

TMEA STATE BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, February 9, 2022

Henry B González Convention Center, San Antonio

5:15 PM

A buffet dinner was served, after which President John Carroll called the meeting to order at 5:50 PM and led the State Board members in the TMEA Oath of Office. In attendance were:

TMEA Executive Board and Staff:

John Carroll, President

Brian Coatney, Past-President

Michael Stringer, President-Elect

Ann G. Smith, Orchestra Vice-President

Paul Sikes, College Vice-President

Robert Floyd, Executive Director

Rita Ellinger, Administrative Assistant

State Board:

Region 1: Ginger Denney, Christopher Reidlinger, Alisha Caldwell

Region 2: none

Region 3: Ryan Forkner, Margaret Wis, Heather Becker

Region 4: Arnie Lawson, Rebecca Hildreth, Jason Smith

Region 5: Hunter Lewis, William Ludlow

Region 6: Jeffrey Whitaker, Jonathan Kraemer

Region 7: Michael Childs, Marilyn Bennett

Region 8: Deborah Barrick

Region 9: Peter Kempter

Region 10: Phillip Maldonado, Bryan Brassard

Region 11: Richard Flores, Gilbert Sanchez, Amanda Hampton

Region 12: Mary Cowart, Eduardo Gonzales

Region 13: Neal Springer, Reece Nagai

Region 14: David Edge, San Juanita Rodriguez

Region 15: Chad Dempsey, Omar Samaniego, Dorina Kingston

Region 16: Joshua Shaw, Lindsey Spitsberg, Catherine Olivier

Region 17: Jennifer Gallagher, Kyle Norman

Region 18: Joey Lucita

Region 19: Gary Herbert, Michael Allen, Anita Ladd

Region 20: Rametria Smith, William Young

Region 21: Tommy Corley, Weston Fisher

Region 22: Timothy Andrade, Adria Dunn-Harris

Region 23: Desiree Overree, Mark Palombo, Jeffrey Tipps

Region 24: David Simon, Katherine Lewis

Region 25: Todd Dixon, Matt Cross, Linda Orrantia

Region 26: Brittany Dacy, Joshua Thompson  
Region 27: Sharon Paul  
Region 28: Michael Corcoran, William McKinney, Melody Eriksen  
Region 29: Alfonso Alvarado, Thomas Kober  
Region 30: Alyson Holley, Bradley Allen, Carla Hardy  
Region 31: Michael Dean  
Region 32: Charles Aguillon, Adam Poynor  
Region 33: Daniel Ponce, Elisabeth Hale

Dr. Bradley Kent, UIL Director of Music, reported that UIL has extended the pandemic related PML and Sight-Reading level adjustments through this year, as well as the waiver giving every school the option to enter each participating group as either varsity, non-varsity, or sub-non-varsity. The new TEA waiver allows each school district the authority to allow academically ineligible students to participate in Concert and Sight-Reading evaluation.

House Bill 547, which gives school districts the authority to allow non-enrolled or homeschooled students to participate in UIL activities, took effect on September 1, 2022.

As part of the PML diversity initiative, the UIL is actively encouraging the submission and programming of works from underrepresented composer groups and/or cultures.

For information regarding the State Mariachi Festival, State Instrumental Chamber Music Competition, and new information regarding State Marching Band, please visit the UIL website.

Reports from Executive Director Robert Floyd:

Over the course of two years the Executive Board normally meets 8 times, but over the past 23 months the Executive Board has met 40 times to deal with issues related to the pandemic. Along with TMEA staff the Board has successfully provided virtual auditions, a virtual convention in 2021 and navigated the COVID protocols for auditions, as well as other TMEA events.

ED Floyd expressed his concerns about potential teacher shortages brought on by the pandemic.

TMEA Active Membership, as compared to 2019, is up and the numbers are very close to 2020, which was the Centennial Celebration year.

The Exhibit Show will consist of 1130 booths with 400 companies represented.

The convention will begin the celebrations with a production entitled, "Celebrating Music Together" during the First General Session at 8:15 AM on Thursday in Lila Cockrell Theater. The Second General Session on Friday morning will spotlight performances by the combined All-State Ensembles, a report from Jeff Cottrill from TEA, and a keynote address by Scott Edgar.

The President's Concert will host the Jazz Ambassadors on Thursday night at 8:00 PM. in the theater. Admission is free of charge.

College Fair and College Night will host 52 colleges/universities from out-of-state and 53 in-state schools.

Revenue generated from Convention Sponsorships for this year's convention totaled \$67,250.

The Region Presidents, Chairs and Coordinators are required to file a biannual Region Financial Report. Divisions that fail to file financial reports may be flagged for an audit.

Last October TMEA Headquarters emailed the State Board Briefing to State Board and Region officers. Floyd encouraged members to ask questions and provide feedback.

Five grievances were filed this school year. No penalties were issued due to lack of sufficient evidence.

Convention housing has been a challenge this year. Due to renovations at the Marriott Plaza and the Hyatt Regency we lost 550 rooms after housing opened. We had to go out as far as the Embassy Suites to find rooms to house All-State students.

Financial/Office Report: TMEA investments, as of February 1, 2022, were valued at \$8,041,247. This total includes \$7,673,000 conservatively invested at Brinker Capitol and \$1,541,694 in a money market account at Public Employees Credit Union. The TMEA scholarship fund is currently valued at \$1,498,556.

TMEA has awarded \$205,000 for scholarships for the 2022-2023 school year.

TMEA will award \$889,000 to 1,124 elementary programs through the Elementary Music Instructional Support Program this academic year.

Floyd presented a brief report on State Board of Education, TEA and legislative updates.

Participation in Texas Future Music Educators and Texas Music Scholars was down last year. At the end of the 2021 school year, 1,715 students from 146 high schools were honored as Texas Music Scholars. The deadline to submit is May 1<sup>st</sup>.

Forty-eight students were presented with the Collegiate Music Educator Award at the end of the Fall 2022 semester.

The 2022 convention will introduce three All-State ensembles, with a one-year pilot program status: All-State Mariachi Ensemble, All-State 5A Percussion Ensemble, and the All-State 6A Percussion Ensemble.

The Board will review the current Region/Area Alignment following the convention. No changes to apportionment, as related to All-State seats for Band and Vocal Division, will be made at this time, due to the way the pandemic as affected the total number of Region entries. The new alignment will be released on April 1<sup>st</sup>.

The election is in full swing with absentee voting beginning on February 14<sup>th</sup>. There could be a lot of changes with all 31 senators and 150 representatives up for reelection. There will be up to 40 new members in the House of Representatives. Several of the strongest fine arts supporters have chosen not to run again. Rising stars for arts education in the House are Representatives Brad Buckley and James Talarico, assuming they will win their primary elections in November.

There is some interest in a bill being filed to assist funding for minority majority and low socioeconomic students in fine arts courses.

There will be a strong push by the Republican leadership for more funding for vouchers and for a Parental Bill of Rights to give parents more control over their child's education. This could weaken Texas public schools.

The Texas Arts Education Campaign, created last session to serve as an advocacy tool, will be active, not only for the session, but into the November elections. TMEA membership must get involved by telling our stories to the candidates on both the Senate and House side. More information will be forthcoming. There is no more powerful lobby than candidates hearing from constituents (potential voters) back in their home districts.

TMEA will continue to both monitor and be involved in influencing possible adoption of the edTPA certification plan by first the State Board for Education Certification and ultimately the State Board of Education. TMEA has taken a position against this plan as have most of the Colleges of Education across the state for a myriad of reasons (cost and being evaluated by someone from out-of-state by video who may not even have fine arts knowledge) and will continue to do so. A final decision could come in July.

The Extra and Co-Curricular Program to allow such participation to be part of a campus and/or district accountability grade is in its fourth year of development. TMEA has been at the table throughout this process and will continue to do so. Dr. Jeff Cottrill, Deputy Commissioner for Governance and Accountability is guiding this process at TEA and will be in attendance at the convention on Friday to observe and give brief remarks during the Second General Session. If this program is adopted by the legislature, then it is critical that student participation data in our music programs be a part of that accountability.

President Carroll suspended the meeting at 6:57 PM and will resume at 9:30 AM, Saturday, February 12.

.....

TMEA STATE BOARD MEETING  
Saturday, February 12, 2022  
Henry B González Convention Center, San Antonio  
9:30 AM

President John Carroll called the meeting to order 9:34 AM. The following members were present:

TMEA Executive Board and Staff:  
John Carroll, President  
Brian Coatney, Past-President  
Michael Stringer, President-Elect  
Paul Sikes, College Vice-President  
Robert Floyd, Executive Director  
Frank Coachman, Deputy Director  
Kay Vanlandingham, Administrative Director

State Board:

Region 1: Ginger Denney

Region 2: Evan Fletcher

Region 3: Ryan Forkner, Heather Becker

Region 4: Arnie Lawson, Rebecca Hildreth, Jason Smith

Region 5: Hunter Lewis, William Ludlow

Region 6: Jordan Freeman, proxy

Region 7: Shirley Bouquin

Region 8: Darrell Umhoefer, Sara Harris Baker

Region 9: Kenneth Labonski, Peter Kempter

Region 10: Bryan Brassard

Region 11: Richard Flores, Gilbert Sanchez

Region 12: Mary Cowart

Region 13: Neal Springer, Reece Nagai

Region 14: San Juanita Rodriguez

Region 15: Chad Dempsey, Dorina Kingston

Region 16: Joshua Shaw, Lindsey Spitsberg

Region 17: Kyle Norman

Region 18: Joey Lucita, Garth Gundersen,

Region 19: Gary Hebert

Region 20: Rametria Smith, William Young

Region 21: Tommy Corley

Region 22: none

Region 23: Desiree Overree, Jeffrey Tipps

Region 24: David Simon, Katherine Lewis

Region 25: Todd Dixon, Matt Cross

Region 26: Brittany Dacy, Joshua Thompson

Region 27: Sharon Paul

Region 28: Michael Corcoran, William McKinney

Region 29: none

Region 30: Alyson Holley, Bradley Allen

Region 31: Michael Dean

Region 32: Adam Poynor

Region 33: Elisabeth Hale

Region Reports:

Region 1: Reported that it was good to see faces and have social interaction with colleagues and thanked the Board for a good convention.

Region 2: No report

Region 3: Thanked the Board for helping teachers navigate their way during the pandemic. The Band Division of Region 2 requested that the Board consider creating an additional Area in North Texas.

Region 4: Congratulated the Board and staff on an excellent convention.

Region 5: Thanked the Board for their hard work before, during and after the convention. The Region 5 membership felt safe and had a very positive convention experience. They spoke favorably about the registration and badge printing process.

Region 6: No report

Region 7: Expressed appreciation for hosting another wonderful convention.

Region 8: Bravo for a great convention.

Region 9: Expressed thanks to the Board and staff for their leadership in trying times, and for a great convention. Region 9 requests a new room assignment for their Region Meeting in 2023.

Region 10: Loved the face-to-face convention. The Vocal Division is concerned about the lack of large schools in Region 10 and how that significantly affects the audition process.

Region 11: Thanked the State Board and staff for a great convention and for their work to protect music education. Regarding Region and Area alignment, there are concerns from the Orchestra and Vocal Divisions. The Orchestra Division in Region 11 has been divided into three San Antonio Regions; the southern half of Region 11 Orchestra from Del Río participates in Region 29 in TMEA auditions; the northern half of Region 11 goes to Region 12 for TMEA auditions; and, for UIL, the orchestra programs participate in Region 11 events. The orchestra directors wish the Board to consider the reinstatement of stand-alone Region 11 orchestra events. The Vocal Division in Region 11 is comprised of a smaller group of schools and directors, and they are spread across a large geographic area from Del Rio to San Antonio. Since most of the vocal programs have only one director it is difficult to fill 5-person panels for auditions which means they must pay outside judges which makes it difficult to remain financially solvent. The Band Division expressed its concern about the large geographical expanse of Area G.

Region 12: No report

Region 13: No report

Region 14: No report

Region 15: Thanked the Board and the TMEA Staff for their hard work during the past two years. They appreciated the opportunities to bring their students to perform in the Showcase Groups and were very excited to attend the inaugural performance of the All-State Mariachi Ensemble. They encouraged the Board to continue their work toward equity and diversity.

Region 16: Expressed thanks for the Board's patience and support over the last two years.

Region 17: Congratulated the TMEA Staff and Board on a great convention.

Region 18: No report

Region 19: Expressed congratulations to Board and TMEA staff for a great convention and mentioned they appreciated the two-sided badge.

Region 20: Thanked the Board and staff for their leadership.

Region 21: The Vocal Division requested that demographic and geographic concerns be addressed when the Board discusses Area alignment. The Small School Choir directors are happy with the SSC Area alignment.

Region 22: No report

Region 23: Thanked the Board and staff for the in-person convention and the opportunity to have All-State ensemble performances.

Regions 24: Thanked the leadership and for their time and dedication over the past two years.

Region 25: Thanked the Board and staff for an amazing convention and for their efforts to keep the Invited and All-State student performers healthy. All Divisions said the clinics and concerts were wonderful. While there was some confusion about the recording process for chair auditions, the Band Division liked the recorded seating auditions that took place prior to the convention.

Region 26: Thanked the Board for a great convention.

Region 27: Expressed thanks to the Board and staff and reported that Brenham ISD would like to move to Area D. They also requested that their Region meeting be moved from the LaQuinta because the 5A All-State Band members are leaving their personal belongings in the room after their rehearsal.

Region 28: The Region 28 Elementary Division music teachers wish to thank the Board for providing grant money to elementary division members this year. They thank the Board for the opportunities they provided and continue to provide the students in Region 28. The Region 28 Band Division continues to object to the current geographically prejudicial apportionment system which bi-annually redistributes the number of All-State chairs awarded to each Area based on the number of students participating in the Region band audition versus the previously standard number of chairs that was evenly distributed across the state. With the current apportionment system, a student may make the All-State Band one year, improve their chair placement at Area the next year, and not make the All-State band that year. This occurred in Area G when apportionment began. It will continue to happen across the state as Area numbers change every 2 years. Before apportionment, each Area sent three bassoons to state. Under the current apportionment system, Area G only sends one bassoon to state. With the economic status of Area G, that number will not change. That means only one bassoon from San Antonio to Brownsville will become an All-State musician. Region 28 is not asking to go back, but to move forward to provide more equal opportunities for students and suggested setting the bar to a minimum of two students per instrument for each Area from the one that is in place now. We encourage the Executive Board to explore a better system for the distribution of chairs for each Area.

Region 29-30: No report

Region 31: Expressed gratitude for the “back-in-person” convention. The directors of All-State students expressed dissatisfaction regarding the All-State students’ schedule on Wednesday. There was no time in the schedule for students to eat dinner between the All-State meeting at 4:15 PM and the sectional rehearsals which began at 6:00 PM and no place to eat after rehearsals ended at 9:00 PM. Region 31 suggests shortening the length of the first sectional rehearsal. Directors feel it is unacceptable for students not to have the opportunity to eat dinner on Wednesday night.

Region 32: No report

Region 33: Expressed gratitude to the Board and staff for their herculean efforts to return to an in-person convention.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 10:07 AM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kay Vanlandingham  
Administrative Director

**TMEA 2022 First General Session**  
**Lila Cockrell Theater, San Antonio, Texas**  
**Thursday, February 10, 2022**  
**8:15 AM**

President John Carroll called the First General Session of the 2022 TMEA Clinic/Convention to order at 8:18 AM and introduced the members of the Executive Board and staff.

Dana Pradervand was recognized as the official candidate for the office of President-Elect. There being no nominations from the floor, nominations were closed, and Dana Pradervand was elected by a unanimous voice vote.

Joe Munoz, Chair of the Agenda Committee, reported that no new business items had been received for consideration.

Four high school students were recognized as the 2022-2023 TMEA multi-year scholarship winners:

- Victoria Reed, a student from Hondo HS, was awarded the Bill Cormack Scholarship.
- Julia Johnson, Liberty HS, was recognized as the Past-Presidents Scholarship winner.
- The Past-Presidents Memorial Scholarship was awarded to David Flores a student from King HS.
- Recipient of the Executive Board scholarship is Ellie Wolfe from Anna HS

Despite the financial challenges brought on by the pandemic, the Executive Board has allocated a total of \$205,000 for scholarships in the coming year.

President Carroll introduced the musical production entitled *Celebrating Music Together* and thanked the cast and crew members for their commitment to the project.

There being no further business, President Carroll declared the meeting adjourned at 8:25 AM.

**TMEA 2022 Second General Session**  
**Lila Cockrell Theater, San Antonio, Texas**  
**Friday, February 11, 2022**  
**8:15 AM**

President John Carroll extended a welcome to the Second General Session and introduced Past-President Brian Coatney who led attendees and the 2022 combined All-State Mixed Choir, Symphonic Band and Symphony Orchestra in performing the *National Anthem* and the *TMEA Anthem*.

President Carroll then conducted *From Sea to Shining Sea*, as performed by the combined All-State Ensembles.

President Carroll called the meeting to order at 8:35 AM.

Administrative Director Kay Vanlandingham read the minutes of the First General Session held on February 10, 2022. The minutes were approved as presented.

President Carroll recognized Dr. Jeffrey Cottrill, Deputy Commissioner, Governance and Accountability for the Texas Education Agency who presented a brief report on the Extra and Co-Curricular Project that was established to study student participation in extra and co-curricular activities to determine their feasibility as an addition to campus and district performance evaluation.

Sara Wright, chair of the TMEA Public Relations Committee, reported that the 2021 SAT National Average is 1,088. The 2021 SAT Texas Average is 1,039. The 2022 TMEA All-State Overall Average is 1,307.

President Carroll then introduced keynote speaker, Dr. Scott Edgar, who delivered a message that music educators are in a prime position to help students become socially and emotionally competent as well as be successful in the music classroom.

Following the keynote address President Carroll recognized the past State Divisional Chairs in the audience and presented the outgoing Band Division Vice-President, Dana Pradervand, and College Division Vice-President, Paul Sikes, with commemorative plaques. Past-President Brian Coatney was thanked for his service.

President-Elect Michael Stringer then presented John Carroll with the Past-President's plaque and pin and reported the following divisional election results for Vice-President: Shane Goforth, Band Division and Matthew McInturf, College Division. The new President-Elect is Dana Pradervand.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:27 AM.