



**Texas Bandmasters Association
Convention/Clinic July 22-24, 2021**

**Seeing Around the Corner - How to be
an Effective Assistant**

CLINICIANS:

Jana Harvey, T.J. Peterman, Aaron Collins



HENRY B. GONZALEZ CONVENTION CENTER - SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

HOW TO BE AN EFFECTIVE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: SEEING AROUND THE CORNER

Clinicians: Jana Harvey, T.J. Peterman, & Aaron Collins
2021 Texas Bandmasters Association Convention

This clinic will explore strategies that can be utilized to become more effective in the assistant band director position. By offering different perspectives from each of the panelists, we will explore our roles within our programs and offer insight into maximizing the efficacy of the assistant director role.

Main Role

- To help in all aspects of the program.
- Be willing to do what needs to be done.

Nuts and Bolts

- Know where your lane is at each time of the year!
 - This will be different between schools.
 - This job is not the same from school to school.
 - Do not expect it to be the same.

FALL SEMESTER

Marching Band

- Music
 - Teach daily drill
 - Understand and teach music details - Mark your scores
 - Every performer must have a part that they can perform
 - Cleaning music from the field vs. tower
 - Music pass-off system
- Visual
 - Teaching visual fundamentals
 - Cleaning from the field
 - Cleaning visual from the tower
- Production & Logistics
 - Design team
 - Props
 - Timeline
 - Techs/Boosters/Pit Crew

All Region Preparation/Process

- Music preparation
- Sectionals
- In-class help
- Judging - Be PROFESSIONAL - Be RELIABLE - Be FAIR

SPRING SEMESTER

Solo and Ensemble

- Chamber ensembles
- Solos (concentrate on students not in lessons)
- Accompanists
- Performance schedule

Middle School Feeders

- Recruitment - Relationships
 - This should really be happening all year!
- UIL assistance

HS NV & Sub NV Ensembles

- Preparing students for the next ensemble level
 - Fundamentals
 - Programming
 - Rehearsal etiquette & structure
 - Developing professionalism skills
- Involvement in other ensembles
 - Actively participate -Team teach/listen
 - Assist with music pass-offs
 - Reinforce etiquette expectations
 - Observe strengths and weaknesses
 - Build relationships & recruit

Auditions

- Band placement
 - Help create and organize score spreadsheets
 - Collaborate with staff to select materials
 - Tabulate and verify results before posting
- Leadership
 - Compile a list of skills you want your candidates to be evaluated on

- Design an audition process and timeline
- Maintain an updated score spreadsheet
- Be responsible for sending out any evaluations
- Hire outside judges (if preferred)
- Run the audition and make sure it flows smoothly
- Tabulate and verify results before posting

ALL YEAR

Preparation

- Literature programming
- Rehearsal plans
- Meetings

Building Relationships

- Head director
 - Dealing with more than you think!
 - They need to know when they have to step away, quality instruction is happening.
 - Bring ideas to the table.
 - Present a united front! You do not have the right to disagree in public!
- Administration/Staff
 - Principal
 - Counselors
 - Registrar
 - Attendance
 - Custodial Staff
 - Athletics Coordinator/Secretary
 - Cheer/Dance/ROTC/etc.
- Boosters/Parents/Community
 - Be professional!
 - They write the checks for the things we want or need!
 - Their support is invaluable. The goal is for them to work with you...not against you.
- Students
 - Be professional!
 - Do not undermine any other staff member.
 - You always should have time for them. We do all of this for THEM!
 - Support them outside of band!

- Be the BEST part of their day.

Your Role Will Develop

- Experience
- Tenure in current position
- Keep in contact with your mentor
- Continue to fail but continue to learn
- Be ok not being great
- Seek help when needed
- BE PATIENT!
 - "They didn't build Rome in a day..."
 - "Water your own grass..."

Questions? Contact us!

Jana Harvey: harveyj@lisd.net

T.J. Peterman: terrance.peterman@cfisd.net

Aaron Collins: aaron.collins@hayscisd.net