



Music Ed Insights



Three Insights to take with you from... **Getting Assessment Right with Glenn Nierman**

Remember that nearly all assessment tools should be developmental, not summative.

- They are used to help promote musical growth, not just measure it.

An approach to try without much cost or time:

- Have students record excerpts of themselves with their own phone right in front of them in full ensemble rehearsal. Have them compare recordings from week to week, and/or write 2-3 sentences describing each take.

Areas where music education assessment tends to fall short:

- We tend toward accurate group assessments, but not accurate individual assessments to allow us to tell individuals exactly how they're doing.
- We tend to be too product-oriented and not process-oriented. Assess as much of the time as you can.
- We don't have great assessment tools available

Keep these pitfalls in mind.

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