

# SWITCH IT UP!

Simple ideas to stop your students from staring at the middle distance... (or at their phones)

# CLASSROOM POLICY/MANAGEMENT

**Are distractions allowed?**

State it in your syllabus!

**Let go of your lesson plan**

Be willing to switch up the schedule you planned to follow

# CHECK IN WITH YOUR CLASSROOM

Scan the room

**Are you moving too fast?**

Are your students looking frazzled and confused?

**Are you moving too slow?**

Are your students looking bored and playing other material?

# PRACTICAL IDEAS

## **Play out loud**

Students can't (well... shouldn't) noodle around while playing out loud!

## **Count out loud**

Improves rhythm

Stops chatting

## **Group practice/ensemble work**

Collaborative skill building

Students can bounce ideas off of each other

Having other people listen to you is scary! Encourages practice

# PRACTICAL IDEAS, CONT.

## **Change the voice setting of keyboards**

This always gets a smile

Someone always chooses the choir setting!

## **Stop & stretch**

Shoulder rolls

Wrist stretches

Neck stretches

Just say the word “posture” and see what happens

# IF YOU HAVE TO CALL OUT STUDENTS...

"I can hear that several of us are practicing other things right now. Please come back to the group."

"I appreciate it when we all play the same thing at the same time"

Wait in silence until everyone is refocused on you

"I can hear you all from my own headset"