

**NORTHWEST DISTRICT BOARD MEETING**  
**June 24, 2021 3:00 pm**  
**Hilton Garden Inn-Hays, Ks.**

**Northwest District President, Joey Nickols called the meeting to order.**

Joey welcomed everyone and expressed gratitude that we could meet in person after dealing with COVID and online meetings. He asked everyone present to introduce themselves and state where they teach.

Board members present were:

President-Joey Nickols  
President-elect-Alex Underwood  
Past-President--Don Mordecai-Norton  
Executive Director-Connie Reishus-Plainville  
High Band Chair-Lucas Burmeister  
Assistant JH Choir-Annie Adams  
Elementary Choir Chair-Cindy Root  
High Jazz Chair-Randy Sauer  
Assistant Junior High Band-Matt Rome  
High School Orchestra Chair-Joan Crull-Hays  
December FHSU Site Coordinator-Dr. Terry Crull  
Advocacy/Mentor Chair-Bill Schick-Phillipsburg  
State Webmaster-Troy Johnson

**II. Minutes-Connie Reishus**

Connie stated all minutes are posted on the district website.

**\*\*\*MOTION: Matt Rome made the motion to approve the December business minutes. Don Mordecai seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

**III. Treasurer's Report-Connie Reishus**

Connie handed out the financial report that will go into the state the end of June. She also attached a copy of last years report so board members could compare the revenue and expenses. Connie stated due to COVID very little money was received. A total of 203.30. She explained that as of 6-24-2021 the balance in the Northwest District checkbook as \$7573.51. Northwest District KMEA also has a \$5000.00 twelve month CD that will expire in November 2021.

**\*\*\*MOTION: Matt Rome made the motion to approve the treasurer's report. Don Mordecai seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

**A. NWKMEA 2021-2022 Board Members**

1. Officers (\*=voting members as identified in bylaws)

- a. \*President-Joey Nickols
- b. \*President-elect-Alex Underwood
- c. \*Past President-Don Mordecai
- d. Executive Director-Connie Reishus
- e. \*HS Band Chair-Lucas Burmeister
- f. Asst. HS Chair-TBD
- g. \*HS Choir Chair-Jessica Hakoda
- h. Asst. HS Choir Chair-Michael Davidson
- i. \*HS Orchestra Chair-Joan Crull
- j. \*HS Jazz Chair-Randy Sauer
- k. Asst. HS Jazz-Brad Persinger
- l. \*JH Band Chair-Samantha Lackey
- m. Asst. JH Band-Matt Rome
- n. \*JH Choir Chair-Kathy Conway
- o. Asst. JH Choir-Annie Adams
- p. \*Elementary Choir Chair-Cindy Root
- q. Asst. Elementary Choir-TBD
- r. Advocacy Chair-Bill Schick
- s. \*Mentoring Chair-Bill Schick
- t. November Site Coordinator-Matt Rome
- u. December Site Coordinator-Terry Crull
- v. Webmaster-Troy Johnson

**2. Conflict of Interest and Whistleblower Forms**

- a. According to IRS every voting member of the board must complete these two forms. Joey explained once they are signed please turn them into the Executive Director.

## **B. State KMEA Information**

### **1. 2021 ISW**

Joey asked Troy Johnson to explain regarding the ISW sessions. He explained that the sessions are back online after the end of summer.

### **2. 2022 KMEA ISW Feb. 24-26**

- a. IN PERSON
- b. Thursday sessions are led by Marcia Neel, Dr. Tim and Charles Menghini.
- c. Clinicians are;
  1. Elem. Choir-Christina Svec
  2. Middle Level Choir-Fernando Malvar-Ruiz
  3. 1234A Band-Randall Standrige
  4. 56A Band-Travis Cross
  5. HS Mixed Choir-Anton Armstrong
  6. HS Treble Choir-Tesfa Wondemagaegmehu
  7. Full Orchestra-Jessica Bejarano
  8. String Orchestra-Thomas Dickey
  9. Jazz-Dana Landry
- d. Submit clinic session proposals
  1. Due by Oct 1
    - a. State affiliate groups and advisory boards choose sessions, NOT state KMEA
  2. If you send in a proposal, it is suggested to let Joey know so he can lobby on your behalf.
- e. Submit for ISW Performance Groups  
This was due in May. If you submitted a group but not get in this year try again next year. More Elementary Choirs and Middle Level Groups are needed.

### **3. CODA GRANTS**

- a. Information is upcoming on the State KMEA website
- b. Forms will be made available there also.

### **4 State Scholarships@KMEA Level**

- a. <https://ksmea.org/scholarships>
  1. All State Groups Scholarships are for HS students Enrolling in Music Ed. a 4 year Kansas College

2. Robert and Myrabel Hollowell Scholarship  
Goes to a college junior
3. Don and JoAnn Corbett Scholarship  
Goes to a student teacher
4. KMMA Scholarship-goes to a college senior

Joey suggested these scholarships are available and if any teachers in Northwest knew of someone deserving of any of these please submit their names.

### **5. Instrumental auditions**

- a. 4<sup>th</sup> year audition cycle should be ready a year from now in 2022.
- b. Discussion on removing the major scales from band and orchestra live auditions.
  1. Joey asked what Northwest Districts thoughts were on this. The rationale was that the chromatic scale shows total range of students as well as tone in those ranges. It was confusing on the major scales as to whether it was the scale of the instrument or the concert scale. Most board members felt the chromatic was sufficient.
- c. Complete percussion audition for state
  1. Students auditioning would have to audition on snare, mallet and timpani in order to audition for state.

A discussion was held on this matter and a lot of board members **felt timpani should not be included** as a lot of schools do not have 4 timpani or even good timpani. Also, a teacher could have their best timpani player assigned to another group. It is the responsibility of the state band chair to figure out how many percussionists needed.

2. A committee was formed to look into this
  - a. Chaired by Dan Freeman of the East Central District
  - b. Joey represents Northwest District

d. KBA has been asked to create a more standardized process to provide equity and avoid copyright concerns by looking into creating a 4 year band rotation of audition music for the All State Bands that is based on original compositions and prescribed scale study pages.

1. Jazz and orchestra just went through this process and it will provide best practices for the organization as well as the schools.

## **6. State President, Mark Gard's Strategic Plan**

- a. Access to Music
- b. Student Involvement Opportunities-More Tri-M chapters and the state will pay half of the fee to join
- c. Professional Development
- d. Advocacy

## **7. Kansas School Redesign**

- a. Joey asked if there were any board members schools in the redesign program and if so how was it affecting electives. Annie Adams stated she had talked to teachers in schools that had the redesign and it is affecting electives. Initially music was to be in the redesign but was later taken out.

## **8. KCDA**

- a. Is there interest in 4A-6A large ensembles preparing 3 pieces for regional music contests instead of 4. What is happening now is 4 pieces are prepared and then The day of contest one is thrown out. NW teachers felt only three should be prepared and performed.

## **9. KMEA & KMTA**

- a. KMTA will no longer be allowed to attend KMEA ISW on KMTA memberships only. They will have to join NAFME. Right now there is no way of knowing who has a current membership in KMTA.

## **10. KSDE**

- a. Joyce Huser (KSDE rep) is wondering about doing Standard revisions not for K-8 or ensembles but for Guitar, Music Tech and music not common in the Classroom.

**11. KMR (Kansas Music Review submissions)**

- a. District will do a state update at some point in the year.
- b. They are always looking for contributions from members
- c. Joey stated let's highlight the great things happening in the NW district.

**12. 12A Honor Band (ISW 2022)**

- a. This is not an All-State group
- b. Students must audition for district band to be eligible
- c. It is created after state band auditions happen in January
- d. Teachers will nominate student
- e. Will help provide opportunities for students in the 180 12A schools
- f. Ed Huckeby will be the clinician in 2022
- g. Vesta Jo Stilll is the chair for the 12A Honor Band.

**13. Liability Insurance**

- a. KMEA purchases liability insurance through NAFME
  - 1. Covers lawsuits brought against leaders for decisions made as part of Board service.
  - 2. It is a gift KMEA is giving to District and Affiliate Boards. Any person who is elected to the Board and is a voting member is covered.

**C. NW District Information**

**1. Elections**

Each member of the board must be elected to their position per IRS requirements for our organizations. This includes both chairs and assistants. They can not be appointed unless they are a non-voting advisory board member or are filling a vacated position.

**2. Open Teaching position in NW District.**

Joey stated that as of 6/8/21 there were 16 open teaching positions in the Northwest District. Some have recently been filled.

A question was asked if there is anything that could be done to help fill these positions.

**3. Social Media Platform**

KMEA has already created a Twitter page for NW District. Erik Stone oversees all KMEA related social media platforms  
NW KMEA twitter is @nwkmea.

#### **4. Honored Educator Awards**

The following have been nominated for the 2021 year.

- a. Elementary-Jenny Tally-Oberlin
- b. Junior High-Kristi Vetter-Beloit
- c. High School-Kathy Conway-Osborne
- d. Collegiate-Dr. Ivalah Allen-FHSU
- e. Administrator-Shelly Angelos-Brewster-Superintendent

Special Note:Mark Stroud-Hays High Principal was awarded the State Administrator this past year. He was the representative from the Northwest District.

#### **5. Julie Groom Memorial Scholarship**

At this time there are no nominations for this scholarship.

#### **6. Getting correct information on the district website.**

Joey stated to board members to make sure audition information is updated on the website. Get it to Troy by July 21<sup>st</sup> as this will allow him to get it uploaded prior to August, giving teachers time to order music before start of the school year.

### **V. Board Reports**

#### **A. President**-Joey Nickols

1. Joey stated that superintendents are wanting music in their schools and suggests to teachers to make students possibly think a about beginning music majors.
2. Joey asked whether there should be an increase in fees.  
Connie stated that because of COVID Northwest District has lost money this past year. However, she felt that schools in the Northwest probably will have a hard time this year and because Of this she would recommend not increasing fees this year.

#### **B. President-elect**-Alex Underwood

Alex stated he will be supporting Joey.

#### **C. Past President**-Don Mordecai

Had already given a report regarding the Outstanding Music Educators.

#### **D. HS Band**-Lucas Burmeister

1. Clinician-Dr. Frank Perez-Baker University

- E. **HS Choir**-Alex Underwood (for Jessica Hakoda)
1. Clinician-Julie Yu-Kansas State University
  2. Accompanist-Pam McGowne
  3. Question whether should use festival scores or have live auditions. If use festival scores teachers could focus on junior high students instead of helping with auditions. Also high school students would not have to travel. After much discussion it was decided the idea needed to be discussed with the whole group in December and this year should go with live auditions.
- F. **HS Jazz**-Randy Sauer
1. Clinician-Dr. Ryan Heilein-Johnson County Community
  2. Randy stated needed to have students audition for Jazz Band.
- G. **HS Orchestra**-Joan Crull
1. Clinician-Keith Dodson-Bethany College
  2. The orchestra will be in the Southwest District this year at Dodge City.
- H. **JH Band**-Matt Rome (for Samantha Lackey)
1. Clinician-Shawn Knopp-Friends University
- I. **JH Choir**-Annie Adams (for Kathy Conway)
1. Clinician-Carlita Pederson-Topeka
  2. Accompanist-Maggie McCain
- J. **Elementary Choir**-Cindy Root
1. Clinician-Jennifer Donovan-Platte City, Mo.
  2. Accompanist-Kayla Wombacher
- K. **Site Coordinator-Mini-Convention I**-Matt Rome  
Matt stated everything is a go for the November Convention. Hays High will be open with contingencies if outbreak of COVID would occur.
- L. **Site Coordinator-Mini-Convention II**-Terry Crull
1. Terry reminded everyone that due to him being in Hawaii with Fort Hays Choir the Convention in December will be a week later, December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021.
  2. Terry would like to hire a student for the section leader for the percussion and would like to have them paid \$50.00



**M. Troy Johnson-State webmaster**

1. If board members hear of new teachers have them contact Troy.
2. There is one email that covers the whole group
3. There are still groups that need to pay for state groups
4. Middle Level and High school may have changed
5. Check to make sure your NAFME memberships are current.

**VI. New Business**

**A. District Auditions**

1. Joey stated everyone really needs to push those auditions
2. Encourage students to audition for the district Groups

**B. Scholarships**

Due to no money being taken in from the 2020 District Conventions, it is recommended that only 3 Julie Groom Memorial Scholarships be awarded this year.

**C. Over the Rainbow**

1. Combined band and choir will perform “Over the Rainbow this year because the Orchestra will be in the Southwest District.
2. Usually the current President conducts “Over the Rainbow”. However, because there was not an in person convention in 2020, it is suggested that the Past-President conduct “Over the Rainbow” beginning this year in 2021.

**MOTION-Matt Rome made the motion that the Past-President conducts the combined band and choir for “Over the Rainbow”**  
**Joan Crull seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

**D. Creating a district drop box**

1. North Central has a drop box and it has worked very well.

2. Teachers would be able to use it for “pass down” for all positions.
3. Chair and assistants would be able to access their particular ensemble folder and update/drop items in it.
4. Executive board would have access to everything.
5. It is free for 2 GB storage and Troy thought that would be enough for our district.

**MOTION: Randy Sauer made the motion to have a district Drop box run by the executive director. Don Mordecai seconded the motion. Motion carried**

**E. Elementary sessions during December Convention**

1. Orff and Kodaly would be willing to send members to attend the December Convention and have sessions for the elementary teachers during rehearsal time.
2. This would have something to support our elementary teachers that would benefit their programs.
3. It would give them classroom ideas and structures to use throughout the year to help foster musical growth and excitement.
4. It was decided to contact Orff and Kodaly to have them attend.

**VI. CALENDER NWKMEA 2021-2022 Proposed Deadline Dates**

Wed. Sept. 29, 2021-JH Band Audition Upload deadline

Thurs. Sept. 30, 2021-HS Jazz Band Upload Deadline

Thurs. Oct. 7, 2021-JH Choir Deadline

Sun. Oct 17,2021-NW Dist. Fall Mentoring Dinner @ Phillipsburg

Sun. Oct. 6, 2019-HS Choir Audition Registration Deadline (set by State)

Thurs. Oct. 21, 2021-Elementary Choir Registration Deadline

Sun. Oct. 24, 2021-High School Choir Audition Registration- **Late Deadline #1**

Wed. Oct. 27, 2021-HS Band Audition Upload deadline

Wed. Oct. 27, 2021-HS Orchestra Audition Upload Deadline (NW/SW)

Fri. Nov. 5, 2021-High School Choir Audition Registration-**Late Deadline #2**

Sat. Nov, 6, 2021-High School Choir Audition Registration-

**Late Deadline #3**

**November 7, 2021**- Mini Convention I, JH Choir, JH Band, HS Jazz Band

Hays High School

**December 11, 2021**-Mini-Convention II-HS Band, HS Choir, Elementary

Choir, HS Orchestra-Fort Hays State University-Beach Schmidt Auditorium

Dec. 17, 2021-State Live Auditions Deadline (\$10)

Dec. 31, 2021-State Live Auditions Deadline #2 (30)

Jan. 7, 2022-State Live Auditions Deadline #3 (50)

Jan. 8, 2022-State Live Auditions Deadline #4 (100)

Jan. 8, 2022- State Live Auditions @ Lakewood MS in Salina

Jan. 15, 2022-State Live Auditions Contingency Date

Feb. 24-26 In Person ISW-Wichita

**MOTION: Randy Sauer made the motion to adjourn. Don Mordecai seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Reishus

Northwest District Executive Director