

NW KMEA BAND DIRECTOR'S MEETING
December 7, 2024
8:30 a.m.

Max Befort–High School Band chair called the meeting to order.

- I. Max had all the directors introduce themselves and tell where they taught.

- II High School Band-Max Befort
 - A. Assistant-Alex Crowley
 - B. Clinician-Marc Webster-Great Bend
 - C. 117 signed up, 110 completed auditions
 - D. 73 selected
 - E. 26 schools
 - F. 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
2024-110
 - G. .Need more double reeds and clarinets
 - H. Barb Elbracht- Mankato, expressed concern about the percussion audition numbers across the state. She researched and there are only 4 students from 12A schools who auditioned last year. This negatively affects the 12A Honor Band

****MOTION-**

Barb made the motion to replace the state rudimental excerpt with a snare line from a grade 3-4 piece for the district snare auditions only. The audition would be recorded using a metronome. Kelli Burris seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- I. KBA-Hector Hernandez-Hays High presented the KBA report. He encouraged band directors to join KBA. The KBA convention will be July 16-19, 2025 at the Doubletree in Wichita. There will also be a concert band festival on March 25th, 2025 at Barton County. Cost is \$250.
- J. High School Jazz Band-Brad Persinger
 1. Assistant-Allen Brockmeier
 2. Clinician—Jake Montoya
 3. Students auditioned-12
 4. Students-5 recommended by teacher
 5. Schools represented-7

Brad urged directors to encourage more students to audition.

****MOTION**

Shawn Shipley made the motion to require those students who have been selected for NW District High School Honor Jazz Band through director recommendation will need to pay the participation fee of \$15.00. Kristi Vetter seconded the motion. Motion carried

Kristi Vetter encourages directors to send in auditions for Jazz Band even if they do not have a program. She is willing to help. Julianne Samulson agreed to serve as Jazz Chair with much guidance from Kristi Vetter.

- J. Lucas Burmeister volunteered to serve as Junior High Band Chair and Max Befort as assistant for 2025-2027.

Vesta Jo Still gave the Junior High Band Report

A. Clinician-Christopher Teichter

He chose four pieces but cut one (his own) due to lack of preparation and time.

B. 84 auditions: percussion was 2 entries-mallets and then snare/timpani

C. 66 students selected

D. 21 schools represented

E. Horn section used an alternate. One teacher contacted Vesta shortly after the roster was posted and indicated that their student F horn chair 1, would not be attending.

Vesta sent the alternate the music. About a week before the event the same teacher contacted Vesta again and said their student could attend. Vesta let that student back in and kept the alternate.

F. Clarinet section is growing. There were 10 auditions.

There were no tenor sax auditions, 10 alto sax auditions.

It was decided to ask directors of the also players to see if any of their students could and would be willing to switch to tenor sax. Two did.

G. Vesta felt the band was a little under prepared as not all notes and rhythms were learned correctly. The students were attentive and it was a good day.

****MOTION**

Hector Hernandez made the motion to change the Junior High audition music to excerpts from Essential elements Technique (3rd Book). Alex Crowley seconded the motion. Motion carried.

H. Vesta Jo will get a committee together to make recommendations based on the SW district audition material. This could possibly be implemented for the fall of 2025, but more probable for the fall of 2026.

****MOTION**

Vesta Jo made the motion to update the policy/handbooks and any other written document to use the High School

Honor Band Published instrumentation as a guide for the Junior High Honor Band and then adjust accordingly based on audition numbers and the one per school rule. Lucas Burmeister seconded the motion. Motion carried.

****MOTION**

Vesta Jo made the motion to add language to the policy/handbook that reflects that judges for both the Junior High and High School Honor Bands be teachers and retired teachers (still in the NW district) FIRST. College students should NOT be used unless absolutely necessary. There should be 2 judges per section, can group sections like low reeds, saxophones, etc.) The chair person should not judge the event they are the chair. Barb Elbracht seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted.
Connie Reishus
NW Executive Director

SPECIAL NOTE:

A special thank you to Vesta Jo Still for taking the minutes as I was attending another meeting.