

# TEACH YOUR BAND TO SIGHT-READ

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## **The Importance of Sight-Reading**

- ♪ Students become more confident and joyful about reading new music
- ♪ It is easier to learn more music and play more challenging pieces
- ♪ When decoding music is less of a mystery, the more expressive elements of music can more easily taught and appreciated

## **Setting Students Up for Success**

- ♪ There is more to teaching sight-reading than just expecting students to read
- ♪ Using the same types of instruction as Language Arts teachers
- ♪ Decoding the notes and rhythms
- ♪ Understanding the terminology
- ♪ Sensing the musical role of each part of an ensemble
- ♪ Scanning ahead in the music
- ♪ Looking for patterns
- ♪ Chunking
- ♪ Selecting a conservative tempo

## **Procedures for Sight-Reading in Rehearsal**

- ♪ When and how often?
- ♪ Music distribution and collection
- ♪ Progressive success

## **Ways to Engage Students in the Process**

- ♪ Challenges and games
- ♪ Discussion about the music after a first reading
- ♪ Successful reading experiences lead to greater excitement in the process
- ♪ Sound Sight-Reading materials are available to help you and your students

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