



# Florida Bandmasters Association

## "A Band In Every School"

August 5, 2011

Greetings to Fellow Band Directors:

I hope you have had a restful and productive summer and are ready to begin the new school year with enthusiasm and renewed commitment to the goals of quality music education. Many of you at the senior high level are busy with band camps or just finishing, and are preparing diligently for the coming marching band season. Middle school and junior high directors are probably getting materials together to start a new crop of beginners and are selecting music for your students' learning experiences and performances during the year. I urge you to adopt a positive attitude in all your efforts; none of us are blessed with an ideal situation, but we can either accept our problems as challenges or allow them to defeat us. The choice is ours to make.

Your professional organization needs your participation and you need its support. The Florida Bandmasters Association/Florida Music Educators Association/Music Educators National Conference offers you a unified membership in the music education profession that can significantly contribute to your continuing education and to the enrichment of your students' musical experiences (membership deadline is September 1). I hope you will avail yourself of all the opportunities that are presented; not only by your participation in the programs, but by also being willing to assist through your service.

The Florida School Music Association (FSMA) supports and sponsors all music activities in Florida. Be sure your school has paid dues and belongs to this organization so that your students can participate in the MPA events sponsored by the FSMA and FBA. Membership deadline is September 15.

As District officers, your Secretary and I have accepted the responsibilities of administering all the District activities as well as serving as your representative on the FBA Executive Board. We do this in addition to our job responsibilities at our school. We cannot do all this alone, so we solicit your assistance, cooperation and understanding.

The Florida Bandmasters Association invites you to attend its first District meeting for the year 2011- 2012. It will be held at:

FGCU Bower School of Music  
Saturday, August 13 at 10:00 a.m.

Please make arrangements to attend. If you know of any new directors in the District, call them and invite them to attend. Information will be given and packets will be distributed which will cover the entire range of FBA activities throughout this school year. This is your opportunity to become informed concerning the FBA programs which can be of significant educational and musical benefit to you and your students.

I hope to see you on August 13.

Musically yours

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sarah Hamilton". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Sarah Hamilton  
Chairperson, District 18

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