

Virtual Band Workflow

I setup a Gmail account and upgrade to the 100gb. (\$1.99 a month)

I created a google Form with the instructions for the kids and how to record themselves, links to the MP3 and PDFs of the parts (must have composer permission). The students were to record the whole piece with headphones in. All the directors shared the google form with their kids. It had a due date and time of 1 week.

I pulled off the videos each night and saved them to my own hard drive. And cleared out the drive every night. 15gb won't be enough, especially on the due date. (The last day was up to 60gb alone.)

I went through every file and listened to the first 10 seconds of music. I then separated them into folders based on part. I also made a separate folder for the files with "good audio".

I created a grid file in **adobe photoshop** to have 30 players at a 16:9 ratio. This file was 1920:1080 and was the "top layer" for all of my other video files.

Using **adobe premiere**. My first 2 files (group of 30 videos) had the "good audio" videos on them. I tweaked the audio and cropped the videos to match the grid. I edited the audio so it all line up and sounded decent. Then I rendered them.

After rendering them I used the audio from each in combination with the studio track to create a good soundtrack using **garageband**. This is where I added a bit of ambiance, and echo to the audio track and mastered it.

The rest of the video files were rinse and repeat but only editing for video. No audio. As long as the students played well with the recording it should be ok. And for the most part that was the case (kids get lost sometimes, lol). Each file took around 1 hour to create 3 hours to render and I made 9 more videos (of 30 people) using two computers to save time.

Then I compiled all 9 videos into one and added transitions and motion to make them interesting.

The intro was custom from Fiverr. I downloaded all the Cobb HS logo PNGs and sent them along with a high res version of Bo Soddors logo for the virtual band to a seller on Fiverr for \$29 and he created the logo part in the beginning.

I created the rolling title based off of the google form submissions excel sheet at the end and added the logo at the end.

It is a pretty intensive project but worth it in the end.

Joe Huls, Assistant Director of Bands, McEachern High School
Produced, Cobb County Virtual Ensemble 500 students <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MocrV03sI8I>