

Region 27

BAND DIVISION

Suzanne Scott, Chairman
region27band@gmail.com
Suzanne.Scott@cfisd.net
Cell: 832-671-7978

AGENDA - FALL MEETING 2025 Saturday, August 9, 2025 – Memorial High School ~ For Middle School and High School Directors ~

1. **Welcome and Introduction of directors with new positions or new to our Region**
 - Head directors, please fill out the [2025-26 Band Director Contact Form](#)
2. **Vote to approve the [Spring 2025 Meeting Minutes](#)** – Bailee Moore
3. **TBA Report** – John Barton
4. **UIL Report** – Mary Running, UIL Executive Secretary, Region 27 uilmusicregion27@gmail.com
<https://uilmusicregion27.com/>
 - [UIL Band Updates 2025-26](#)
5. **Calendar of UIL, TMEA and ATSSB Events** – will be done in separate meetings
6. **From the State Office**
 - TMEA encourages new teachers to take advantage of the Mentoring Network.
<https://www.tmea.org/network>
 - TMEA needs volunteers for the 2026 Clinic/Convention! Please sign up to volunteer for the Band Division at <https://www.tmea.org/convention/volunteer/>
 - TMEA encourages the development of Texas Future Music Educators (TFME) Chapters on your campus (or in your district)
 - The [Code of Ethics and Standard Practices](#), the [Grievance Policy](#), and the [Appeals Process](#) are available on the TMEA website. Please let me know if you would like a hard copy.
 - **Alignment/Apportionment** - We are in the second year of a two-year cycle for alignment/apportionment. This will be re-evaluated for 2026-2027.
<https://www.tmea.org/regions/alignment/>
7. **Nominations for State Office**
 - Vice-President and Band Division Chair
 - i. Nominations from the floor
8. **Honor Band**
 - 2025-2026 will be a recording year for **2C, 1A/2A, 4A, and 6A Honor Band**
 - **If you plan on entering the Honor Band process be reminded that you may not start any part of your music preparation before [December 1st](#).**
 - **[March 1 entry deadline](#) and [June 1 deadline for recorded submission](#)**
 - i. **Honor Band submission preparations may begin on December 1—not before.**
 - a. Examples of Honor Band submission preparations include, but are not limited to prior performance, sight-reading, rhythm sheets, audition excerpts, or sectionals that are designed to support the planned repertoire or contain content from the planned repertoire.
 - ii. The entry portal opens on **[February 1](#)** and closes at 11:59pm on **[March 1](#)**.
 - iii. **Entry forms will be uploaded as part of the [March 1](#) and [June 1](#) deadlines.** No exceptions have ever been made to these deadlines.
 - iv. Recorded submissions are due by the date documented in the Region Honor Band procedures and will be no later than June 1. NOTE: The region entry deadline could be BEFORE June 1st. Please check your emails and the entry portal website for the correct entry deadline for Region 27.
 - v. You are responsible for reviewing and complying with the rules as stated on the TMEA online entry page.

- **New Playback Method for 5A State Finals Only:** Recordings will be randomly sorted utilizing the TMEA Tabulation System. **The judges will each listen to the recordings in a different order.**
 - i. Judge 1 will listen on a playback system with speakers and the room will be open for public listening at the TBA Convention. Judges 2-5 will listen individually on headphones and will be in a different room than Judge 1. Judges 2-5 will utilize the equipment furnished by TMEA.
 - ii. Rationale - This system of playback adjudication, as approved by the Honor Band Review Committee, removes the contest dynamic of ensemble draw-order from the State Finals of the Honor Band Contest and will be utilized in 2025 for Class 5A only. Class 5A will traditionally have the longest Finals listening session this year, thus being most adversely affected by draw order. **After successful logistical implementation of this playback system for 2025, the committee recommends moving all classifications to this system for the State Finals round in future years.**
- **Payment received requirement for Honor Band eligibility:** This is not a change, but a clarification. Payment must be received by June 1, 2025 at 11:59PM. This includes the Area/State fee and the Region fee if a region level listening is required. All ensembles that have not had payments received will become ineligible on June 2.
- **Breaking Ties that impact ensemble advancement:** Two-way and three-way ties will be broken by using judges' preference (standard TMEA tie-breaking method) with the following exception:
 - i. A second hearing of any band's recording will occur ONLY if performance at the TMEA Convention is impacted.
 - ii. Three-way or more ties involving performance at the TMEA Convention shall be broken by a re-hearing of all tied recordings continuing traditional scoring methods. Ties that remain after the single re-hearing will be broken using traditional TMEA audition tie-breaking procedures (judge preference).
 - iii. This adjustment removes a second hearing in the event of a tie of advancing bands.
- **Establishment of a Rubric for Use Beginning in 2026:** The committee tasked the band division with the development of a rubric for use beginning in the 2026 Honor Band Competition. This rubric will be shared with region chairs prior to the 12/1 preparation start date.

9. Invited Program Spotlight

- We had great participation in the Invited Program Spotlight process this year and look forward to incredible performance based clinics at our 2026 convention.
- Please consider submitting an application and recording for this new program designed to feature the incredible students and teachers in our great state.
- The application page will open on March 1, 2026 and close on May 1, 2026.

10. Information from TMEA Executive Board given at chairman workshop

- Reminder that Proxy voting is not allowed at region meetings
- **Alignment/Appportionment** - please review the new alignment and apportionment at <https://www.tmea.org/regions/alignment/>
- **Copyright**
 - i. Each school is required to have a set of originals for each instrument's etudes on sight at the auditions. We are also required to have a set on hand in each room. To avoid the expense of the region having to buy and store etude books I'm asking that the panel chairs organize ahead of time that someone brings a set for the room.
 - ii. Copyright permissions must be secured before posting printed audition material or online links to audition material. Best practice is just not to post audition music online.
- Must complete region contracts online for conductors, clinicians, judges, etc. paid **\$250+**
- Please remind your band students and parents that "no audio or video recordings are permitted" at clinics/concerts. This includes livestreaming.

11. Region Band/Area/All-State

- The approved version of the 2025-2026 Region 27 Audition Policies and Procedures Manual is ONLY available on the Audition Entry page on the TMEA website (requires Director Login)
- All directors from every school that enters any students are expected to judge.
- Traditional entry deadlines: 14 day on-time entry, 7 day late entry.
- **TMEA All-State Jazz Ensemble Audition Tryout Procedures and Guidelines:** A student may not submit a recording for both Area Orchestra and Area Jazz. This will impact Bass, Piano or any student auditioning for Orchestra and Jazz Band. If they accept an All-State Jazz placement they become ineligible for any other Area Audition.
- Dual Certification due by December 15th (for students advancing to Area in both Vocal/Band)
- **Band Division Appendix – Region Auditions.** I encourage you to become familiar with the contents of the Band Division Appendix. **Revised in March 2025.**
 - i. Please review Band Division Appendix Changes (highlighted in yellow) on the TMEA website.
 - ii. **All-State Recording Process** - We will utilize the same recording process and system for All-State Chair Placement. Please stress to your directors that a director/sponsor MUST be present in the recording room and that the student is only allowed to play one take of each etude in order as specified in the rules below.
 - “It is at the director/member-sponsor’s discretion to hire a professional recording engineer. It is highly recommended that the highest level of microphones and recording equipment is used. Selection of a recording room should be done with care, taking into consideration resonance, ambient noise and sound isolation.”
 - “The student can use a metronome between each selection to check the tempo, but not during the actual recording. Up to **10 minutes** is allowed between each recording cut. A Student may use this time at their discretion. More time between tracks can be allowed if there are mechanical issues with the student’s instrument or with the recording equipment.”
 - “It is required the director/member-sponsor along with the student listen to the audio tracks immediately as the tracks are uploaded. This could be done in a separate room from the recording room. It is not necessary to listen to the entire track.”
 - “There will be a track per prescribed cut. The student will record **ONE TIME ONLY** the specific passages in the exact order decided by the State Band Chair. Do not announce the material performed on each track; just record the student performance.”
 - “Tuning, metronomes, and instructions should not be recorded”
 - **Please refer to the Band Division Appendix for the detailed instructions on the All-State Chair Placement recording process.**
 - iii. **Copyright/Recording** - Do not distribute audio/video recordings of events under any circumstances
 - iv. **Utilization of Excerpts from All-State Literature for All-State Seating Auditions:** Students who receive an All-State seat on Saturday, January 10, 2026, will utilize excerpts from All-State literature and one prescribed etude to be recorded for All-State seating auditions. This material will include a limited number (2-4 minutes) of excerpts from the All-State band/orchestra literature and the area cut of one (1) of the prescribed TMEA etudes. Students will receive access to new material (as well as which area cut will be utilized) on January 11.
 - The recording window for All-State seating auditions will be **January 20-23, 2026**. Auditions will be adjudicated on Saturday, January 24, with ensemble selection happening on Sunday, January 25.
 - v. **Update to the Metronome/Electronic Device Policy:** This policy has been adjusted in the Global Audition Procedures for all divisions.
 - **Metronome** - Students will continue to be permitted to use a non-audible metronome, but the words “single purpose device” have been removed.
 - **Electronic Devices** - Language restricting electronic devices has been removed. This has been adjusted to “electronic devices may not be used for

communicating, photographing, or recording/streaming any student including oneself - during the audition process. Failure to comply may result in disqualification. Headphones or earbuds may not be used in the audition room unless medically prescribed for hearing loss purposes.” **NOTE:** Our region policy prohibits the use of any electronic devices in the audition room unless there is a documented accommodation for an individual student.

- vi. **Contra Clarinet Audition Change:** Contra Clarinet will be certified for Area through the Region auditions (1 - 5A Track and 1 - 6A Track each), combined into 6A Track at Area, then recorded at Area to be judged the following day. The number of Contra Clarinet All-State seats will be determined by the literature needs of the All-State bands and orchestras. This is the same process utilized for English Horn and Contrabassoon.
- vii. **Audition cut time limits will be determined by the lowest prescribed tempo:** Rather than utilizing the highest prescribed tempo to determine cut length (30 seconds Phase 1, 60 seconds all subsequent auditions), policy now states that the lowest prescribed tempo will be used.
- viii. **Keyboard percussion material:** While two-mallet and four-mallet etudes will still be utilized, the amount of total literature selected for keyboard etudes will be reduced. This is a change in procedure, not policy. However, there will be a policy clarification that within an audition, students will play a minimum of **30 seconds** per marimba etude for a combined **60 seconds** of music. Within the keyboard total score, equal weight shall be given to the two-mallet and four-mallet etudes.

12. TMEA/UIL Music Advisory Committee - David Holland

- o [MAC Minutes July 2025.pdf \(uiltexas.org\)](#)
- o [UIL MB RAC Spring 2025 Agenda and Minutes.pdf \(uiltexas.org\)](#)

**At this time, the Middle School Division can adjourn to the Band Hall.
The High School Division will remain in the auditorium and move to the High School Agenda.**