

# Collegial Circle Final Report

Please complete all information on this form. After it is complete, send it to the Teacher Center along with other supporting documentation. Electronic copies are preferred whenever possible.

## COLLEGIAL CIRCLE INFORMATION

Title of Circle: Exploring Band Method Books and Supplemental Materials Standards Area: Music  
MCE, JR, AC, TR, PR, BRMS, CRMS, SHS,  
Facilitator: Eva Regan School(s): MHS  
Beginning Date: 10/25/2021 Ending Date: 5/9/2022 # of Hours: 9.5  
*Please submit copies of the following to this report:*

- ✓ Collegial Circle Attendance Log
- ✓ Collegial Circle Meeting Log
- ✓ Samples of strategies implemented, materials created, or student work samples where applicable
- ✓ Collegial Circle Reflection Sheets - completed by each participant

## COLLEGIAL CIRCLE DESCRIPTION

### What was the anticipated goal(s) of this Collegial Circle?

To explore existing band method books and resources in order to determine which materials might best meet our needs in the following areas: sequencing of tonal and rhythm theory concepts, sequencing of note introduction for individual instruments, pacing, visual appeal and tunes in a variety of styles.

### What grade level(s) and or subject area(s) will benefit from this Circle?

Grades 5-12 Instrumental Music

### What level of Guskey's Professional Development Evaluation did you select for this Circle?

Level 2, Participants' Learning.

## FINAL REFLECTIONS

### Was the goal of your Collegial Circle met? Please explain.

Yes! We evaluated several different band methods for scope, sequence, and pacing in the following areas; tonal content, rhythm content, and articulation. We discussed where the various books might require supplementation of certain concepts for students who need more scaffolding and reinforcement. We also looked at whether the books offered online resources for students, a user-friendly fingering chart, glossary of terms, music theory, history, improvisation, and composition. Visual appeal was also a consideration.

One book, Accent on Achievement, was our favorite of the series we looked at.

### How did the members of this Collegial Circle assess whether the outcome was met? What evidence was utilized to assess your progress?

We created a Microsoft Form together in our second meeting that we used as our tool for evaluating the different books we looked at. We edited the form as we went along to better suit our needs, which included adding new books to the list as we researched more options. We also planned to use this form (in Excel format) as our individual reflection journals.

Prior to each meeting, CC members would complete a new form for the next book we planned to discuss. Then, at our meetings, we each shared our observations.

In our last meeting, we discussed whether everyone felt we achieved our goal for the Circle. The consensus was that we did!

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**How did your work impact teaching and learning? [Include student work samples, lesson plans, peer reviews, etc.]**

Our work will impact future instrumental music students because we have a better understanding of how Band Method books are set up, and where the strengths and weaknesses are. We shared our various experiences with the current book we are using (Measures of Success) and learned from each other about where the problems lie at all levels of instruction and on the various instruments. We took a 'divide and conquer' approach with some books where we each looked at the instrument that best fit our own level of expertise, then shared our findings with each other. This was eye-opening for some teachers who may have thought student struggles were due to student problems, rather than innate problems in the method book itself. This greater understanding, along with a fresh new book and supplemental materials where needed, will absolutely lead to improved teaching and learning. We look forward to presenting our findings to the Music Department Steering Committee later this month.

**Did your work align with the Level of Evaluation you identified in your proposal? Please explain.**

Yes. Members took a deep dive into several different Band Method book series, completed a form/reflection prior to each meeting, then shared our findings with each other. Not only did we learn about the various strengths and weaknesses in each publication, we learned from each other what kinds of scaffolding the different instruments require from lesson materials in order to build the skills students will need to be successful on those instruments. We were surprised to find how many 'holes' there are in some of these books, and what our individual priorities are in terms of music teaching and learning. It was an eye-opening experience!

**Please included any additional comments you would like to share with the Collegial Circle Committee. This may include unanticipated outcomes, next steps, new learning, etc.**

As Julie indicated in the Collegial Circle PD from last summer, 9 members is a LARGE group! Scheduling was a serious challenge, so we didn't get to look at as many resources as we had hoped. However, our work was extremely productive and beneficial to us as a department, and we do think we have found a book (Accent on Achievement) that will be a good choice for us moving forward. We only had a few Book 2's and Book 3's for certain instruments, so the secondary teachers who were specialists in those instruments analyzed those books and shared with the group.