

TMEA Region 3
February (TMEA) General Meeting Minutes
Friday, February 10, 2023 - 5:15 pm

President Ryan Forkner called the meeting to order at 5:15pm. The first order of business was to approve the minutes from the last meeting. A motion was made, seconded, and approved. There was a reminder about our spring meeting held on May 20, 2023 at 10:00am at Sachse High School, with refreshments provided by the vocal division.

Mr. Forkner shared the results of the TMEA State Board elections, held earlier in the week. The new President-Elect is Jessie Cannon II, from the Fort Worth ISD Office of Visual and Performing Arts. The new Orchestra Division Vice-President is Jennifer Martin, also from the Fort Worth ISD Office of Visual and Performing Arts. The new Vocal Division Vice-President is Joshua McGuire from Rock Hill High School in Prosper ISD. The new Elementary Division Vice-President is Christopher Giles from Mireles Elementary School in Northside ISD.

There were some special announcements and recognitions made next. Mr. Forkner recognized the Region 3 programs and directors who performed and presented clinics at TMEA. Those were: the AC New Tenor Bass Choir, directed by Melody Villegas, Rockwall High School "Walk the Line" Vocal A cappella, directed by Leia Browning and Parker Lessmann, "Playing the Numbers Game in a Title 1 Band Program", clinicians were Jennifer Borders and Liz Shine, and the Texas A&M University-Commerce Flute Choir performance. Mr. Forkner also thanked the Region 3 Officers and Coordinators for a successful UIL season. He shared his appreciation and thanks to the Region 3 Contest Hosts for running such smooth contests this season. He also spoke to the TMEA convention volunteers, thanking them for giving up their time to make the convention run, since the heart of TMEA is its people.

Next came announcements from the TMEA state office. This year the convention numbers for registrations and exhibitors were very healthy. The college booths and college night also drew large crowds, as well as the President's Concert with the United States Air Force Band Singing Sergeants. Financially, it has not been a great year for TMEA, but it is trending up. Mr. Floyd is still fighting for us legislatively. We are encouraged to join advocacy groups to support the arts as well. Region finance reports are due in February from all divisions. The TMEA scholarship fund is still healthy; we raised \$200,000 even through Covid. All members are encouraged to contribute if they are able. The printer for the Southwestern Musician is going out of business. Less advertisements have been sold and we are looking for ideas and thoughts from our membership about the future of the magazine. Be on the lookout for a form coming this spring to share your thoughts on this topic. The members were reminded to use the grievance and appeal process if they have any issues throughout the year.

Mr. Forkner gave a region calendar update. Some of our districts are moving to a 4 day week, which will create some challenges in planning for next year. There will be a region calendar meeting after spring break, but we are unsure of what the calendar will look like at this point. It will probably be unavoidable to have UIL events on Fridays for some of our 4-day districts. The

calendar will likely need tweaking before it becomes official. Our goal is to have a draft calendar sent to the members by April. We have had to become very creative with our calendar in recent years, so we know we can get it done.

Bonnie Bartlett shared UIL business with the members. She began by thanking Tish Downs with helping to create the new region website. <https://www.uilregion3music.org/> For spring contests, some sites will use online judging through Texas Music Forms. There will be no need for us to print our own forms. In the sightreading room, there will be a compliance official in the room. Some directors have asked to have feedback from the compliance official to help them moving forward. Bonnie wants the directors to email her and let her know if you would like to have feedback from the compliance official.

There was no new business to discuss, so the divisions were told where to move to for their division meetings. A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 5:38pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Becker

TMEA Region III Secretary
Hudson Middle School Band Director