



THE MIDWEST CLINIC
DEVELOPING THE YOUNG BAND SOUND
RACHEL MAXWELL & DEVIN CANO
TRAUGHBER JHS 8TH GR BAND

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER, 18, 2024
03:00 PM - 04:00 PM
LOCATION: W184

THE TRAUGHBER BAND PROGRAM

Diverse student body (various learning abilities, backgrounds, needs)

Large program (300 students, 2 directors)

Limited resources (75% of students on rental equipment, no sectionals outside class)

SET-UP & PLANNING

TEACHER MINDSET IS KEY
(BELIEFS SHAPE REALITY)

DETERMINE YOUR STANDARDS AND PRIORITIES

BE REALISTIC ABOUT YOUR OWN GRIT

FUNDAMENTALS

PHYSICAL SETTING

Quality chairs, raised stands
adequate space between students

Thoughtful seating charts

Posture: proper posture for breathing and playing

Breathing: tension-free, efficient breathing techniques

Embouchure: correct and consistent for each instrument family

Directional Sound: straight-line, unwavering sound

Concert F Relays

INTONATION

Demonstrate and Explain

Tuning Notes

Raise the Standard

Top 10 Tuning Trouble Spots

Balance & Blend

Matching Individuals: Concert F exercise, trios, section-to-section balance

Layering: melody, bass line, countermelody, harmony

Specific Tricks: instrument-specific balance tips



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ALIGNMENT

Establish Pulse: metronome, physical tapping

Technical Passages: slow, small chunking, subdivision

Bop: rhythmic exercise for all types of music

Sizzle & Finger Notes: articulation exercises

Releases: importance of clean releases

NOTES:

Lined area for notes.

Lined area for notes.



Clinic Slides



Traugher Band Website