

BEGINNING A BAND INSTRUMENT **by Connecting to** **the Elementary General Music Classroom**



- 1. Do you truly understand what is happening In your elementary General Music program ?**
- 2. Visionaries like Kodály, Feierabend, Gordon, and Orff have revolutionized General Music instruction, which accentuates auditory skills, nurturing both musicality and literacy.**
- 3. When we begin Band instruments by connecting with the elementary General Music Program, we build on a strong foundation for ALL Students.**
- 4. Most Beginning Bands do not build on a General Music foundation.**
- 5. An Expanding Vision for Beginning Band:**
 - *ALL Students play a diverse repertoire of songs representing all ethnicities.*
 - *ALL Students build on the foundation of literacy from the General Music Classroom using a multistep process.*
 - *ALL Students have genuine musical experiences in every class where musicality flourishes while literacy is developed.*
 - *All Students create music and improvise.*
- 6. 11 Leaps to Literacy - A Multistep Process to Developing Literacy**
- 7. Taking a Closer Look at the National Arts Standards**
- 8. Reaching and teaching ALL students by connecting to the elementary General Music Classroom.**

~ 11 LEAPS to LITERACY ~

Learning the Song

1. The teacher sings a song for the students while they participate with movement or a game for the song.
2. The students sing the song with the same movement or game.

Singing with Solfege

3. The teacher sings the song for the students using solfege syllables (and solfege hand signs - optional).
4. The students sing the song using solfege syllables (and solfege hand signs - optional).
5. The teacher sings the song using solfege syllables (with piano accompaniment) while students finger along on their instrument.
6. Students sing and finger the same song using solfege syllables.

Singing with Note Names

7. Students sing and finger the song using note names.

Singing with Rhythm Syllables and Counting

8. The teacher sings/speaks the rhythm syllables (Kodaly, Gordon or Takadimi syllables coordinated with General Music Class) and then the students sing/speak the rhythm syllables.
9. The teacher sings/speaks the rhythmic counting and then the students sing/speak the rhythmic counting.

Playing the Song

10. Students play the song; by the time the students play, they have already sung and fingered the song many times.
11. Final Step - Students read the notation and play the song without using any syllables or note names.