

## Post-pandemic Planning Guide: Considerations for Conversations with Your Counselor

In our previous newsletter, we worked on collaborating with your supervisor for approved plans for regular recruiting efforts of this year's beginning-level students. Hopefully, you've also gotten approval to reach out to students/parents of the "would have been" beginners from this past year who didn't get a chance to enroll in music. Now is the time to engage and involve your counselor in executing that plan:

- **Be Ambitious:** Is this the year to run an all-out campaign to energize the entire student body to take music? (Yes.) It would just be a matter of proper scheduling.
- **Be Open:** Ask your counselor for their ideas to attract more students to the program. They might have creative insights on what other programs are doing to successfully recruit students or what directors are doing at other schools.

Once the schedule has been determined, plan a meeting with the counselor and highlight any major changes (if any) from this year so that students are placed into the appropriate course. This will eliminate massive schedule changes down the road.

- **Get Prepared:** Prepare class lists for each course in your schedule - your counselor will appreciate the help to ensure proper placement.
  - Provide a document describing each of your course offerings to help them place students appropriately.
- **Be Organized:** When would your counselor want to have this information? Get it to them early and ensure your recruits are properly placed.
- **Be Proactive:** Make a note in your calendar to check in with the counselor on a weekly basis to ensure students are enrolling in the proper classes. Ask your counselor which day might work best for them.

**Remember - stay available:** Make yourself available to answer any scheduling questions that may arise from the counselor.