

# SW KMEA General Meeting – Dodge City High School

## December 5, 2015

### Presented by: Lynn Unruh

1. Thank you for being here today.
  - a. Thank you for encouraging your students to participate in these KMEA Honor Groups!
  - b. Concert is at 3:15 p.m.
    - i. Pep Wear will be here with shirts and award plaques
  - c. Thank you to the Dodge City high school music directors for helping this day run smoothly in the DCHS Facilities.
  - d. Thank you to the chairpersons for their work in planning this event.
    - i. Shawn Martin, HS Honor Band
    - ii. Brandon Wade, HS Honor Choir
    - iii. Watch website for registration deadlines. It is the teacher's responsibility to complete registration on – time.
  
2. Kansas Music Review magazine (KMR): online only!
  - a. Check it out! <http://kmr.ksmea.org>
  - b. Nominations for Outstanding Educators (Elementary, Middle Level, High School Level, Administrator)
  - c. Please take time to nominate outstanding teachers for this district. Many deserve this award, and so few are nominated. We need to recognize those master teachers in our field.
  
  - d. Nominations are closed for this school year, but will reopen again in the spring.
    - i. Nominate someone in May, over the summer, or early next school year.
    - ii. Don't wait until the last minute. Due Date is approximately the end of September.
  - e. See Website for nomination criteria and forms
    - i. <http://www.ksmea.org/awards/educator/>
  - f. Retired music educators
    - i. Please email me the names (email addresses) of any retired music educators from our district.
  - g. Elementary Teachers
    - i. Please email me the names (and email addresses if possible) of the elementary teachers that you know that may not be connected with KMEA.
  - h. KMEA ALL-STATE ELEMENTARY CHOIR!!!  
<http://ksmea.org/elemchoir>  
Thursday night – President's Concert – 6:00 pm concert time

- i. Dr. John Taylor from Friends University will be attending our SW District Elementary/Middle Level performance day (January 23) and will present the state talking points at the meeting that day
- j. New this year - online voting for all positions - this is the link to register and access the voting ballot: <http://members.ksmea.org>
- k. No FREE Wireless this year at ISW!
- l. Contact information - If you have not been receiving my emails, please come up and visit with me after the meeting.
- m. Thank you for coming!
- n. Brandon Wade- Short report on Choral
  - a. State bound quartet numbers
  - b. Dress code proposal
- o. Grant Mathews- short report
- p. Marley Amerin- Treasury briefing
  - a. Sitting over 14,000
    - i. Donations have helped
    - ii. And upped fees have helped
- q. Connection with government- Mike Quilling
  - a. Report on NCLB overhaul
  - b. Music is a part of the definition of well rounded education
  - c. 349-64 pass in the house, goes to the Senate on Monday
  - d. Music day at the Capitol – Topeka March ~11<sup>th</sup>?
  - e. New Standards implementation workshops at ISW

Southwest District KMEA Officers

Lynn Unruh – District President  
 Erika Clausing – Past President  
 Kelly Knedler – Executive Director  
 Shawn Martin – High School Band Chairperson  
 Brandon Wade – High School Choir Chairperson  
 Summer Miller – High School Orchestra Chairperson  
 Jonathan Yust – High School Jazz Band Chairperson  
 Grant Mathews – Middle School Band Chairperson  
 Jodi Reese – Middle School Choir Chairperson  
 Marley Bunnell – Elementary Choir chairperson  
 Jason Richins – Facilities Coordinator

# 2015-16 KMEA President's Talking Points

## Presented by: Dr. John Taylor

### AT THE NATIONAL/REGIONAL LEVEL

1. Greetings from Martha Gable
2. **Glenn Nierman at ISW:** You will have the opportunity to meet NAFME President, Glenn Nierman, at the ISW in February. On Thursday of the ISW, he will speak at the opening session and then present a clinic on Music Teacher Evaluation for Building and District Administrators. He will also speak to the NAFME Collegiate, New Teacher, and Retired Teacher Banquets later in the conference. While Glenn now teaches at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, he began his career in Kansas so be sure to welcome him “home” when you see him in February!
  - o 1:00 meeting on Thursday
3. **National Honor Ensembles:** The NAFME National Conference was held in Nashville from Oct. 25-28, concluding with performances by the NAFME National Honor Ensembles on the stage of the Grand Ole Opry. We are very proud of our 19 Kansas students who were selected to be a part of these stellar groups. We have been doing a good job of increasing the number of Kansas students in these ensembles over the past 2 years, so be sure to encourage your 2016 Kansas All-State 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade students to submit an audition application and recording in the spring. Those selected for the 2016 NAFME All-National Honor Ensembles will perform at the National Conference at the Gaylord Texan Resort in Grapevine, TX next November.
  - o **If your student is in All-State they can audition for National Honor Ensemble.** Due date in April.
  - o **10<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup> grade this year.**
4. **Update on the Reauthorization of ESEA:** On Wednesday, Dec. 2, the House passed a bill reauthorizing the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) or what we know as No Child Left Behind (NCLB). The new bill is called the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSE) and contains very favorable language for music and the arts – listing them as part of a “well-rounded” education which was formerly referred to as “academic core subject areas”. Consideration of ESSE in the Senate could take place as early as Monday, Dec. 7. We are very grateful for all of the advocacy and leadership from NAFME over the past several years. This hard work has truly paid off and we are hopeful that the results will have a very positive impact on music education in our country. Please check the NAFME website for current updates on the progress of this bill and we will be sure to pass along updated information via the KMEA website or email blasts as needed.

## AT THE STATE LEVEL

1. **The New Kansas State Music Standards:** The Kansas State Board of Education approved the new Kansas State Music Standards in November. These standards are based upon the newly revised National Music Standards, however additional information was added to our Kansas documents for more clarity and to help Kansas music teachers transition from our previous standards to the new ones. Please remember...Standards are not curriculum, they are used to create district curriculum.
2. **State Music Standards Training at ISW:** KMEA will provide an initial training on the New Kansas State Music Standards during the ISW on Thursday, February 25 from 2:00-3:00 pm with a repeated session scheduled from 3:10 – 4:10 that afternoon as well. This session will introduce the standards, provide information on the format and navigating through the standards documents as well as show how the standards might be used to create district curriculum.
3. **Follow Up Clinic on Writing Curriculum:** Our own Dee Hanson will be coming back to Kansas to present a follow up clinic session at the ISW on strategies for writing district curriculum based upon the new standards. This session will be presented twice on Friday, February 26.
4. **Music Teacher Evaluation Clinic:** As mentioned earlier, NAFME National President, Glenn Nierman will be presenting a session during the ISW called “How To Evaluate Music Teachers If You Never Taught Music” on Thursday, February 25 from 2:00 – 3:00 pm. This is a closed session geared specifically for those building and district administrators who are not music educators and might not be as familiar with some of the unique aspects of a music classroom and rehearsal. This is a free session for administrators and those who attend are welcome to attend any other clinics or concerts during the ISW as well. Additional information on registration will be coming out soon – in the meantime, please help us get the word out and encourage your building principal or superintendent to take advantage of this professional development opportunity!
5. **President’s Concert – KMEA All-State Elementary Choir:** Our President’s Concert this year will feature the new KMEA All-State Elementary Choir! This concert is scheduled for Thursday, February 25 and will be at 6:00 pm this year instead of the usual 8:00 time. We had a great audition response from 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> graders from around the state and a listing of accepted singers should be on the KMEA website on December 10.
6. **ISW Registration and Schedule:**
  - Pre-registration is now open on the KMEA website for the 2016 ISW and will continue to be open until February 15<sup>th</sup>.
  - Like last year, online registration will be available at the ISW in February, by both credit card and check.
  - The ISW schedule will be available on-line in mid to late January. This can be viewed from your desktop computer, tablet, or mobile device.
  - College credit will be available for attending the ISW once again this year. Information on registering will be available on-line in February.

- Tickets for the All-State Concerts are available during the registration process, and can either be held for pick up or mailed. \$7 each.
7. **New Music Educators:** One of our current goals for KMEA is to increase our efforts to seek out, welcome, and support our new music educators. Our state and district mentoring chairs have been working to connect these new teachers with a mentor, but if you know of a new music teacher in your area that does not have a mentor, please contact your district or state leadership and we will get them connected. Please also be on the lookout for the green ribbons worn by our new music educators during the ISW this year. We hope that you will take a few moments to introduce yourself and welcome them to our organization. Also, be sure to let your first year teachers know about the First Year Teacher Luncheon on Saturday, February 27<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 AM.
  8. **New Choir Formula:** The all state choir formula is change this year for the first time in 15 years. January 13<sup>th</sup> post date online.
  9. **Live Instrumental Auditions:** Live Instrumental Auditions will be held on Saturday, January 9, at Salina Central High School, with January 16<sup>th</sup> as the weather contingency date.
  10. **Kansas Call to A.R.M.S:** Be sure to join Kansas Call to A.R.M.S. “Advocacy Rally for Music in our Schools” on Facebook. This will be one of our lifelines to let people know throughout the state if there is legislation at the state or national level that will hurt music education.
  11. **Music Day at the Capital:** Our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual “Music Day at the Capital” will be coming up in March and we will be heading to Topeka to connect with state leaders and advocate for strong music education programs in Kansas. Be watching for information on this important event.
  12. **Music Teacher Satisfaction Survey:** If you have not completed the Music Teacher Satisfaction Survey, you still have time! A link to this survey can be found on the KMEA website.
  13. **KMR:** Be watching for the convention issue of the KMR to come on line in early February. Remember that you can also view previous issues on the KMR website as well. Stay tuned for some exciting updates with the KMR over the next year.
  14. **NE District Split:** The division of the NE District into the new North East and East Central districts is proceeding on target at this time. Voting for presidents-elect for both of these new districts is currently taking place and after those positions have been decided, the newly minted presidents-elect will work with NE District Split Committee co-chairs Chad Coughlin and Damian Johnson to continue the division process - selecting sites, writing bylaws and procedures along with other details necessary to launch these 2 new districts on March 1, 2018.

### [AT THE LOCAL LEVEL](#)

1. **Advocating at Home:** Be your own advocate in your town – let your groups be seen and heard in the community – MAKE yourself important and essential to the community. If you are perceived as important to your community, then you are less of a target when more cuts happen.

2. **Empowering Students to Advocate:** Talk to your students about becoming advocates for music education as they become adults. We need more doctors, lawyers, business people, and parents advocating for music education. Music teachers advocating for music can be perceived as self-serving and just saving our own jobs. Once again, the power is in the community relationship.