

**SWKMEA Mini-Convention Business Meeting**  
**December 7, 2024**  
**1:00 p.m. – Choir Room**

**Tori Koehn, President**

- Welcome
- Introductions
  - a. Schools represented: Leoti-Wichita Co, Dighton, Syracuse, Lakin, Greensburg-Kiowa Co., Sublette, Larned, Tribune-Greely Co., Minneola, Jetmore-Hodgeman Co., Garden City, Southwestern Heights, Cimarron, Hoisington, Montezuma-South Gray, Dodge City, Ulysses, Holcomb, Coldwater-South Central, LaCrosse, Liberal, Great Bend, Pratt-Skyline, Elkhart, Pratt, Scott City
- Financial Report – Sean Boller
  - a. Fees Due by March 1<sup>st</sup>
  - b. Fee for no invoice with payment
  - c. Current Bank Account we are sitting around 14000 before expenses from today which will be about 3600 dollars minus the supplies bought for today, plagues, and programs.
  - d. Updated teachers on how much Festival Scored/Audition cost us for the year. 2621.20
- State KMEA update – Tori Koehn
  - If you do have any questions regarding KMEA, please feel free to contact any of us on the executive council. The Executive Council members are: Jamie Minneman, President; Mark Gard, Past-President; Damian Johnson, President-Elect; and Craig Manteuffel, Executive Director.
  - Plans are currently underway for the 2025 In-Service Workshop next February. Special guests include SW Division President, Martha Gabel, Missouri past president and state mentor chair, Chris Sprague, Dr. James Weaver, NFHS, Greg Gilpin, sponsored by Shawnee Press/Hal Leonard, and Peter Boonshaft, sponsored by Alfred
  - Amadeus=President's Concert (all female electric string quartet from Romania) Thursday at 8:30
  - We will start the ISW on Thursday, Feb. 27 with the All-State rehearsals at 10:00. Opening session is at 10:30, followed by a reception. 44 performance groups selected and over 100 clinic sessions
  - Elementary Clinicians are Matthew Stensrud and Kathy Kuddes
  - Instrumental Live Auditions will be at **Salina Central HS on January 11**. Contingency is Jan. 18 at Salina South HS.

\*\*This is a presidential election year. The candidates for KMEA President are Nancy Monical and Megan Gabehart

- SW Division President-Elect elections will be open to eligible members on January 14, 2025, and will remain open through February 13, 2025. Please keep an eye on your inbox for the electronic ballot from YesElections (check your spam folder if you do not see it).

- Be aware that there are several KSHSAA events happening on the same weekend as ISW in 2025. The board is aware and has taken steps to help mitigate. Here is the exception wording voted on this past summer:

**\*\*\*Exception:** The KMEA Board authorizes the release of varsity basketball players from the KMEA All-State and Honor Ensembles rehearsals to participate in their 1A Regional basketball tournament. This policy will be in effect for both boys and girls. Players' participation must be verified by their school's Administrator and they must be listed on the official KSHSAA roster form for the tournament. The school's Administrator will send a copy of the official KSHSAA tournament roster form to the All-State Ensemble Manager.

While no restriction on absence time has been indicated, the student **MUST** be at all KMEA rehearsals as much as absolutely possible. "KMEA recognizes the importance of the students to their community and school events but will not tolerate apparent abuse of this policy. The appearance of abuse may lead to reconsideration of this policy on the part of KMEA. KMEA WILL take precedence on Saturday and release for 1A regional basketball WILL NOT be considered." Prior to the first KMEA All-State and Honors Ensembles rehearsal, the All-State Ensemble Manager will provide the All-State Chairpersons a list of students to be excused.

**\*\*\*Exception:** The KMEA Board authorizes the release of varsity basketball players from the KMEA All-State and Honor Ensembles rehearsals for the 2025 In-Service Workshop to participate in their 2A or 3A Sub-state Quarterfinal basketball game. This policy will be in effect for both boys and girls. Players' participation must be verified by their school's Administrator and they must be listed on the official KSHSAA roster form for the tournament. The school's Administrator will send a copy of the official KSHSAA tournament roster form to the All-State Ensemble Manager.

While no restriction on absence time has been indicated, the student **MUST** be at all KMEA rehearsals as much as absolutely possible. "KMEA recognizes the importance of the students to their community and school events but will not tolerate apparent abuse of this policy. The appearance of abuse may lead to reconsideration of this policy on the part of KMEA. KMEA WILL take precedence on Saturday and release for 2A and 3A Substate Quarterfinals basketball game WILL NOT be considered."

Prior to the first KMEA All-State and Honor Ensembles rehearsal, the All-State Ensemble Manager will provide the All-State Chairpersons a list of students to be excused.

**\*\*\*Exception:** The KMEA Board authorizes the release of varsity bowlers from the KMEA All-State and Honor Ensembles rehearsals to participate in their Regional bowling tournament. This policy will be in effect for both boys and girls. Players' participation must be verified by their school's Administrator, and they must be listed on the official KSHSAA roster form for the tournament. The school's Administrator will send a copy of the official KSHSAA tournament roster form to the All-State Ensemble Manager.

While no restriction on absence time has been indicated, the student MUST be at all KMEA rehearsals as much as possible. "KMEA recognizes the importance of the students to their community and school events but will not tolerate apparent abuse of this policy. The appearance of abuse may lead to reconsideration of the policy of the part of KMEA. KMEA will take precedence on Saturday and release for Regional Bowling WILL NOT be considered."

**Please note that the 2 and 3A basketball is an exception for this year only. We realize the impact that these KSHSAA competitions are going to have on our choirs, 1234A band and 12A honor band. We hope that you will continue to encourage your students to audition with these exceptions in place. Also, we would appreciate any feedback/data on the impact that this has with your students this year. Please share your information with your district president or the KMEA executive committee so that we can take this information to KSHSAA and hopefully enact change.**

- We have added 20 more voices to the Elem. and ML All State choirs for 2025. We would also like to present the possibility of ML festivals to KSHSAA. If you are a ML teacher, please fill out the short survey so that we can have enough data to proceed. Thank you for your help in providing opportunities for our ML students. (If there are any ML teachers, please share the QR code for the ML survey)

- **REGIONAL AND STATE PIANO FESTIVALS**

**New piano rubric will be used this year**

[Piano Rubric](#)

- **DUETS** (New manual language for festivals 2025)

**6. Duets must be published duet music.**

a. 1A and 2A schools may perform band duets on two unlike wind instruments or two unlike percussion instruments, but not a combination of a wind instrument and a percussion instrument. Acceptable examples: flute/tuba; trumpet/alto saxophone; marimba/xylophone. Nonacceptable examples: flute/snare drum; tuba/timpani; piccolo/ vibraphone. All like instruments are allowed. i.e. Two trumpets, two flutes, etc.

b. 3A, 4A, 5A and 6A schools may perform band duets within their family of instruments: two woodwinds, two brass, or two percussion instruments. Acceptable examples: flute/clarinet; trumpet/trombone; marimba/xylophone. Nonacceptable examples: flute/trumpet; tuba/snare drum; piccolo/ vibraphone.

c. All schools may perform string duets in any combination of the following two instruments: violin, viola, cello, string bass, harp.

- NEW KMEA Advo-Angle website - [www.KSadvoangle.com](http://www.KSadvoangle.com) - set up by our state advocacy chair, Kelly Knedler. There is a lot of information posted on the website that is easy to access and ready to use. Find ways to make your music program an essential part of your community. You can also find our commercial here, and we are preparing to launch a new one in Feb.
  - Small Schools Help Hotline. You can find that big red button on the homepage of your district websites. Many thanks to Vesta Jo Still and Angela Wilczek, our Small School Chairs for getting this up and running.
  - We welcome Mary Jo Harper as our new Recruitment and Retention Chair. She will be working on ways to bridge our elementary students, Tri-M members, Collegiates and mentors to recruit them into the profession and keep them there. Please consider starting a new middle school or high school Tri-M Chapter—there is help available, and it's great for retention.
  - We are currently working on a new Job Portal in the KMEA members site. This will contain specific music job listings. All members will be able to input a job profile (what you are looking for) and the site will send you a notification when you are matched with a job listing. We hope that this will help fill some needed positions.
  - Our DEIA chairs are Guillermo Rodriguez, secondary and Abigail Bryant, elementary. They are working to make sure everyone feels like they belong in our organization, and they are available to help you if you are looking for ways to bring diversity to your music classroom.
  - Remember KMEA's CODA grant. CODA stands for Creating Outstanding Development in the Musical Arts and is an opportunity for KMEA members to obtain a mini-grant for up to \$300 (new increased amount) from the KMEA Fund for creative projects in their classrooms that enhance curriculum. Take advantage of this opportunity and look for the application on the KMEA website. Oct. 1, 2025 will be the next deadline. You can also check out past recipients and their projects.
  - Jeff Jordan Composition Competition: encourage your students to submit by May 19, 2025 for the 2026 ISW <https://ksmea.org/composition/>
  - Also, don't forget to check out the online Kansas Music Review (KMR). Take time each month to go online and read great articles that are written by your Kansas colleagues, submitted by guest writers, or gleaned from other national publications. As a part of President Minneman's strategic plan, we are focusing on "home-grown" talent, so if you or your students are doing something outstanding, please share it in the KMR. Our new editor is Dr. Emily Rossin.
  - Lastly, stay informed on what is happening in your district and the state by frequently visiting your district's website and the KMEA website.
- Old Business
    - a. Voting for Bylaws changes will be open after January event until KMEA.
    - b. Review Handbook/Audition Policies, alert me to any errors so that they can be fixed before next school year!
  - New Business
    - a. Policy changes about only auditioning in either choir or band.
    - b. Brought up that we are looking for changes for Junior/Seniors about encouraging them to study music. Please pass any ideas to Tori.
    - c.