



TYPICAL PROBLEMS

What is the busiest time of year for your director? (hint: ask him/her after answering it on your own).

Fall

Winter

Spring

Summer

Does your director concur with your assessment?

YES

NO

How often do you ask your director what he/she needs help with?

daily

weekly

monthly

never

How often do you ask your section what they need help with?

daily

weekly

monthly

never

What are the leadership boundaries in your group?

Can you list five things leaders should not do or are not permitted to do according to these boundaries?

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Can you list five things leaders should be doing and are permitted to do but don't?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

How much power are you willing to take?

LEADERSHIP TIP

As a leader, you want to help. As a leader, you want to please not only those you lead, but those who lead you. It is hard to balance the many needs of the group with the limited time and resources you have to give. Often times, student leaders needlessly feel inferior because they can't meet everyone's sometimes unreasonable expectations, When is too much overwhelming? When is not enough, laziness?

There is no way that anyone other than you can assess whether you are doing enough. I do think it is important however to stop by your directors office every couple of weeks for a "leadership review." These meetings can be as long or as short as necessary. These interactions will provide you and your director with an opportunity to chat about the progress of your group and ways in which he/she could help you be more successful. If you feel like you are barely treading water, or worse, that you are drowning, then stop by sooner. If you feel like you are swimming along nicely, just stop by to say hi and see how your director is doing.

Either way, this face-to-face time will also serve as an opportunity for you to communicate how you are doing with the balancing act between the demands of your group, your academic studies, and your "other life" pursuits. Yes, there is life outside of your music group, or at least there should be!



How much can you invest in this program? (circle one)

ready to be a director ready to do a lot will help out when I can I have a lot on my plate

Can you list five things that you can commit to doing for your program/section weekly? (Hint: You should tape this list to your music locker and read it every day!)

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

Are there any behaviors past leaders have displayed that you feel you can't commit to?

If so, what are they?

Are there any behaviors of past leaders that you feel were inappropriate?

Please describe them.



Are you comfortable being in the role of “understanding” rather than being “understood”?

From this chapter, what was the most beneficial thing that you learned and how will it help you this year?

List some questions you would like to ask or topics you would like to discuss with your group.

ACTIVITY

For a twenty-four hour period, un-connect yourself. Remove the cell phones, text messages, surfing the net, email, X-Box®, iPhone® and television from your life. Keep a brief journal of the experience and how you filled your time that was otherwise occupied through electronics. List some good and bad things about being unconnected to the rest of the world. Share your thoughts about that experience with the rest of your leadership team.