

TEACHING THE FIRST TWO YEARS

How NOT to become a statistic

Presented by Frank Troyka

Teacher Attrition Rates: Why are the numbers so high?

- Unprepared for the administrative responsibilities.
- Perceived lack of support from superiors.
- Isolation; reluctance to seek help for fear of exposing inexperience
- Parents
- Unprepared for the transition from being the student to being the teacher.

What can be done?

- Teacher "induction" as opposed to orientation.
- Mentor teachers.

Four areas to address

- Information
 - We never stop teaching the instruments
 - Your "GO TO" list
 - Conventions, symposia, MEAs
- Experience
 - Too little too late
 - Field experience (long term)
 - Do whatever it takes to get experience, even if you donate your time.
 - Cultivate relationships with successful teachers
 - Observe teachers in challenging situations
- Structure
 - Get the administrative tasks out of the way first (delayed gratification)
 - Plan for YOUR class, the one you'll actually teach
 - Share/assign/delegate
- Relationships
 - With administrators
 - With the "Four Cs"
 - With students
 - With parents

The reason we're teachers hasn't changed even if our circumstances have!