

**SWKMEA Instrumental Directors Meeting**  
**December 7, 2024**  
**9:00 a.m. – Choir Room**

**Tori Koehn, President**

1. Welcome
2. Introductions
  - a. In attendance
    - i. President, Ex. Director, St John, Alec Cowley, Coldwater South Central, Angela Wilzcek, Lakin, SWH, Hoisington, Dighton, Liberal, Larned, Tribue, Cimarron, Greensburg, Pratt, Garden City, Great Bend, Ulysses, Dodge City
3. High School Choir Chair Report – Mac Knight
  - a. Total entries: 147
  - b. Total completed auditions: 137
  - c. Total selections: 90 with 18 alternates
  - d. Number of schools participating: 24
  - e. Breakdown of auditions and selections:
    - i. Piccolo - 1 audition, 1 selected
    - ii. Flute - 24 auditions, 12 selected, 3 alts
    - iii. Oboe - 0 auditions
    - iv. Bassoon - 1 audition, 1 selected
    - v. Clarinet - 21 auditions, 15 selected, 3 alts
    - vi. Bass Clarinet - 4 auditions, 3 selected, 1 alt
    - vii. Contra Clarinet - 2 auditions, 1 selected (second audition also audition on clarinet and made the group)
    - viii. Alto Sax - 11 auditions, 6 selected, 2 alts
    - ix. Tenor Sax - 3 auditions, 2 selected, 1 alt
    - x. Baritone Sax - 3 auditions, 2 selected, 1 alt
    - xi. Trumpet - 19 auditions, 12 selected, 3 alts
    - xii. Horn - 8 auditions, 6 selected, 1 alt
    - xiii. Trombone - 14 auditions, 12 selected, 1 alt
    - xiv. Baritone - 7 auditions, 4 selected, 1 alt
    - xv. Tuba - 6 auditions, 5 selected, 1 alt
    - xvi. Timpani - 3 auditions, 1 selected
    - xvii. Mallets - 3 auditions, 3 selected
    - xviii. Snare - 7 auditions, 4 selected (multiple percussionists auditioned for multiple instruments)
  - f. Discussion Points
    - i. Possible change for next year: The All-State percussion audition includes auditioning on mallets, snare, auxiliary and timpani. We need to decide as a district what our expectations will be for next year - keep our same

- individual instrument auditions we currently use or match the state audition procedure or some combination of the two?
- ii. Important notice for directors: We need to be extra clear, especially with new directors or new-to-auditioning directors, that there is to be no talking on the recordings. We had several instances of students introducing themselves and their school on the recordings, which automatically disqualified them.
    - 1. We will check policy to make sure it is clearly stated in the audition instructions.
    - 2. Craig Lyman brought up that there are some discrepancies between the district audition and the state audition guidelines. Asked to make sure they are consistent. Tori asked him to send specifics to her so she can update the website.
  - g. Next year will be Cycle 3 for the State audition music and Cycle 2 for our district unison music.
  - h. Next year's clinician will be Mr. Scott Freeby from Manhattan.
  - i. Schools looking to purchase a full copy of any of the honor band music can buy them from St. John High School. There are two copies of each piece available. Contact Mac Knight for more details - [knightm@usd350.com](mailto:knightm@usd350.com)
4. KBA Update – Angela Wilczek
- a. The women's band director is seeking more members and seeking leadership.
  - b. KBA Sponsor's marching championships. They would like to have more from the SW part of the state. Possibility of moving the locations to a more central location. Survey is on the KBA website.
  - c. Jazz Championships are March 6<sup>th</sup> at WSU
  - d. KBA Convention is July 16-19, Doubletree Inn Wichita, KS
  - e. Concert Band festival in March sponsored by KBA. March 25<sup>th</sup>, Barton County Community College or March 26<sup>th</sup>, Friends University
5. Old Business
6. New Business
- a. Look Over Handbook email any issues you see to Tori Koehn
  - b. By-Laws – Look over, voting will open after January event.
  - c. Possible change for next year: The All-State percussion audition includes auditioning on mallets, snare, auxiliary and timpani. We need to decide as a district what our expectations will be for next year - keep our same individual instrument auditions we currently use or match the state audition procedure or some combination of the two?
    - i. Grant Mathews from Great Bend said we should keep it the same to not detour any students. Jeffrey Poort from Pratt said if we did two instruments and meet in the middle with auditioning on two and primarily do snare and mallets.
    - ii. As a district keep it the same where they audition on one instrument for percussion. If they audition on multiple instruments, they must have a preference entered for District.

- d. Auditions
  - i. Clarifying policies that state you either audition for Band or Choir and not do both.
  - ii. We need to add a required field for preferences if students audition on multiple entries.
- e. Unison Etude
  - i. Discussion brought up about if the unison etude for our district and if it is useful for the bands. Having a unison etude made it easier for small schools who don't have a large repertoire. Pratt band director mentioned that getting rid of the Etude would be ok because each instrument also has its own excerpt and seems extra for their district audition.
  - ii. Suggested from majority to select two of the state excerpts (technical and lyrical or contrasting style) and scrap the unison etude. Mac will send out an email to collect data to be voted on at the Summer Board Meeting.