

NW KMEA BAND DIRECTOR'S MEETING
December 7, 2019
8:30 a.m.

Vesta Jo Still–High School Band chair called the meeting to order.

I. Vesta Jo had all the directors introduce themselves and tell where they taught.

II. High School Jazz Band-Mark Dewald-Claflin

A. Assistant-Randy Sauer-Wakeeney

B. Clinician-Steve Lueth

1. 6 schools participated
2. 22 students auditioned
3. Numbers were up a bit this year
4. Did not have a full trombone section
5. Needed a drum set player
6. Improv auditions are not required to be selected.

II. Junior High Band-Megan Reiner Chair

A. Assistant-Samantha Lackey

B. Clinician-Anna Kennedy-Seaman High School

1. 85 entries
2. 18 schools represented
3. 78 students selected
4. Participation in this group is down so are focusing on getting more to participate.
5. Tryout music may need to be looked at and revised

III. High School Band-Vesta Jo Still Chair

A. Assistant-Lucas Burmeister

B. Clinician-Dr. Alex Wimmer-Kansas State University

1. Used Festival Scores for auditions
2. 104 students auditioned
3. 81 selected for band
4. 26 school represented

5. Audition material consisted of Rubank/Voxman Excerpts and one excerpt of the state material. A Committee was formed at the min-convention last year to determine the Rubank etudes. A few directors indicated that in some sections that the Rubank was harder than the All-State excerpts.
6. Discussion on changing the audition material. It was suggested to give at least four years on the current Audition material before going back to just state material. Reasons for using the Rubank and the All-State material is a compromise to include both “how we used to do”. Goal is to increase the number of auditions.
7. No bassoons or oboes in the band. Only 3 tubas.
8. Very low numbers fro NW District in the 1234A State Band.
9. NW District is shrinking in population and the sizes of our bands are shrinking.
10. What steps does the district need to take to make this a more valuable experience for our students.
11. There is a concern that the audition upload window is too soon. . Before Festival Scores students had until November mini-convention to submit. Now, auditions are due about 2 weeks before. Discussion on moving the upload window up a little later and maybe not so long Judges still need about 5 days to judge.
12. It was suggested to select music for the convention that is as challenging as the audition music.
13. Questions were asked regarding the conflicts with the November min-convention?
14. A special thank you to judges and also Allen Brockmeir for writing timpani music for one of the pieces.

Meeting was adjourned,

Respectfully submitted,
Connie Reishus
NW Executive Director