

TMEA Region 3
May (TMEA) General Meeting Minutes
Meeting Held at Sachse High School
Saturday, May 20, 2023 - 10:00am

President Ryan Forkner called the meeting to order at 10:06am. The first order of business was approving the minutes from the TMEA Region meeting in February. A motion was made to approve the minutes, seconded, and the motion passed. Next, dates were discussed for the Fall region meeting. July 29th and August 5th were suggested as possible dates and after a vote, August 5th was selected for the meeting date. With no other sites suggested, Sachse High School was selected as the location for the meeting, which will begin at 10:00am. The Band Division will provide refreshments. Mr. Forkner then expressed his gratitude for everyone who hosted an event this year, as well as all the region coordinators and chairpersons.

President Forkner then spoke from the following agenda items provided:

- **TMEA Job Placement Service** – Job vacancies are listed on the TMEA website (www.tmea.org). The website database is updated daily, as personal résumés and available jobs are posted online.
- **TMEA Membership Dues** - The TMEA State Board of Directors has approved an increase in Active and College Student member dues to support current programs and services and the future growth of our association. As of May 1, when membership opens for the 2023–2024 membership year, Active member dues will be \$65 and College Student dues will be \$30. In past years, TMEA increased the cost of other fees (exhibit booths, advertising, etc.) to help delay increasing membership dues. TMEA last raised Active member dues 21 years ago. With significant and ongoing inflation and our commitment to offer high-quality programs and services to our members, a dues increase was needed now.
- **Liability Insurance** – Liability insurance will remain at \$30 for next year. It is recommended that you get this insurance coverage before you set foot in the classroom. Attorney's fees are reimbursed up to \$10,000. This amount applies to criminal cases, win, or lose, and for civil/contractual disputes which ultimately are settled in favor of the defendant. Liability per insured per occurrence will remain at \$1,000,000 and the consultation fee paid without regard for final judgment will be \$1,500. If you had liability insurance this school year it will expire on August 20.
- **The TMEA Clinic/Convention, February 7-10, 2024**—Follow the TMEA website and *Southwestern Musician* for future information.
- **Clinic Proposal Period: May 1–June 1, 2023** - The TMEA Executive Board seeks to deliver the highest quality program of clinics to support the professional development of our members. To achieve this goal, the Board asks you to consider proposing a clinic online May 1 through June 1. The Board hopes to receive more proposals than ever from a diverse group of clinicians within every division who are ready to offer their experience. Also—a common theme in comments from our convention survey is that members want to attend clinics offered by clinicians in programs like theirs—especially in schools with limited funds, resources, and staff. If you, or someone you know has strategies to share for working within the challenges inherent in a

program that has limited resources we especially encourage you to apply. As a Region leader, please reach out to colleagues around your Region and encourage them to apply. Remind them to review the topics that members have said are most important to them. You can find a list of those topics in the May magazine. For more information, please visit the website and search for PROPOSALS.

- **Legislative and State Board of Education Update from Robert Floyd** – The fifteen-member elected State Board of Education has not dealt with any agenda items that directly impact music and arts education in any way and none in the foreseeable future. The legislature is down to its last 40 days. Read the May Southwestern Musician for the latest legislative update. The Fine Arts Summit was a huge success on April 6th at the capitol, with performing ensembles, visits to all 181 capitol offices telling the story of the importance of the arts and educating legislators on our arts education funding bill. HB 3829 is scheduled for an April 26th hearing in the House Public Education Committee that will allow us to have a discussion on why the state should not be placing all the funding responsibilities for the arts on the local districts and parents. HB 100, the omnibus public education bill that is moving forward has dollars already in it for arts education. Finance bills are complex and most difficult to pass, but we believe this session, regardless of the outcome, we have initiated the discussion about the state's responsibility in that regard and begun the journey to ultimately make it a reality. Mr. Forkner spoke about single blocked and double blocked courses that happen in his district. Funding from the state allows certain subjects to double block courses that may not necessarily need the extra time, while many of the arts courses are single blocked and squeezing every minute out of those classes.
- **CEDFA Summit 24**– It is time to register for the 24th Annual Texas Fine Arts Summit. You may register online at www.cedfa.org The theme for this year's virtual summit is *Fueling the Future Through Fine Arts*.
- **State Officer Elections** –The nomination process for the office of President-Elect and Vice-Presidents for the Band and College Divisions will begin at the next Fall Meeting. Active TMEA members who are employed full-time in an administrative or teaching capacity in the field of music may run for office. Persons who receive official nominations from at least four Regions and agree to such candidacy by October 1st will be considered as official candidates.
- **Region Calendar** – Please check the TMEA Statewide Calendar for religious holidays before TMEA events are scheduled. The calendar is becoming more difficult because of academic calendars changing - fall breaks and spring breaks are happening at different times. We are trying to make the calendar as equitable as possible. TEA changing the testing window has made the spring calendar more difficult as well. UIL events must be completed earlier because of the testing calendar. Because our region includes districts and schools of all sizes, the calendar is increasingly difficult. If you have concerns, feel free to email Ryan and/or Bonnie.

Mr. Forkner gave instructions for divisions to split after the conclusion of UIL business. The Elementary Division was dismissed.

UIL BUSINESS with Bonnie Bartlett - Bonnie let everyone know that if they have questions about why calendar dates are drastically different this year to ask her. She can answer those questions fairly easily.

She told the members that all UIL trophies have been delivered and apologized for the delay in getting the trophies from UIL. Lastly, she reminded everyone that the region website is new and improved and asked us to check it out. www.uilregion3music.org

There was no new business from the floor, so Mr. Forkner told the divisions where they needed to go for their division meetings. A motion was made to adjourn the meeting, seconded, and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 10:33am.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Becker
TMEA Region III Secretary
Hudson Middle School Band Director