

# SCKMEA BOARD MEETING

Saturday, May 2, 2009

Members Present:

Mike Connell, Melissa Watkins, Scott Hay, Jeff Yearout, Gretchen Bixler, Theresa Smith, Kyle Hopkins, Cindy Anthony

The minutes from the January 17 meeting were approved.

**Financial report:** Kudos to Larry for making the schools accountable for their fees for auditions. This has resulted in making available the funding for the district scholarships that the board would like to offer three deserving future music educators. Board members need to send their mileage reimbursement forms to Larry Brownlee. (Melissa will send a form to all board members via email.)

## REPORTS

**MS Choir** Theresa Smith from Blue Stem is taking over the chairman position, with help from Jenny Potochnik. Theresa is doing the paperwork, and Jenny is taking care of the clinician. Matt Huth from Iowa will be the MS choir clinician. Theresa said that having the practice CD for the middle school choir was a good idea.

**MC Band** No report

**HS Choir** The clinicians for the district choirs will be William T. Grega from St. Louis for the mixed choir, and Mark Bartel from Friends for the women's.

**HS Band** No report

**HS Jazz** The district clinician will be Dr. Craig Treinen from Washburn for the 1234A Band, and Dr. Brad Dawson from Fort Hays for the 56A Band. It was suggested that on performance day the rhythm sections meet earlier than the rest of the band so the clinician can work only with them. During that time the horns can be auditioning for the concert band/orchestra before the actual rehearsals start.

**HS Orchestra** No report

**Elementary** The clinicians for the fall elementary honor choir/teacher workshop will be Karen Sims from Maize, and Janet Armstead from St. George Elementary (Rock Creek district). Because the elementary workshop tends to run in the red, there was a lot of discussion about raising the entry fees to match the other fees paid for the other performing groups. Gretchen moved to raise the entry fee from \$5.00 to \$10.00 per student/teacher; the motion was seconded and unanimously approved. The elementary chair will look into having the honor choir programs printed professionally to match the quality of the programs for the other district groups.

**Mentor** No report

**MC Band** No report

**Facilities** Gretchen reported for Joe. The rooms we need will be ready by 4:00 the night before. There will still be two rooms reserved to keep student's personal belongings in during the performances. Melissa suggested that more students should wear robes if they have them instead of formal wear in order to save changing time and space in the bathrooms.

Scott reported that signs will be put up this year saying rooms are reserved. There will also be direction signs with arrows on Dec. 5 so teachers will know where to send students.

**Web Master** Jeff asked that everyone check their district email to make sure it is correct. He would like for the information that we send for the website to be in PDF format if possible, to make it easier and quicker for him to put on. Scott thanked Jeff for the speedy update of the web site changes. Jeff sent a WSU map to Scott.

**New Department Chairs:** All vacancies have been filled. Theresa Smith from Bluestem will chair the Middle School Choir; Kyle Hopkins from McPherson will be the Jazz chair, and Cindy Anthony from Sterling will be the elementary chair. All were present at this meeting.

**Scholarship** Scott will work on the application to be ready to be approved at the August meeting. Board members may submit ideas for applications. Discussion included making the application deadline the middle-to-end of October, with winners being announced at the December concerts. It is hoped that a total of three scholarships could be given: vocal, string, and wind/percussion instrument.

**New Business** Gretchen sent an email to the Wichita teachers asking for nominations for Outstanding Teacher, and board members are all encouraged to do the same in their departments. To help the new teachers in our district she suggested sending a post card out to every school in the district right after school starts; the card would have the district web-site, board member information, dates, deadlines, and registration information. Discussed that one card would be sent to a school and the recipient would be encouraged to give the information to all the music teachers in that building/district. (Band/vocal give info to elementary teacher, etc.)

It was suggested that we need links on the website for new teachers to find information, too. We also need to do a better job of letting our new teachers know about the all-state middle school and treble choirs and the audition process for those two groups.

Scott wants all the necessary information to the webmaster by July 1 and on the website by July 15, because school starts so much earlier for some districts now. For the elementary and middle school chairs, this will be all their information for the October 24 workshop/honor choir, and the November performances at Andover. For the high school chairs, this will be the audition information for November.

Scott threw out a suggestion that perhaps the High School Jazz might want its own day to perform for district. He suggested finding a day of the week where both the 1234A and 56A groups could perform, possibly on a college campus that also has a jazz group and would be willing to clinic/perform with them. More discussion on this will follow.

**The next meeting will be August 15, at 10:30 at Senseney Music.** Agenda items will include voting for Outstanding Teachers of the Year, the scholarship applications, the meal schedule for Dec. 5, and reports from committees.

**Meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.**