

## **INTERVIEWING SKILLS** **The “Rules of the Road”**

1. Make a **great** impression!
  - Firm handshake
  - Good body language
  - Professional dress (gig line)
  - Hair cut
  - Tattoos
  - Table manners
  
2. LOOK IN THE MIRROR! Put yourself in my place. Would you hire you? Why? Why not?
  
3. Be prepared
  - Completed (and neat) application (Sometimes already completed online-bring anyway)
  - Resume (not required, but extremely helpful--a way to “blow your own horn”) Formatted sample copy provided below.
  - Transcripts to date (copy will do for the interview, but originals are **required**)
  - University Placement File
  
4. Call current teachers--find out everything you can about the program you are seeking
  - Visit local programs before and during student teaching
  - Attend honor ensemble concerts
  - Join NafME and support your local collegiate chapter
  
5. Do mock interviews with fellow students/friends
  - Practice makes perfect--sound familiar?
  
6. Be prepared to discuss the following items (notice that only three are music-related)
  - Appropriate literature and concert design (including marching band)
  - Introducing and teaching of **SOLID** playing/singing skills
  - Instructional objectives
  - **Do you know about the New National Core Arts Standards?**
  - Methods/strategies regarding classroom management
  - Recruitment/maintenance plans
  - Non-musical responsibilities
  - Classroom routine
  - Motivational techniques/strategies