

Elliott Lentz is a dynamic conductor, educator, & clinician who serves as <u>Director of Orchestras at North Central High School</u> and oversees the <u>International Baccalaureate (IB)</u> Music program. Starting his 12th year teaching in the public schools, he has held music positions from elementary through high school level in both rural and urban settings.

Mr. Lentz completed his Bachelor of Science in Music Education from Ball State University in 2009 where he was actively involved with the School of Music. During his time at BSU, he studied trumpet with Professor Paul Everett (Retired Principal Trumpet, Muncie Symphony Orchestra) and conducting with Dr. Thomas Caneva. Other conducting mentors have included Maestro Matthew Kraemer

(Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra), Professor Douglas Droste (Ball State University), and Professor Barry Houser (University of Illinois).

As a versatile conductor, Lentz has been successful in both the wind band and orchestral worlds. Ensembles under his direction have earned numerous Gold ratings and "With Distinction" Honors in addition to appearing at the ISSMA State Concert Finals. Additional experience has also included live stage productions of *Mamma Mia!* (2021) and *The Little Mermaid* (2019). He has accepted opportunities to guest lecture for the **Indiana Music Educators Association** (IMEA) Professional Development Conference (2021) and the Ball State University ASTA Chapter (2018). Invitations to serve as guest conductor include the **Indiana Bandmasters Association** (IBA) All-District (2017) and All-Region (2016) Honor Bands, and numerous ensembles around the state of Indiana.

For his classroom work, Lentz has been named a "Top 10" Most Influential Teacher at Warren Central High School (2017, 2018, and 2019) and Outstanding Teacher of the Year at Morristown High School (2015). He received grants from the Warren Arts and Education Foundation for the WC Summer Jazz Program (2016 and 2017) and the Blue River Foundation for the Morristown Bands (2015). Other honors include the nationally-recognized John Philip Sousa award, the Earl Dunn Scholarship, and the Erwin C. Mueller Scholarship. He is also an active member within the Indiana chapter of the American String Teachers Association (ASTA) serving as Webmaster and member of the Executive Board.

Elliott is happily married to his wife Amy, a motorsport & automotive photographer, and they have 2 wonderful rescue dogs, Wrigley and Jedi.