

NW KMEA BUSINESS MEETING
December 3, 2022

President Joey Nickols called the business meeting to order.

Joey welcomed everyone and introduced the Northwest District officers and chair people. He also introduced State Executive Director-Dr. John Taylor.

I. Minutes-Connie Reishus-Executive Director

Connie stated the minutes from the 2021 band director, choir director, business meeting and the 2022 summer board meeting have been posted on the district website.

II. Treasurer's report-Connie Reishus-Executive Director

- A. The balance in the Northwest checking account as of November 30, 2022 was \$10,617.83. Savings account balance is \$3351.99. \$2000.00 is usually taken out of savings to use for change for the elementary and high school concerts today. Many times people will give \$20.00 bills when they pay for the concert change is needed.
- B. All bills have been paid for the November Concert. Connie thanked everyone for including the print out information sheet when fees are submitted. This year auditions fees were added in the amount of \$3.00 for each entry that was submitted, for all groups except junior high choir and elementary choir. Those sheets really helped to show what was being paid.
- C. At the State summer board meeting all Executive Directors were given the responsibility to put together District Audition Information. Seven categories were given. The purpose of this is so all districts in the state will be aligned in their audition procedures. If a music teacher were to move to another district, they then will be familiar with the audition procedures and it won't be so difficult to register their students for honor groups.
- D. Please note High School Choir will be charged \$3.00 for auditions beginning fall of 2022. There are two reasons for this:
 - 1. To help prevent cancellations in auditions.
 - 2. To purchase new Bluetooth recording devices for auditions. There were many problems with the CD players during auditions previously. Choral Chair, Michael Davidson will

explain later in his report how auditions worked out better this year.

- E. Connie stated she will be updating the Northwest District Handbook this year with everything that has changed and new items that need to be added. She hopes to have this done by March 1st of 2023. So please check your handbooks on the Northwest District website for information.
- F. Ticket takers are needed for the afternoon concert

III. Reports from Chairpersons

A. Junior High Choir-Kathy Conway-Osborne

- 1. Assistant-Annie Adams
- 2. Clinician-Shana Lander-Manhattan
- 3. Accompanist-Maggie McCain
- 4. Concert Information
 - a. Students registered-170
 - b. Students in attendance-152
 - c. Schools-26
 - d. 4 songs were performed
- 5. Concern that there was way too much time for junior high students during the day before the concert. It was suggested to possibly consider adding another song.
- 6. A question was brought up regarding moving the junior High choir deadline up.

B. Junior High Band-Matt Rome

- 1. Assistant-Carrie Goodson
- 2. Clinician-Dr. Keith Dodson-Bethany College
- 3. Concert Information
 - a. 111 entries
 - b. 18 schools represented
 - c. 72 students selected.
 - d. Need to focus is on getting more to participate.
- 4. Concern expressed that the music was too easy for an honor band. Some students felt because of the easy music not an honor to play in the band. There was concern that a lot of the percussion were not able to play due to the music.
- 4. It was suggested that there be guidelines for Middle

School (junior high) band for the band chair and clinician. The following motions were made pertaining to the music selected.

****MOTION**

Vesta Jo Still made the motion that music for Middle Level Honor Band be at least a grade level of 1 ½ and not more than a level 3. Shawn Shipley seconded the motion. Motion carried.

*****MOTION**

Billy Wicks mad the motion that music for the High School Honor Band be at least a grade level of 2 to 3 ½ repertoire and not to exceed a level 4. Jordan Riggs seconded the motion. Motion carried.

C. High School Jazz Band-Randy Sauer-Wakeeney

1. Assistant-Brad Persinger
2. Clinician-Randy Crow-McPherson
3. 9 schools represented
4. 13 students auditioned
5. 11 students selected
6. Still need more students to audition.

No drum set, piano, or guitar. Trombones were short
Alan Brockmeir (Plainville director)-Drum set
Student from Fort Hays-Piano
Randy Sauer-Guitar

7. Southwest District is also having difficulty filling instrumentation in their Jazz Band. Question was brought up if Northwest would want to combine Jazz band with the Southwest District like the Orchestra does.
-Directors stated because so many directors have many students in different honor groups they are responsible for, therefore, it would be very difficult to have the Jazz Band at a different location.
7. It was suggested to possibly use paper auditions for High School Jazz Band auditions. There would be a stipulation that if a student was submitted by paper audition and not recording, they would not be 1st chair of the section.

D. High School Choir-Michael Davidson

1. Assistant- -Emily Stefan

2. Clinician-Dr. Mark Lucas-Bethany College
3. Accompanist-Luis Reyes-Hay
4. 25 schools represented
5. 253 Students registered to audition
6. 175 actual auditioned including CDs
7. 149 selected
8. 141 in attendance
9. Followed the new policy of 25 per section provided they earned a score over 20; a student was added to the roster as the exception to the max 25 rule to allow each school one representative in the choir.
10. New Bluetooth recording devices were purchased to replace CD players and they worked out very well. Troy Johnson, State Webmaster proposed Audition Festivals to be used for High School Choral Auditions. How it works is judges use their phones as tabulation when a student auditions and then it automatically tabulates the total and sends it to the main center.
11. Michael stated more teachers are needed for auditions.

E. High School Band-Lucas Burmeister

1. Assistant-Max Befort
2. Clinician-Dr. Luke Johnson-MidAmerican Nazarene
3. 21 schools represented
4. 88 signed up
5. 78 completed auditions
6. 66 accepted
7. 61 in attendance today
8. Need more horn and trombones
9. Need to encourage more students to audition
10. Festival Scores was used for auditions
11. The district purchased some music again for the High School and will be selling it at 50% off original price.

****Motion**

Vesta Jo Still made the motion for Northwest KMEA not to use a metronome for auditions but will use the chromatic scale that was adopted by the state. This is for high school Concert band only.

Billy Wicks seconded the motion. Motion carried.

F. Elementary Choir-Cindy Root Claflin

1. Assistant- Paul Prewo-Logan
2. Clinician-Lissa Simmelink McPherson
3. Accompanist-Kayla Wombacher-Atwood
3. 27 schools represented
4. 154 students registered
5. 131 students in attendance today
6. It was a very short concert and Cindy recommended 5 (five) songs be performed instead of just 4 four)

G. NW/SW Orchestra-Joan Crull

1. Held in Northwest District this year.
2. Clinician-Dr. Leonardo Rosario-Kansas Wesleyan
3. 70 students auditioned
4. 57 students selected and attended

H. Advocacy/Mentoring-Bill Schick

1. Bill reported on the dinner held at the beginning of the year for new teachers in the district and their mentors. It was held in Phillipsburg, October 16, 2022.
2. Joey thanked Bill Schick for keeping our Mentoring on track! He thanked him for reaching out and for all the work he does.
3. PLEASE notify one of the Executive Board members if you know of new teachers or returning teachers to the Northwest District. Be sure they know the process and the importance of the DEADLINES!!!! (Connie, Don, Joey, Alex and Bill)
5. Bill noted there were a lot of music teacher openings in Northwest District this past fall. Most of them have been filled. He is very concerned about the music teacher shortage not only in the Northwest district, but the state.
6. Bill has notified the board that he is resigning as Advocacy and Mentor Chair. This will take effect March 1st, 2023.

I. Honored Educators-Don Mordecai-Norton

Outstanding Educators for Northwest District

1. Elementary Educator-Megan Riener-Stockton
Megan was selected to represent Northwest District on the State Level.

2. Middle Level Educator-Kelsey Pinkerton-Phillipsburg
3. High School Educator-Emily Stefan
4. College Educator-Benjamin Cline-Fort Hays State
5. Honored Administrator-Keith Hall-Principal/Superintendent Kensington/Agra

J. Julie Groom Memorial Scholarships-Don Mordecai-Norton

1. Millicent Brown-FHSU
2. Daisy Hawkins-University of Nebraska-Kearney
3. Nathan Leiker-FHSU
4. Sierra Portenier-McPherson College

IV Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

V. New Business

A. EMAILS

1. Directors (directors@nwkmea.org) you are able to use this when you need to ask a question or help from the teachers in the Northwest District.
2. If an email is received from anyone in the district, Dr Taylor has a practice in place that he asks of the board..**please respond within 24 hours.** Even if you do not know the answer, please reply that you don't know but will get back as soon as you can. Joey is for everyone in Northwest District to please practice this. Great communications is good practice for all of us.
3. Joey reminded everyone to include an invoice when submitting a check for honor groups.
4. Since Northwest purchased Bluetooth players for Choir auditions there are CD players for sale at \$10.

B. State News: Dr. John Taylor (State Executive Director)

John stated he brings greetings from State KMEA President Mark Gard.

1. New ticketing for concert-select a seat
2. Voting for New State President
Brian Kirk
Damian Johnson
3. ISW 2023-Feb. 23-25

- 1:00 pm Thurs. opening
4. ISW 2023 will be in person
Full schedule online
 5. District Executive Directors will be aligning auditions procedures for all districts.
 6. President's concert first evening at ISW-Blue Grass Group
 7. 1-2A State Honor Band will be again this year. Vesta Jo Still and Barb Elbracht are chairs of this group.
This band will focus on middle level music. Students who made the district honor band will be eligible to participate. They must be selected by their director. One from a 1A or 2A schools. Michael Sweeney will be guest conductor.
 8. All State Orchestra chairs-Joan Crull and Summer Miller
 9. If student is a Junior or Senior and a member of a Tri-M chapter they will be admitted free to ISW.
 10. Survey sent out to teachers with question on starting ISW earlier 10:30 on Thursday in 2024.
 11. KMEA Fund provides 6 scholarships to students in Kansas.
 12. John suggested teachers apply for CODA Grants-\$200.00
Cindy Root and Randy Sauer for NW received one this year.
 13. Leadership camp for officers is June 8-10, 2023.
John advised all those in leadership to attend.

C. Comments by Joey Nickols

1. There are still November Mini-Convention programs available. See Joey Nickols should you want some additional ones.
2. Doors for afternoon concert will open at 3:15 pm.
3. Everyone is needed to get the choir risers collapsed, stored away, band chairs and stand rows set up for the concert.
4. Registration and Upload Deadlines for 2023 will be posted on the NW District website at a later date.
5. President-elect is **Maggie McKain-Osborne. Congratulations.**
6. in December of 2023 the Orchestra will be in the Southwest.

D. Registration and Upload Deadlines for 2023-24. Please meet deadlines.

2023-2024 School year

1. Junior High Band Audition Upload Deadline- Wednesday, September 27, 2023 11:59 p.m.
2. High School Jazz Band Audition Upload Deadline- Thursday, September 28, 2023 11:59 p.m.
3. Junior High Choir Registration Deadline-Thursday, Oct. 5, 2023 11:59 p.m.
4. High School choir-Sunday -October 8, 2023
5. Elementary Choir Registration Deadline-Thursday, Oct. 19, 2023 11:59 p.m.
6. High School Band Upload Deadline-Wednesday, Oct. 25, 2023 11:59 p.m.
- 7.High School Orchestra Upload Deadline-Thursday October 26, 2023 11:59 p.m.
2. Choir Late deadline #1-October 22, 2023
3. Choir Late deadline #2-November 3, 2023
4. Choir Late deadline #3-November 4, 2023

A. Mini-Convention I-Hays High School-Saturday November 4, 2023. (JH Honor Choir, JH Honor Band and HS Honor Jazz Band.

B. Mini-Convention II-Fort Hays State University-Saturday, December 9, 2023. (HS Choir, HS Band, and Elementary Choir.

Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Connie Reishus
Northwest Executive Director