career. Never stop learning!
3. No shortcuts
4. Basics need to be addressed every day.
5. Decide things to hit each day such as:
 - a. Posture
 - b. Breathing
 - c. Air flow
 - d. Hand and tongue positions
 - e. Major and minor scales and arpeggios
 - f. Key mastery
 - g. Chromatic scales
 - h. Intervals
 - i. Attacks and releases
 - j. Articulations
 - k. Rhythms and sight reading
6. You don't have to hit everything every day, but hit them several times a week during your warm-up.
7. Use first 10-15 minutes of each rehearsal for the warm-up. Constant reinforcement is the key.
8. Choose only good literature. Great music is the key to a successful program!

Know Your Limits

1. Know your students and start where they are and then progress from there. Make sure that your students are solid on skills before you moving on.
2. Know your school
 - a. Schedule
 - b. Activities
 - c. Guidance department
 - d. Athletic department
 - e. Administration
3. Learn to discern how far you can push your students.
4. Know your community
 - a. Demographics
 - b. How many organizations are raising funds in the community?
 - c. What is sustainable from year to year?
5. Work for cooperation rather than confrontation, but don't be afraid to stand firm on big issues.
6. When you commit to something in a small community, it often becomes permanent. Think about whether you can live with something before you agree to it.
7. Try to stay ahead of changes in the educational climate due to such things as "Core Curriculum", "Core Standards", and changes in administration, etc.
8. Be adaptable in your approach to teaching!!
9. Make sure you are teaching good fundamentals and great music!

David Wetmore

Building success in the small school band is the same as building success in any band anywhere!

*“There is more than one path to success.
Every situation is like a jigsaw puzzle. Don’t be afraid to be creative!”*

*“The solution is looking back at you in the mirror every morning!”
Develop a passion for teaching and learning.*

The Four Legged Stool

Work to develop each **Young Musician**

“Students’ number one job is to be the best player they can be for their respective ensembles”

- Learn to love to practice
- Audition for All State and Honor Bands
- Take Private Lessons (online resources)
- Inspire a “family” culture / atmosphere
- Rotate part assignments
- Work to develop Student Leadership
 - Encourage Peer Tutoring
 - Develop a leadership-training program

Develop a good **Parent Organization**

- To help organize logistics
 - Uniforms
 - Equipment transportation
- To help with fundraising / financial support
- To build moral support / “Buy in”
- Take care to maintain clear division of responsibilities
 - Teacher vs. Booster Responsibilities

Work to become a better **Teacher**

“Work to develop a passion for teaching/learning”

- **Stay Positive!!**
- Work to be pedagogically sound on all instruments
- Attend Clinics / Conferences/ Workshops
- Develop a passion for rehearsing
The 11th Commandment - “Wherever two or more are gathered there shall be rehearsal”
- Stay organized and plan carefully
- Develop “grit”
- Connect with Masters
Teachers/Conductors/Musicians
- Use resources
 - Online / Periodicals / Books
- Establish channels of communication
 - Charms
 - Remind101 – web based texting

Supportive **Administration**

- Scheduling issues
 - Financial support
 - Moral support
 - Take care of your own problems BEFORE they wind up on the administrations plate
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Nuts and Bolts

- Don’t be reluctant to re-score parts
- Think of small bands as chamber ensembles
- Learn all 12 major scales!
“Those who can and who can’t”
- Online resources and apps.
 - YouTube
 - Smart Music
 - Tonal Energy
- Make use of technology
- Student Accountability
 - Scale Fitness Test
 - Tone / Tuning Sheets
 - Selected Exercises
- Pick good symphonic literature to showcase strengths and not expose weaknesses
- Sectional rehearsals are crucial
- Breathing Exercises

Jon Bubbett
Thompson High School
Alabaster, AL
jbubbett@gmail.com