



# REHEARSAL PLANNING



# Establishing a CULTURE – main themes:

- Positivity Positivity Positivity
- Mutual respect and responsibility
- High expectations

# Positivity Positivity Positivity

- Rehearsal should be fun – period
- Use positive language as much as possible
  - *Don't point out wrong things... encourage right things*
- Positivity from everybody – not just you
- Count victories as much as possible
- Foundation of positivity allows for criticism to carry weight

# Mutual Respect and Responsibility

- Treat your singers like equals
- You and your singers are teammates
- Singers should feel responsible to each other, not to the director (don't be “that guy”)

# High Expectations

- Rehearsal preparation – give them the tools
- Consistent attendance and punctuality
- Recording/Auditioning for performance
- Rise to the SAME expectations as you have for your singers
  - *Memorization, punctuality, preparation, etc.....*

# Rehearsal Structure (3-hour rehearsal model)

- Warm-ups: the most important part of rehearsal (25 min)
- Light work on repertoire (10 min)
- Contest work/heavy rehearsal (1 hr, 20 min)
- Break/business meeting (20 min)
- More light work on repertoire (25 min)
- Revisit contest/heavy rehearsal work (20 min)

# Odds and Ends.....

- When rehearsing music:
  - *Focus section by section; structurally, work a little at a time*
  - *Should be exercising all skills at all times (don't assemble a salad; cook a complicated dish)*
  - *But also balance that with priorities*

# Odds and Ends.....

- Let them sing! Less verbal instructing, more singing.
- Everyone should be involved in the rehearsal at all times
- Talking on the risers
  - *Address it with positive language*
  - *Make sure leaders share philosophy... have procedure*
  - *Keep rehearsal momentum moving... minimize down time*



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- Video rehearsal for absentees
- Voicing the chorus for performance
- Experiment with voice placement when possible

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## ■ Quartet time!!!!

- *Fun! Breaks up rehearsal grind*
- *Encourages quartet culture in chapter*
- *Encourages mutual responsibility*
- *Encourages individual singer growth*
- *Tag-in quartets, shotgun quartets, volunteer quartets to sign chorus tunes, tag contests, etc...*

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