

THE SYSTEM

Dynamic Marching & Movement – THE SYSTEM

Mastering Marching & Movement Instruction

Tips, Tricks, and Advice from an Experienced Teacher

Here is a checklist to follow when thinking about your teaching techniques

- ✓ I don't skip steps
- ✓ I have (and use) a written visual fundamentals teaching progression (and my staff uses it too)
- ✓ I understand that students will not know it the first time they hear it and I have a plan to revisit concepts and circle back around to them often.
- ✓ I have planned that some rehearsals will be DETAIL-focused and other rehearsals will be REPETITION-focused.
- ✓ I understand WHY we do things the way we do.

Jeff's Tips for Mastering Marching & Movement Instruction

1. Have great _____. Have fun too. Keep things moving and use students' names as much as possible so that they are engaged.
2. Teach with _____. Your students need to know that you are buying in to the process and excited about what you are teaching.
3. Have a clear _____. What do you want them to know? How do you know if they don't know it? What will you do if they don't know it? Simple... Relevant... Repeatable instructions.
4. Have a strong _____. How much time do you have today? What will you do in that time? What are your goals for today, this week, this month, etc.?
5. Use _____. Short, simple sentences are great but one or two perfectly timed words are even better. "Jenny... hips", "Sam... timing", "Connor... leg shape"
6. Be _____. Don't play favorites and don't let your expectations and discipline swing wildly from day to day. Students want a safe predictable environment.
7. Use _____ & _____. If you see a student who has mastered a certain technique, have them show it off in front of all the other students.
8. Use a _____ of drills & exercises. (but not too many) The goal is not to confuse the students, but rather to challenge them and prepare them for any situation they may encounter on the field.
9. Establish a _____ - _____ routine or sequence. This can be your pre-show warmup or a quick fundamentals warmup. This warmup should be consistent and comprehensive and designed so that they will be confident not confused.
10. Teach the _____ student. A good teacher is aware of the emotional & physical needs of his or her students in addition to the musical needs.
11. _____. 😊