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E131

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Wind Ensemble Write-Up

This class and write-up focuses on the wind ensemble, the top band. Here you asked us to basically elaborate in detail more on how the teacher taught specifically. I observed a variety of teaching models the director used throughout the class period. He had a very good variety of when to talk, have everyone play, and have certain sections play. Looking back at what he did when in my notes, he had a trend of having everyone play, talk about it, work on a specific section, talk, then put it all back together. He had everyone engaged and when others were resting he didn't have them rest too long to where they got rambunctious and unengaged. He used some repetition in order to get a point across and when playing to make sure it was down under their fingers. He did piece things together bit by bit. This group was also sight reading but he looked at certain hard parts and went over them briefly before moving on to another small section. When he was at a specific song, he played it all together, then broke it down briefly with a certain instrument section. After quickly piecing it together, he would then move on to the next song because he wanted to look at a bunch of small sections in the class period. His diagnosis and error detection was good, he didn't stutter to find errors and listened for the errors when they played. He gave positive feedback, and when he needed to tell people to work on something he did not say it meanly, he politely said this is how you should do this and fixed it. For all of the technical

things, I liked the way he taught all of it. There were only a couple things I would have done differently. When they tuned, he had a very good set way of tuning but he did not give any feedback. The best high school group ever is still going to need help identifying when they are out of tune and how to fix it. Whether this be a certain section is out of tune, or finding that one person sticking out. Consequently, the tuning could have been better during the rehearsal. I also would have talked about how their sound as a band was. He did not talk about how to make your sound better so the overall sound quality of the band got better, he mostly worked on technical issues and balancing. I do not know if he works on it later but in my opinion I would have worked on that more while teaching.