SESSION DESCRIPTIONS
These moderated sessions are an opportunity to share what worked best for your during remote teaching last spring and steal ideas for other educators to best-engage your students. You are not required to share and can simply tune in and listen. These sessions are not a forum to air grievances or discuss what we can not control. Moderators are listed in parenthesis.

- **Beginning Band & Orchestra** - August 17, 4:00pm (Rebecca Makara & David Daquil, Northborough Public Schools)
- **Middle School Band** - August 10, 10:00am (Karen Forrest, Westborough Public Schools)
- **High School Band** - August 11, 7:00pm (Bill Hueglin, Agawam High School)
- **Middle School Choir** - August 12, 7:00pm (Ryan DeWolfe, King Philip Regional Middle School)
- **High School Choir** - August 12, 8:00pm (Chris Martin, Westborough Public Schools)
- **Middle School & High School Orchestra** - August 19, 10:00am (Kat O’Toole, Hopkinton Middle School)
- **Recruitment & Retention** - August 20, 7:00pm (Paul Pitts, Boston Latin School)
This two-part series will provide participants with a practical improvisation experience that they can facilitate for their students. Group improvisation can be taught in a compelling way over Zoom (or similar platform) using simple harmonic content. Students will learn about harmony, composition, and engage in the creative process through improvisation. Participants should have their instrument or sing in these sessions. Don't worry you'll be muted!
This session will explore the process, results, successes, and failures of shifting a Summer Festival for woodwind, brass, and percussion students, from an in-person to virtual model. The session will open by detailing best practices and lessons learned from a planning and programmatic development standpoint -- engaging a team to work through perceived insurmountable challenges. The second part will provide a curricular overview of SMFCONNECT and offer practical solutions, strategies, and reflections on teaching music in a virtual setting.

This session will run for 90 minutes.
Is your program curtailed, or even shut down for the Fall due to Covid-19? Worried about your program losing steam? Scared your students won’t pick up the instrument without the ensemble incentive? Looking for a way to motivate kids to keep playing so that when you return, your players’ skills will have actually improved over the course of the pandemic? Then the Levels Program developed for the Belmont Public Schools, Belmont, MA, is here to help!

Check out how to use the new web-based SmartMusic as your students INDIVIDUALLY work their way through a set of twenty exercises designed to stretch even the best of players. We will discuss different options of how you can access these exercises for your students, and how their submissions could be assessed, at the seminar.

https://www.bartlettpressmusic.com/
Sharpening the Saw: A Musicianship Refresher
Dr. Frederick Harris, Jr., Director, Wind and Jazz Ensembles, MIT
August 12, 2:00 pm

Designed for music educators across disciplines and ages. This session will address ways in which we can invest in our own musicianship.
This session will discuss the framing and procedure for engaging students in a virtual performance experience. Topics include virtual rehearsals, distributing practice tools, managing student submissions, editing audio and video, and other best practices.
This session will focus on ways to engage with any age and level students in a remote environment. The flipped classroom and whole student will be a focus as we explore ways to continue team building, personal connection and successful classroom strategies for remote learning. The best part is that if you prepare for remote, it will translate into ANY setting and you’ll be ready for in-person, hybrid and remote!
Innovative Choir Rehearsals With No Singing
Christopher Martin, Director of Fine Arts, Westborough Public Schools
August 13, 7:00 pm

How to navigate the latest DESE guidelines as it relates to in-person and hybrid learning in chorus classes
There are alternatives to AP Theory which earn your high school students college credit. Marie Forte will explain this program offered through Rhode Island College.
An Administrative Roundtable: Advocacy Session
Christopher Martin, Director of Fine Arts, Westborough Public Schools
Cami Tedoldi, Director of Music, Foxborough Public Schools
Jason Bielik, Director of Music, Medfield Public Schools
Jeff Leonard, Director of Performing Arts, Lexington Public Schools, retired

August 17, 7:00 pm

Are you the only, or one of the only people advocating for music in your school's reopening? Bring your questions for this expert panel of music administrators!
Don't reinvent the wheel! Tune in to learn about the great resources that already exist for your beginning instrumentalists. These can be used in the first months of schools whether you're in-person or remote.
This session will give anxious teachers permission to relax, embrace silence (like we do in music!), and address how teachers can invest in themselves and avoid burnout.
How does the music we teach intersect with the world around us? How do we enact active anti-racism and social justice work in our music classroom and music curricula? This two part series will explore our questions, successes, and failures, as it relates to understanding the relationship between the music we teach and the world we live in.

Social Justice & Active Anti-Racism in the Ensemble Setting: Parts 1 & 2

Lisa Linde, Newton South High School & Jazzhers
Dr. Eric Laprade, Director of Bands, The College of New Jersey & Music Director, South Shore Conservatory Summer Music Festival

August 18, 1:00 pm & August 20, 1:00pm
This session will offer you an overview of concepts, strategies, and platforms used by clinician, Jon Grantham, in the spring. He will also highlight plans for the coming fall and share what he's improved for remote learning. Whether you are a novice or a tech expert there is something for everyone as well as ample time for a Q&A at the end of the session.

Jonathan Grantham leads a band program of 350 students involved in five concert ensembles, three jazz bands, a competitive marching band, various chamber ensembles, two winter percussion units, and two winter guards. In his eighteen years at Amador Valley the band program has grown to triple in size and the ensembles have earned consistent superior ratings and high honors. Under Mr. Grantham's guidance, Amador Valley's top wind ensemble has performed at the CBDA state conference, and twice at The Midwest Clinic.
This session will address the philosophical implications of the virtual choir. Practical information including what students need to be successful, what is required of the teacher, and how to record, collect, edit and mix the audio.