

An underwater-themed illustration with a dark blue background. A large sea turtle is swimming in the upper left. Several smaller fish are scattered throughout. Coral reefs are visible on the left and right sides. Bubbles are rising from the bottom. The text is centered in a white-bordered box.

PRESIDENTS' MEETING

MARCH 10th, 2024

UNITED  SOUND
relationships that resonate

TONIGHT'S AGENDA

- Welcome!
 - Info in the Chat, Please
- Reminders & Important Mentionables
- How Did We Get So Far Out to Sea?
- February Contest Winners
- March Contest Link
- Your Feedback is Our Gift
- **Tonight's Topic:** You Asked, Let's Answer
- Closure in the Chat





Clapping



Remind Group

Reminders & Important Mentionables



Stick Together
after
Rehearsal

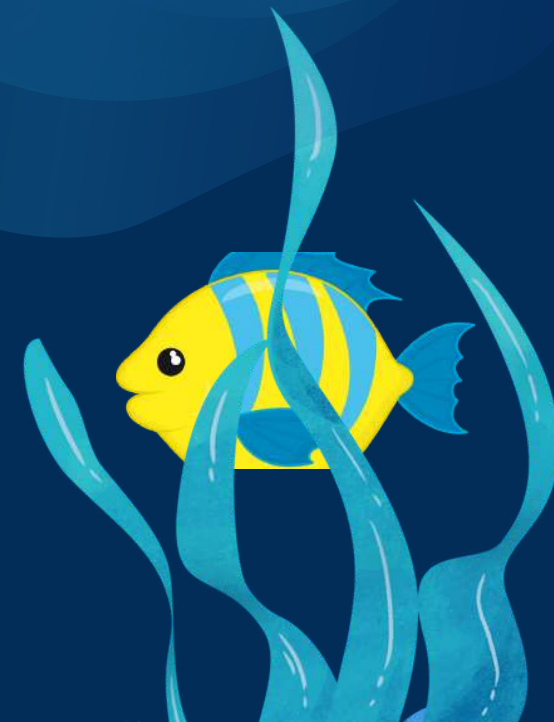
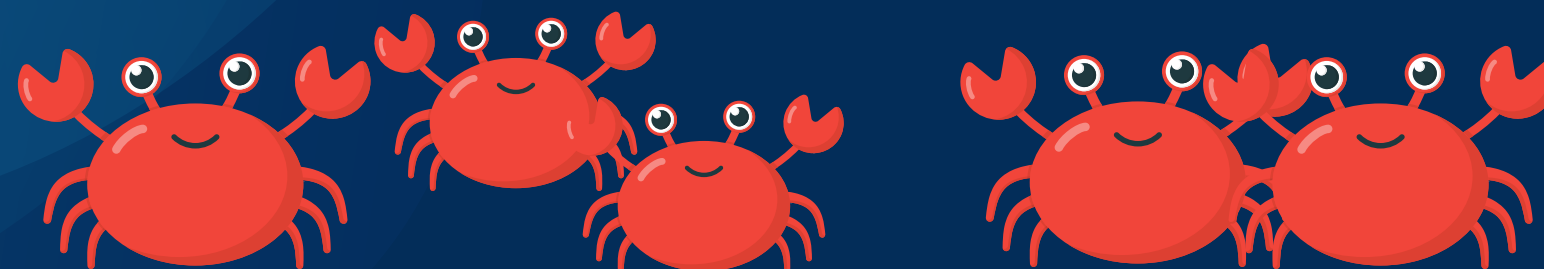


Website & President Page

Happy Birthday!



Invitations



How Did We Get So Far Out to Sea?

A-B-C's Of Interacting with New
Musicians

Leading
Effective
Rehearsals

Social
Stories

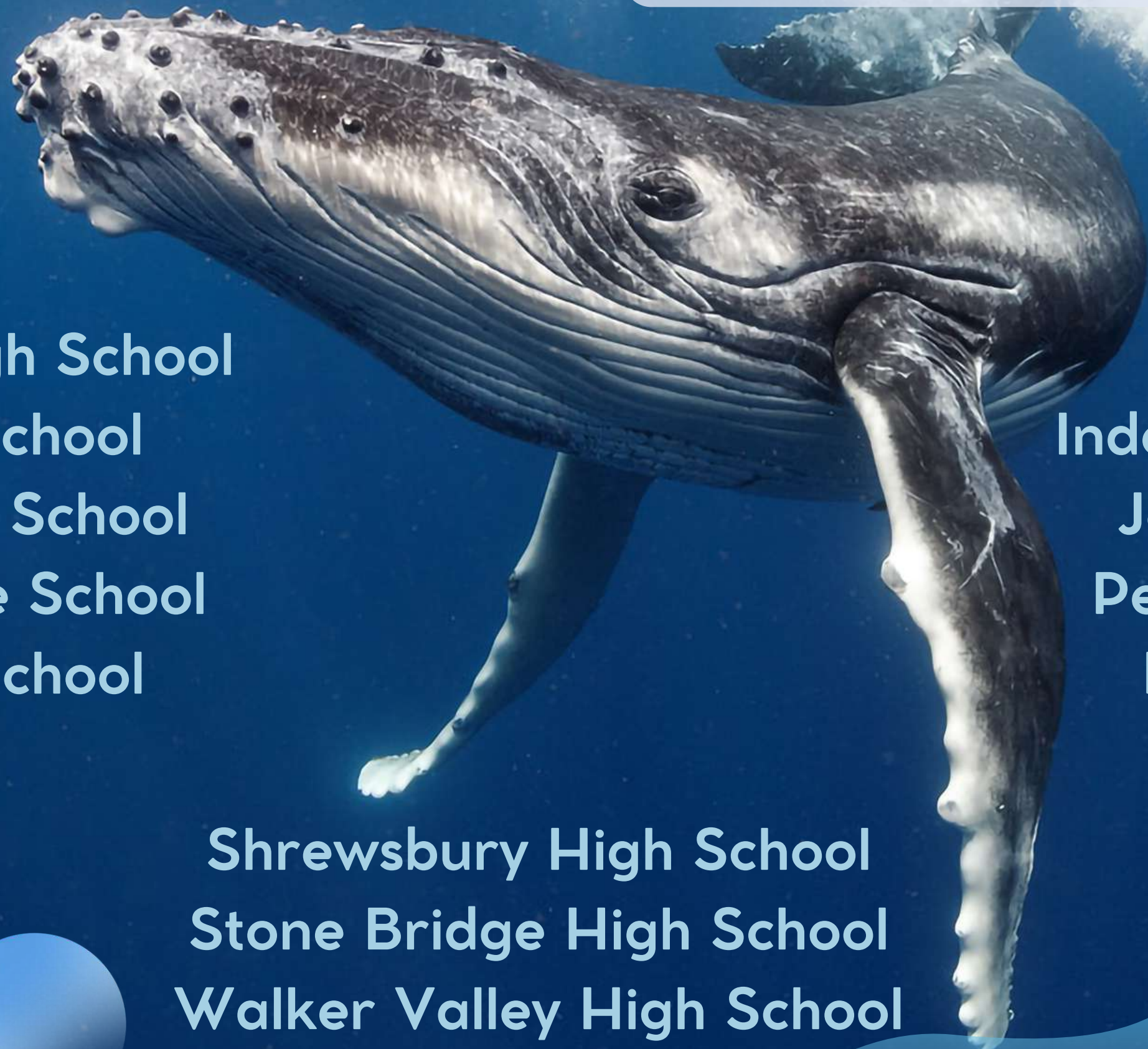
NEW Games!

Leadership

Your
Feedback
Discussions



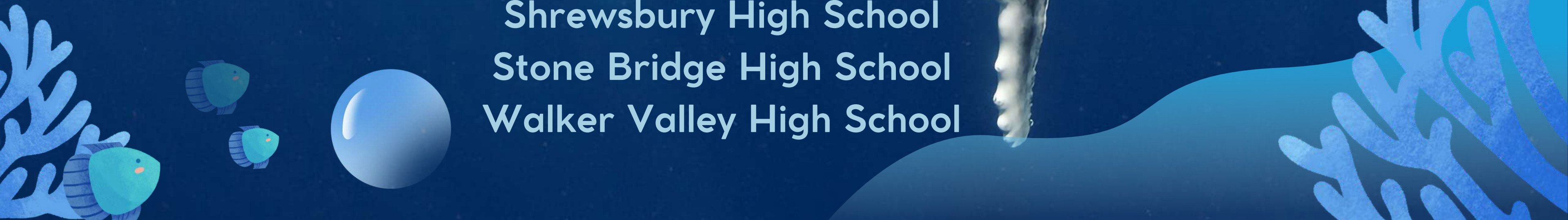
February Contest Winners



Campo Verde High School
Carmel High School
Centerville High School
Creekside Middle School
Elkhart High School

Enfield High School
Independence High School
Johansen High School
Perrysburg High School
Roswell High School

Shrewsbury High School
Stone Bridge High School
Walker Valley High School



A vibrant illustration of an underwater scene. A green sea turtle with a dark green patterned shell is swimming towards the left. Below it, there are various types of coral reefs and seaweed in shades of blue and green. The background is a deep blue gradient.

[MARCH CONTEST QUESTION LINK](#)

**Explain what you love about
your Music Director.**

**What makes him or her
amazing at their job?**

Your Feedback is Our Gift

HIGH SCHOOLS

Seegerstrom High School
Perrysburg High School
Centerville High School
Germantown High School
Independence High School
Roswell High School
Perrysburg High School
Carmel High School
Germantown High School
Stonebridge High School

03

10

MONTHLY REHEARSAL FEEDBACK FORMS

20

24

UNIVERSITY/COLLEGES

University of Evansville

MIDDLE SCHOOLS

Creekside Middle School
Dickerson Middle School
Daniel Morgan Middle School
Dickerson Middle School

WHAT HAVE BEEN YOUR GREATEST SUCCESSES AND/OR ACCOMPLISHMENTS DURING REHEARSAL THIS MONTH?

- Our group rehearsals have gone well. The mentors get straight to work without being told what to do. Our concert went well and we got far.
 - **Getting our students involved**
- We played the happy birthday song and it was awesome! It was also nice to see everyone after a longer break. One of our presidents found two really fun rhythm games that she made herself (they were a blast!)
 - **Some accomplishments were we were able to create a better bond at the beginning. By implementing more activities in United Sound, the band members have been closer together to create that family like environment.**
- We were able to teach the New Musicians to use the flashcards and apply the skills to many different instruments.
 - **We started playing our concert music.**
- We learned dynamics pp-ff.
 - **We began writing concert music this month (yay)! We grew as friends and musicians in such a short amount of time.**
- Our greatest accomplishment during this month is that the new musician had learn ore note.
 - **We were able to win the January contest which was a big deal because we had just started working with the new musicians and they have been doing great.**
- We have deepened the bonds within mentor groups and have been progressing really well through the method books! Also a couple of our musicians who have struggled with rhythms or shyness have gained the confidence to play with their small groups for the whole class!
 - **Picking our spring concert music: Hakuna Matata.**
- We've done a lot of great work with the method books this month and the new musicians have been learning a lot. At one of our rehearsals, we had everyone learn a song from the method book and we played it together at the end, which went really well!
 - **We were able to keep a lot of our less engaged new musicians focused and having fun with the music. We worked to make the music more fun by relating their interests to the music we play.**

WHAT CHALLENGES HAVE YOU HAD DURING REHEARSAL THIS MONTH?

- **The challenges in January were kids not always being here and the amount of snow days we had.**
 - Getting our students to get used to coming back to the program.
- **Our timing for the rehearsals was a little off because we are still getting back into the swing of things. We also had to cancel our rehearsal one week for a snow day.**
 - Some challenges that we've had through this month is just playing the rhythms together. Making sure they are able to associate the note names with the rhythm, especially for new members/new instruments.
- **It was hard to give the New Musicians instructions without overwhelming them.**
 - A musician displayed inappropriate sexual behavior and we had to get the school and school officer involved.
- **We wanted to play all together but didn't have concert music yet, so we played things from the books.**
 - Weather was not on our side, so we had to cancel a rehearsal. We also have been on a learning curve of adapting to different disabilities and accommodating how to learn music to them (our mentors have done amazing!).
- **That our United Sound clubs were cancel all lot.**
 - We have been struggling a bit with letting the new musicians know who is the mentor. Sometimes they try to take control and it is hard to change their minds otherwise.
- **We have had trouble with new musician and mentor motivation. Because we do not have a concert for a while, everyone has fallen into a sort of lull and have lost their motivation.**
 - Mentor focus
- **We've struggled a bit with focus this month. When we are just using the method books and not preparing a piece for the concert, some of our new musicians have a hard time staying concentrated.**
 - Some of our new musicians have been on their devices or reading books and are unwilling to start playing at times. We have tried to work on transitions between activities and establishing a better routine to help with this problem.

WHAT ACTIVITIES AND/OR GAMES DID YOU INCORPORATE INTO YOUR UNITED SOUND REHEARSALS THIS MONTH? WHAT WAS SUCCESSFUL? WHAT DIDN'T WORK?

- **We played freeze dance, animal antics, and music is my.**
 - Some videos
- **We played a rhythm dice game with rhythms on each side of a cube. Each person in the group would roll once and there would be a 4 note rhythm that the group would play. We played this in small groups, but it could be made for the whole chapter to play together, too. The other game was where you pulled sticks with rhythms and tried not to get a stick that said "Busted!" on it. The players at the end who had the most rhythms won!**
 - Pass it on (telephone), I would say fairly successful. People enjoyed it and we were laughing and just creating that community in the very beginning. We also played I love my neighbor who... This was very successful because we were able to laugh and enjoy likes/dislikes with one another and learn about each other.
- **We gave a ball to one of the New Musician, and he would throw it at the drum to create a beat.**
 - Just dance was fun. We also had a ceremony for our shirts.
- **Hot potato and chrome music lab were successful. We tried to do duck duck goose but it was difficult to play inside.**
 - We made name tags to put over our stands, a crowd favorite! We also made valentines for Valentine's Day.
- **We did a poster where the peer and the new musician write their name and past down for generation.**
 - For some of the new musicians we will give them toys and fidgets as rewards to doing well in the class. It gives them motivation to stay focused and they greatly enjoy this strategy.
- **Four corners, roll the rhythm, beach ball rhythms, valentines day party, wheel of rhythms, wheel of rhythms 2.0, United Sound jeopardy (all about our chapter), Rhythm Tic Tac Toe, game day, and Where is my other soup? These games all worked fairly well, and it was fun to try some new ones this month! People especially liked the jeopardy all about our chapter and wheel of rhythms!**
 - We did chair yoga and meditation. The meditation did not work (the mentors couldn't stay quiet) and chair yoga was entertaining.
- **We made Valentine's Day cards. It was a bit rushed, but craft days always go over really well! We had everyone learn a song from the method book and we played that together as a group. That was actually more successful than I was expecting. We also had a rehearsal where each group learned a song from the method book and we had mini performances at the end. A lot of our new musicians were gone that day, but the ones who were there enjoyed it. It was cool to hear each group and see how supportive everyone was of each other.**
 - This month we played FREEZE. We started by asking mentors and new musicians what their favorite songs were. The next week we made a playlist and played freeze tag to start off our meeting. It was very successful and got our musicians excited to play.

Tonight's Topic:

*You Asked,
Let's Answer*



You Asked, Let's Answer ~

- ***I want to hear about the games people played and liked.***
 - *Some new games*
- ***Special ideas for senior new musicians (gifts? certificates? etc.)***
 - *How to start off United Sound/how are you able to balance fun and work*
- ***We put different colors on different drums and we would hold up the color of the drum that we wanted the New Musician to play.***
 - *Dealing with inappropriate behavior*
- ***More ways we can play music all together.***
 - *What to do when United Sound club is cancel*
- ***Maybe we could talk about strategies to keep the new musicians focused and not distracted on other things that they can grab or see.***
 - *I think some tips on how to work with musicians on a variety of different levels (some of our musicians are on book one, others are on book 2) in a way that is engaging and fun for everyone would be helpful*
- ***activity ideas that involve movement***
 - *Ways to keep your new musicians engaged*
- ***How we can help our new musicians stay engaged and having fun when working on harder parts of the music***

You Asked, Let's Answer ~

Millard South High School in Nebraska shared this idea, saying they listen to it at each rehearsal and vote online:

SOUSA'S MARCH MANIA
by the US Marine Band

<https://www.marineband.marines.mil/Educational/Sousas-March-Mania/>

TONIGHT'S CLOSURE

WE ONLY HAVE ONE MEETING LEFT -- ON APRIL 14TH -- I HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL THERE!

IN THE CHAT SPACE, PLEASE EXPRESS HOW HELPFUL YOU FIND THESE PRESIDENT MEETINGS. HOW COULD THEY IMPROVE? ANY AND ALL OPINIONS ARE WELCOME.

Thank You & Good Night!