

TMEA Region 25 Orchestra Division
Minutes – Spring Region Meeting
May 19, 2007 – Plano East Senior High School

Meeting was called to order by Orchestra Division Chair Josh Thompson.

Josh indicated that sign-in sheet was circulating and asked that all directors update their information if necessary.

The minutes from the fall meeting were presented. Motion to accept was made by David DeVoto and seconded by Betsy Thomas. Motion passed.

The region audition date was announced. It is the comparable date and will most likely be at Lovejoy HS. HS & MS will continue to be auditioned on the same day.

HS region date & location was announced. It is one week later than the comparable weekend. This adjustment is made possible by the change in the school calendar, and will help facilitate the wind/percussion selection for the region orchestras. Suggestion was made that David DeVoto visit the band division meeting at the fall region meeting to promote the full orchestra opportunity for the band students.

Other dates to remember were reviewed.

UIL Solo & Ensemble information was reviewed. The contest date was changed to 03/09/08 and it will be held in conjunction with the Region 3 contest.

UIL Concert & Sightreading dates and locations were reviewed. The contest is two weeks later than in the past to accommodate the new school calendar. Josh Thompson and Dennis Langevin are working on hiring judges based on the online ballots submitted to Randy Bartlett.

Jeff Turner stepped down as UIL Music Advisory Committee member. Gary Needham was elected to serve.

The invited middle school full orchestra was discussed. There is a commitment from the board for one more year, and the future of the group will depend on the interest and number of entries. Following discussion and comments by multiple directors, the division decided to draft a resolution to be submitted to the board asking that the group be made a permanent part of the orchestra division and given full honor group status.

Directors were reminded that they must be present at all times during all region activities. The rules regarding proxies were reviewed, and it was encouraged that orchestra directors know all band students from their school. It was also suggested that we invite our band directors to attend the performance.

The All-State audition etudes have been posted online. The dates for excerpt release have been posted, as well.

Discussion regarding difficulty level of etudes continuing to increase.

Region 25 Orchestra Division Handbook discussed:

- Change suggested by Andrew Goins to remove the item on p.6 indicating that a director be present in the recording room at All-State taping. Change agreed to by division.
- Question by Jeff Turner regarding the inclusion of a copy of the membership card in the entry. The discussion expanded to the need for mailing a hard-copy and whether it is necessary due to the entry process now being computerized. It was decided that hard-copies would still be mailed, but without a copy of the membership card.
- Suggestion made and accepted that the packets posted online include all necessary information and pages in one packet to avoid confusion.
- Question by Sue Ewing regarding the copyright issues created by posting the audition material online. The concern was mostly related to the middle school audition due to the posting of all or most of the parts. Josh Thompson will check with TMEA regarding this issue. Ruth Kurtis suggested changing the statement

regarding the posting of audition material to a more vague wording to allow for interpretation based on copyright law.

- Typo pointed out by Sue Ewing regarding music being turned in and destroyed.
- Question by Sue Ewing regarding students not enrolled in our programs auditioning for region groups. Clarification of the standard practices was given.
- Corrections made to the middle school clinician fees as well as mileage reimbursements for all clinicians.
- Suggestion made by Christine Towndrow that bowings and tempi be included in the parts/excerpts at posting. Handbook was corrected to reflect this.
- Discussion initiated by David DeVoto regarding the process of setting the first stand 2nd violin. Motion was made by Jeff Turner to eliminate the current system and change to using the pure ranking for the seating of violins. Motion seconded by Julianne Booth. Motion passed.
- Motion by Andrew Goins that the amended handbook be accepted. Motion seconded by Betsy Thomas. Motion passed.

Music selection meetings were set. Middle school selection meeting will be 06/06/07 at 2:30 pm at Haggard MS. High school meeting will be 06/04/07 at 2:30 pm at Clark HS.

Region group organizer duties were reviewed. Region group organizers were chosen:

- MS Bach will be Christine Towndrow. Brahms will be Julia Brownscombe.
- HS Symphony will be Andrew Goins. Philharmonic will be David DeVoto.

Suggestions for region clinicians were taken. Josh Thompson will begin contacting people.

An announcement was made by Ruth Kurtis regarding the continued growth of the McKinney ISD orchestra program.

It was announced that James Mick was leaving.

Motion to adjourn made by Andrew Goins. Seconded by Betsy Thomas. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted

Andrew Goins
Secretary, Region 25 Orchestra Division