

MSBOA District 12 Fall General Membership Meeting  
September 15, 2014

**VIP Guests:** Amy Knopps, EMU. Colleen Conway, UM. Charles Bullard, State Office.

Opening remarks from Dave Leach:

Some concern from District 12 colleagues about the daytime schedule of the fall meeting. Administrators have daytime meetings, MSBOA one has one a year, directors should be asking for this time off.

Reports:

- **Treasurer: Jeff Thomas**
  - Passed audit with no problems.
  - Operating in the black on every event.
  - Net income for 2014 ~\$18K

*Motion to accept: Catherman, second: Bressler*

Dave notes that we have been in a much more positive financial position than other districts in our State.

Question: What's our balance. A. Over \$100k

Question regarding \$14K site use expense. A. Bale medal invoice for S/E medals.

- **B&O: Dave Armbruster**
  - December 11 deadline. December 15 = \$100 late fee.
  - Registration will open around end of October or early November.
  - Contact Dave if you are interested in hosting B&O.
  - Feb 26-28. Mar 12-14
  - MME will be first week of March and possible sometime in April.
  - This year looks to be slightly larger for B&O.
  - District 12 Provisional Open Classification Pilot Project
    - Directors have the option of choosing festival class.
    - There is no option to go to State if you choose a lower class.
    - Info on how to register for this option will come at a later date.

*Motion to accept: Smith. Second: Alwin.*

Dave notes that the fear in other districts is that AA bands would go to festival as class D. This does not seem to be something that has happened in District 12. Band directors that have a feeder system or situation that is not preparing their ensembles to perform at classification are encouraged to utilize Open or Provisional classification.

Question: Why only one year? A. We will watch results and then implement for a second year.

Question: Can we make this policy? A. No it would have to go through the State for permanent approval. District 12 has piloted this project 5 or 6 times in 30 years.

This is a project that can open up problems or abuse of the system. For the most part our colleagues will make good decisions that are best for the students.

Question: If you get a 1 in open class at a lower class do you have to go up a class the second year ? A. No. That is the provisional classification system.

Explanation of Provisional from Ken Moore:

We have had a Provisional system for decades. Through this system you can apply to go up to two classes lower than your school enrollment dictates. An application is filled out and signed by an administrator. This application is first approved by the District board and then the State board. You can not go to State as a provisional band. Under Provisional policy, if you receive a 1 rating, you must go a class higher the following year.

Question: Can you go to state under Provisional classification. A. No.

Question: At the State level is there any discussion about creating a classification system that is not enrollment based. A. No. The state protects this like it's the Holy Grail (thank you, Dave Leach).

Ken Moore pointed out that change happens when directors get organized and go to the State meetings. There is very light attendance at these meetings and important decisions can get passed with a tiny faction of our State Membership (i.e. losing the March in B&O Sightreading). The process for making changes at the state level does take time (more than a year), it doesn't happen in one meeting.

- **Solo & Ensemble: Joe DeMarsh**
  - This year's registration should be smoother than last year.
  - Please log in now to check to make sure everything is working for you. Don't wait until the last minute.
  - Students can use (legal) music from the internet, but they need to provide proof of payment and/or a URL for free non-copyrighted music.
  - Schedule changes:
    - If you have two events in the same room that need to change times, please just change this. Don't do it yourself if they are events in two different rooms.
    - Adding players to events weeks after the registration is too complicated. That will not happen.
    - If you have a conflict with your work assignment you have to find your own sub, no one on the board will do that for you.
    - Last year the pianos did not get tuned, mainly due to the time of delivery due to bad weather. We are working to make sure that does not happen this year.

*Moved to accept: Moore. Second: Roberts*

Question: Can you review the State deadline after district S/E. A. You have one week after the event to register for State. If you anticipation you must contact the State Office PRIOR to the deadline. They can not help you after the deadline, this is policy.

- **Marching Band: Jeff Oshnock**
  - Registration deadline is today.
  - Flat Rock: Engelbert/ Kurilko. John Glenn: Cramer/Piece
  - Same photographer and videographer as last year.
  - Schedule should be out this week, adjudicators are contracted.
  
- **Adjudicators: Ann Felder**
  - We are in good shape for all events and have adjudicators already contracted through the end of the year.

*Motion to Accept: Roberts. Second: Catherman.*

Please fill out adjudicator evaluations because these are taken seriously when extending future contracts. Please read your sheets before you hand them to kids.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **\* FIC: Heather Wickman**

Highlights from the meeting.

\* State S/E accompanist discussion. There are some accompanists that are taking on too many events and causing site issues. In the future you may be required to enter your accompanist names for State S/E.

\* There was a problem at a B/O festival where the score was posted incorrectly (lower) and it stuck. There may be a place for the site chair to sign that ratings have been reviewed before posting.

\* Doubling rules of chamber ensembles is still in discussion.

*Motion to approve: Moore second: Smith*

#### **\* Music Education: Janet Sommerfeld**

\* Forum on the website is operational.

\* MMC handout discussion. Possibility of moving to electronic handouts.

\* Mentor teachers: getting more young teachers paired with mentors..

\* Looking into schools that have dropped out of MSBOA, frequently the answer is that it's too expensive.

\* Creating lots of tools to help younger band directors.

*Motion to Accept: Catherman. Second Alwin*

Question: Is there financial funding for Director Development Days? A. Not at this time. We used to fund directors in their first 3 years to attend Survival Camp. (Note: A motion was passed at the end of the meeting to provide directors with \$50 toward DDD this year).

**\* Orchestra report: Glawe (Leach)**

String clinic: October 18. Beach MS and Portage West MS.

**\* All State: Roberts**

\* Dates are earlier than before. We can pick Saturday or Sunday when registering online, but there is no way to say you can work either. There is an attempt to give you your first choice, but it's not guaranteed. If you have a conflict, you must find your own sub.

Clarification regarding time requests when requesting E, M, L. Since there is no AM on Sunday, they will be given an early afternoon on Sunday if they request Early. This will be a conflict for MYE students.

The work assignments account for training time and overlap with another shift.

**Member Emeritus: Ken Moore.**

Please submit names of retired directors that meet requirements: minimum number of years teaching plus service to MSBOA. Please send the nominations to Ken by October 1.

**Charles Bullard:**

The state office people are very busy and attend lots of meetings.

Call the state office if you think you will have a problem with a deadline because they will make all your worries go away.

Oct 1 deadlines: All State, Provisional, District Transfers.

Music Ed committee has created the Open Forum for communication between members. Right now there are four topics:

General questions/concerns, Advocacy, Buying/selling, Events

The state office will not send e-mail blasts regarding events but will post it on the forum.

Parents call the state office with concerns and the state office directs them right back to the director.

**Remarks from Dave Leach:**

- Encourage your students/groups to become active performers in the community.
- Check the MSBOA website often.
- Attend Director Development Days. Ed Lucius will have one of his groups there. Registration fees \$50-\$120 depending on where you
- Do not trust administrators to get your paperwork to MSBOA on time. Follow up to make sure it all gets there.
- Sign up a student for the Scholar Musician award. This is for academically talented students that are also dedicated to the music program.
- Take care of your health, put your family first.

Motion from Ken Moore: Motion for District 12 to fund \$50 per director toward the registration of Director Development Days for a one year trial period.

Second: D'Angelo

Motion carries.

Contact Dave Leach, president and Jeff Thomas, treasurer. The check will be written to MSBOA, not to individuals.

WSU will be providing SCHECH's for Director Development Days. ~13 SCHECH's.

**Jed Fritzemeier:**

There will be a large push to accept all home school organizations and individual into MSBOA membership and events. MSBOA does not exclude home school events but does require that they are held to the same policies as our public and private school members. Over the years we have had five home school groups that have become MSBOA members. The home school organizations have a much different philosophy and structure than our school organization and the students are not having experiences consistent with our schools. The fall meeting will be in Dearborn and it will be important to have District 12 representation. Please attend.

MSBOA is not exclusionary. We need to have a clear and concise policy to ensure consistency across the playing field.

Rick Catherman: Please stay informed and vote. Our profession is under attack.

Motion to adjourn: Kocher. Second: Roberts. 2:27pm

Quick board motion approved to purchase a more up to date version of Quick Books for \$129.