

**TMEA Region 3**  
**August (TMEA) General Meeting Minutes**  
Meeting Held at Sachse High School  
Saturday, August 6, 2022 - 10:00am

President Ryan Forkner called the meeting to order at 10:05am. 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 13th and 20th, were suggested as possible dates. A vote was taken to select the date and May 20th was selected by a large 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 Vocal Division will provide refreshments.

President Forkner then spoke from the following agenda items provided:

- **Elections for State Board Representatives - *President-Elect*:** Ann Smith was nominated by Chris Frank. Jesse Cannon was nominated by Kimber Rodriguez. Jed Ragsdale was nominated by Ryan Forkner. The members who nominated them spoke on their behalf, giving background, character information, and talking about their contributions to TMEA. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to close the nominations. After counting votes, Region 3 nominated Jed Ragsdale as President-Elect for TMEA. *State Orchestra Chair* nominations will be made during the Orchestra Division meeting. *State Vocal Chair*: nominations will be made during the Vocal Division meeting. *State Elementary Chair* nominations will be made during the Elementary Division meeting.
- **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. Membership dues remain at \$50, 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! Three years ago, our insurance provider paid more money out than dollars taken in with premiums. In this litigious society in which we live, do not believe it cannot happen to you.
- **MEMBER SERVICES** - can be found on the website:
  - Health insurance
  - Liability insurance
- **2023 CONVENTION** - Encourage your membership to attend the 2023 convention next February 8-11, 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 6th, at 6:00 AM. Please read all housing information carefully before you reserve your room, especially relative to deposits. The good news is that hotel rates have stayed flat or only minimal \$2-\$5 increases.
- **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE** – The August Southwestern Musician contained a report on What the Law Says as it impacts fine arts, and the September Southwestern Musician contains detailed legislative update for the 87th session. We plan to be more aggressive than we have been in recent years. Please read it and learn more about our legislative priorities in accountability, funding (weighted), and teacher support, including Teacher Incentive Allotment access. It is so important that you make your classroom experience something your students are not willing to give up when a counselor may suggest another pathway for their electives.
- **TAEC** - We are looking forward to kick starting the Texas Arts Education Campaign again, the successful arts education venture that we created with TMAC (fine arts administrators) during the 86th session. Sign up when asked or go to [txartsed.org](http://txartsed.org) and do it now. We will send you specific “to do’s” throughout the fall so that when a legislator walks into the Capital in January they will have heard about the importance of music and arts education from constituents and voters back home. As our lobbyist states, “One person does not have to do everything, but everyone has to do something.”
- **TMEA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS** – The TMEA scholarship program continues to help both undergraduate and graduate students attend college. Last year \$205,000 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 2,500 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 number of awards given statewide, and the nomination process is quite simple and quick.

- **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. Margaret Wis and the Austin Academy for Excellence Jazz Band was selected to perform at the Midwest Clinic in Chicago in December. Their preview concert will be on December 4, 2022 at 3:00pm at Garland High School. Melody Viegas and the AC New Tenor/Bass Choir was selected as an Invited Choir to perform at the TMEA Convention in February. There was no new business, so Mr. Forkner gave instructions for divisions to split after the conclusion of UIL business. The Elementary Division was dismissed.

#### **UIL Business with Bonnie Bartlett -**

- UIL MAC Advisory Committee report
  - UIL MAC minutes are posted on the region website. There are a few agenda items that were up for discussion that Mr. Forkner encouraged the members to read through to see how those items progressed through the process.
- UIL Business - Bonnie Bartlett
  - The Region 3 website ([www.uilregion3music.net](http://www.uilregion3music.net)) is being updated. The organization entry fees have been reduced to \$450 per group for this year. The fee will be reassessed after this year based on the budget fluctuations. All pandemic related adjustments have expired - PML performance requirements, sightreading, etc. Solo & Ensemble judges will be hired very soon. Bonnie will base the numbers of judges on last years' numbers, so directors should let her know if our numbers will change a lot for this year so she can hire the correct number of judges. Bonnie has an information sheet for anyone who is planning to enter a mariachi group this year. Middle school choir and band zone assignments are posted on the region website. Zones may be adjusted to accommodate the actual numbers once entries are completed. Geography is not the deciding factor for zones. Directors must include their school's TEA code on all entries (9 digit number - county, district, campus). On the region website there is a link to a document from the TEA website that has a list of all Texas schools if you need help finding the school code for your entries. Bonnie asked directors to review and be familiar with the copyright laws for concert music. The only official source for the PML is <https://www.uiltexas.org/music/pml>. Many new pieces have been added in all divisions and a lot of pieces (band specifically) have been moved up a level on the PML for this year. The TMEA Executive board is requesting that every region utilize the online judging system this year. It will depend on WIFI at each site. UIL is considering moving to a 7 conference model at the next alignment meeting - specifics are yet to be determined.
- UIL Sightreading Pilot

- There was some discussion about the pros and cons of our region adopting the pilot program for sightreading this year. A vote was taken and passed unanimously to adopt the sightreading pilot program for our region this year. There will be a compliance official in the room during the process.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and passed by acclamation. The meeting adjourned at 11:11am and the divisions split into separate locations.

Respectfully submitted,

*Heather Becker*

TMEA Region III Secretary  
Hudson Middle School Band Director