January 2020

Dear Administrator:

The Minnesota Music Educators Association hosts the MMEA Midwinter Clinic, February 13-15, 2020. Our professional development conference features national, regional, and state experts to support the needs of every music educator - including those in your building.

You are focused on success for your students and teachers. We’re writing today to share with you how attendance at the MMEA Midwinter Clinic can further common building and district goals while giving music teachers techniques and tools to implement in their instruction and classroom - the very next week.

Cultural Connections: Engaging Community; Under-represented Voices (support cultural competence)
Featured sessions from Native American tribal members - Makace Ho (the Voice of this Land), Revitalizing the Indigenous North American flute, Indigenous Perspective on the Arts Standards Integrating folk songs from students’ culture and communities; Music of all Communities, underrepresented voices; Specific sessions on Afghan and East Indian music.

Transition to 2018 Arts Academic Standards/Assessment (prepare for required implementation)
Half-day workshop Implementing the Updated Arts & Music Standards; Assessing Engagement in Ensembles; Assessment in Choral Classroom; Making Assessments Visible

Cultural Competence/Trauma Informed (help your staff with their PD re-licensure goals!)
Trauma-Informed Approaches in Orff Schulwerk; Mindful Approach to Culturally Responsive Teaching; Success in High-Poverty Schools

Serving Students with Special Needs/Differentiation (support your staffs’ PD re-licensure requirements!)
Inclusion, Adaptation with Authenticity; Successful Inclusion of Students with Disabilities; Power of Choice - Preferred Music in Secondary Special Ed; Students with Tourettes; Differentiated and Data-Driven Instruction

Career & Technical Learning in Music (support career readiness and workforce goals!)
Audio/Sound Engineering projected job growth! Sessions on Sound Production, GarageBand tool, Audio Engineering, Audio Technology; other Music Technology

The MMEA Midwinter Clinic is a unique annual event where teachers exchange ideas and connect with others in the profession. The networking opportunities at an event like MMEA are

High quality music education for every student
unparalleled and especially important for young teachers and music educators serving small schools and districts (some of whom are the only music specialist in their building!).

Help a music educator attend the Clinic by covering their registration fee, or funding a sub. Widen the impact by asking your educator to share what they learned in subject or building PLCs. Sending your band, choir, orchestra, and general music teachers to the MMEA Midwinter Clinic is truly an investment in your building and your students. This investment pays dividends throughout the rest of the year (and for many years to come)!

Simply stated, there is no other time or place for Minnesota music education like the MMEA Midwinter Clinic. Not only do more than 1,200 band, choir, orchestra, and general music educators come together, but they do so in combination with composers, music publishers, instrument manufacturers, and virtuoso solo performers, and national headliners who host a nearly endless list of sessions, concerts, and meetings.

Let’s get your music educator(s) to MMEA Midwinter Clinic 2020. Registration is now open. Your music specialists will thank you. And, more importantly, so will your students, parents, and community.

Should you have any questions about the event, contact the MMEA office at info@mmea.org or 763.566.1460. Or simply talk to the music teacher in your building!

Regards,

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Barry Zumwalde
MMEA President
Forest Lake Area High School

Daniel Hampton
MMEA Past-President