

TMEA Region 3
February (TMEA) General Meeting Minutes
Meeting Held on Zoom
Wednesday, February 10, 2021 - 7:00 pm

President Ryan Forkner called the meeting to order at 7:01pm. The first order of business was to remind region members of the date, time, and location of the Spring region meeting. The Spring Region Meeting will be held on Saturday, May 15 at 10:00am on Zoom. Mr. Forkner stated that he would work with division chairs to plan divisional meetings. He also reminded everyone that TMEA has moved all activities online until June 1.

Secondly, President Forkner publicly expressed his thanks and gratitude to a number of people - division coordinators, chairpersons, and people who have worked through online audition processes and set all of those auditions up. He asked the membership to take time to thank those who have worked so hard for our region. He thanked Bonnie Bartlett for running marching contests in the fall, explaining the new rules and regulations, and helping us understand what UIL events will look like this spring. He expressed gratitude for Anna Parks at West Mesquite HS and Adrianna Garza at North Garland HS for hosting virtual Solo & Ensemble contests for both choir and orchestra. Lastly, he thanked the region members for being flexible, staying positive, and showing up.

President Forkner then spoke from the following agenda items provided:

- **TMEA Membership and Convention Registration** - as of Tuesday, February 9 at 4:00pm there were 11619 active members (down from 12,843 in 2020), 767 retired members (down from 926 in 2020), 1006 college student members (down from 3490 in 2020), 7576 active pre-reg (down from 9,815 in 2020), 353 retired pre-reg (down from 590 in 2020), 156 out-of-state (down from 357 in 2020), 710 college student pre-reg. The TMEA State Office also asked the membership to visit virtual exhibits and thank the exhibitors.
- **General Sessions** - The 1st General Session is scheduled for Thursday, February 11 at 6:00pm. Voting for new President-elect, Orchestra VP, and Choral VP will take place during this session. The 2nd General Session is scheduled for Friday, February 12 at 8:00pm.
- **President's Concert** - Voces8 will put on a FREE concert on Saturday, February 13 at 7:00pm to conclude the convention, with a special TMEA ending.
- **CPE Credit** - CPE credit for 2021 TMEA clinics will be available online after 2/18/2021 at <https://www.tmea.org/convention/cpe/>
- **Texas Arts Education Campaign (TAEC)** - The TAEC is a grassroots network of arts supporters and educators, working to heighten public support for fine arts in public

education. All TMEA members are encouraged to get involved, mobilize, engage, etc. Members are encouraged to make their voices heard, involve their communities, booster clubs, etc.

Mr. Forkner then opened the meeting to divisional chairpersons to give brief updates to their divisions:

- **Band** - Lance Walker informed members to look for an email from him with band-specific announcements. He stated that 2021-2022 calendar dates would be shared soon, after more discussions with different district representatives.
- **Elementary** - Eric Robertson encouraged members to take tedious notes during the virtual TMEA sessions. He reminded members to visit the Elementary Division Region 3 Facebook page for ongoing discussions and clinic-specific talks. He encouraged members to watch the Sweet Lessons using Google Suite clinic, presented by one of our own.
- **Orchestra** - Chris Frank told members to look for an email with more details that will be discussed in the orchestra division meeting.
- **Vocal** - Michelle Perez said a high school meeting will be held Saturday, February 13 at 5:00pm, after the vocal division meeting. She informed members that an email would be sent with a Zoom link to the meeting.

President Forkner encouraged members to reach out to him or Bonnie Bartlett for answers to questions they may have. Then he read through UIL updates that were shared with all regions:

- If you have not already done so, **please visit the UIL Covid page for all updates related to our events and the pandemic.**
- Due to circumstances related to the pandemic **UIL is allowing each region the authority this year to hold solo and ensemble contests and concert and sight-reading evaluations either in person or virtually by following an established template.** More information on this template is available on the UIL Covid page at UIL TEXAS.ORG.
- Due to circumstances related to the pandemic, **UIL has lowered the PML minimums and assigned sight-reading levels** this year for concert and sight-reading evaluation and **has given every school the option to enter each participating group as either varsity, non-varsity, or sub non-varsity.**
- Don't forget the new **TEA rule that allows concert and sight-reading evaluation to be exempt from No Pass No Play.** This rule gives each school district the authority to allow academically ineligible students to participate in Concert and Sight-Reading evaluation. Note that the exemption does not apply to any other UIL contests or events. For more information, please see the FAQ at UIL TEXAS.ORG
- The sight-reading explanation period pilot, which was scheduled to begin in five regions in the 20-21 school year has been delayed to at least the 21-22 school year due to circumstances related to the pandemic. Details about the pilot are available at UIL TEXAS.ORG.
- **Please be sure your region's music advisory committee representative positions are filled.** Each region should have three MAC members – one each from the band,

vocal, and orchestra divisions. The annual agenda will be sent to the region presidents prior to the first spring region meeting. Agenda items should be considered at the spring region meeting and the three representatives should plan to attend the meeting during the summer conferences to cast votes on behalf of the region. If the summer conferences are not held in person, the agenda items for vote will be sent electronically like in 2020.

- As part of a **diversity initiative** the UIL is actively encouraging the submission and programming of works from underrepresented composer groups and/or cultures.
- **The state solo and ensemble contest will be held Virtually this year at the end of May** and all related instructions will be on the UIL state website at UIL TEXAS.ORG. The registration system will be open from April 1 to April 15.
- The committee process that is reviewing all **solo and small ensemble literature** has already resulted in hundreds of new pieces being added to the PML. A detailed description, including timelines and committee members, is posted at UIL TEXAS.ORG.
- The inaugural **state instrumental chamber music contest**, which was scheduled to begin in the 20-21 school year has been delayed to at least the 21-22 school year due to circumstances related to the pandemic. Details about this pilot are available at UIL TEXAS.ORG.
- **The 2021 state wind ensemble festival has been cancelled** due to circumstances related to the pandemic.
- **The 20-21 band PML committee has completed their work.** Thank you to committee members Paul Worosello - chair, Kathy Johnson, Gaspar Garcia, Ryan Johnstone, Tami Goss, Gary Williams, and Dana Pradervand for their service. 44 pieces will be added to the PML as follows: 12 grade 1s, 8 grade 2s, 5 grade 3s, 11 grade 4s, and 8 grade 5s. These pieces will be on the PML in late August and thus available for performance beginning in the 21-22 school year.
- This year's **state mariachi festival** will be held at a site to be determined in the Austin/San Antonio area on June 18 and 19 – rescheduled from February 19 and 20 at the request of many stakeholders, with the hopes of still being able to hold the event in person.

UIL Marching Band Updates

- Upon recommendation of the superintendents, **state marching band championships will be held for all conferences this fall and return to the every other year rotation in 2022.** 1A, 3A, 5A championships will be held on November 1, 2, 3 and 2A, 4A, 6A championships will be held on November 8, 9, 10. The tentative schedule is available at UIL TEXAS.ORG.
- **The current Covid-related exception that is in place this year for the required marching band pre-participation physicals expires at the end of the current school year.** Therefore, for the 21-22 school year all students in marching band activities who are required to receive a PPE prior to participation in the coming school year must receive a PPE for the 21-22 school year AND any student who was required by rule to receive a PPE prior to participation during the 20-21 school year, but did not receive one due to the exception granted for this school year, will also be required to receive a PPE

for the 21-22 school year. This information, as well as an FAQ, is available on the UIL state website.

- Due to circumstances related to the pandemic **marching bands will be permitted 20 hours of cumulative rehearsal time this year on visual fundamentals between the end of the current school term and August 1.**
- **The first day for marching bands to begin learning the visual curriculum for their competitive show will be August 1.**
- At this time **UIL expects all marching band time structures to return to normal** this fall.
- At this time **UIL expects the prelims/finals format will return to normal** this fall.
- The **new marching band adjudication sheets**, which were scheduled to be used in the fall of 2020, were delayed and **are expected to be used this fall.** Those sheets are available at UIL TEXAS.ORG and will consist of three judges at the region contest – for ratings only, five judges at the area contest – three music and two visual that will rank the bands, and seven judges at the state contest for 5A and 6A only, with 4A and down schools at their request utilizing the area sheets at state. Adjudicator training on the region sheets will continue to be through the traditional TMAA sessions. Training on the area and state sheets is in the development phase and will be done via webinar in September.
- **The first ever UIL state contest for military style marching bands was held on December 9, 2020 at Pine Tree High School in Longview.** This contest will also be held for all six conferences this fall on October 25 and 26 at a site to be determined.
- A **marching band rules committee** with representation from all conferences **has been created to advise the UIL in all matters relating to marching band.** That committee will meet for the first time later this spring.

President Forkner stated that divisional and region calendars will be worked on by chairpersons in March and April and will be available when we meet in the spring. He asked the members to respond to requests for information about calendars in each district when asked by their division chairperson.

With no new business, Mr. Forkner requested a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:29pm. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Becker

TMEA Region III Secretary
Hudson Middle School Band Director