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FLORIDA BANDMASTERS ASSOCIATION – 69th year DISTRICT MEETING #3 MINUTES FORMAT (ver. 08-04)

DISTRICT NUMBER: 5	MEETING DATE: April 12, 2005
MEETING NUMBER: 4	MEETING LOCATION: Ridgewood High School

Item 1: Call to Order and Introductory Remarks

The meeting was called to order by Mary Harvey, District 5 Chairman, at 7:00 pm. The chair welcomed the membership to the meeting, and thanked the Ridgewood High School Band Boosters for providing dinner.

Item 2: Members and Guests Present

Terry Adams	Hudson HS
Bruce Brazinski	Parrott MS
Gwen Brazinski	Guest
Robert Cook	River Ridge HS
Joseph Harrin	Central HS
Mary Harvey	Wesley Chapel HS
Larry Harvey	T. E. Weightman MS
Travis A. Henry	River Ridge MS
Jeanne Kleckner	Chasco MS
John Keon	Hudson MS
Dawane Ledbetter	Gulf MS
Jonathan McKeown	Ridgewood HS
Bill Rutherford	Gulf HS
Russell Schmidt	Zephyrhills HS
Michael Vail	R. B. Stewart MS

Item 3: Reading of Previous Minutes

Motion: To waive the reading of the minutes. (Ledbetter/Kleckner) **PASSED**

Item 4: Treasurer's Report

There is currently \$9,885.23 in our district account.

Motion: To accept the Treasurer's report as stated. (Henry/L. Harvey) **PASSED**

Item 5: Announcements:

A sheet is being passed around to write down spring concert dates to share with the district.

Item 6: Music Advocacy Issues

Jonathan McKeown discussed the current issues, including the current status of the FMEA sponsored bills in the Florida House and Senate. Discussion also occurred about the mandatory reading and math classes that students will have to take in Pasco County and the effect it will have on students being able to take electives.

Item 7: Unfinished Business

Discussion about adjudicators. If you have any suggestions for next year please let Mary Harvey know. Dates for Music Performance Assessments for next year were reviewed.

Item 8: Committee Reports

A discussion about the progress of recording for All State was conducted.

Item 9: New Business

Motion: All out of district bands must be scheduled to follow our in district bands. Any exemption must be given by the district at a regularly schedule district meeting. (Schmidt/ Ledbetter) **PASSED**

Motion: All State auditions to be held on September 10th, 2005 at Wesley Chapel High School. (Vale/L. Harvey) **PASSED**

Motion: Marching Music Performance Assessment to be held on November 5th, 2005 at River Ridge Middle/High School. (Brazinski/Rutherford) **PASSED**

Motion : District Solo and Ensemble to be held on February 9th, 10th, and 11th, 2006 at Wesley Chapel High School. (Brazinski/Schmidt) **PASSED**

Motion: High School Concert Music Performance to be held on March 10th and 11th at Wesley Chapel High School. (Harrin/Schmidt). **PASSED**

Motion: Middle School Concert Music Performance to be held March 31st and April 1st at Wesley Chapel High School. (Kleckner/L.Harvey) **PASSED**

Item 10: District Adjudicators for Next School Year

Please submit all suggestions for district adjudicators to Mary Harvey.

Item 11: Nominations for State MPA Adjudicators

To recommend Roby George from Florida International for Concert Music Performance Assessment.

To recommend Tony Chiporn and Elaine Chiporn for State Solo and Ensemble Brass.

Item 12: Nominations for Adjudicators List (secret ballot)

Motion: To recommend Mary Harvey for Solo and Ensemble Brass Adjudication. (Henry/Brazinski)
PASSED

Item 13: Suggestions to State Committees

none

Item 14: Proposals to the Executive Board

All proposals in this section reproduced as presented in writing:

M.Harvey/ Henry :

Motion: To change the wording in the handbook, section III – B. Music Requirements and Information 2i - #2, “The student should be attending and participating in the second or third band class on a daily basis, just as any other second and third band members do. It is *strongly* recommended that students practicing and performing with other bands should do so on a second instrument”. **The wording to be changed to:** The student **is** attending and participating in the second or third band class on a daily basis, just as any other second and third band members do. **Students practicing and performing with other bands will do so on a second instrument.**

Rational: Students practicing and performing on their first instrument in the second or third band is not giving a true representation of the second or third band’s ability.

Rutherford/Ledbetter

Motion: HANDBOOK CHANGE:

III - F. JAZZ BAND MUSIC PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT

3. Instrumentation and Personnel

a. Jazz Band personnel shall consist of a minimum of eight (8) members and a maximum of twenty-five (25) members. **NOTE:** There is no limit on the number of ENTRIES a school may have for a Jazz Band (for District & State Music Performance Assessments), but the performing number must always be limited to 25.

TO READ:

III - F. JAZZ BAND MUSIC PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT

3. Instrumentation and Personnel

a. Jazz Band personnel shall consist of a minimum of eight (8) members and a maximum of twenty-five (25) members *on each school’s entry form.*

NOTE: There is no limit on the number of JAZZ BANDS a school may have entered for District &

State Music Performance Assessment, but the *total students on a school's roster for each band* must always be limited to 25 members.

RATIONALE:

Some directors are changing students in between numbers and having fresh players on each numbers, in some cases changing the entire ensemble. This does not allow for a true assessment as the dynamics and the norm reference of the ensemble constantly change. Most bands can only field enough members for one ensemble that is required to play their three numbers without having access to fresh players on each number.

Brazinski/Vail:

Motion: That the Florida Bandmasters Association generate and allocate funding for the purpose of purchasing enough Sight Reading Music so that **EVERY** selection has a score and parts that are **CONSISTENTLY THE SAME**.

Rationale: There are still some pieces in the Sight Reading Library that have scores and parts that do not agree (ex. Score has repeats, parts do not have repeats). This creates unnecessary confusion during a time when the Director and Students are trying to focus on the task at hand. **THESE PIECES NEED TO BE REPLACED.**

Henry/ Schmidt:

Proposal

To the FBA Executive Board and FBA Strategic Planning Vision Committee

(In possible conjunction with FMEA Executive Board, FMEA Emerging Leader/Mentoring Committee, FSMA Executive Board, FSMA Executive Board)

The FBA will implement a mentoring program (by FBA district) to assist younger band directors in their first few years of teaching.

Rationale

Over the past three years, our profession has seen a dramatic increase of young teachers entering the music education profession. Despite efforts from the FBA and the FMEA to reach out to its younger members, many young teachers are not receiving the proper guidance when it comes to the MPA process, financial aspects of a music program, professional responsibilities, day-to-day conceptual teaching, and other duties essential to success in our profession. Right now, the following problems are being identified:

Problem 1: Many young teachers are not familiar with the resources available to them. While the FBA provides our handbook, our website and other **printed** materials that our younger colleagues can read, many of them are not reaching out to speak to an actual person. These individuals still view our organization as distant and uncaring. They are not familiar with the other music teachers in their district and do not know that these people are ready and willing to reach out to them and even come out their band room and help them. What was once “common knowledge” and “regular practice” in our profession has almost become a lost and dying art. Furthermore, many more young teachers are either too scared or too proud to ask for help.

Problem 2: As a result of the above problem, many young directors go into the MPA process totally unprepared to select appropriate music, order scores in a timely manner, review the sightreading process with their bands, etc. A higher percentage of bands have received lower ratings or were even disqualified as a direct result of not knowing the process. These results have created a situation where these young directors have to search for answers to questions about improving the band program by administration, parents, music supervisors, parents and students. Often times, these teachers are not prepared to give answers and do not know where to turn to find the answers (see problem #1).

In all, so many young teachers are being allowed to continue to fail without being guided in the ways of success. Our organization has too many successful teachers that can serve as mentors, and we are not doing enough to “reach out” to them!!

Possible Solutions or starting points:

- Appoint a mentor contact in each FBA district to help coordinate the district’s program
- Implement small group mentor sessions designated for more focused dialogue with younger directors (at district level, at summer and fall workshops, at inservices, at FMEA conf.)
- Begin to ask retired and veteran teachers to visit specific band programs across our state and “shadow” a newer teacher, then actually show successful teaching in that setting
- Offer a “What’s On Your Mind?” forum at each district meeting (ten minute maximum) to encourage dialogue with membership about new teacher concerns
- Work with FMEA to offer open forums with collegiate music education majors to discuss procedures and strategies for success (FMEA through FCMENC)
- Establish an FBA Mentoring Committee (special committee) to help address specific issues in regards to mentoring newer band directors and addressing issues [three year committee]

Needed help:

- The FSMA must work with school administrators and individual districts to make active mentoring a **reality** by encouraging school district to invest in giving successful teachers temporary duty time (when applicable and available) to visit classrooms of younger teachers.
- Music supervisors should create more in-service opportunities specifically geared to younger teachers to review strategies used by successful teachers. At the same time, they can offer other topics to veteran teachers.
- The FMEA Emerging Leaders (FBA specific) should be called upon to “bridge a gap” and assist with some of the mentoring (those in third year of program)
- The FMEA should continue to offer the mentor training necessary for the emerging leaders to assume the responsibility of being a mentor.

This issue needs the continued attention by all members of the FBA. The future of our organization and our profession is dependant on our ability to train and encourage future music educators. We want all our colleagues to be successful!

Item 15: Correspondence

none

Item 16: For the Good of the Association

Summer Convention: July 6-9, make every effort to attend.

Central High School may have a job opening, please talk to Joe Harrin for details.

Jonathan McKeown discussed district realignment concerns. The growth rate of Pasco County was discussed. Please be prepared to discuss this issue at the August meeting.

Item 17: Next Meeting Date

The next meeting will be August 11th, 2005 at Zephyrhills High School.

Item 18: Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn. (Harrin/ L. Harvey) **PASSED**

Meeting adjourned at 8:02pm

Name of District Secretary: Jonathan McKeown

Signature: