

TMEA Board Meeting Minutes
June 1st, 2019

Freedom Middle School

In Attendance:

TMEA Board and Conference Team

- Executive Director: Ron Meers
- President: Lafe Cook
- President-Elect: Alexis Yatuzis-Derryberry
- Past-President: Jonathan Vest
- Orchestra Chair: Anna Maria Miller
- Band Chair: Megan Christian
- Choral Chair: Reachel Hudgins
- Technology Chair: John Womack
- Editor, *Tennessee Musician*: Michael Chester
- Newsletter/Tri-M/Minutes: Anna Laura Williams

Absent – General Music Chair: Linzie Mullins; C-NAfME Chair: Dr. David Royse; Advocacy Chair: Christopher Dye; SMTE/Research Chair: Jamila McWhirter

8:58 a.m. - Call To Order - Lafe Cook

Approval of Minutes from Spring Board Meeting

Action: Approval of April 10th, 2019, TMEA Board & Council Meeting Minutes (Lafe Cook)

Motion: John Womack / Second: Anna Maria Miller

Vote: Passes (unanimous)

Executive Director Report (Ron Meers) included the following:

- Discussion highlights from the Financial Summary Report included the following:
 - Additional Funding from the 2019 TMEA Conference
 - Opryland will be paying TMEA a refund in the amount of \$619.96 from the recent April 2019 TMEA Conference.

- CMA Foundation decreased its donation amount to TMEA for the recent conference.
- TMEA's current account is approximately \$30,000, less than this day in 2018. Reasons for this deficit include unexpected expenses that arose during the 2019 TMEA Conference, including the costs of additional pianos (12 total), audio/visual equipment (every room had AV), performance stages (two complete stages), and decorating expenses (drapes in the GOEC for the All-State Concerts).
- TMEA may want to reevaluate Food/Beverage offerings next year. This is an item of discussion for the "TMEA Conference Overview and Planning" meeting this afternoon.
- Notes of praise regarding the TMEA Conference included Jo Ann Hood for her work on the Exhibit Hall, Michael Chester on publications and advertising, and Tiffany Barton on the TN Treble Honor Choir. Additionally, commendations were given regarding the 2018-2019 school year State Concert Festivals.
- The TMEA Parent Support Group total is approximately 250; this indicates TMEA is seeing increases in the number of groups enrolling to join the TMEA Parent Support Group list.

Old Business:

TMEA Chair Reports presented as follows:

- General Music Chair - report submitted electronically by Linzie Mullins, presented by Alexis Yatuzis-Derryberry
 - Space concerns were discussed for the General Music sessions for future conferences. Due to the large number of session attendees and interactive session activities, larger spaces are needed for the General Music sessions.
- Band Chair - Megan Christian
 - The following two committees were created after the discussion at the 2019 TMEA Band Caucus regarding unified state-wide audition excerpts for regional honor band auditions:
 - The *Music Audition Research Committee* will address copyright concerning audition excerpts and is slated to have a report to share in August 2019.
 - The *All-State Audition Music Committee* will address what the students would perform for the All-State Auditions (either excerpts from the All-State Concert performance repertoire or composed excerpts).
 - The upcoming 2020 TMEA Band State Concert Festival will be Thursday April 30th, 2020, and Friday May 1st, 2020, at APSU.
 - Beginning this year, **the State Concert Festival registration cost will be \$400 (this is a \$50 increase from the current \$350 fee)**. This increase covers the cost of a free professional group photo for each participating ensemble and additional candid professional photographs will also be available for purchase.
 - 2020 TMEA All-State Band Clinicians -

- 9-10 Band: David Starnes
- 11-12 Band: Michael Colburn
- 2021 TMEA All-State Band Clinicians -
 - 9-10 Band: Randall Coleman
 - 11-12 Band: Col. William Graham
- Orchestra Chair - Anna Maria Miller
 - The Orchestra Music Reading Clinic at the 2019 TMEA Conference was highly successful and well attended. In the event of any future Orchestra Music Reading Clinics, more instruments would need to be available (especially the larger instruments); this year, approximately 50% of the session attendees performed and 50% were spectators.
 - 2019 TMEA Orchestra Caucus Summary
 - The State Orchestra list should be ready by late July/early August 2019. Efforts to increase communication with the TMEA Orchestra educators are underway, including requesting updated orchestra director membership lists from the regional associations.
 - 2020 All-State Orchestra Clinicians
 - 9-10 String Orchestra: Craig Needham
 - 11-12 Symphony Orchestra: Kevin Noe
 - Anna Maria brought it to the attention of the TMEA Board that the 2020 state-wide EOC testing window may be occurring during the same time as the 2020 TMEA Conference & All-State Concerts; TMEA membership may want to note this when speaking to their school administration regarding 2020 All-State.
- Collegiate Chair - report submitted electronically by Dr. David Royse, presented by Lafe Cook
- Choral Chair - Reachel Hudgins
 - Reachel Hudgins presented the following on behalf of Amanda Ragan:
 - An addition to the All-State registration form should include another reminder that All-State students are to bring their own music.
 - Compared to years past, more All-State students were unable to attend which resulted in more alternates being called-up at the conference.
 - The All-State Handbook states that the teacher of each All-State student must be present on-site during All-State or that the appropriate proxy/chaperone rules must be followed. Regional association presidents are requested to remind their membership of this policy.
 - 2019 TMEA Choral Caucus Summary
 - The All-State Freshman Eligibility proposal did not pass; however, interest was shown regarding creating a new Freshman Eligibility proposal.
 - The Middle School All-State proposal did pass and is slated to be discussed later during this board meeting.
 - The dates for the 2020 State Choral Festival are in the process of being set

- Technology Chair - John Womack
 - The TMEA website now has an Online Calendar and Online Job Board. Members are encouraged to add information to these new resources (visit www.tnmea.org).
- Higher Education Chair – report submitted electronically by Dr. Barry Kraus, presented by Lafe Cook
 - 2020 TMEA Conference Spotlight Ensemble concerns are scheduled to be addressed this afternoon during the TMEA Conference & Planning meeting.
 - Due to the large amount of Higher Ed. sessions crossing-over to other conference session categories, Dr. Kraus suggests eliminating Higher Ed. as a specific session track.
 - 2020 TMEA Conference All-Collegiate Ensemble Clinician: Dr. William Wiedrich (University of South Florida)
- SMTE/Research Chair – Dr. Jamila McWhirter (no report)
- Editor, *Tennessee Musician* - Michael Chester
 - Fiscal report to date for the 2018-2019 year included a total of \$40,385 revenue in print advertising and \$400 in subscriptions from EPSCO (universities). Detailed total costs and figures are to be finalized soon.
- E-Newsletter - Anna Laura Williams (no report)

Additional Items – Ron Meers

- TMEA Membership discussion included the following:
 - TMEA NAFME Membership indicates our number of NAFME adult membership is approximately 80 members fewer than last year. However, overall membership is higher due to C-NAfME and Tri-M membership.
 - Discussion occurred on the importance for all music educators to join their regional music education associations and TMEA. The TMEA membership dues are crucial because the funding from those dues directly benefit each member and each member's students.

Regional PD Grants Update - Lafe Cook/Ron Meers

- TMEA awarded five regional Professional Development grants this year. Thanks for everyone's support on the Professional Development Grants and the CMA Foundation's funding that made this possible.

New Business:

New Ancillary Membership Category in TMEA - Lafe Cook

(Continuation of this discussion that occurred at the April 2019 TMEA Board meeting)

- A new ancillary membership in TMEA should be available to supporters of TMEA.
- Since this would be a TMEA By-Laws change, a vote would need to be made by the TMEA Council. The following motion was made:

Action: Motion that the TMEA Board presents to the TMEA Council the addition of a new [non-voting] TMEA membership category titled "Friends of TMEA" at a \$10 membership level.

Motion: Lafe Cook / Second: Anna Maria Miller

- Alexis Yatuzis-Derryberry (President-Elect) would be the chairperson.
- "Friends of TMEA" would receive electronic music education advocacy communication such as the E-Newsletter (not the printed *Tennessee Musician*).

TMEA By-Laws - Lafe Cook

- Lafe Cook brought to the attention of the TMEA Board that TMEA's By-Laws currently state "TMEA will be the music arm of TEA" - Article 3, Section 2

Action: Motion that the TMEA Board recommend to the TMEA Council that we remove from our TMEA By-Laws Article 3, Section 2

Motion: Lafe Cook / Second: Jonathan Vest

National Dues Waiver for Teachers in Economically Disadvantaged Schools - Lafe Cook

- The TMEA Board needs to create an official proposal to submit to NAFME prior to the upcoming June 2019 NAFME National Membership Assembly. Dr. Jonathan Vest volunteered to draft this proposal to include the following points made by the TMEA Board:
 - An application for the NAFME/TMEA Dues Waiver would be available to music teachers teaching in low-income/economically disadvantaged schools from across the state that have not previously been a TMEA member (first-time members).
 - The goal is to award 60 waivers total: 20 waivers for each of the three regions of the state if possible.
 - Teachers who receive the grant would be required to attend the meetings of their regional association, attend the 2020 TMEA Conference, and participate in a post-program survey at the end of the school year.

Part-time Help for Executive Director - Ron Meers/Lafe Cook

- Ron Meers stated it is advisable to begin the process of training someone who may begin shadowing him with the intention that this person would become the next Executive Director when he retires from this position.

- The TMEA Board appointed Michael Chester to begin shadowing and assisting Ron Meers with the intention that Michael Chester will become the next Executive Director upon Ron Meers' retirement. Michael Chester accepted this appointment.

11:41 a.m. - Adjournment for Lunch

TMEA Board & Conference Team Meeting Minutes
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- Technology Chair: John Womack
- Editor, *Tennessee Musician*: Michael Chester
- Conference Chairs: Paul Waters
- Newsletter/Tri-M/Minutes: Anna Laura Williams
- Exhibits Chair: Jo Ann Hood
- TMEA Ensemble Auditions Chair: John Mears

Absent – General Music Chair: Linzie Mullins; C-NAfME Chair: Dr. David Royse; Advocacy Chair: Dr. Christopher Dye; SMTE/Research Chair: Dr. Jamila McWhirter; TMEA All-State Vocal Chair: Amanda Ragan; TMEA All-State Instrumental Chair: Todd Shipley; TN Treble Honor Choir Chair: Tiffany Barton

Conference Overview and Planning:

12:33 p.m. - Call To Order - Lafe Cook

TMEACONF2019 Post-Conference Survey Results - Anna Laura Williams

- The TMEACONF2019 Post-Conference Survey Results excel spreadsheet was shared with the TMEA Board and Conference Team. This compiled data will be used by the TMEA Board when planning for future TMEA Conferences.

Auditions Chair Report - John Mears

- The current TMEA Auditions rubric and ideas for possible additions to this rubric were discussed. The deadline to apply will be July 14th, 2019.

Exhibits Chair Report - Jo Ann Hood, report submitted electronically

- There was an increase in the number of exhibitor booths this year compared to last year.
- Having the Registration Booth in the Exhibit Hall this year resulted in an increase in Exhibit Hall attendance.
- TMEA collected \$42,000, and \$705 in PayPal fees from the Exhibit Hall.
- The same contractor will be used again for the next two years, and bids will be taken again in 2022.
- The reception was well received by membership, and more donations and patron levels (with Dian Eddleman's assistance) will be solicited in the future.

Registration Chair Report - Mark Garey

- In the future, more helpers will be needed to prepare the TMEA Conference Attendee bags/packets.
- This year, approximately fifty of the name badges for the directors of All-State students were not available at registration (this included a mixture of band, choir, and orchestra across the state). Mark is seeking to identify the cause of this issue. Mark Garey and Ron Meers are researching how to improve the registration system for the future.

Sessions Chair Report - Charlene Cook

- Approximately 150 session proposals were submitted this year, which is a few more proposals submitted compared to last year.
- A few General Music sessions were pre-determined; it was specifically noted that "Music is Elementary" sponsored some of the national-level General Music guest presenters of a few pre-determined General Music spots.
- **2020 TMEA Conference Session Proposal Applications will open June 1st, 2019, and close September 1st, 2019. The deadline for the TMEA Board to select sessions will be October 1st, 2019.** It is Charlene's intention to send invitations to the presenters by Thanksgiving 2019.
- In the future (starting in 2020), the following TMEA Sessions dates will apply:
 - The TMEA Conference Session Proposals Application window will **open the last day of the conference** for the next upcoming TMEA Conference.
 - **September 1st - Deadline to submit TMEA Conference Session Proposals**
 - **October 1st - Deadline for the TMEA Board to select caucus sessions**
- Session presenters must communicate their technology needs to TMEA through the proper channels prior to the conference (projectors and audio needs will not automatically be provided).

TMEA Equipment Chair Report - Ben Zolkower

- It is important that performing groups know what supplies are expected of them and that equipment needs are communicated to TMEA in advance.

- TMEA has historically provided select percussion equipment for the TMEA Performance Ensembles. Upon discussion of previous challenges TMEA has encountered with this current system, it was decided starting this year (2020 TMEA Conference) new additions will be made to the TMEA Performance Ensemble form where directors must indicate specific percussion equipment they will be bringing as well as specific percussion equipment items they will be requesting TMEA provide for their ensemble's performance.
- In the future, any groups performing in session rooms may need to have their space limitations communicated to them in advance.

Conference Chair Report - Paul Waters & Brad Turner

- **Spotlight Ensembles - postponed for the 2020 TMEA Conference**
 - Due to space limitations of the 2019 TMEA Conference's contracted area with Opryland ("Tennessee" area), the Spotlight Ensemble performance spaces and times were not ideal or conducive to the Spotlight Ensemble performances.
 - Since the 2020 TMEA Conference will be utilizing the same contracted area as the 2019 TMEA Conference at Opryland ("Tennessee" area), **Paul Waters recommended and the TMEA Board agreed that Spotlight Ensembles should be postponed for the 2020 TMEA Conference; TMEA will revisit reinstating Spotlight Ensembles for the 2021 TMEA Conference when TMEA will have the original Spotlight Ensemble performance space available again (the "Presidential" area).**
 - Dr. Barry Kraus will still need to select one ensemble for the Exhibit Hall.
- Based on 2019 TMEA Conference signage, the TMEA Board discussed additional signage needs for the 2020 TMEA Conference.
- General Music sessions will require larger spaces for future sessions.
- After discussing the 2019 TMEA Conference Lunch & Concessions stand (located outside of the Tennessee Ballroom), it was decided this may be eliminated in the future.

2020 Wednesday Night Student Session and Schedule - Lafe Cook/Brad Turner

- Scheduling options for the 2020 Wednesday Night Student Session/Keynote were discussed in relation to scheduling All-State Registration, dinner, the TBA Honor Recital, and the All-State Choir & Jazz Band Rehearsals. As of today, the current draft of the Wednesday schedule is as follows (subject to change):

All-State Registration: 3:00pm-4:30pm

All-State Auditions: Start at 5:00pm

All-State Choir & All-State Jazz Rehearsals: 6:30pm-8:30pm

TBA Honors Recital: 8:00pm

Student Session/Keynote: 9:00pm

2021 Dates and Impact on Start Time - Board Discussion

Sunday, March 28th, 2021 - Wednesday, March 31st, 2021

- The 2021 TMEA Conference and All-State schedule was discussed. Due to Palm Sunday being the first day of the conference (March 28th, 2021), multiple options were considered with specific attention given to the starting times on Sunday. As of today, the current draft of the 2021 Sunday schedule is as follows (subject to change):
 - All-State Registration: 5:30pm-7:00pm*
 - All-State Auditions: Start at 7:30pm*
 - TBA Honor Recital: 8:00pm*
 - All-State Choir & Jazz Rehearsals: 8:00pm-10:00pm rehearsals*
 - (No Keynote)*
- Additional notes included the following:
 - Due to the conference starting in March, the Second-Tier Auditions for All-State Choirs will have to occur earlier in the year.
 - More judges and/or shorter audition excerpts may be needed to expedite the All-State Band and Orchestra Audition process on Sunday.
 - The All-State Choirs and All-State Jazz Band would perform on Tuesday evening with their scheduled sound-checks on Tuesday as well.
 - The Wednesday start time would begin at 10:00am with performances by the TN Treble Honor Choir, All-State Orchestras, and All-State Bands
 - The All-Collegiate Ensemble will be the All-Collegiate Choir, so no auditions will be required on-site at the conference.

Middle School All-State Choir - Board Discussion

- Due to the new scheduling changes for future TMEA Conferences, the TMEA Middle School All-State Choir will be postponed and revisited for the 2022 TMEA Conference.

Update on the 2018 TMEA Conference CMA Grant recipients - Ron Meers

- Thirty-four educators received a CMA Grant to attend the 2018 TMEA Conference. Of those recipients, seventeen registered and attended the 2019 TMEA Conference.

3:11 p.m. - Adjournment - Dr. Jonathan Vest