

**TMEA Region 3**  
**Spring General Meeting Minutes**  
*Lake Highlands HS*  
*Saturday, May 11, 2019*

President Ryan Forkner welcomed everyone and began the meeting with focusing the regions' attention to the QR Code included on the printed meeting agenda. The code now takes you to the new Region 3 Music website hosted by N. Mesquite HS.

Fall 2018 Minutes can be found on back of agenda, as well as the website, whereby the items from the Music Advisory Committee will be discussed in each division meeting. The website also displays an official Region 3 Google calendar, as well as a list of region officers, and links to important information.

The first order of business was to read and approve the minutes into record. The 2018 Region 3 Fall Meeting minutes were approved.

Secondly, the next Region Fall Meeting was scheduled for Aug. 10 at Lake Highlands HS, 10:00 a.m., with refreshments provided by the region's Orchestra Division.

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](http://www.tmea.org)). The website database is updated daily, as personal résumés and available jobs are posted online.
- **Membership Renewal Alert** – Membership dues will remain at \$50 for next year. Our last dues increase was in 2002. Remember that regardless of when you paid annual dues this past year, all memberships expire June 30. We strongly encourage you to pay your membership dues and fees online through the TMEA website. Please do not wait until the Region entry deadline to renew your membership. Convention fees will remain at \$60 for pre-registration and \$80 for on-site registration.
- **Liability Insurance** – Liability insurance will remain at \$30 for next year. It is highly recommend 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 (increased from 1,000). If you had liability insurance this school year it will expire on August 20. Don't teach a day the classroom without this insurance.
- **The TMEA Clinic/Convention, February 12-15, 2020**– Follow the TMEA website and Southwestern Musician for future information.
- **TMEA Executive Board** - approved two new 2020 TMEA convention invited ensembles: a High School Percussion Ensemble, and a High School Mariachi Ensemble. Please check the TMEA website for information about the application process in the coming weeks.

The Board also voted to designate the Sinfonietta Orchestra as an official All-State ensemble after its outstanding success during its one-year pilot. Additionally, current All State ensembles will remain.

- **Legislative and State Board of Education Update** – Texas is in the midst of the 86<sup>th</sup> legislative session in which restructuring school finance and capping property taxes is of highest priority. President Floyd believes it is safe to say that more dollars than ever will be made available for public education, but the devil will be in the details in how those monies are allocated as it relates to salary increases and instructional support. At this point, the only serious threat to fine arts is the expansion of weighted funding for career and technical education courses (CTE) from ninth grade down to sixth, thus incentivizing enrollment in those courses through both money and A-F accountability points. The Board will keep you updated through TMEA News or a direct email if they believe there is the need for a call for action from the membership. Make sure you are advocating your Fine Arts programs at your district level, because your districts will decide what to do with the money. Keep yourself informed.
- **Summit XX**– The nineteenth Annual Texas Fine Arts Summit will be held June 13-14 at the Hilton Airport Hotel in Austin. This year’s event is titled “The Art of Fine Teaching”. You may register online at [www.cedfa.org](http://www.cedfa.org).
- **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 reside in and 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 1<sup>st</sup>, will be considered as official candidates. We hope you will seriously consider running for one of these state level positions. Open offices are for President Elec, VP-Band Division and VP- College Division.
- TMEA staff is in the final stages of the redesign the TMEA website to make it more user friendly, more responsive to mobile devices, and to take on a more modern look and feel. Feedback from TMEA members, industry partners, and leadership has been used to direct the redesign of this site. The project is progressing well, and will be released by June 1.

President Forkner outlined that both the Region 3 Band Division, and Elementary Division would need to elect new division chairs, as both Cody Newman and Susan Elliott would be leaving these posts. Additionally divisions were directed to touch base in their subsequent meetings regarding the MAC report online, offering a consensus regarding the Discussion and Action items outlined. The large concerns being future UIL SR changes, as well as the State SE dividing into Regional locations.

Bonnie Bartlett, Region Executive Secretary was then introduced to share current UIL business: 1) Creation of the 2019-20 UIL Music Calendar was a challenge and has continued to be due to previously scheduled districts’ Spring Breaks, Good Friday & Easter holidays, state testing schedule, and state protected weeks. Appreciative of your patience, she is still working on confirming some contest sites. 2) Also as was announced in August of 2018 regarding a reduction in Entry fees, in 2019 the fees will return to amounts +\$85-\$90 per UIL entry.

She then thanked everyone for making Region 3 awesome by hosting contests with warm hospitality and performing with musical quality. She shared that she frequently receives lots of compliments. This past school year there were 26 days of UIL Evaluations, 2 Region Marching contests, 4 Solo and Ensemble contests, serving 492 groups! Ms. Bartlett then recognized directors who had hosted events by having them stand.

With no new business, Mr. Forkner requested a motion to adjourn the general meeting to follow with division meetings in nearby locations. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

*Karen Lewis, Secretary  
TMEA Region III  
Rowlett High School Choral Director*