

Idaho District III Music Educators Association

Fall Meeting - Saturday, September 7, 2024

Eagle High School

These minutes are being recorded by Cathryn Gardner, D3 Secretary

In attendance (57 total, 54 voting members):

Adriana Calcoa-Sene (President), Nick Wupper (Vice President), Cathryn Gardner (Secretary), Peggy McGrorty (Webmaster), Katee Seubert, Megan Soto, Danica Schmidt, Eric Held, Jake Fortin, Meghan Fay Olswanger, Brittany Brings, TJ Ericksen, April Peterson, Logan Foja, Livi Foja, Becca Chavarria, Jason Ash, Erica Griffiths, Cherice Cameron, Shayla Luna-Pena, Kristy Province, April Flake, Katie Hatley, Dawn Johnson, Shannon Zimmerman, Dawn Sandmeyer, Matt Clay, Nathan May, Dominick Conte, Megan Kotter, Ruben Rodriguez, John Burton, Rebecca Martin, Marty Worthington, Jose Rodriguez, Brandy Kay, Debra Ellis, Al Ellis, Duncan Titus, Nick Nuss, Andrew Percifield, Steve Davidson, Wes Simmonds, Blake Lyman, Raven Mathison, Ashley Tesarik, Renaud Bouches-Browning, Samathan Ellis, Aled Roberts, Nicole Elder, Joe Boboige, Jared Sene, John Dally, Casey Lindorfer, Bob Wicks, Quentin Dewitt, Jessika Buss

Meeting opened 10:03

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Approval of [Spring 2024 Meeting Notes](#)
3. Unfinished Business
 - a. [Presentations of Middle School Band and Choir Festival Plaques](#)
4. New Business
 - a. [Financial Report](#) - Jeff Paradis
 - i. This covers Spring and Fall 2024 financial reports
 - b. Breakout Session Reports
 - i. [Band](#) - Jose Rodriguez
 - ii. [Choir](#) - Andrew Percefield
 - iii. [Orchestra](#) - Nick Harker
 - iv. [Middle School](#) - April Peterson and John Burton
 - v. Call for ideas to help better serve our elementary teachers. Please send any thoughts to Adriana
 - c. [Job Description](#) (draft) for President, President-Elect, Treasurer, Secretary, Webmaster, and Content Chairs
 - i. When District 3 was established as a 501(c)3, a set of job descriptions was created that are legally tied to our 501(c)3 status
 - ii. These job descriptions have been shared with Adriana and Nick, and they will locate them and share them with the body

d. [State Board Meeting Notes](#)

e. [State Solo and Ensemble Committee Meeting Notes](#)

- i. Proposed Rotations (this will be voted on by the IMEA state board in October)
 1. Leave rotation as it is (North Idaho every other year)
 - a. 1 member ok with this option
 2. Move back to having it in Boise every other year
 - a. 38 members ok with this option
 3. Move to a diamond shape: North - East - South Central - West
 - a. 45-50 members ok with this option
 - b. South Central location would be at CSI or a Fine Arts center in Burley
 4. Diamond shape but every 3rd year we go to the North (ex-ISU, North, West, South, North, East, West, North, South, East, North)
 - a. 1 member ok with this option
 5. The committee who examined State Solo was charged with: equitable travel across the state, ensuring that the area has adequate equipment, and the possibility of hosting in a location with a 4 day week so we can take the entire Friday for our event
 6. A 2 day event was also proposed by the IMEA committee - 1 day ensembles and 1 day soloists
 7. Discussion:
 - a. The current date of State Solo is fairly inflexible, as it is decided and approved by IHSA. Other options have been discussed, and this is almost the only open option. D3 has looked at moving the date of our district festival many times, and is nearly impossible because of sports. We are stuck with both the state and district dates for now.
 - b. Location: it is understood that when events are not held in the North, schools in those districts have to travel longer distances. However, the quality and availability of equipment and lodging suffers every time State Solo is held there. At the risk of sounding selfish, Boise has the most resources available for the full state to use (36 held this opinion). The experience has to be awesome for our kids. When the issues that we experienced in Post Falls happen, that's a bigger issue than who has to travel a farther distance and should be addressed before travel (26 held this opinion). South Central has been a good experience for some teachers, and is more accessible for southern districts to get to (day trip for D3)

- c. State Solo sees only a small dip in numbers of D3 students when it is hosted in the north. D1 and D2 numbers always stay the same.
 - d. The IMEA board seems pretty responsive to the issues that everyone faced at State Solo this year, and the issues that D3 uniquely faces as the largest district.
 - e. A triangle option was not considered because then All State and State Solo end up at the same location on the same year more often than is desirable. That is why the South/Central option was added for State Solo and is not a location for All State.
 - f. State Solo used to be the opposite of All State, but it became a lot for each city to handle and larger places like Boise stopped wanting to host.
 - g. Opinion (nearly a direct quote): it's not that Boise didn't want to host, it's that there have been situations repeated that make it uncomfortable for people who have the facilities to host. They don't want to be part of something that they feel would be not the best experience.
 - h. Suggestion: maybe in the future, we purposely put All State and State Solo on the same weekend, to simplify logistics and travel. This would be a lot of work, and many years down the line.
 - i. Opinion (shared by 19 present): we should keep this as simple as possible, because we already have a lot to keep track of and remember. A 4 year rotation would be too much to keep track of, and options 2 and 3 seem most likely.
 - j. The IMEA board has discussed a stipend for schools who are willing to bring their equipment to a festival if there is none available at the host school.
 - k. Equity: if this is an issue of equity, what if we increased the prices for the schools who do not have to travel, to help offset the transportation costs? This idea was not appealing to some because a few districts have the students themselves pay their fees, so then students would be helping to pay for other students, which is also not fair.
- ii. DIII qualifier numbers for State Solo & Ensemble Proposals (this will be voted on by the IMEA state board in October)
- Context & history: in 1999, the board agreed to give D3 two voting members and two sets of state soloists due to the size of the district. This vote is not reflected in the IMEA constitution or by-laws. District III*

currently receives a total of 6 State Solo and Ensemble competitors for each instrument/voice part (three for small schools; three for large schools).

- a. The following two proposals represent a situation in which small schools in D3 don't fill their categories. Proposal B adds a lot more students to the festival.
- b. Currently, empty small school slots go into the general alternate pool across the state, and one slot goes to D3 only. (6 in favor)
- c. Proposal A: For instrumental, the following districts would have 3 automatic qualifiers: D3, D4, and Gem. D1 and D2 will share one additional qualifier. D5 and D6 will share one additional qualifier. The tie breaker is odd years go to D1 and D5, even years go to D2 and D6. Vocal category would be the same, but with 4 qualifiers instead of 3. (8 in favor)
- d. Proposal B: If D3 does not fill all three slots allocated to any one instrument/ voice part in the small OR large school categories, one of those slots would be filled outside of the school size; any additional spots would go to the statewide pool of alternates. Example: if there are 2 spots in small schools open for alternates, one of those spots would automatically go to the D3 large schools. The additional spot would go into the alternate pool. If there is only one spot available, it will go to the alternate pool. (3 in favor)
- e. Note: many members abstained from voting on these proposals (this change would not affect every teacher, so many didn't see the point in voting)
- f. Discussion
 - i. Several people stated that because these are our schools in D3 we're talking about, the alternates should go to D3 first.
 - ii. Another suggestion was to go by the score of the alternates across the state, but the issue with that is that every district has different judges so it wouldn't be equal across the state.
 - iii. If we're talking about equity, we need to ask if the number of D3 students attending State Solo and Ensemble reflect the percentage of students that are in music ensembles in our district?
 - iv. An idea was brought up to consider a regional division that is in between district level and state level. This would allow students in Boise to compete at a slightly higher level even if they don't get to state. This is a more long-term solution to the current problem.
 - v. IT was also brought up that IMEA should examine everything about State Solo, using committees with

representation from the whole state. There are huge issues with this festival, and rather than trying to fix little things, we need to highly examine every aspect.

- iii. Proposal to add a piano category to State Solo and Ensemble
 - 1. This would only be for students whose main instrument in the ensemble is piano
 - 2. Opinions will be shared at the board meeting in October
 - 3. Discussion
 - a. A big concern is that there haven't been enough pianos at State Solo the past few years, so adding an additional event for piano would complicate things even more
 - b. There are enough options for pianists in the Treasure Valley area, so we don't think this option is necessary
- iv. \$5 increase to State Solo and Ensemble participation fee
- 5. All-State: Lewiston, ID January 29th- February 1st 2024
 - a. Encourage your students to audition, particularly Jazz musicians. Audition windows had to reopen the past few years due to a lack of qualified candidates.
 - b. Information about conductors hired for the groups should be public soon
 - c. \$5 increase to All-State audition fees
 - d. New audition materials posted last Spring.
 - i. Audition materials are on a rotation for instrumental:
 - 1. IMEA Year A
 - 2. All-Northwest
 - 3. IMEA Year B
 - 4. All-Northwest
 - ii. Boise State [All-State Audition Resources](#) (band only)
 - iii. Chorale has been added to the vocal audition materials
- 6. [All-Northwest 2025- Spokane](#) (official schedule)
 - a. Change in rehearsal times: rehearsals will start on Friday with a Saturday performance
 - b. Increase in participation fee (\$340)
 - c. Number of students accepted into these ensembles is dependent on the number of members we have participating in NAFME and IMEA. If we have more members, we can send more students to All-NW
 - d. In 2027, Washington will not be participating in All-NW
 - i. They hold their All State at the same time
 - ii. All-NW will still be in Spokane in 2027, but WA will break off their All State that year and no longer have them at the same time
- 7. IMEA is seeking feedback on the [Draft Strategic Plan](#)
 - a. Receiving 30k from State Department of Ed for PD conference. Without that money, our fees would be about 300 each
 - b. What are we doing for our IMEA members from K-post secondary to help them be better teachers?
 - c. Please look over this, and send opinions to Adriana (and maybe Megan)

- d. This has been much needed for a long time!
- 8. Change to Festival Manager Pay. Noted at the bottom of the constitution under proposal passed.
 - a. Reminder of motion passed:
Festivals must reserve a judge's salary per day as a stipend for festival administration and staff. Division of the stipend amongst staff is the responsibility of the Festival Manager. Requests to exceed the stipend amount must be approved by the content-area body prior to the festival. All festival staff must have appropriate paperwork (designated by the Treasurer) on file prior to the festival to receive their stipend. As of 2024-25, the current daily judge's salary is \$400.00.
- 9. Young Music Educator and Music Educator of the Year [Nomination Form](#)
 - a. Nick Wupper
 - b. Due by January 18
 - c. Young Music Educator is now 6 or fewer years of experience
- 10. [Expanding Arts Access in Rural Public Schools](#)
- 11. [Rural and Underserved Educator Incentive Program](#)
- 12. Canyon County Symphony Conducting Workshop
 - a. Saturday, October 19, 2024
- 13. Hall of Fame Nominees- IMEA Website
 - a. Open to ALL in the Music Education profession: Collegiate, HS, MS, Elem.
 - b. Nominations due in the month of September (send nominations to Bob Wicks)
- 14. 2024-2025 Meetings
 - i. Saturday, September 7, 2024, Eagle HS
 - ii. Saturday, January 11, 2025, Centennial HS
 - iii. Wednesday, May 14, 2025, Owyhee HS

Meeting adjourned 11:26 pm