Using Creativity to Improve Student Comprehension and Retention

Keely O'Hara, Parkway South Middle School

Why?

Student Comprehension

- Intentional teaching moments.
- Mask level of comprehension.
- One on one or small group conversations teacher/student and student/student.
- Using concepts in a different way.

Why?

Student Retention

- When students feel successful at something, they are more likely to continue.
- Opportunity to find other strengths.
- Not ready to be an amazing player. (Patrick Effect)
- Beginning band can be a slow start.
- Helps with pacing.
- Building community.

Middle School Band Current Class Schedule:

84 minute classes 2 times a week

47 minute class one time a week.

30 minute FLEX 3 days a week.

Previous Schedule: 5 days a week. Students play 4 days a week.

Flip flop sectionals with Theory/Creativity

Current Performance: Veterans Day Parade,

Suburban Honor Band Auditions, Area Concert,

Winter Concert, Elementary Tour, Fine Arts Festival,

Community Band, Solo/Ensemble,

Special Olympics Rally, District Honor Band, and Spring Concert

All Things Band Club

Composition

Composer Composition

Dynamic Challenge

Band/Art Collaboration

Small Ensemble

Battle of the Bands

Conducting

Student Conducting

Creative Learning

Game Design

Thank you for inviting me!!!!
Contact me if you have any questions:
kohara-abeln@parkwayschools.net
Might change to:
ko'hara@parkwayschools.net