

SW KMEA Elementary and Middle School Choir

Minutes

DCMS, Library January 23, 2016

I. WELCOME

President Lynn Unruh (Cimarron) welcomed the teachers of SW KMEA. We had 39 teachers present, including Dr. John Taylor from the KMEA State Board.

Each of the teachers present stood and introduced themselves and told about where they work.

II. STATE INFORMATION

Dr. John Taylor (Friends University), Executive Director of KMEA spoke and brought greetings from KMEA President Martha Gabel.

-Dr. Neerman will be at the KMEA ISW. He is the president of NAFME.

-National Honor Ensembles are hosted by NAFME when they started their National Ensembles again. This year they are in Grapevine, TX. Dr. Taylor encouraged all teachers to enroll their students in these ensembles. Students have to be Juniors or Sophomore to qualify.

-No Child Left Behind was mentioned and Dr. Taylor spoke about the new act that replaces NCLB, ESSA "Every Student Succeeds Act." NAFME has two lobbyists that work for it. Music is now listed as a Core Subject and it is allowed to get funding. Title I funds will now be available for Music. This bill has already been approved by the Federal Government. You can go to your Principal and request funds, where before you could not.

-New National Standards in June, 2014 came out. For the first time, there will be sessions to talk about the Standards at KMEA ISW on Thursday. KMEA President Gabel has put the new Standards together to make them easier to work with. They are now "Process" Ordered. Friday, Dee Hanson, former KMEA President is coming to KMEA ISW and will present a session on how to put the new Standards in your classroom and district.

-Glenn Neerman will present a session for school administrators that will teach administrators how to evaluate music teachers, when music is not their first subject. Administrators can enroll in this and it is encouraged that they do this. They will have gray badges and can enroll on the www.ksmea.org website.

-Dr. Taylor spoke about State Honor groups. He mentioned the directors and the new Elementary All State Choir. A question was asked about the ML Band at the State level and Dr. Taylor spoke about that. He encouraged those wanting to get that moving, that they speak to KBA about creating this ensemble.

-Registration is open now and all were encouraged to register for the KMEA ISW before. College Credit is available after Feb. 1st online at www.ksmea.org.

-Ribbons will be the theme this year at KMEA ISW. New teachers will be wearing GREEN ribbons and you are encouraged to introduce yourself to them. Mentor teachers will be wearing GOLD.

-Kansas Call to ARMS can make a difference! GO online to find out what you can do to make this work better for you.

-Kansas Teaching Job satisfaction is being looked at in the state of Kansas. Go online and take the Music Teacher Satisfaction survey!

-KMR is moving to become “issueless.” Monthly articles will be updated and reminders will be sent to each member.

-Re-Districting the Northeast. March will have two new districts next year.

-Looking to change the new Choir Formula. It will remain this next year the same and then look at changing how All State Choir will be changed. In the next year and a half will probably go to changing the formula for all 7 districts.

III. CHAIRPERSON REPORTS

-Jodie Reese (Scott City) MS Choir Chairperson presented her report for MS. Numbers: 41 schools represented with 140 students accepted. Jason Sickel- Clinician

-Discussion of Middle School Choir audition process for SWKMEA. Committee will meet and hopefully sinch up what is left to do. Similar audition as with state auditions. Please e-mail suggestions or concerns.

-Marley Bunnell (SW Heights) Elementary Choir Chairperson gave her report for the Elementary. Discussion on how many students accepted/included within the group. Do we include 5th grade? Or where your elementary “caps” outs. Possible audition process?

IV. NEW SW KMEA BOARD for 2016-2018

2016-2018 SW KMEA Board Members voted to office are:

BRANDON WADE – President

JODI REESE – President-Elect

LYNN UNRUH – Past-President

SEAN BOLLER – HS Choir Chairperson

MAKENZI JOHNSON – HS Band Chairperson

SUMMER MILLER – HS Orchestra Chairperson

AUSTIN RUSSELL – HS Jazz Band Chairperson

ALEXANDRA ROME – MS Choir Chairperson

KATIE SPERRY – MS Band Chairperson

WHITNEY MAXWELL – MS Orchestra Chairperson

RACHEL TROMBLEY – Elementary Choir Chairperson

KELLY KNEDLER – Executive Director

