

KMEA Orchestra Council Meeting
Shelby County High School
Saturday, June 5, 2010
10:00 am EDT
Minutes

Discussion prior to the call to order established that due to a lack of a quorum, there could be no formal action taken at today's meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 10:07 am by State Chair Nancy Campbell.

Voting members present were Nancy Campbell (State Chair), Adam French (District 4), Mary McGillan (District 5), Ben McWhorter (District 7),

Ex-officio members present were Jennifer Grice (State Chair-Elect), Joe Stites (President), Tanya Bromley (Vice-President), David Dunevant (President-Elect), John Stroube (Executive Director)

Absent were Laura Hill (District 1), Greg Olson (District 2), Patrick O'Roarke (District 3), Aaron Breeck (District 8), and Eva Rouse (District 12).

Nancy mentioned that a better time for OC meeting at conference is needed. John agreed to work with her to find the best time.

The minutes from February 3, 2010 were approved with no objections.

Reports

1. State chair's report: Nancy Campbell
 - a. All State Conductors
 - Symphony: Ken Lam, assistant conductor Cincinnati Symphony
 - Commonwealth: Richard Clark, director Butler University and Manhattan Chamber Players
 - b. KMEA Conference sessions: list provided from office. Times might be altered.
 - All-State Commonwealth Strings Conductor Clinic, TBA, 2/10/11, 11:15 AM
 - All-State Symphony Orchestra Conductor Clinic, TBA, 2/10/11, 1:10 PM
 - Keys to Self Evaluation: How Can I Help Myself Become a Better String Teacher, Robert Gillespie, 2/10/11, 2:25 PM
 - Diagnosing Students' Most Common Bowing Problems--What Do I Look For and How DO I Fix Them!, Robert Gillespie, 2/10/11, 3:40 PM
 - Orchestra Sight Reading Session, Micah Howard and Alexandra Howard, 2/11/11, 1:45 PM
 - Principles of Shifting and Fingering for Violin/Strings, J. Patrick Rafferty, 2/11/11, 3:45 PM

- I Have a Background in BAND and you want me to teach what? ORCHESTRA/CHOIR, Jennifer Grice, 2/12/11, 9:00 AM
- Enhance Your Performance! Alexander Technique for the Musician, Ann Rhodes, 2/12/11, 10:15 AM

Nancy reminded all that the ASTA Luncheon was not a clinic, thus not listed, but should be kept in mind.

Discussion ensued about makeup of selection committee for conference invited performing groups. Tanya emphasized that the committee is directed by policy to meet all at once and listen together.

The question arose as to whether a district representative on the phone would count toward a quorum. Tanya and Joe said a person on the phone would not be able to adequately participate in discussion, so they should not be counted as present.

2. Program of Excellence chair's report: Eva Rouse—no report given

Ben asked about the high school form regarding an “integrated concert,” as to whether a pit orchestra qualifies, and whether borrowing wind players from the band to create a full orchestra qualifies. Nancy agreed to assign a committee (Vickie Cook—chair, Ben McWhorter, Karen Higden, and Eva Rouse) to clarify the matter and bring a proposal to the February, 2011 meeting.

It was noted that the POE form should be changed to remove reference to “NSOA.”

It was speculated that a survey could be sent to orchestra teachers to investigate needs for clarification on point qualifying matters.

Old Business:

1. State Orchestra Festival proposal: to implement a State Orchestra Festival in Spring of 2011. Feasibility study was conducted. Details of Festival (date, location, adjudicators, fees, etc.) need to be discussed. Lacking a quorum, no motion was accepted.

It was said that a survey must go out in the fall of 2010 to those who would have qualified last year. Data from that group is needed to propose practical plan with real dollars and dates. One thing the survey would ask is the number of groups each would bring.

2. State Orchestra List proposal: to follow process similar to KMEA Band Division in updating or developing a new required list for orchestra. Lacking a quorum, no motion was accepted.

Nancy mentioned Tanya's proposal for a new list. Discussion ensued about proposing a philosophy of a list to the Orchestra Council at a future meeting. Tanya described the process by which the Band Council adopted their list. Joe said an existing list could be chosen as a proposal. John said a means of amending an adopted list should be included in the proposal.

Jenny asked if middle schools that go to state festival should have to play off of a selective list. All agreed that makes sense, but Joe cautioned that this matter should be considered in sequence after the matters of state festival and list.

Nancy will submit a philosophy for a list for consideration by council members, to be an agenda item in Feb.

New Business:

1. State Solo & Ensemble proposal: to require payment with application for students to be eligible to advance to state level. Lacking a quorum, no motion was accepted.

Jenny said a deadline for application is needed, and suggested KMEA take the state solo and ensemble fee from those who wish to apply at the time of district application. After discussion, Ben suggested a calendar deadline, not one based on when the district festival is.

2. All State Orchestra proposal: for All State Symphony Orchestra to perform one selection with only strings. Lacking a quorum, no motion was accepted.

John said that wind and percussion players and their teachers might be disappointed to have less to play. Adam pointed out this would be a real opportunity to allow those students to experience a higher level of string orchestra music making than was available at home. Nancy pointed out that the Symphony Orchestra played one string-only selection, Nimrod, in 1999. After discussion, there were no strong objections.

3. All State adjudication proposals:
 - a. To establish guidelines and develop a rubric (score sheet) to be provided to the judges of audition tapes. Lacking a quorum, no motion was accepted.

Upon discussion, the group agreed this was a good idea and did not require Council action to implement. Nancy plans choose a sheet and send to judges.

- b. To pay the rate of \$1.00 per audition tape. Lacking a quorum, no motion was accepted.

John asked about the judging procedure. Discussion centered around to making the process more transparent, and adding another judge per instrument for 2010–2011 at the same rate as 2009–2010 (\$50 for violin, \$25 for other).

- c. To require 3-octave scales of all instruments, including bass. Lacking a quorum, no motion was accepted.

Ben said he thought it was asking too much of many bassists and would scare away those who would ultimately populate the Commonwealth Strings. Nancy said she thought the current audition would distinguish without this increased criterion.

- 4. Large Ensemble Festival proposal: to allow a piano accompanist who is not a member of the ensemble to perform at KMEA adjudication event. Lacking a quorum, no motion was accepted.

In discussion it came to light that this would allow an adult to participate in the music making during a festival performance. Pros and cons were discussed about an adult being a part of the festival performance. Jenny said this would be equivalent to an adult pianist accompanying a choir, mentioning especially a work for harpsichord and strings. Tanya questioned whether such an allowance for an instrumental group might compromise the judges' capacity to evaluate the student musicians' contributions.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:?? pm.