

TMEA Region 3
August (TMEA) General Meeting Minutes

Meeting Held at Sachse High School
Saturday, August 5, 2023 - 10:00am

President Ryan Forkner called the meeting to order at 10:09am. Mr. Forkner asked everyone to check out the revamped region website. He thanked Tish Downs for putting it together and asked the membership to update their information for the directory. The first order of business was approving the minutes from the May meeting. A motion was made to approve the minutes, seconded, and the motion passed by acclamation. Dates were discussed for the spring region meeting. May 4th, May 18th, and May 25th were suggested as possible dates. A vote was taken to select the date and May 18th was selected by a majority of members. Sachse High School was proposed as a site for the meeting. With no other sites suggested, Sachse High School was selected as the location for the meeting, which will begin at 10:00am. The Orchestra Division will provide refreshments.

Mr. Forkner brought up issues with the region calendar. There are many Districts of Innovation in our region, which affects many high school band directors and summer band rehearsals. Mr. Forkner wants us to begin thinking about creative ways to help our marching band directors have an easier time attending the fall region meeting next year.

There were 178 members in attendance at the general meeting.

Mr. Forkner then spoke from the following agenda items provided:

Election of State Board Representatives

Nominations for State Offices

1. President-Elect (General Meeting) - no nominations from the floor
2. State Band Chair (Band Division Meeting)
3. State College Chair - no nominations from the floor

Announcements from the TMEA State Office:

- **TMEA MEMBERSHIP** – Please introduce new teachers to the benefits of TMEA membership and work for a high percentage of enrollment. Membership renewal information is available at TMEA.org. Remember, you can use a credit card to renew online or utilize the option to write a check and mail, along with a completed membership form. Active Membership dues are \$65, and the liability insurance remains the same at \$30. Our policy includes up to \$1,500 for attorney consultation if you have a problem, without regard to final judgment. The comfort of that coverage alone is worth \$30. Do not enter the classroom without it.
- **MEMBER SERVICES** - can be found on the website: 1. Health insurance 2. Liability insurance
- **2024 CONVENTION** - Encourage your membership to attend the 2023 convention next February 7- 10, in San Antonio in the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center. Convention Registration fees are as follows: \$70 Pre-registration for convention \$95 On-site registration for convention \$10 Online access to clinic audio files
- **MEMBERSHIP CONVENTION HOUSING** – Housing through the TMEA website will open Thursday, October 5th, at 6:00 AM. Please read all housing information carefully before you reserve your room, especially relative to deposits. We are working to increase the number of rooms in the hotel block with in most cases only minimal rate increases. We also are creating a housing block outside of downtown but with much lower room rates that you may book and drive in and park at the Alamodome at a low rate and walk or ride the shuttle to the Convention Center.

- **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE** from Robert Floyd – The regular session ended May 31st with all funding for public education, including an increase in the basic allotment, teacher pay raises, and funding for arts education failing when the Senate added a voucher amendment to HB100, resulting in the House having no option but to kill their own bill when it returned to their chamber. As a result, there will be a special session called by Governor Abbott in October in an effort to approve state dollars for each parent to send their child to a private school. Please watch for emails from the Texas Arts Education Campaign (TAEC) and/or TMEA with instructions to contact your Senator and House member to make an arts education allotment part of the legislation that is filed and ultimately debated and moved forward.
- **TMEA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS** – The TMEA scholarship program continues to help both undergraduate and graduate students attend college. Last year \$207,000 was awarded to deserving students. Remind your members to have their students apply for these scholarships if they plan to major in music education. See the TMEA website for details. Please encourage members to make tax-deductible contributions to the scholarship fund to benefit future music educators. The deadline to submit is November 1.
- **TEXAS FUTURE MUSIC EDUCATORS** – Establishing more TFME chapters is a goal of the TMEA Executive Board. TFME sponsors may request up to \$300 in grant money for chapter events. This year there will be additional grant monies offered to off-set TFME student travel to the Annual Clinic/Convention. Please visit the TFME Webpage for more information and assistance. Never has it been more important for us to encourage our students to consider teaching music as a career.
- **MUSIC SCHOLARS** – This past year TMEA awarded a patch and certificate to over 2,860 high school students in recognition of their musicianship, academic standing, and citizenship. It is hoped that this recognition will encourage these students to become future music teachers. Encourage your best students to work towards becoming a TMEA Music Scholar. There is more information on the TMEA website. The deadline to submit names is May 1st.
- **DISTINGUISHED ADMINISTRATOR AWARD** – Encourage members to go to the website and familiarize themselves with this program to recognize upper-level school administrators (e.g., superintendents, deputy superintendents, principals, board members) across the state who have been instrumental in preserving quality music education programs on their campuses and in their districts. Through this recognition program, TMEA has the opportunity at the state level to thank these individuals for their dedication and support. At the local level, this offers you another opportunity to share your success story with the community. There is no cap on the number of awards given statewide, and the nomination process is quick and easy.
- **MENTORING NETWORK** – The Executive Board is continuing an aggressive effort to elevate the effectiveness of our mentoring program. You will receive more information on our focus on identifying and assisting our new teachers in the Divisional Meetings.

Mr. Forkner made special announcements and recognitions. TMEA executive director search - Bob Floyd is retiring in June 2024. Mr. Floyd has served in his position for 30 years and has become a huge advocate for us at the capitol. The TMEA board is currently in the middle of the search process. The application can be found on the TMEA website and is due August 11th. There is not a specific timeline for a replacement after the applications close. Three division presidents, as well as some former presidents will be part of the panel to select the new director. Michael Stringer is the head of the search committee and JG Consulting has been hired to help with the search as well. The Rockwall HS Wind Ensemble was invited to perform at the Music For All Symposium in the spring semester. Kaufman HS will be performing at Carnegie Hall in the spring as well. There is a UT Tyler survey available for members to fill out with the QR code on the table at the front.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business from the floor. The Elementary Division adjourned.

UIL BUSINESS with Bonnie Bartlett, UIL Region 3 Executive Secretary

Bonnie welcomed new members to Region 3. There is a new region website and it is constantly updated. The calendar with fees and due dates can be found on the website. Judges have been hired, but please let Bonnie know if you will be submitting more or less groups than normal. The mariachi state festival deadline December 21st - entry fee is \$425 per group and the contest takes place in Ft. Worth. MS choirs and bands: updated zones will be placed on the website soon. Zones may be changing based on entry numbers. Your TEA code must be entered on all UIL forms. Bonnie asked us to make any updates to your profile in Charms or TX Music Forms. Middle schools must verify their conference by January 1st. Charms and TX Music Forms has been purchased by CutTime and a new platform for these entry systems is coming sometime. Bonnie reminded us to review the copyright requirements for performed music. The PML revised version will go live on September 1st. The PML found on the UIL website is the only official PML. The sightreading pilot had many positive comments. You may not use technology except for an audible metronome that gives the downbeat pulse. The online adjudication system was well-received by the judges and we will continue to use it this year at sites that have reliable wifi. If you need a 2023 year plate for your UIL trophy or plaque, Bonnie can get those for you. Reach out to her if you need UIL help this year.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and passed by acclamation. The meeting adjourned at 10:50am and the divisions split into separate locations.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Becker

TMEA Region III Secretary
Hudson Middle School Band Director