

## **SEKMEA District Board Meeting Agenda**

Friday, June 12, 2026  
11:30a.m. Opies-Chanute, KS

### 1. Welcome and Introductions

Present – Meredith Reid, Gae Phillips, Christopher Kurt, AJ Beau, Seth Harley, Thomas Mackewicz, Erin Shelton, Sarah Jones, Lauren Oberle, Alan Paxson, Jeff Russell, Jaimie Messner, Christine Lovell

### 2. 2026-2027- SEKMEA Events/Locations - No changes to Locations

Aug. 19, 2026-Wed at 6 p.m.  
Kick-Off Celebration

TBA

Nov. 7, 2026 - Saturday  
District Auditions — HS Honor Groups  
Pittsburg High School

Nov. 18, 2026 - Wednesday  
Clinic & Concert — HS Jazz Band  
Pittsburg State University, Bicknell Center  
*\$15 participation fee per selected student*

Dec. 5, 2026 - Saturday  
Clinics & Concerts — HS Band, HS Choir, HS Orchestra  
Pittsburg State University, Bicknell Center  
*\$15 participation fee per selected student*

Jan. 9, 2027 - Saturday  
Clinics & Concerts — MS Band, MS Choir, Elementary Choir  
Chanute High School  
*\$15 participation fee per selected student*

### 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
  - Accounts are doing well. No cancellations last year.
- Vice President – Erin Shelton
- President-Elect – Meredith Reid
- Elementary Choir-Seth Harley (Alex Chesney)
  - No clinician yet. Three invitations have been sent out.
- MS Choir – Danica Gibson  
Jason Meyer is the clinician this year.
- MS Band – AJ Beu  
Percussion Update
  - Survey had 15 responses. 1 no and 14 yes.  
Jaime moved that we accept the new percussion audition procedures and excerpts as presented by AJ. This will align middle school and high school district percussion auditions. Seth seconded. It was voted and approved.
  - Ethan Wagoner will be clinician.
  - AJ asked that we consider commissioning a middle school band piece with extra District funds.
- HS Choir –Whitley Chesney  
Larry Annable is the clinician this year.  
He is flying in from Florida but agreed to \$250 on travel expenses.
- HS Band – Jami Messner  
Anya Pogorelova will be clinician.  
We are on Cycle 4 for auditions.
- HS Jazz – Matt Carter  
Trey Wadell is the clinician this year.

What I would like to change/add:

-For our district level jazz auditions: replace ONE of the state etudes with an excerpt from our district music this year. That way, the kids that make district jazz would have at least a tiny bit of a head start which would lead to a more successful concert. If everyone is on board with this, I'll make that separate audition material this summer and have it ready in August.

It was discussed that this would be a positive change to procedures for high school jazz.

- HS Orchestra – Shannon Plymell
- Mentoring – Gae Phillips
  - Mentoring Kick-off Date is August 19 at 6PM. Location will be Chanute. AJ will check on using the Chanute High School commons.

- Gae asked for new to SEK teachers.
- Advocacy – Christopher Kurt
- President – Christine Lovell

Talking Points:

#### KSHSAA

1. Professionalism in the District – KSHSAA has taken a lot of heat and people are posting things – Social Media Etiquette. If there is a problem reach out to Megan Hagaman – KSHSAA. Not online. Teachers are role models – lead the way.
2. They need more adjudicators for strings, percussion, and piano
3. Make sure and do KSHSAA evaluations after solos and ensembles.
4. KSHSAA is looking into putting a code of conduct into place.

#### Choir

1. It has been voted for choir chairs to report to Troy the Tuesday after the last District HS Convention if a student is not wanting to go for State Choir. They will not have to pay 75 dollars if they report.

#### KMEA Logo

1. We voted on an updated logo for KMEA. Ours was outdated and the new one looks much better!

#### Middle Level Choir:

1. The state has voted to change the middle level choir tenor audition key from C to A-flat. You should do the same in your auditions so no one is caught off guard. Same key as soprano but down an octave.

#### ISC Clinic Proposal:

1. October 1<sup>st</sup> is the deadline for anyone to submit a proposal to KMEA.

#### Orff

1. It was voted for KMEA is adding an Honor Orff Ensemble this coming year.

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- Troy is adding a preference option on the registration.
- Could we move the elementary submission deadline to the same day as MS Band and Choir? We will discuss at the middle school event.
- Discussion - Could we align grade levels for district elementary and middle school choir with the all-state choirs?

#### **Middle School Festivals:**

- Adding 7/8<sup>th</sup> graders to HS Regional Piano Festival – KSHSAA shot this down.
- October 1-Hall of Fame, Outstanding Music Educator of the Year and Admin of the Year nominations due to Jamie Minneman.

Other Discussion:

- Surplus funds - Christine will send out a form
  - Commission a piece?
  - SEK Scholarship Fund
  - Send high school kids to camps
- Jaime moved and Christopher seconded that we put a cap of \$300 on clinician fees. The motion passed.

**Adjourn the meeting**