

Osceola School District
Going DARC Conference
Wednesday, June 2, 2021

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(Re)Growth: Chorus Programs and the Art of Possibility
Bloom Where You Are Planted, or... What Teaching Chorus is All About

Doing Your Job

Lesson Plans, IEP's, ESE, 504 Plans, LEP, Learning Goals, Essential Questions, Common Core, Grades, Attendance, Emails, parent phone calls, Field Trip Paperwork, Fundraising, Bookkeeping, Receipting, Student Accounts, Trips, Professional Organizations, professional leadership, curriculum planning, PLC's, Chorus Handbook, Charms, student leadership, parent boosters, Tri-M, meetings, trainings, copies, interruptions, maintenance, cleaning, filing, selecting and ordering music, music library, ICA's, voice teachers, coordinating accompanists, instrumentalists, choreographer, video crew, recording engineer, CD/DVD production and sales, ticketing, concessions, food and beverage form, sales reports, ushers, collaborating, community outreach, publicity, recruiting, programs, website, the musical (or two), score study (?), auditions, phone calls, incident report, referrals, obligations, recommendation letters, PO's, paying bills, quotes and invoices, inventory, costuming, retreat, uniforms, uniform kit, office supplies, grading tests, thank you's, candlelight application/ forms, all-state, all-county, ACDA honor choirs, recording sessions, tutoring, supporting colleagues, judging, and so on. **FIND A MENTOR OR SUPPORTIVE COLLEAGUE, ASK LOTS OF QUESTIONS, DEVELOP SYSTEMS TO WORK SMARTER.**

"You do not rise to the level of your goals. You fall to the level of your systems." –James Clear

Teaching Fundamentals

- Posture, Breathing, Freedom, Breath Energy, Vowel Shape, Space, Resonance
- Solfege, Gordon/ Takadimi
- Instruction Patterns: Direction, Student Response, Feedback. Repeat.
- Academic vs. Social Instruction
- Routines and Procedures
- Feedback: Verbal/ Nonverbal, Specific/ Non-Specific, Related/ Unrelated, Approval/ Disapproval...PRAISE PRAISE PRAISE!!

Making Music

- Quality Repertoire- text, complexity, style, good fit, great composers, taste
- Style
- Expressiveness CAN be taught! Line, Phrase Shape, Syllabic Stress, Text Painting, Dynamics, Articulation
- FP - AP = T Listen and Evaluate. Models.
- Building Community
- Communication, Becoming the Music, Bearing Souls, Pouring our hearts out on stage!
- Creating Beauty, Touching Hearts, Uplifting Souls

Impacting Lives- "The End"

- Love, Relationships, Respect, Trust, Giving, Role Model, Strength, Courage
- It's more than a job, it's a lifestyle.
- Teachers are leaders. Lead by example. Serve. Empower.
- Rehearsals are a microcosm for life.
- Extra-musical growth: maturity, authenticity, work ethic, responsibility
- Shape Futures- helping young people become more fully themselves.
- Home away from home. Chorus Family. Parent-Figure.
- Save lives.

Bonus Material

- PASSION IS CONTAGIOUS!!!!
- Success breeds success; grow your own!
- If it was easy anyone could do it! Dream big. Set the bar high. Back up your talent and intelligence with work ethic. Excellence takes above and beyond effort. Put in the hours.
- But also, strive for work-life-sleep balance. 8-8-8.
- It's all attitude! Being positive is a choice.
- "Positives come and go, negatives accumulate." -Dr. Cliff Madsen Relationships matter. What you say and do effects others. Don't underestimate the power you have as a teacher.
- Something not going well? Look in the mirror.
- Leaders have to be real. Be who you are!
- Reading and traveling make you smarter. Grow your world!
- BE RELENTLESS!!

Bonus Packet:

Dr. Robert Sinclair on being a conductor.

...and still the people sing

Philosophy Statement

Steve Jobs on why we teach the arts.

Breathe Deep

Takadimi Guide

Karl Paulnack Boston Conservatory Welcome Address: https://www.bc.edu/content/dam/files/centers/boisi/pdf/s091/Welcome_address_to_freshman_at_Boston_Conservatory.pdf

Eric Whitacre http://www.ted.com/talks/eric_whitacre_a_virtual_choir_2_000_voices_strong.html

Further Reading:

Teaching Music With Passion/ Purpose- Peter Boonshaft

The Singers Ego - Lynne Eustis

The Art of Possibility- Ben Zander

Make Music, Make Memories, Make a Difference!