



## South Dakota Music Education Association

Approved Meeting Minutes

January 8, 2022

LB Williams Elementary School

Mitchell, SD

10:00 AM

**Board Members Present in person:** Kim Bruguier, Laura Schenk, Sheri Holt, Dave Sanderson, Colby Shuck, Ryan Stahle, Julie Berger, Heather Nelson, Erin McFarland, and Brooks Bowman, Kimberly Bogart

**Board Members Present via zoom:** Danny Eye, Char Cade, Laura Cooper, Mike Bossman, Tara Hahn, Kari Wilmes, Iwona Lewter, Deb Rohrer, Tanya Davis

**Board Members Absent:** Molly Charlson, Bethany Amundson, Luis Viquez,

Past President Kim Bruguier brought the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

**Motion by Dave Sanderson, second by Erin McFarland, to accept the agenda.**

**Motion carries.**

**Secretary's Report – Sheri Holt**

Please review minutes at [www.sdmea.net](http://www.sdmea.net).

**Motion by Dave Sanderson, second by Ryan Stahle, to approve the August 2021 meeting minutes. Motion carries.**

**Executive Director/Treasurer's Report—Laura Schenk**

Laura expressed her thanks once again to past Executive Director, Paul Schilf for helping her as she learns this new position. Laura has had frequent emails, updates, and onboarding with the NAFME National Offices.

Laura reported that we now have a new Traveler's Insurance Policy that is an overall policy for all our events and is quite reasonable in cost. Event chairs will no longer need to complete insurance forms for each event. Some host facilities may still require a certificate, if so, just let her know and she will get one to you.

SDMEA's tax status is now in place. Just waiting for final paperwork to be received. We are retaining our non-profit status.

Laura reported that the “COVID year” has put a strain on us financially due to no income revenue due to lack of events. The executive board has decided to forgo receiving their stipend until we are sitting better financially. With the pausing of these stipend payments we are able to make all our bill payments. The decision was made for Laura to retain her treasurer position as well at this point in time.

Laura mentioned that there is a need to compile a Board Policy guide. Continued work will take place to prepare this.

NAfME online elections will be held for eligible members January 11th-February 10th. Elections will be for both national president elect and North Central Division president elect. Kim Bruguier is running and Laura is encouraging us to log on and vote!

Chair member reminders:

- Become familiar with the folder called “What You Need to Know” regarding registration fees, director’s fees, etc.
- Email etiquette: please start a new email and avoid adding onto an old email and avoid hitting “reply all.”
- Deposits: Stamp the back of the checks prior to mailing to Laura, remove any attached receipts or bank check parts.

Laura expressed the need for creating a SDMEA COVID statement. Brooks Bowman reported that the SDHSAA has adopted a policy to follow the facilities policy of an event location. Discussion and work was done on creating a SDMEA COVID statement:

*“The South Dakota Music Education Association in following with the South Dakota Department of Health recommends the use of masking and social distancing where possible. Event participants are to follow protocols of the host facility.”*

**Motion by Sheri Holt, second by Heather Nelson, to accept the COVID statement as written above. Motion carries.**

### **President Report- Bethany Amundson**

President Amundson’s report included tasks that she has completed in her presidential role: Bylaw revisions, executive board meetings, filling board vacancies, etc. Bethany attended the North Central Division Meeting this past September where there was music discussion regarding protocols for in-person events. She advocated for training and assistance relevant specifically to small states and those new to board leadership.

Ongoing business includes seeking nominations for board elections. Contact Bethany with any nomination ideas. These positions are up for election:

- President-Elect
- Middle School Choral/General Music Chair

- Band Chair-Elect
- Orchestra Chair-Elect

Reminders:

- Email etiquette
- Proper representation of SDMEA in communications and what we stand for (not personal beliefs or opinions),
- Membership requirements for judges and clinicians
- Consider the overall SDMEA board, not just your event

Task: Voting on Bylaw revisions.

**Motion by Dave Sanderon, second by Kari Wilmes, to accept the Bylaw revisions. Motion carries.**

**Conference Manager/Past President Report: Kim Bruguier**

The summer session is scheduled for August 2nd at the LB Williams Elementary School. David Row will be the presenter and continued education credit will be offered through DWU.

**Music Educator Conference**

The Music Educator Conference was held this past fall in Rapid City. Kim reported that there were 117 registered, including current educators and collegiates. She noted that we had more current educators registered this year than collegiates as is common in past years and is good to see this rise in educator numbers. She also notes that this was the highest registration for the conference when it is held in Rapid City.

We had a smaller number of exhibitors this year which may be due to location and/or COVID. She is receiving vendor interest already for 2022.

Kim reported that the most attended sessions were the hands on and/or ensemble presentation sessions.

The Army Band was to be our headliner but backed out. Much thanks to Ryan Stahle and the Tritones for their performance! The Army Band will be our headliner for 2022.

We had some feedback of having smaller spotlight performances throughout the conference.

Ryan Stahle expressed a huge thank you to Kim for her hard and successful work on the conferences! Round of applause!

**SDHSAA Report—Brooks Bowman**

Brooks Bowman reported that All-State Chorus and Orchestra went well this past fall with very few students becoming ill during the event. A survey (regarding COVID numbers following the event) was sent out but only 9 schools responded.

The first all-state show choir will be held this year. Brooks encourages directors to have their students audition for this. Students do not have to be a part of a show choir but they do need to be part of their high school choir.

All-State band and jazz band live auditions will be held in the upcoming weeks. Brooks mentioned that he has been meeting with the music advisory committee and having discussions about the feasibility of going to recorded band auditions due to financial reasons. Brooks asked our thoughts on recorded auditions since our band events are currently using this format. He expressed that he would like to see continued live auditions but perhaps condense the number of sights. Discussion was brought up about using just audio recordings at local sites for auditioning.

There was mention of the all-state choir T-shirt mishap (week before order link/shirts not there for concert/design altered). We have two more years with this organization to fulfill their contract. There has been much expressed to board members about the disappointment in this company, but not necessarily to Brooks directly.

Kim expressed thanks to Brooks Bowman for all he does for us.

#### **South Dakota Musician Report: Deb Rohrer (editor)**

Deb reported that we are back on track in our advertising. We went from \$2200 to \$3600 this fall in advertising income. Printing costs were a bit higher this year. But we are on track!

Deb announced that this will be her last year serving as editor after serving for the past 11 years. Bethany Amundson will be taking over this position. This spring they are transitioning.

#### ***Chair Reports:***

##### **Middle School Band-- (Danny Eye, chair/Julie Berger co-chair)**

Danny reported that they just wrapped up auditions this past week and results will come out next week. This is the second year they used the google format and it has worked well. A big thanks to John Laughlin for managing the technology side of auditions. Audition numbers were down a bit from prior years. Some directors feel that the membership fees may be too high for them to join and to therefore audition their students. Danny has been reaching out to directors that have not been involved and sharing the benefits of SDMEA sheet with them. Laura mentioned that they have an introductory membership to SDMEA that only costs \$61. Danny was wondering if perhaps sponsors could be solicited to help cover a directors membership fees for those in need.

Julie has music on a google drive and ready to share with directors. She reported that she only had to order five of the songs as they were able to borrow music from area schools.

### **Elementary Report—Tanya Davis, chair/Tara Hahn, co-chair**

#### Festival Choir (4-6<sup>th</sup>)

Festival Choir is scheduled for Monday, March 7, 2022. Tanya reported that she has secured seven sites: Mobridge, Gregory, Mitchell, Harrisburg, Beresford, Sturgis, and Brandon. The numbers are the highest they have ever been. Frustration was expressed over late registration entries.

#### Elementary Honors Choir for 2022 (25th year)

This next fall will mark the 25th anniversary year of the elementary honors choir so she will look into getting a commissioned piece for the festival. Still looking for a director. A few names were shared regarding the commissioned piece. Thoughts were to have a South Dakota composer commission it.

### **Higher Education Report— Dave Sanderson**

Dave provided some feedback on the Music Educator conference in regards to collegiate students. Suggestion was made to use collegiate students as room presiders to take the pressure off board members. Dave volunteered to help out with room technology as well. Mentioned to move the lunch schedule for conference to the same as all-state to allow more time to find a place to eat. Dave shared that the Q and A is a popular session with the collegiates and encouraged current educators to participate to share their knowledge with them during this time.

Dave plans on reaching out to leadership from SDACDA, SDBA, SVOC for future collegiate day sessions to help foster collegiate involvement and engagement with our counterpart organizations.

Dave encouraged us to consider presenting at conferences/sessions as well as attending the NAFME 2022 National Conference that will be held next November in Maryland.

More discussion was made on utilizing collegiate students as spotlight performers.

### **Middle School Report—(Iwona Lewter, chair)**

The 2022 MS Festival will be held on April 14th. Registration deadline for this event is February 21st. Three sites are secured: Mitchell, Sturgis, and Sioux Valley/Volga. Directors include Mike Bossman, Kim Bruguier (Mitchell), Robyn Starks Holcomb, and Sheri Holt (Sioux Valley). Rehearsal tracks and forms are on the website. Kim encouraged promoting this event via social media platforms, etc.

### **Band Report- (Ryan Stahle band chair/Ellie Kenkel/Band Chair-Elect**

Welcome to Ellie Kenkel. She is now the band chair-elect board member.

The Middle School All-State Jazz Band will be held in Mitchell on February 4-5. Guest directors will be David Martinson and Ben Koch. Hotel blocks have been reserved at Hampton Inn and Comfort Inn. Auditions were due last night. 73 auditions were

received to fill 19 or so positions. The instrumentation was very uneven across the parts. Results should be posted this week.

Thanks again to John Laughlin for managing the technical side of things.

#### Conference sessions

Ellie reported that DWU will provide credit for the 2022 sessions. Dr. Amundson will lead a session entitled “Small and Flex Band Arrangements.” Dr. Folliard will lead a session entitled “Our Students for their Future, not our Past.” Poppler’s Music will lead a Jazz Band reading session.

#### **Tri-M Report – Molly Charlson**

No report.

Two active tri-valley chapters. Brandon and Clark both have active chapters.

#### **Webmaster/Archivist/Newsletter Editor Report: Mike Bossman,**

Email Bossman at [webmaster@sdmea.net](mailto:webmaster@sdmea.net) with any changes on the website. Continue to look over your pages and let him know what needs to be updated. Mike will add the COVID statement on our website. Event chairs are encouraged to reach out to Mike and have him put your event on the main page prior to your event.

#### **Mike Bossman/President Elect:**

Mike Bossman will take over as president in July.

#### **Heather Nelson (Historian)**

Heather is new to this historian position. It was shared that The Center for Western Studies at Augustana has our past programs and some historical files. Heather will look into this. She will also look into putting together a google doc listing all past directors that we have used.

#### **Retired Report- Char Cade**

Char is continuing to receive requests for tickets for all-state chorus and orchestra. 2023 will be the All-State Chorus and Orchestra’s 70th anniversary. She has been digging up some historical information regarding the start of all-state choir and orchestra and has found some very interesting news and history that will be shared in the Musician Magazine as we get closer to the event.

She asks that we email her with recently retired educators contact information so that she can reach out to them regarding tickets.

#### **Awards Report—Erin McFarland, chair**

Erin expressed thanks to the executive board for helping her through her first awards year. She reported a good turn out at the awards reception. Maybe add door prizes for next year. Award nominations will open again in April.

**Membership Chair: Colby Shuck, chair**

Our full active membership numbers are at an all-time high. SDMEA memberships are up by 58 since last June.

Reminder: If you want anything emailed out, it needs to be sent to Colby. Send it to him exactly as you would like it to read.

**Choral Report – Kari Wilmes, chair**

The Freshmen Festival was held on November 9th, 2021 at Mitchell. Dr. Russell Svenningsen of Augustana University was the director. 12 schools attended with 111 students. This was the largest so far for the freshmen festival.

November 8/10 is the projected date for next year's Freshmen Festival, hopefully in Mitchell once again.

**Orchestra Report --(Laura Cooper, chair/Kim Bogart, chair-elect)**

**Middle School All-State Orchestra (MSASO)**

Laura reported that MSASO will be held on Feb. 18-19 at Rapid City Central. Conductor will be Dr. Chad Hutchinson. 140 auditioned with 80 students being selected.

**String Symposium**

The 4th annual String Symposium will be held in conjunction with MSASO and J. Laiten Weed Honors Orchestra. Many great sessions are in place and credit is available through DWU.

**DEIA (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Advocacy) Luis Viquez, chair**

No report

Congratulations to Luis who was married over Christmas break!

**Old Business**

The e-newsletter information needs to be emailed to [webmaster@sdmea.net](mailto:webmaster@sdmea.net) by February 17th.

**New Business**

No new business

**Motion by Char Cade, second by Kim Bogart, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carries.**

**Meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.**

Next meetings will be held on June 4th  
Location TBD  
Submitted by Sheri Holt