Links & Resources

Websites

Teachers Pay Teachers

 A helpful site where you can purchase items made by (or leftover surplus purchases) from other teachers. You can also sell your own items. Teachers supporting teachers!

Blogs

General

ScienceFix

 Middle school science teacher Darren Fix entertains with science lessons and experiments. Watch his Mr. Wizard-style experiments, like using a jellyfish to learn genetic engineering.

The Principals Page

Illinois superintendent Michael Smith chronicles his day to day. Smith's blog discusses everything from Ferris Bueller to teaching conferences to a surefire way for President Obama to fix education.

A Year of Reading

■ Teachers Franki Sibberson and Mary Lee Hahn review new children's books. The reviews are always teacher-focused, pinpointing possible readers as well as how a book might be used in the classroom.

Top Teaching

 Hear straight from Scholastic's team of teacher advisors on topics ranging from reader's workshop to discipline and organization.

• Free Technology for Teachers

This is a great resource for learning about useful tools that can be used in the classroom.

Links & Resources (cont'd)

Band

Band Directors Talk Shop

Band Directors Talk Shop is all about helping you be a better band director so your students can be better musicians. It is a collaborative effort of band directors, former band directors, private lesson teachers and fine arts administrators.

Podcasts

General

The Cult of Pedagogy

On her podcast, Cult of Pedagogy, if there's a concept that has to do with teaching, Jennifer Gonzalez covers it. Full of tips, stories and interviews from fellow teachers, administrators, parents and students - she provides a wealth of information helpful for any teacher, regardless of their subject area or experience level.

Truth for Teachers

Frequently ranked in the top ten K-12 podcasts on iTunes, Angela Watson's Truth for Teachers covers all aspects of the daily life of teachers, speaking words of encouragement and truth to educators to inspire you for the week ahead in the classroom

House of #EdTech

■ In House of #EdTech, host Christopher Nesi explores how technology is impacting and changing not only the way teachers teach but education in general. Listen to stories from teachers and innovators for teaching tips and strategies you can use in your classroom tomorrow.

Links & Resources (cont'd)

Talks with Teachers

 Get inspired by top American educators through first-hand advice experienced through years in the classroom. Talks With Teachers aims to help teachers love their job and find their purpose in the classroom.

Moving at the Speed of Creativity

A long-running podcast on education technology and digital literacy, Wesley Fryer, host of Moving at the Speed of Creativity, focuses on how these two important concepts are shaping current education and teaching styles.

The Teachers Lounge

■ Teaching can get stressful, and The Teachers Lounge gives teachers advice and tools to help them succeed at their jobs. From managing your classroom supplies budget to dealing with difficult parents, each episode provides insight into navigating through many difficult topics.

EdSurge Podcast

■ Tune in for the weekly rundown of all things to do with education technology with EdSurge Podcasts. From exciting news, inspirational interviews, and insightful debates, EdSurge is a great listen for teachers looking for new and exciting ways to implement technology into their classroom!

Teaching Matters Podcast: NPR

NPR is a great resource for education-focused podcasts that cover a variety of topics from stories from teachers to the latest classroom resources. The Teaching Matters podcast focuses on the changing needs of students, and how teachers can keep up with these needs. Each week different teachers on the show discuss their experiences and advice on classroom management.

Links & Resources (cont'd)

TEDTalks Education

Part of the famous TED Talks organization, TEDTalks Education on all things education and learning from some of the brightest and most innovative minds in the industry!

Band

After Sectionals

Darcy Potter Williams is in her 15th year of teaching band. Her bands have won the ATSSB Outstanding Performance Series, have performed at the Western International Band Convention (WIBC) in Seattle, and played at the Midwest Clinic in Chicago in December 2015. Her band placed 3rd in the TMEA CC Honor Band Contest in 2015 and 7th in CCC in 2017. Darcy attributes her success to being incredibly anal retentive with a side of micromanagement. When she is not in the band hall she likes to work in the yard, lift very small weights, and sip margaritas with her non-band boyfriend. She has somehow convinced him to watch one or two episodes of Friends while they eat dinner and prefers one of her tiny dachshunds to be in her lap as they watch. If she could offer one piece of advice it would be, "The trick is don't suck."

Articles

Classroom Management Style

Links & Resources (cont'd)

Books

General

- Teach Like a PIRATE: Increase Student Engagement, Boost Your Creativity, and Transform Your Life as an Educator
 - Based on Dave Burgess's popular "Teach Like a PIRATE" seminars, this book offers inspiration, practical techniques, and innovative ideas that will help you to increase student engagement, boost your creativity, and transform your life as an educator. You'll learn how to: Tap into and dramatically increase your passion as a teacher Develop outrageously engaging lessons that draw students in like a magnet Establish rapport and a sense of camaraderie in your classroom Transform your class into a life-changing experience for your students This groundbreaking inspirational manifesto contains over 30 hooks specially designed to captivate your class and 170 brainstorming questions that will skyrocket your creativity.
- The Classroom Management Secret: And 45 Other Keys to a Well-Behaved Class
 - From how to set up an easy-to-use classroom management plan to how to handle difficult students, The Classroom Management Secret will equip you with everything you need to effectively manage your classroom, regardless of where you teach or who shows up on your roster. Based on the popular blog, Smart Classroom Management, the book progresses step-by-step through 45 time-tested strategies, showing you how to manage your classroom in a way that inspires students to want to behave. Binding these strategies together is a little-known secret shared by the most exceptional teachers, those remembered for a lifetime.

Links & Resources (cont'd)

Band

Classroom Management in the Music Room

■ David Newell's new text book, Classroom Management in the Music Room: "Pin-Drop Quiet" Classes and Rehearsals, is a resource vital to any productive music classroom. Designed with simplicity in mind - simple to teach, simple to learn, and simple to administer - this book promotes student-centered self-discipline and turns classroom management into creating music.

Tuning for Wind Instruments

■ The most complete intonation resource for band directors! This book contains everything a music educator requires to approach fine-tuning intonation with their ensemble: learn the origin of our pitch tuning standard * understand when to apply equal tempered vs. just tempered tuning * calculate the proper harmonic ratios for fine-tuning chords * identify the best tuning notes for each instrument * 14 steps for tuning chords * properly tune brass slides * improve your knowledge with over 70 tuning truths and myths. In addition to the above content, this resource includes intonation charts for tracking personal progress, along with extensively researched color-coded fingering charts for every instrument providing pitch tendencies and suggestions for alternate fingerings. Click here to access fingering charts as digital downloads for iPhone, Android, iPad, Kindle or computer use.

Links & Resources (cont'd)

- The Complete Instrument Reference Guide for Band Directors
 - A complete instrument reference guide.
- On Teaching Band: Notes from Eddie Green
 - "There is only one Eddie Green and, without question, his name is permanently etched in band history." On Teaching Band includes: An extensive, insightful interview with Eddie Green on his early career and development of his teaching methods Comprehensive, step-by-step techniques for all aspects of beginning wind instruction Guidelines for organizing a band program Tips on resumes, interviews, and securing a position Practical advice on relationships with administrators, parents, and colleagues.