

# EFFECTIVE REHEARSALS

- The true measure of a quality instrumental music program is the quality of its rehearsals.
- There is never enough time to accomplishment all that you hope for in a rehearsal. You must learn to manage the time you have.
- Establish the policy of avoiding extra rehearsals. This makes everyone more accountable for the regular scheduled time.
- To be an effective teacher you must plan thoroughly by making long-range, weekly, and daily lesson plans.
- Long range may be year, semester, a block of time before the next concert.
- Weekly plans are detailed sketches of what is to be accomplished in each rehearsal.
- Daily rehearsal plans should be very specific as to what is to be accomplished in the allotted time i.e.; *"10:15 - 10:25 - correct the trumpet rhythm at letter C: demonstrate the correct rhythm, have them echo the rhythm vocally, and then play on instruments. Start at half tempo and gradually increase."*
- Tape record rehearsals as often as possible.
- Be careful not to talk too much in the rehearsal. Use conducting gestures to indicate your musical ideas. Avoid "small talk" rehearsal time is precious! Your students want to play - let them!
- Have a sense of humor and admit mistakes quickly.

- Make practice assignments and hold students accountable.
- Have a pencil in every folder (including yours) and teach students how and when to mark instructions in their music.
- Use rehearsal time for large group problems, not for individual of small group problems.
- Have a dependable student or your assistant take attendance.
- Set high, but attainable, standards for your students and yourself.
- Be well prepared for every rehearsal - it is your professional responsibility.
- **KNOW THE SCORE!**