

All-State: Resolutions for the New Year

inspired by the All-State Teachers Workshop

I will talk less and try to get my orchestra students to watch more.

I will make my students sing and resort to using kazoos if necessary.

I will sight read new music every rehearsal day and make a sight reading binder so less time is spent handing out and collecting music. I will do more tuning ahead of time so my sixth grade orchestra has more time to play.

I will play through pieces as much as possible but when I do stop I will try to drill problematic spots sufficiently to fix rhythmic and ensemble problems before they become ingrained habits that are hard to change.

I will get recordings of our pieces

and play them for students. If possible, I will play more than one so students can hear varied interpretations.

I will use the metronome more in rehearsal, especially for scale warm-ups.

I will record my group ample time before the concert so they have time to listen and critique their work and improve it.

And I will remember the following quotes:

“Subdivide and Conquer”.

“The way you look is the first sound the audience hears.”

“Change is a process and not an event.”