

# Cultivating the Culture of Your Band Program

Linda A. Huck

- I. Introduction
  - Personal experience/influences
  - Importance of developing a “culture” in your program
  
- II. Middle School/Junior High: Three Areas of Transition
  - A. School Environment
  - B. Thinking Process
  - C. Physical/Psychological
  
- III. Sowing the Seeds of Culture in Middle School
  - A. Student centered approach
  - B. Ways to Show You Care:
    - Band Birthdays posted
    - Brag Board
    - Musical Moments = M & M’s
  - C. 7<sup>th</sup> Grade: Fun Fridays
    - Like instrument classes rehearse as full band
    - Team building activities after rehearsal
    - Spirit “dress up” nights
  - D. 8<sup>th</sup> Grade
    - Sectionals instead of Fun Fridays
    - Invite 8<sup>th</sup> grade to perform at HS football game
    - Concert uniforms and folders
    - Introduce small ensemble/solo festival
    - “All Knighter” at high school
  
- IV. Your Band Room....Make it a place kids want to be!
  - A. Physical Set up
    - Instill pride/Respect Equipment/Bulletin Boards
  - B. “Safe: Environment
    - Procedures/Tell students “What”, “Why” and “How”/Praise, correction, praise
  - C. Enthusiasm
    - It is up to YOU
  
- V. High School Marching Band: Does It Help or Hurt Your Program?
  - A. Your approach is determining factor
  - B. Pre-Season Planning

Literature/Show Theme Selection

Staffing

Student Leadership Team

C. Band Camp – What is your goal?

Opportunities for developing relationships

Daily Schedule

Parent Help

D. Performance Time

Home Football Game Performance Goals

Community Performance Goals

Marching Festival/Competition Goals

VI. What has changed?

Benefits: decrease in negative attitudes, improved attendance, less talking

Greater support of other schools, student comfort in positive environment

VII. Student Video