

MMEA-WD Meeting**September 6, 2006****North Middle School****Westfield, MA**

Present: Steve Damon, Carol Toth, Ken Michna, Diane Kontoff, Liz Dominick, Scott Thompson, Beth Guertin, Ken Longstreth, Brian Hicks (student teacher), Pat Kennedy, Kayla Werlin, Carl Jenkins, Terry Larson, Janet St. Jean, Dan Albert, Denise Gendron, Rebecca Phelps

Call to order: 4:05 PM

Announcements: Introductions all around were made. There are many new colleagues in our district, and familiar colleagues in new positions. Reminder that it is very important to bring new members into our activities.

Secretary's Report: Rebecca - M/S/P to accept report. Rebecca is reminded to send all approved minutes to Beth so that the web site can be kept current.

Treasurer's Report: Scott - Basically there was no activity over the summer; there is still one outstanding deposit yet to be made. We will need to raise \$6000.00 this year in order to keep our balance at its current level. After much discussion, M/S/P to close out the books on FY 06 and carry the balance forward to FY 07.

Coordinator Reports

B/WW/P: Claire - absent. As reported by Carol, Claire says that she is all set with judges. **Percussion discussion update:** The Tanner book is out of print. Dan Albert got permission from the publisher to photocopy for this year's auditions. We estimate the copying fees to come to \$37.50 for the district. M/S/P for the district to pay for this one time fee. We will place the copies in a PDF file which directors can access by contacting Dan via e-mail or phone. These directions will be made clear on the web site.

Choral: Kayla - Kayla is NOT all set with judges. She signed up a couple at the meeting, and is still looking for more. The packets are ready to be distributed. As of this point, only 15 directors have asked for them. This will be the last year that we will need to charge for these as we are in year D of our cycle. Checks for \$20.00 should be made out to MMEA-WD and can be sent directly to Scott. She is looking into setting up a reading session for directors at district rehearsal this year.

Strings: Denise - Denise is looking for judges.

Jazz: Patrick - Patrick has had complaints from folks who open the jazz files on the website. He gave them in PDF version to Beth to post. Patrick is looking for more judges and is considering having a reading session with directors at the festival this year as well.

Web Site: Beth - Sample audition sheets are posted on the site. She needs jazz and percussion information for posting as well as the minutes for April, May and June. Library is still being worked on*.

Publicity: Tony - absent. Tony sent out his e-newsletter "Sounds". Carol will be sending out the sharing session flyers in both e and snail mail versions. Tony asks for names of reporters and radio personnel to contact directly for publicity.

Program: Christine Padilla has moved to El Paso TX! We are looking for someone to be the program coordinator.

Auditions: Scott - Needs addresses of all adjudicators in order to send out contracts. Also, please double check that all managers and assistants are MMEA members. All sr. information is up on the web site. Jr. will be working by October. Scott asks that we not wait until the very last day to register if possible!

Senior High Business

Chorus: Terry - Terry read a letter of support written by Jessica Guzzo endorsing Dr. Levi as our sr. district choral director. M/S/P to let Terry work with Dr. Levi to fine tune the choral program from the choices proposed.

Band: Joanne - absent. M/S/P to accept Beth Peterson as director. M/S/P to accept proposed program #2 - see attached.

Orchestra: Carl - Highly endorsed Ronald Feldman for director from Williams College. M/S/P to accept Mr. Feldman. M/S/P to accept a program contingent upon Carl looking over the instrumentation and discussing w/ Denise and Carol. Williams owns music which we may use so that we will not necessarily have to purchase all of it. Carl has a scheduling problem with this year's sr. auditions due to the fact that they take place over Veteran's Day weekend. We recognize the problem - it was the only possible day to schedule. Scott says that scheduling accommodations will be made for directors who have conflicts with this date.

Jazz: Lauren - absent. She is still waiting for a program.

Junior High Business

Male Chorus: Liz - Tony Lechner has declined to direct. Many suggestions for conductors were made.

Treble Chorus: Mike and Staci - absent, no report. Jennifer Moss was recommended as a possible conductor. Mike and Staci do not have an assistant.

Jazz: Ken - Mike Mucci declined the offer to direct. Ken has been turned down by 15 directors so far! He is also looking for an assistant.

Band: Dan - Program and director are approved. He has sent off the program to Blodgett's. He thinks

that Andy Villamaino is his assistant.

Orchestra: Steve - Steve needs an assistant. His music has been ordered from Blodgett's.

Elementary: Diane - K.C. Conlan, the R & S Elementary Chair for ACDA will be the presenter for the first elementary sharing session. Janet St.Jean will accompany. Food will be served. Cost is \$10.00 for members, \$12.00 for non-members and \$5.00 for students. It will be held at SCCS on Sept. 29.

SGMM will be having their spring meeting at Quabbin this year in April.

Adjourn: 5:40 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Phelps, secretary