

District 1 Honors Festival
Meeting Agenda
January 20, 2018

- I. Appoint a secretary- JWS
- II. Reports
 - A. Host (Rebecca and Mark)
 - 1. Going well. Thanks for all the volunteers!
 - 2. Ticket takers at each concert needed
 - B. Band Manager (Kyle)
 - 1. Thanks to all who held a sectional- time well spent! Good opportunity for 1st chair people as well
 - 2. On schedule
 - C. Treble Choir (Chris) Rebecca will manage next year
 - 1. Going well- well prepared, conductor happy
 - D. Mixed Choir (Matt)
 - E. Audition Chair (Cathy)
 - 1. 2017- 600 auditions
 - 2. Drops at site 23- instrumental, 33 vocal
 - F. Audition Host (Jane)
 - 1. Auditions went well
 - G. Group Jazz Festival (Craig)
 - 1. March 6th Jazz Band Festival
 - H. Auditioned Honors Festival (Mark)
 - 1. Audition deadline next weekend- remind students to submit a video audition. Marc Manduca is the audition chair who will forward videos to judges who will select group.
 - 2. William Dempsey from William Patterson will be conductor
 - 3. Airmen of Note will be playing that night- 8:00 on April 27th Friday night
- III. New Business
 - A. Festival treasurers
 - 1. Ensure all schools have paid
 - a) Can each festival have their own treasurer?
 - 2. Work with Host/gate receipts to better track income
 - B. Audition Dates for 2019
 - 1. Tuesday, October 16, 2018- confirmed
 - 2. Host- Sanford would like to host, location TBD
 - C. Festival Dates for 2019
 - 1. Friday and Saturday, January 25-26 2019- due to MLK weekend
 - 2. Host- York for 2019, possible Sanford the year after?
 - a) Thanks to Noble for hosting for 16 years!!
 - D. All National Honors Festival Audition Date
 - 1. May 4, 2018 (9:00 p.m.)

E. Audition day issues

1. No comments from judge- judges are given instructions about how to make a good audition, but they don't always follow those guidelines.
 - a) Kyle: Could there be another person in the room to "run" the audition so the judge can focus on judging and comments?
College kid? Rebecca- a concern is a peer in the room.
 - b) Some comments were on the edge- and taken personally by students.
2. What is our concept of presentation? And the score- are the points for their dress or their interactions with the judge and/or their behavior. Are jeans acceptable? Should points be deducted for that?
 - a) A note in the description of presentation that attire will not be considered? What about first impressions to judges? Cathy will add to the description that clothing should not figure into the presentation score.
3. No comments but discrepancy in score- good intonation, but no breath support. Doesn't make sense to students- comments would solve that.

F. Revisit the policy of all school representation in the D1 HS Honors Festival.

1. Fall 2017 policy of each school being represented was removed. If a score is so low that they are well below the cut, is it fair to those who missed the cut by only a point or a few.
2. Lonnie- Kittery had experienced this. Sometimes this rule has been challenged for a strong student who missed by a point. Last year he didn't challenge the rule because he didn't feel he had a kid who deserved it.
3. Sacopee Valley- challenged rule this year- but decision had already been made, so no student selected. Could we make guidelines or provisions for this? This is a district festival- shouldn't we all be represented. The student brings back the district experience to their own program which strengthens that program.
4. Cathy- how can we be fair to all kids in this? How close or far away to the cut off do we go?
5. Craig- we should encourage accepting students from the smaller schools to raise the education and interest level at those schools.
6. Chorus was smaller this year because of the cut off score being raised-
7. Dan- reasonable to accommodate a student from a smaller school- it's a responsibility as music educators. This year was just Sacopee Valley that didn't get a student accepted.
8. Sue P- what 's the vision for the Festival? Is it a celebration of the District- collaborative cooperation among the schools. Or mostly an Honors experience.
9. Lonnie- we need to consider the benefit to entire program vs. the individual experience for the student who didn't get in because of a bad

audition. Each educator needs to be responsible about who really deserves/is appropriate for the festival and who doesn't.

10. There are other Festivals around that are nomination based.
 11. Seth- concern with small school and a small program. The rule existed last year when we voted to increase the cut off score, with the caveat that we had that policy that "protected" those programs/schools
 12. Music is based on what you can or can't do- if we represent every school perhaps we set a minimum score or a point value within the cut off score?
 13. Jane- we are colleagues trying to grow programs- we are not All-State. Will one student really ruin a whole concert?
 14. Kyle- should we have a nomination only 2nd concert band? Is this worth exploring?
 15. Biddeford- motion to reinstate the policy to include each school. Old policy read-
 16. Motion amended to reinstate policy with the change of limiting the placement to one ensemble not each ensemble
 - a) Motion carries. Posting of ensembles should be limited to your accepted students, not the entire ensemble to prevent word to travel to kids without teacher input.
 - b) Closest to cut? Or discretion of director? Point limit?
- G. HS Honors Festival host compensation- 90/10
1. Question as to where the additional money is going? What is the gate? How much is going to the host
 2. Are hosts being compensated enough?
 - a) Craig- has hosted for many years- 1,000 honorarium to host is not enough. Should this be addressed at the state level? What are MMEA's rules/policies? Did MMEA create a policy?
 - b) Historical facts are not readily available
 - c) Parents pay to see their student in the district festival and then the money goes to the host.
 3. Motion to keep this year's festival gate at 90/10- accepted
 4. Further discussion and communication with the state are needed to have a policy across the state-
- H. Drop replacements (Particularly if we know about them prior to Dec 1)
1. Managers-is this an issue?
 - a) Cathy- before 12/1 is easier to replace to due music not being sent out yet.
- I. New name for Jazz Festivals?
1. District Jazz Festival- qualifier for the State Jazz Band Festival
 2. Honors Jazz Festival- is District 1 auditioned
- J. Pay for conductor and accompanist- has been \$300 and \$500
1. Request to raise them to \$400 and \$600

- a) Motion made to raise the pay to \$400 and \$600 for accompanist and director of ensembles.
 - (1) Motion carries for NEXT festival
- 2. Suggestion to also pay Josh from Sanford for his work with the percussion section in band
 - a) Motion made to pay percussion coach a half of the accompanist fee for working with the concert band on the Friday of festival (4 hours)
- K. New Business- a Festival acceptance invoice will be added to the website.
- L. Spring Meeting- should we have a meeting at All-State? At what time?
 - 1. Renee- could discussions be made, notes sent to all and then have a vote via google form?
- M. Should we have a Vision/Mission Statement for the District? Do we follow any Robert's guidelines for meeting- any volunteers
 - 1. Patrick Volker, Jen Fletcher, Heather Guilfoil, Sue Proiux, Jane Curtain