

TMEA Region 25 Orchestra Division
Minutes – Fall Region Meeting
August 12, 2006 – Plano East Senior High School

Meeting was called to order by Orchestra Division Chair Josh Thompson.

New teachers to the division were introduced by their colleagues.

Andrew Goins, Clark High School, was nominated and elected as the Orchestra Division Secretary.

The minutes of the spring region meeting were reviewed and accepted.

Middle School Orchestra region coordinator Dennis Langevin presented information regarding middle school All-Region:

- Indicated that directors should read the packet provided for complete information;
- MS region clinic/concert had been moved from Plano West SHS to Plano SHS. Directors were made aware that the Bach Orchestra would be rehearsing in the cafeteria Friday night;
- Clarification was made that entries were to be submitted to Josh Thompson, not Dennis Langevin;
- All packets and audition material will be posted on the Region 25 Orchestra website, www.region25orchestra.org, by 08/13/06;
- It has been difficult to find clinicians for the MS groups. Dennis asked for directors to email any suggested names to him ASAP. Discussion and suggestions of names followed.

Josh Thompson reviewed the clinicians and locations for the high school All-Region groups.

Specific information regarding the All-Region audition process were presented:

- Directors were reminded to join TMEA;
- Fees;
- Entry deadline was pointed out. Clarification was made that the date was for entries to be postmarked;
- Audition material will be posted on the Region 25 Orchestra website. The region is following the lead of TMEA in the posting of materials online.

It was pointed out that Gary Needham, Lowry Freshman Center, was hosting a majority of the orchestra activities for the year. Directors were encouraged to consider hosting events in the future to ensure that no one program was over-burdened.

The dates for All-State taping and judging were reviewed.

The date for UIL Solo & Ensemble was mentioned. Andrew Goins noted that any questions regarding the contest should be directed to Ken Ringel, Clark HS band director, who will be serving as the host for both the band and orchestra contest.

Dates and judges for UIL Concert/Sightreading contest are contained in the agenda packet.

Old business was reviewed (see agenda):

- Startup funds are in the process of being taken care of. Funds have been received from Region 24 and are on the way from Region 3. Josh has received the paperwork necessary to open a bank account;
- Gary Needham presented the student contract. Discussion and questions followed. The contract was approved, and will be forwarded to Carolyn Vandiver, TMEA Orchestra Division Vice-President, for approval. Pending approval, David DeVoto, Allen HS, will remove the contract from the Region 25 Orchestra website. As soon as approval is received, the contract will be posted;
- Division must nominate a member to the UIL Music Advisory Committee. Jeff Turner, Plano SHS, reviewed what the position required and volunteered to serve again. He also gave an update on the recent meeting. Items directly related to the orchestra division were that of the standardization of instructions given in sightreading at UIL C/SR and a request for clarification of the rules regarding performance requirements for full orchestras at UIL C/SR. He indicated that the orchestra division had recommended a checklist for what should be covered in sightreading instructions, rather than a script, to allow for

personalization by individual judges while still ensuring consistency across the state. He also indicated that Richard Floyd would research the rule regarding full orchestra performance requirements and provide clarification to be included the upcoming revision of the PML. Jeff Turner was elected.

New business was addressed (see agenda):

- The Plano SHS and Haggard MS full orchestras were recognized for being selected as this year's TMEA Honor Full Orchestras. Allen HS was recognized as a featured performer at this year's Midwest Clinic. Directors were encouraged to submit recordings for MS Invited Full Orchestra, as that group will not be renewed if more interest is not shown;
- Directors were reminded to fill out the volunteer form and return it at the end of the meeting;
- The rules regarding dual certification of students were reviewed;
- Procedures for the placement of wind players in the All-Region orchestras was discussed. Winds will be selected via the All-Region Band audition process. Players will be chosen based on ranking regardless of school classification;
- Directors were reminded that they must be present at any event in which they have kids participating. If a director is not able to attend an event, an official proxy in the form of an approved school official with supervisory capacity over students would be allowed;
- Discussion of the TMEA Code of Conduct used at the convention took place, specifically in regard to TMEA's enforcement of consequences for violations of said Code of Conduct. It was voted to submit a resolution to TMEA on behalf of the Region 25 Orchestra division asking that the Code of Conduct be strictly enforced at the convention and that TMEA support individual member directors who enforce said Code of Conduct;
- The Orchestra Division will be discussing the timeline of HS String Honor Orchestra judging, specifically the possibility of aligning the judging with that of the full orchestras. The issue will not be an action item, and no discussion will take place. Two speakers will address the for and against viewpoints. Jo Wallace-Abbie, Plano West SHS, volunteered and was elected to represent the position that no change should be made. No one volunteered to speak on behalf of the change in judging timeline.
- Nominations were taken for Orchestra Division Vice-President. James Edwards, Westlake HS, was nominated and voted as the Region 25 nominee.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted

Andrew Goins
Secretary, Region 25 Orchestra Division