

**NEKMEA Board Meeting @ Lawrence High School**  
**Wednesday, June 14, 2023, 1:00-4:00pm**  
**Agenda**

- I. **Call to Order**
  
- II. **Approval of Minutes** (*\*requires a motion*)
  - A. Motion to approve from Sam Parrilla, Ryan Kazmaier seconds
  - B. Motion passes
  
- III. **Introductions/Announcements**
  - A. **NEKMEA 2022-2024 Board**
    - 1. Introductions of Executive Committee
    - 2. Introductions of Ensemble Chairs and Chair Elects
      - a. Andy Huff, Matthew Shea not present but sent reports
    - 3. Introductions of Advisory Chairs
    - 4. Introductions of Employees
      - a. Todd Manning- music merchant
  
  - B. **Upcoming Events & Deadlines**
    - 1. Monday, Sep. 11 - NEKMEA Dinner Meeting @ Lawrence High School
    - 2. Saturday, Nov. 4 - NEKMEA Auditions @ Eudora High School & Middle School
      - a. Might be some construction happening in Eudora– just a heads up that there might be some room changes etc.
    - 3. Saturday, Dec. 2 - NEKMEA Conventions: Band @ Seaman High School; Choir @ Topeka High School; Orchestra @ Washburn Rural High School
    - 4. District and State deadlines are posted on the NEKMEA and KMEA websites
    - 5. Fall voting for president elect and president elect-elect and other chair elect positions
  
  - C. **Meeting Logistics**
    - 1. Voting members – Executive Board and Ensemble Chairs for all levels. Everyone including voting and non-voting members are encouraged to participate in discussion.
    - 2. Making a motion - For note-taking purposes, please state your name when making your motion. All motions require a “second” so please state your name as well. After the motion and second, there will be a discussion period. After discussion, we will vote on the motion.
  
- IV. **Reports**
  - A. **Executive Committee**
    - 1. President – *Becky Thomas*
    - 2. President-Elect – *Vacant (must be voted on by membership in the Fall)*
    - 3. Vice President – *Damian Johnson (Report on State Choir Formula)*

1. 3 years of the formula to figure out how many octets and quartets each district gets (plus or negative 4 to earn or lose for SATB, plus or negative 2 to earn or lose for treble).
2. We really need to get as many schools as possible in the NE district to participate in district choir!
3. Choir directors should discuss and give feedback to Damian!
4. Executive Director – *Mike Jones (Financial Report)*
  1. We came out \$3,000 ahead– still have precision engraving
  2. Registration is still our biggest contributor
  3. We are doing a lot of things really well!

## B. District Chairpersons

1. [1234A High School Band – Stuart O’Neil](#)
2. [56A High School Band – Jennifer Antonetti](#)
  - a. Discussion about making changes to district level bands
  - b. Pre-covid was Gold (small schools) and equal Red & Blue (big schools)
  - c. Want to propose a compromise– leave it as 3 bands. One large school select band, one small school band and then one “honorable mention” band.
  - d. Policy change to take out the word “equal”
3. [High School Jazz Band – Ryan Kazmaier](#)
  - a. Encourage students to audition!
4. [Middle Level Band – Sam Parrilla](#)
  - a. Discussion about the 9th grade band
  - b. Mariah suggested maybe more specificity
5. [High School Choir – Andrew Huff](#)
6. [Middle Level Choir– VACANT – vote on replacement](#)
  - a. Motion to approve Mariah Barnett seconded Stuart O’Neil Allison Enneking & Zach Shoemaker as ML Choir Chair and chair-elect.
    - i. No other discussion
    - ii. Motion passes unanimously
    - iii. Nannette Kraus as accompanist
    - iv.
7. [Elementary Level Choir – Matthew Shea \(absent, sent report\)](#)
8. [High School Orchestra – Mariah Barnett](#)
9. [Middle Level Orchestra – Heather Madgwick](#)
10. [Elementary Orchestra – Pamela Garrett- Dan McCready chair elect voting](#)

## C. Advisory Personnel

1. [Mentoring Chair – Anne Neal \(absent, sent report\)](#)
  1. *Elise Peterson will replace Janelle Brower as State Mentoring Chair for the Eastern part of the state (NE, EC, SE)*
2. [Advocacy Chair – Aimee DeSotel](#)

3. Music Merchant Rep – *Todd Manning*
  1. Maybe putting sponsorships in program

**D. Employees** (*no formal report expected but feel free to share*)

1. Secretary – *Rachel Naughtin*
2. Webmaster – *Troy Johnson*

V. **Old Business** (*\* May require a motion if making a change to policy*)

**A.** REMINDER Reach out to new teachers in the NE district. Encourage new and returning members to register at [members.ksmea.org](http://members.ksmea.org). Make sure their profile has NE district checked and the levels they teach *and email group*. Emails you send to [directors\\_xyz@nekmea](mailto:directors_xyz@nekmea) only go to directors who have checked that button or who have registered students in the past for district honor ensembles. By the way, those emails must be sent from your [xyz@nekmea.org](mailto:xyz@nekmea.org) email alias.

- i. Still have a free meal incentive

**B.** REMINDER Job Descriptions can be found on NEKMEA website under Policies: [https://nekmea.org/docs/NEKMEA\\_Policies\\_20200615.pdf](https://nekmea.org/docs/NEKMEA_Policies_20200615.pdf)

**C.** \*Five-year evaluation – Discuss whether current ensemble structure is meeting the needs of the membership: number of students auditioning/selected, audition process, additional/fewer ensembles, how to increase number auditioning

- i. Band: HS (3 ensembles), ML (2 ensembles), Jazz (1 ensemble)

1. Motion from Stuart O’Neil to remove the word equal from the current language and “re-chair” the HS bands as they exist now to reflect 56A & 1234A being top selected bands and the 1-6A as third honorable mention band. Sam Parrilla seconds. Motion passes.

2. Motion from Sam Parrilla to strike 9th grade honor band from the paragraph/NEKMEA ensembles– Ryan Kazmaier seconded

- a. Discussion brought up needing more information from directors

- b. Motion does not pass- 2023

3. No changes for Jazz

- ii. Choir: HS, ML, Elem (each level has 1 ensemble)

1. Becky brought up mixed and treble choir

2. Maybe re-structuring ML choir and elem choir age ranges

- iii. Orchestra: HS, ML, Elem (each level has 1 ensemble)

1. Issues with HS numbers. Changing excerpts?

2. Mariah Barnett motions to change the selection of students at the discretion of the chairperson to allow up to five students from each auditioning school into the NEKMEA HS orchestra. Seconded from Kiana Jackson.

3. Motion passes- 2023

4. Some issues with selected literature because of the way the grade levels. Maybe taking 9th out of 7-8-9.

5. Mariah Barnett motions to change the elementary orchestra name to “Da Capo.” Jennifer Antonetti seconds. Motion passes

6. Motion to change the Da Capo orchestra to include the grade levels 5-6- Sam Parrilla seconds. Motion passes
7. Motion to change the ML orchestra to include grades 7-8. Kiana Jackson seconds. Motion passes.
8. Stuart moves that we strike the verbiage about 9th graders being nominated for both ML and HS NEKMEA orchestras. Ryan Kazmaier seconds. (Under August in HS Orchestra Description)

VI. **New Business** (*\* May require a motion if making a change to policy*)

- A. District Mini-Convention meeting schedule – make sure someone can preside over Elementary Choir concert which conflicts with Orchestra director’s meeting.
  - i. Maybe re-arrange? Will cover it with personnel.
- B. District Mini-Convention Recruitment and Retention efforts
- C. \*Excused absences from District Ensembles, disqualification from State Audition
  - i. Motion by Jennifer Antonetti to add ability for students to submit recordings in place of an in-person audition approved national events, National FFA band and chorus. Stuart O’Neil seconds. Motion passes.
- D. \*Process for nominating and selecting Outstanding Teachers

VII. **Recap and Adjournment** (*\* Requires a Motion*)

Ryan Kazmaier motions to adjourn. Jennifer Antonetti seconds. motion passes.