



Stephen Vowles has served local Scouting America troops in the Winnetka area supporting music and bugling merit badges and Eagle projects since 2004. As a Scout in Troop 53 Fairfax, Green Mountain Council, Vermont, he achieved Eagle in 1985. He is a Vigil member of the Ajapeau Lodge, Order of the Arrow. He worked as Dining Hall Steward, Ecology Conservation Director, and Bugler at Mt. Norris Scout Reservation in Vermont. At Chesterfield Scout Reservation in Massachusetts, he served as Program Director and Bugler. Two National Camping School sessions and teaching leadership training courses continued his involvement with Scouting. He currently participates with the Taps Across America program. Stephen graduated from Oberlin Conservatory with degrees in horn performance and music education, and Northwestern University with a Master of Music and continuing graduate coursework in Music Education with an emphasis in conducting and music creativity. He has taught band, choir, and orchestra at all levels in Vermont, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Illinois. He is currently teaching band in Winnetka Public Schools District #36. Throughout his career, he has encouraged students to follow the Earnest Thompson Seaton and Theodore Roosevelt approach of “Do what you can, with what you have, where you are”.



Andrew Chester teaches 5th through 8th Grade Band and Jazz Band at The Skokie School and Carleton Washburne School and serves as Music Department Chair for the district. He joined the Winnetka Public Schools Music Department in 2019 after beginning his career in a long-term substitute role teaching 5th through 8th Band and Orchestra in NSSD #112 and Kindergarten through 8th grade Music at CICS West Belden, a non-profit charter school located in Chicago’s Belmont Cragin neighborhood. While at CICS West Belden, he curated curriculum for and taught a technology-intensive K-4th Modern Music program, 5th-8th Band, and other middle school electives such as The History of Hip-Hop, Ukulele, and Improvisation Ensemble. Outside of school, Andrew works as a clinician of Bands and keeps an active playing and private lesson studio on trombone, saxophone, and bass guitar. Andrew attended Schaumburg High School and received his B.A. in Music Education from DePaul University in 2018 and his M.S. in Curriculum and Instruction from Western Governor’s University. An Eagle Scout, Andrew is a member of The Order of the Arrow. He has supported Scouts learning music and bugling merit badges for Winnetka area troops since 2019.