

Singers Preparation

- Every singer at every level has a degree of responsibility. It is not up to the singer to decide the magnitude of that responsibility; that is the job of the conductor.
- Every singer must be issued their own music; Singers must number every measure
- Every singer must have a pencil **AND MARK THEIR MUSIC!!!**
- Mark all breaths by the punctuation of the text
- Identify the tonal center and the meter!!
- Label key changes and meter changes
- As singers learn a piece, encourage **QUALITY** score markings

The Rehearsal Pace

- Enhance student engagement, achievement, enjoyment, and classroom management through appropriate **INSTRUCTIONAL PACE**:
 - Start **ON TIME** and **BEGIN** with a singing or movement activity—avoid calling roll or taking up candy money, etc...
 - List the order of the pieces to be rehearsed, **AND** where you are going to begin rehearsing
 - Begin rehearsing the most programmatic sections **FIRST!!**
 - Know exactly what you want to rehearse, who you want to rehearse, and how you plan to get there
 - Repetition with a **MEANING!** Avoid just "singing through a section or piece" Always give the singers a reminder or a suggestion of what you would like for them to do!
 - Give your singers as much eye contact as possible
 - Say what you want in seven words or less!! "Again, please with a crescendo." "Twice that soft and twice that exciting."
 - If you're not getting what you want, leave it for another day so that you can analyze the problem area and think of a different approach, or immediately try another approach
 - Be flexible!! Have a plan and follow it, but be willing to deviate from it when needed
 - Anticipate problems, but don't waste time "fixing what ain't broke"
 - When isolating a particularly section (SATB), always give the other sections something to do..."Altos sing on words, everyone else on "loo"
"Tenors on solfeggio, everyone else count sing"
"Everyone sing the bass line in your own octave"
 - Never lose your patience---well more than once a semester!
 - Immediately after each rehearsal, take 1-2 minutes to evaluate the progress (I know this difficult) However this greatly aids in guiding the plan for the next rehearsal
 - Praise your singers frequently and **SPECIFICIALLY!!!**