

NW KMEA BUSINESS MEETING
December 9, 2023
1:00 p.m.

President Alex Underwood called the business meeting to order.

Ales welcomed everyone and introduced the Northwest District officers and chair people. He also introduced State President-Jamie Minneman

I. Minutes-Connie Reishus-Executive Director

Connie stated the minutes from the 2022 band director, choir director, business meeting and the 2023 summer board meeting have been posted on the NW District website.

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

1. I have updated the Northwest District Handbook and it is on our NW website under the heading of **About.** The District minutes are also there. There are three sections to the handbook: Bylaws, Officer job descriptions, and policies. The policy section is especially important as it tells about Fees and items that pertain to our district.
2. Treasures Report-Balance as of November 30, 2023 on the checking account is \$14,152.03. This amount includes a lot of the deposits from audition and registration fees not only for the November Convention groups but also December. All bills for the November convention have been paid. The expenses for the December Convention are quite a bit more than the November so this amount will change.
3. At the state summer board meeting in 2022, all executive directors were given the responsibility to put together a District Audition Alignment Information. We were given seven categories. This information is now on our Northwest District website.
4. The northwest board voted at the summer meeting to increase the audition fee to \$5.00 per student and the participation fee to \$15.00 per student. This fee increase is to cover the increases in convention expenses. The late registration fee, which is a separate fee, plus the cost for people to attend the concerts will remain the same. The State sets the high school choir registration date. If a teacher

registers their students by the date set by the state there is no registration fee.

5. This year we lost two amazing music teachers from our Northwest District. Jean Conifer from St. Francis and Bill Schick from Phillipsburg. Bill was the Northwest Districts Mentoring and Advocacy Chair. Bill was well known throughout the state because of all that he did for our district, the state and the mentoring program. Each fall he would spend numerous hours calling schools where there were new teachers and lining them up with experienced teachers in our district. He then planned a dinner so those new teachers could get together and meet the board and their mentors. The state set up a similar experience based on what Bill did. Because of all that Bill did for our district, the Board voted at the summer board meeting to set up a scholarship in Bill's name. The scholarship will be given to first year teachers in the Northwest District and also those teachers coming from other districts that it would be their first year in the Northwest District. The scholarship will pay NafME dues their first year. I am working with the Salina foundation to have this scholarship setup as there are people throughout the state that would like to contribute on behalf of Bill. I am hoping by Fall of 2024 we will be able to award this scholarship.
6. I am needing ticket takers and 2 people to help take money for the afternoon Concert.

****MOTION: Michael Davidson made a motion to approve the treasurer's report. Hector Hernandez seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

III. Reports from Chairpersons

- A. Junior High Choir-Annie Adams
 1. Assistant-Megan Reiner
 2. Clinician-Lance Burnett-Royster Middle School-Chanute
 3. Accompanist-Mendy Burnett
 4. Students registered-159
 5. Students in attendance-140
 6. Schools-25

7. 5 songs were performed
8. Annie stated that having a male clinician brought more awareness to the difference between tenor and bass junior high guys.

B. Junior High Band-Matt Rome

1. Assistant-Carrie Goodson
2. Clinician-Kyle Hopkins
3. 103 entries
4. 20 schools represented
5. 95 students selected.
6. Please encourage more students to participate.
7. Matt felt the students were well prepared and seemed to really respond to Kyle Hopkins
8. The music was challenging for the students.
9. Katrina Long stated she worked on the audition music for junior high clarine as it was very high and difficult. She questioned why the new material she submitted was not used. Need to check into this.

C. High School Jazz Band-Brad Persinger

1. Assistant-Allen Brockmeier
2. Clinician-Ben Rohrer-Salina
3. Students auditioned-20
4. Students selected-19
5. Schools represented-10
6. Brad stated numbers were up. Continue to encourage more students to audition.

D. High School Choir-Michael Davidson

1. Assistant-Rachel Lumpkins
2. Clinician-Micah Horton-Olathe North High School
3. Accompanist-Pam McGowen-Hays
4. High School Honor Choir results-
5. Auditions held November 4, 2023
6. Registered to audition-202 (down from 228)
7. Actually auditioned-153 (down from 175)
8. Selected for choir- 149
9. Schools represented -24 (down one 25)

10. The new policy of 25 per section was followed. If a student 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.

S1=23

S2=25

A1=25

A2=12

T1=10

T2=10

B1=17

B2=13

11. Actual attendance: 135

12. An audition procedure called **FESTIVAL AUDITIONS** was used again this year along with the Bluetooth speakers.

Feedback from Audition

1. Thank you to all that helped with auditions. Michael stated he is still having trouble getting judges to commit for the day even with one fewer room. Please remember that this event doesn't happen if teachers do not help. Students from FHSU were used as workers.
2. Michael provided copied cuts of the auditions this year which were destroyed after the fact. This is the first year this was done and Michael suggested to make that the standard.
3. Getting quartets back as one was lost again.
 - a. Michael felt this may be a problem getting quartets back.
 - b. Northwest will need to make some big changes in order to reverse this trend.
 - c. Michael felt that Northwest may not deserve to get the quartets back, not because of worth but genuinely because of a lack of numbers.
4. Changes for the future
 - a. Michael suggested Northwest should consider dramatically change how choir is selected.
 1. split the choir
 2. Pros/Cons
 - b. Change late registration fees

5. Today
 - a. Choir will be directly center in the balcony in order to give the best sound for “Over the Rainbow”.
 - b. Cards will be used again. Remember to have students give cards to a teacher volunteer at the end of the concert.
6. Discussion
 - a. Schools without an accompanist
 - b. What can be done as a district to help schools to help alleviate that problem?
 - c. Possibly record accompaniments or help schools coordinate accompanist positions with other schools.
7. Inservice on January 15th for K-12 teachers at Phillipsburg. Contact Vesta Jo Still.

E. High School Band-Max Befort

1. Assistant-Alex Crowley
2. Clinician-Kathy Amrein
3. 106 signed up
4. 103 completed auditions
5. 75 selected
6. 26 schools
7. Troy sent out audition numbers for the last two years. Auditions are up.
 - 2016-135
 - 2017-99
 - 2018-99
 - 2019-109
 - 2020-41
 - 2021-72
 - 2022-78
 - 2023-103
8. .Need more oboe 2, bassoon, clarinets and tubas
9. Max suggested for teachers to encourage students
10. Deadlines are important please be sure to check them.

NO METRONOMES TO BE USED DURING RECORDING
11. The State has adopted scales for All-State tryouts. Northwest District adopted the All-State Music and it was used this year for auditions. Along with a chromatic scale Max asked if Northwest

wants to adopt using a major scale for tryouts. This is what the state requires.

****Motion**

Hector Hernadez made the motion for Northwest KMEA continue to use a major scale as an auditioning metric for tryouts. Lucas Burmeister seconded the motion. This is for High School Concert Band only.

12. Questions were asked regarding if alternates were listed
For high School band and junior high band.
 1. 2 alternates for each section should be listed
 2. Send music to alternates
 3. Let alternates know day before convention.
13. KBA-Kelly Burrus
Kelly gave a report regarding KBA and encouraged to join KBA and to attend summer convention

F. Elementary Choir-Paulette Wildeman

1. Assistant- Jenny Tally
2. Clinician-Kelly Knedler
3. Accompanist-Kayla Wombacher
4. Registered -174
5. Actually auditioned-175
6. Students in attendance today-164
7. Schools represented -31
8. Paulette served as chair one year for Paula Prevo who took an Administrator's position.
9. Jenny Tally will serve as Elementary Chair for 2024-2027.
10. Jenny will need an assistant for the next three years
11. Musical numbers for the concert were increase from four to five this year.
12. Helpers are needed for the ticket table and door.
13. Helpers are also needed to help set up risers prior to rehearsal in Beach Schmidt.

G. NW/SW Orchestra-Julia McMains

1. Held in Southwest District this year.

H. Advocacy/Mentoring-Joey Nickols

Joey took over for Bill Schick who passed away. Joey stated, he was working on a list of mentors for first year teachers. He apologized for taking so long. He switched jobs this year and was adjusting with everything.

I. Honored Educators-Joey Nickols

Outstanding Educators for Northwest District

1. Elementary Educator-Tally Hickman-Natoma
Tally was also chosen as State representative from Northwest District.
2. Middle Level Educator-Kelli Burrus-Osborne
3. High School Educator-Michael Karnes-Golden Plains
4. College Educator-Randy Berls-Colby Community College
5. Honored Administrator-Kurt Brown

J. Julie Groom Memorial Scholarships-Joey Nickols

1. Emil Benavides-Bethel College
2. Tyler Long-Kansas State University
3. Isaiah Steirlen-Fort Hays State University

IV Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

V. New Business

Resolutions.

The following resolutions were voted on for Junior High and High School Honor Choirs.

A. Junior High (Mid-Level) Honor Choir

We resolve the following:

1. To remove the participation cap for all schools who participate in the NW mid-level (Junior High) Honor Choir. Teachers will enter students using a rank system.
2. The total registration will not exceed 250 members. In the event that students need to be removed from the roster to meet this need, they will be removed at the discretion of the junior high choir chair utilizing the current student ranking system.
3. The junior high choir chair will also have the discretion to alter registration in order to facilitate a more balanced choir.

B. High School Honor Choir

We resolve the following:

1. To create a committee of music educators with the following Makeup:
 - a. NW district site manager
 - b. NW Choir chair
 - c. NW President
 - d. No fewer than 3 representative teachers
 - e. Optional educator from outside of the district.
2. The mandate shall include:
 - a. To reformat the nature of auditions and presentation of the NW District Honor Choir.
 - b. To include some version of a paper audition process.
 - c. To define procedures and processes which are intended to increase quality participation, and equity in the administration of the choir.
3. The results of the committee's recommendation
 - a. Will be presented to the district prior to the June board meeting with enough time to receive comments and suggestions.
 - b. These recommendations will be voted on for approval at the June 2024 Board meeting.

C. State News: Jamie Minneman-State President

1. New Executive Director-Craig Manteuffel
Dr. John Taylor will retire in June of 2024 at which time Craig will take over.
2. State President-elect is Damien Johnson
3. ISW will begin early in 2024 Feb. 22-24 starting
At 10:30 a.m.
4. Increase in fees for state honor group participants to \$15.
This will be to cover box lunches.
5. 90th birthday for KMEA
6. Suggested to establish more Tri-M chapters. KMEA will
Help with start-up fee. Tri-M get in free at ISW
7. There is a great need for students to go into music
Education.
8. Tri-M Chapter
KMEA will help set up a chapter. Also students from

- Tri-M Chapters can go to ISW free.
9. ISW is adding a reception for 1-5 year teachers and a free breakfast for first year teachers.

****MOTION:**

Kelly Burrus made the motion to keep the Mini-Convention No. 2 on the first Saturday of December instead of alternating it to the second Saturday. Discussion was held Motion was seconded by Billy Wicks. Motion carried.

D. Registration and Upload Deadlines for 2024 have approved through Troy. Please meet deadlines.

2024-2025 School year

1. Junior High Band Audition Upload Deadline- Wednesday, September 25, 2024 11:59 p.m.
 2. High School Jazz Band Audition Upload Deadline- Thursday, September 26th, 2024 11:59 p.m.
 3. Junior High Choir Registration Deadline-Thursday, Oct. 3, 2024 11:59 p.m.
 4. High School choir-Sunday -October 6th, 2024
 5. Elementary Choir Registration Deadline-Thursday, Oct. 17, 2024 11:59 p.m.
 6. High School Band Upload Deadline-Wednesday, Oct. 23, 2024 11:59 p.m.
 7. High School Orchestra Upload Deadline-Wednesday October 23, 2024 11:59 p.m.
 - A. **Choir Late deadline #1-October 20th, 2024**
 - B. **Choir Late deadline #2-November 1st, 2024**
 - C. **Choir Late deadline #3-November 2, 2024**
- A. Mini-Convention I-Hays High School-Saturday November 2, 2024. (JH Honor Choir, JH Honor Band and HS Honor Jazz Band.)**
- B. Mini-Convention II-Fort Hays State University-Saturday, December 7, 2024. (HS Choir, HS Band, High School Orchestra and Elementary Choir)**

Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Connie Reishus
Northwest Executive Director