

SEKMEA District Board Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, June 26, 2024

12:00 p.m. Opies Restaurant-Chanute, KS

1. Welcome and Introductions

Present – Erin Shelton, Alan Paxson, Jami Messner, Cooper Neil, Delani Vogrin, Mendy Burnett, Theresa Fischer, Whitley Chesney, Christine Lovell, Megan Gabehart, Andrea Dinkel, Seth Harley

Not Present – Amelia Markley, Shannon Plymell, Aj Beu, Christopher Kurt, Troy Johnson, Sydney Shannon, Danica Gibson, Matt Carter

2. 2024-2025- SEKMEA Events/Locations

Aug. 21, 2024-Wed at 6 p.m.

Kick-Off Celebration

Chanute Park Pavillion

Nov. 2, 2024 - Sat

District Auditions — HS Honor Groups

Pittsburg High School

Nov. 20, 2024 - Wed

Clinic & Concert — HS Jazz Band

Pittsburg State University, Bicknell Center

\$15 participation fee per selected student

Dec. 7, 2024 - Sat

Clinics & Concerts — HS Band, HS Choir, HS Orchestra

Pittsburg State University, Bicknell Center

\$15 participation fee per selected student

Jan. 18, 2024 - Sat

Clinics & Concerts — MS Band, MS Choir, Elementary Choir

Pittsburg Middle School

\$15 participation fee per selected student

- Change Justin Robinson to Jami Messner for High School Band Elect Emails

3. Reports

- Executive Director – Alan Paxson
 - Whistle blower/conflict of interest
 1. Forms sent to everyone to sign and turn in to Alan.
 - Financial report
 - Cash Mileage Check

District Chairs get information to Troy for the website ASAP.

Alan wants everyone to remind teachers they must have a current membership to KMEA before registering students.

Get contact information about clinicians as soon as possible to Alan.

Lots of discussion about clinician fees –

Megan Gabehart motioned to increase elementary and middle level stipends to 400 dollars each.

Andrea Dinkel seconded this motion.

Passed!

We tabled talking about HS clinician fees.

- Vice President – Megan Gabehart
Will be attending the July Board Meeting.

- President-Elect – Christine Lovell
No Report.

- Elementary Choir-Mendy Burnett
Matthew Schwan will be this years' clinician.

- MS Choir – Sydney Shannon
No Report.

- MS Band – Delani Vogrin
Cheri Wright will be the clinician. Will be at Pittsburg Middle School again. Jami mentioned that handicap access needs to be opened this year. Discussion about MS order. We are thinking – Elementary Choir at 3:30, Middle School Band at 4:15, and Middle School Choir at 5:00. We need to communicate when the doors will be open so people are not standing outside. Risers need looked at so the risers line up need all four step risers instead of 3 and 4 on the same stage. It was a little scary last year.

- HS Choir –Theresa Fischer
Jamie Bunce from K-State will be the clinician.

- HS Band – Cooper Neil

Kyle Hopkins from McPherson College will be the clinician. Use the 1234 Timpani excerpts, not the 56A excerpts. If you've received an email from Cooper, make sure and respond in a timely fashion. This event will be hosted at Pittsburg High School. Cooper asked kindly for people to respond quicker for their needs for the audition day. Issues were – pull both sides of bleachers pulled out, not enough food so he is calling in food trucks.

- HS Jazz – Andrea Dinkel
Clarence Smith will be the clinician.

- HS Orchestra – Amelia Markley
We had previously arranged for Dr. Rachel Dirks to come for 2024, but she had to push us out a year due to an issue that caused her to have to put another district out a year that she was supposed to clinic for last year...domino effect.

We have now made arrangements with Dr. Leonardo Rosario from Kansas Wesleyan University to be our clinician for 2024. Carson Felt has had students work with him before and had the idea that he would be a great fit for our students. We are excited to have him!

We have our next two years of clinicians lined up (provided nothing changes)-- Dr. Rachel Dirks for 2025 and Dr. Ramiro Miranda for 2026.

We are moving back to live auditions for this year. I did not personally vote, but the majority of our Orchestra teachers wanted to move back to live auditions. The reasons given were as follows: wanted their students to experience live auditions before something higher pressure such as state/college auditions, recording and judging took too much class time and/or time outside of the school day, recording deadlines had to be earlier and they wanted students to have that extra week or so to prepare, they would rather have the Saturday audition day dedicated to it as opposed to many recording sessions and a time set aside for judging and another time set aside for a zoom meeting, etc.

- Mentoring – Christine Lovell
 - Gae Phillips is being appointed to being the next mentor chair since Christine is doing President duties soon.
 - Send any new teachers to Christine joining the district.
- Advocacy – Christopher Kurt
No report.
- Troy Johnson-Webmaster

-SEKMEA honor group pages have been rotated for 2024-25 with information I know about. If something is missing, chairs should contact me asap. This includes clinician names. I will check our existing clinician database.

-Sometime in the upcoming year I'll build a page in the district exec. manager that will display for district execs which names are in that database. This would include a profile viewing panel. Some profiles do get updated every once in a while when new info comes in.

- Remind everyone to renew their NAFME membership at the appropriate time to avoid being locked out of KMEA registration forms. Each teacher's KMEA Members account displays the existing expiration date. And as always, teachers have the ability to re-import their own member data from NAFME to KMEA to keep our system up-to-date in case of a recent renewal.

-On the side... for Festival Scores, I am asking customers currently at the \$3 level to consider bumping to \$4. In an effort to earn that consideration, Data Reports have been overhauled in the Admin and Manager portals. The existing CSV formats have been expanded to include XLSX-based spreadsheet versions, as well as browser-based views for quick viewing without needing to first download. Additional improvements are in progress in the Admin portal. Chairs can see that work listed in their home screen. Across the board, \$4 is the median amount being paid for each ensemble. There are some who voluntarily bumped to \$5 because they know it helps keep this platform going (greatly appreciated!), but \$4 is the target as that appears to be what the market supports.

Megan Gabehart moved to increase our festival scores from \$3 to \$4 per entry.

Andrea Dinkel seconded this motion.

- President – Erin Shelton

-Craig Manteffeul: KSHSAA

*Adding duets for strings, winds and percussion at solo and ensemble festivals. No vocal duets at this time. More detailed info will be in the music manual.

*Large Group protected days-talk to AD's, students and parents, communicate!

*Small ensembles can be 2-24 students, you just choose which type of festival you want them to perform at.

*Regional bowling qualifier tournaments in some places are held on Thursday of KMEA. Just be aware of this if you have bowling in your high school. At KMEA this past year students were denied to go to the bowling tournament if they were in state band but this year we are making exceptions since it does not involve very many people.

*Pilot Program (Music for All) There are interim positions to fill a music educator spot until they can find someone as to not lose that position at a school. The organization pays the interim and the schools pay the organization.

-Barb Elbracht-12A Honor Band

- *Quality has improved every year
- *Will not be doing flex-band pieces anymore, that did not work well
- *This year all 12A kids and only a few 1234A band alternates
- *Requirement is they must audition for their district bands.

Andrea stressed for anyone mentoring a teacher in the 12A category to be aware of this ensemble. It is a very good opportunity.

-State Choir

*Damm Music is helping with the problem of getting music in time for auditions. Publishers are requiring a minimum of 12 copies to be ordered and some schools only need one. So Damm music will get with the state choir chairs and make packets of audition music like Senseney used to do.

-Mentoring: Elise Petersen

- *Zoom meetings for mentors and new teachers:
 - Sept 7: 10-11:30 a.m.
 - October 5: 10:30-11:30 a.m.
 - March 8: 10:30-11:30 a.m.

-KMEA

- *Feb 26-Mar 1 of 2025
- *We try every new idea for at least 2 years so we will be doing the early start again in 2025. There were 20 more sessions this year, 43 performing groups instead of 39.

-Randy Fillmore: Festival manager

- *Jan. 11th Instrumental Live Auditions will be at Salina Central HS
Seth brought up the State Thespians Festival is the same weekend.
- *Jan. 18th is contingency date for bad weather but will not be at Salina Central, location TBD if necessary.
- *All 4 areas of percussion will be auditioned this year. Timpani, Mallets, Snare, Auxiliary
- *Rehearsals at all-state-looking at losing the evening rehearsals and requiring the president's concert on Thursday night and then a night off for Friday night. The evening rehearsals would go until 6 p.m. instead of 5.

-Recruitment/Retention

*President Minneman's strategic plan incorporates retaining music teachers and recruiting new teachers. In order to do this each district will do their best to have events or sessions for juniors and seniors in HS that are wanting to major in music.

-Lets incorporate those Jr/Sr music ed potentials to help with MS/Elem honor day. Running a sectional or sitting in with them part of the day, etc...

-District Mini convention provides lunch to those Jr/Sr potentials every other year and get PSU involved and have a Q and A session and a packet with advice, etc...

-Elementary Honor Choir

*700-900 students audition but only 160 make it in, so we are looking for ways to include more students.

-Include a 2nd honor choir on Hill Day in Topeka

-Look into adding another Elem honor choir. So 3rd/4th; 5th/6th and 7th/8th

*MS level 800 audition and only 160 make it in.

-Other News

*Think about starting a Tri-M chapter

*ISW-HS students and admin can come for free-just register. Another way to get Jr./Sr potential music educators some information and add excitement for them

*New band directors-KBA New Director bootcamp-free for 1st year teachers

*October 1-Hall of Fame, Outstanding Music Educator of the Year and Admin of the Year nominations due to Mark Gard. 2025 ISW Clinic proposals are also due.

*Email communication: make sure you hit reply all so that we are all included in conversations

*Clinicians from the past year, and how do we go about selecting clinicians for each of our honor ensembles?

Should we have a process of having chairs send out an email after the event for feedback?

District policy for cell phones?

*We tabled the idea of combining the District Jazz with the Elem/MS event. Do we want to try it in a year or forgo the idea all together?

*When do we talk about chair elects for the next year, so in March of 2025 the current chairs will be done and the chair-elects will take over and we will need new chair-elects. As well as Christine will take over for Erin and we will need a new president-elect.

*Questions/Comments/Concerns?

We need nominations for chair-elects in different positions. We will need an election in November.

Names mentioned were:

Brandi Holt for anything band

Alex Chesney for elementary

4. Adjourn the meeting

Cooper Neil moved to adjourn the meeting.

Mendy Burnett seconded.