



Louisiana Music Educators Association
Board of Directors Meeting
23 September 2023
9:30 AM
Crowne Plaza, Baton Rouge

AGENDA

<https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/1ZJWDw230t6MfJw5HZKhqZnuJDOKSDrxZ>

I. Call to Order: Roll Call

LMEA meeting was called to order at 9:30 – the following people were present. Scotty Walker, Brett Babineaux, Lee Hicks, Aleisa Hudlow, Billy Hochkeppel, Jessica Fain, Aaron Theall, Telly Higgins, Jim Trant, Michele DesLattes, Stephanie Robertson, Greg Oden, Katrice LaCour, Doug Stone, Victor Drescher, Keith James, Ed McClellan, Josh Stearman, Carolyn Herrington, Sharon McNamara- Horne, Tom Burroughs, Annie Young-Bridges, Gustavo Miranda, Tony McCardle, Dr. Greg Robin, Cory Joy Craig, Lynn Burton.
(Bill Brent, James Square, Erin Fort - Via Zoom)

Approval of Agenda

Jessica Fain Motion – Michele DesLattes 2nd

Passes

III. Approval of Minutes

- May 13th Board Meeting Victor Drescher motion, 2nd Aleisa Hudlow

Passes

IV. Presentation and Approval of the:

- Financial Report - Scotty Walker Motion to approve: Jim Trant 2nd Aleisa Hudlow **Passes**
 - Less – Explanation: (Sharon McNamara Horne) – most major change is in salaries. Webmaster and editor were both given an increase last year. We have added the expense of the New Orleans Conference Chair to the expenses as well. It also includes a New Orleans deposit of \$10,000.
- 2023-24 Budget- Scotty Walker Motion to approve: Josh Stearman 2nd Jim Trant **Passes**

V. Executive Officer Report

President – Brett Babineaux - Thanked everyone for their consistent hard work.

President-Elect – Lee Hicks – Thanked all – ready for conference.

Immediate Past President – Scotty Walker – Michele DesLattes and Sharon McNamara Horne will be helping with registration. This year's elections are for President Elect and Division Chairs.

VI. District Directors Report – Reports in Google drive (Link at top of 1st page.)

Motion to dispense of district director reports. Jessica Fain 2nd Jim Trant

Passes

1. Robert Freeman
2. Aleisa Hudlow
3. Billy Hochkeppel
4. Jessica Fain –
5. Aaron Theall
6. Telly Higgins – Getting everyone together, trying to get more public-school programs involved. Currently trying to enlist more educators.
7. Jim Trant
8. Michele DesLattes
9. Stephanie Robertson – Informed board about her fellowship – very exciting news! She will be representing music and music education at the state political level. “A seat at the table!”

VII. Division Reports Reports in Google Drive (Link at top of 1st page.)

Band Division – Ronnie Gleason

Collegiate (CNAfME) – Ed McClellan

Elementary Division – Keith James

Jazz Division – Doug Stone

Orchestra Division – Katrice LaCour

Public Relations – Josh Stearman

- Last year Josh emailed award winner information to the school boards and newspapers.
- 31 vendors currently – looking for more.
- 14 collegiate exhibits – looking for more.

University Division – Victor Drescher

Vocal Division – Greg Oden

VIII. Ex-Officio Members and Partner Organizations

ACDA – Alyssa Carranza

AOSA - Erin Fort – (Zoom) – Excited to partner with LMEA!

Conference Chair - Denise Howell - Report in file

Editor – Carolyn Herrington

Hall of Fame – Tommy Burroughs

LAJE - Michael Brothers

LAKE – Ava Brown

LA PASA – Kathryn Irwin

LBA – Amy Kutz

LMAA - Bill Brent

LSTA – Annie Young-Bridges –

Webmaster – Sharon McNamara-Horne

IX. Committee Reports

Administration Advisory Council - Tony McCardle

Excited to spread the message of music education to the superintendents, music supervisors, school level principals and decision makers.

- Tony has contacted many leaders, and all are excited to invest in the promotion and voice of music educators.
- Work to advocate and trouble shoot issues.

- Sounding board for LMEA executive board.
- Bring administrators to our conference.

Baton Rouge Conference - Brett Babineaux - Best participation from across the nation!

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Council - James Square

Guitar - Dr. Greg Robin

Louisiana Advocacy Leadership Force - Ginny Medina-Hamilton

Mentorship - Cory Craig

PML Committee - Aleisa Hudlow

Aleisa Hudlow is the Band PML committee chair, diverse committee has been selected. Submissions have been taken – due date will be June 1st each year. Flex pieces are the next objective to be assessed.

Michele DesLattes is the vocal PML committee chair. Michele has identified PML chairs for the vocal committee – they worked diligently this summer to reformat the list. It is now very user friendly – updated and put on the website by September 1st!

- PML Committee with address Orchestra music list next.

Professional Development Committee - Brett Babineaux (Committee will now dissolve – Denise is our Conference chair and will develop the committees that she needs.)

State Solo Assessment - Going well – Question Mariachi Groups? Scotty will reach out and seek information.

Tri-M - Lynn Burton

Finished last year with 16 new groups – is excited to hear about 2 more potential new groups! Remember that your Tri-M groups are happy to help with daily task – program folding and such – Lynn will help you make use of these groups. (Before we added Lynn to the board – we had very few Tri-M groups – outstanding work Lynn!)

X. Unfinished Business – We finished all “unfinished business”.

XI. New Business

(Clarification on voting members for New Business.)

- Announcement of a special project with partnering music organizations. – Working toward making a unified statement for music education – now working on a booklet! Very exciting movement.
- MOTION JIM TRANT

Any meeting of any committee, group, advisory panel, portion of the LMEA board or any other meeting of one or more LMEA board members with or without other individuals involved who are meeting to discuss the operation of any facet of the Louisiana Music Educators' Association will notify all board members of the time, date and location of said meeting at least two days prior to the meeting and will send via email an agenda of the meeting at least twenty-four hours prior to the meeting.

A draft of the minutes of each meeting will be emailed to all LMEA board members within three days of the meeting. At a minimum, the draft of the minutes of each meeting will include individuals who were present the meeting, name of the chairperson of said committee, advisory

panel or group with a contact email address and a general recap of the meeting. The list of individuals present at the meeting will be labeled committee or group members or observers.
2nd Michele DesLattes **PASSES**

DISCUSSION – Michele DesLattes is in favor – we are already doing the work.

- Question – Are we asking that committees now provide a report.
- Question – how do we handle our new information? Google drive will provide a vehicle for us to share information.
- Asking if an email will go out to notify members when changes are made. (The document notification) Is in the setting up of the google form.
- POINT OF CLARIFICATION – A committee is appointed by the President, this is who we are addressing in this motion.

● Awards proposals - Scotty Walker

○ Outstanding Young Educator

- Gabrielle Hull

Motion Jessica Fain 2nd Alesia Hudlow

DOES NOT PASS

- Jess Lambert

Motion Josh Stearman, 2nd Alesia Hudlow

PASSES

- Molly Jones

Motion Aaron Theall 2nd Greg Oden

PASSES

Standard of Excellence Award

Central LaFourche High School - **Willie Martin**

St. Amant High School - **Joey Nassar**

Legacy Award

Tom Wafer

Robert Wilhite Award

Lakeview Jr/Sr High School band - **Miles Schexnayder**

- To approve the purchase of a sign with inserts, with a maximum cost of \$250, for use outside the exhibit hall. - Josh Stearman 2nd Michele DesLattes **PASSES**

- Motion to reinstate LMEA Large Ensemble State Assessment and provide schools who have qualifying ensembles the opportunity to proceed to a higher level of evaluation and recognition. Motion Jim Trant 2nd Alesia Hudlow **PASSES**

DISCUSSION – Provide in a virtual manor the “State Festival” recognition.

Many people across the state have asked about bringing state festival back – can there be an “in person” option? At this point – to bring it back is the first question.

POINT – now that testing dates have changed – it may be possible to reinstate an in-person event, as well as a recorded / virtual option.

POINT – Seniors are getting out of school the last week of April – graduation is beginning May.

POINT – Hybrid – recorded version will not include sight reading – not eligible for sweepstakes trophy.

POINT – Class D bands will be able to participate.

- Motion to accept Bruce Lambert being named Executive Director Emeritus.

MOTION Billy Hochkeppel 2nd Victor Drescher

DOES NOT PASS

○ Rationale:

- Honors his 40-plus years of service.
- Would continue to serve, as needed, in an official advisory capacity.
- Would receive a plaque of recognition at conference.
- Would not receive a salary.

DISCUSSION

- **Middle School All-State Proposals (requires 2 votes)**

- **Band**

PASSES

- *Motion to accept the Middle School All-State Band materials submitted herein. - Aaron Theall 2nd Jessica Fain*

DISCUSSION – Music has been amended to accommodate concerns from across the state. First two rotations are listed. There is a document that shows the scales and octave requirements.

Question – When will we have dates and will these auditions be virtual? NO Dates yet, will be determined.

- **Choir**

PASSES

- *Motion to accept the Middle School All-State Choir materials submitted herein. - Greg Oden 2nd – Jim Trant*

DISCUSSION – Will audition pieces be listed – Committee will meet and share information.

- **Jazz**

PASSES

- *Motion to accept the Middle School All-State Jazz Ensemble materials submitted herein. - Doug Stone 2nd – Jim Trant*

Special Thanks to Doug Stone for writing the etudes. There is concern that there will not be enough students to fill the jazz ensemble.

- **Orchestra**

PASSES

- *Motion to accept the Middle School All-State Orchestra materials submitted herein. - Katrice Lacour 2nd Michele DesLattes*

Discussion – Include committee members on listed committee – please.

- **Large Ensemble Assessment Proposals (requires 2 votes)**

- **Instrumental**

- *Motion to replace the current LMEA Large Ensemble Instrumental Assessment Classifications and Performance Requirements with the proposal submitted*

herein. - Billy Hochkeppel 2ND Jessica Fain

PASSES

DISCUSSION Committee met over 100 hours, solicited feedback from directors, and worked through the positive and negative feedback. The rationale – to update the requirements to fit current school music programs – greatest issue ... school size should not be the greatest

determination. Covid modifications made assessment more attainable for groups to be successful. Underserved groups felt they could come to the assessment table.

POINT – Covid modifications have expired.

POINT – 2nd and 3rd groups are sight reading different levels – typo addressed.

POINT – Accessibility and rigor have been achieved.

Sheily Bell – concern with the sight-reading level. Clarification given by Billy Hochkeppel.

Band will have a minimum level of sight reading. The piece you play on stage can be as high as you want it to be – the sight-reading component is determined not selected. All details are in the proposal in Google drive.

Instrumental Sight-Reading

- *Motion to accept the Large Ensemble Sight-Reading Assessment proposal submitted herein. - Aleisa Hudlow 2nd Jessica Fain* **PASSES**

Discussion: Multi director – motion to strike only one director. **DOES NOT PASS**

▪ Vocal

- *Motion to accept the Large Ensemble Vocal Assessment proposal submitted herein. - Michele DesLattes 2nd Alesia Hudlow* **PASSES**
DISTRICT IV voted against motion --- No abstentions

DISCUSSION: District IV

STAGE

- Concerns with directors bringing multiple groups & some being the same voicing
 - Needing clarification on what that would look like with levels & correlation to SR
- We do not need to lower the expectations for all.
 - I do like the form which allows schools who are struggling to apply to be scored a level down. That is fair, but to completely dull down the expectations for everyone is not.
- For the middle school classifications, are years of instruction ONLY defined as years of Large Ensemble Assessment experience? (i.e., an 8th grade choir that's been in choir for 3+ years, but this is their first year at Large Ensemble Assessment would qualify as Level 1?)

Sight Reading

- Allowing students to sing along with the piano in SR is not considered SR
 - “I have never known of a sight reading assessment in any level to be able to sing with piano during rehearsal and during performance.”
- Need clarity on the levels & what would be required in those levels
 - SR rubric will clarify this
- What are the expectations in the sight reading room?

District IV Overall Concerns

District IV vocal directors are frustrated because they were not asked to help on this committee.

I am concerned at the pace in which this is being pursued. I think the best option would be to create a committee to finish defining the new guidelines in this proposal and then enact them next year.

- These guidelines should have feedback from vocal chairs in every district.
- Consider changing the rules for this year for SR and adding the packet for next year.

I am strongly pleading that this proposal does not get passed and that more directors are invited to be a part of these changes and the conversation so that we can serve all choral programs in our state, not just a few.

POINT – you can choose to read a level up.

POINT – It would be good for the district directors to be able to get together again so that we can have a unified front.

▪ **Vocal Sight-Reading**

- *Motion to accept the Large Ensemble Vocal Sight-Reading Assessment proposal submitted herein. - Michele DesLattes 2nd Aleisa Hudlow **PASSES**
(District IV Votes NO)
Motion to replace the current LMEA Supplemental Sight-Reading Materials and the Florida Vocal Association (FVA) Sight Reading Materials - Michele DesLattes 2nd Alesia Hudlow (District IV Votes NO) **PASSES***

~~Motion to hire Dr William Horne, Professor Emeritus at Loyola University New Orleans, to write the exercises needed each year at a rate of \$35.00 per exercise. - Michele DesLattes~~ Motion was pulled due to the cost of purchasing vocal LE SR already in the budget. Vocal division should be in communication with the Executive Director concerning costs related to this activity.

- Motion to offer free Conference registration to school administrators, school board officials, and music supervisors. Aaron Theall makes motion, 2nd Josh Stearman **PASSES**

**Send out calendar voting for 2nd vote on proposals.
January 13th, 2024 --- meeting morning zoom – 9:00am**

**** Next Meetings**

2024 Winter Board Meeting - Jan. 13, 2024 9:00am via ZOOM

XII. Adjournment Motion

Jessica Fain motion

Jim Trant 2nd

.....