

**MINNESOTA MUSIC EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS – SPECIAL BOARD MEETING**

Monday, April 27, 2020

Held via Zoom Conference

I. CALL TO ORDER

MMEA President Barry Zumwalde called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Not Present: Katherine Buytaert, Adrian Davis, Anthony Jirschele, Nicole Mattfeld, Brianna McDonough, Sarah Minette, Sabrina Olson

II. MMEA ALL-STATE AUGUST CAMP DECISION

- Bergstrom asked about college campus decisions in regards to being open in August. Schaefle doesn't have firm answers from any college campuses hosting. They have said decisions are coming
- Rabehl said MMEA cannot realistically ask parents for an August commitment in this environment (COVID-19).
- Gaffaney stated that Illinois is already asking teachers to prepare for the possibility of distance learning this fall.
- Barnes added that ACDA is hoping to hold a summer dialogue, whatever that may look like. They are not willing to cancel at this point.
- ACDA and other organizations are waiting for MMEA's decision about holding or cancelling August All-State camp.
- In response to request from Zumwalde and Hampton for opposing views, no Board spoke in favor of an August camp.
- Macki said it seems counterproductive to spend time planning for an event that likely will not occur. She believes MMEA should commit to a February All-State program with a unified front, and commit to creating a top-notch February program. Added a February camp and program is likely a best case scenario and would give families (particularly of students going into their senior year) something to look forward to and plan accordingly. It also gives us plenty of time to assure systems are in place and to adjust according to how COVID continues to develop.
- Mariska adds deciding now not to hold August All-State would allow for MMEA to plan for a top-notch February program and make it special for students.
- Lumley said MMEA shouldn't hold an All-State camp if Gov. Walz says it's unlikely that a State Fair will occur in 2020.

It was moved by Hampton, seconded by Scott Rabehl, and carried unanimously to cancel August All-State camp and pursue other All-State options.

III. ALL-STATE ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- OPTIONS:
 - Fall weekend plus February
 - February only
- Barnes stated that a February All-State logistically seems best for conductors so we can keep the same conductors (we already have them booked for the majority of our February Clinic dates). Many conductors are booked more than two years in advance and may have conflicts if we add a fall weekend.
- Mariska adds that a February only All-State will allow for greater support from music educators who plan to attend the Clinic.
- Kaus said February only allows MMEA to make everything consistently high quality, may provide greater commitment from students.
- Diem added that sports, fall marching conflicts, college visits, etc. seem like big obstacles for a fall All-State date.
- Rabehl adds that adding a fall date increases the likelihood that we have to cancel/modify even more if COVID continues to be an issue. [Schultz and Diem agree]
- Barnes is worried that length of time for February-only All-State might not be enough. Suggested maybe Wednesday, Thursday, Friday All-State in February and Saturday performances. [Gaffaney, Diem agrees]
- Schaeffle adds that Wednesday-Friday off school for All-State may become a problem. [Rabehl agrees]
 - Barnes, Mariska, Gaffaney, Holten argue that students take time off for other state activities and miss many days of school, missing 3 days for All-State shouldn't be an issue.
 - Mariska also adds the majority of students live within an hour or two of the Twin Cities. Green stated that XXX percent stayed in a hotel for 2020 Feb All-State. This info may be used in planning a future February event.
- Diem said if we can't book conductors for a Wednesday night in February, maybe section coaches can work with students.
- Lumley said to look at other MEA All-State programs and see how they run short programs (similar to a February-only program).
- Expanding February All-State means more time commitment and days taken off of work for music educators assisting with All-State.
- Mantini wondered about using off-site spaces to reduce costs. Schaeffle added that bussing also becomes an expense, in addition to meals.

- Bushman asked about using the stadium band rehearsal space at the University of Minnesota.
- Barnes asked the question if February All-State would fundamentally change All-State moving forward? Will families want to go back to an All-State camp if February All-State (no August camp) cuts costs in more than half?
- Hampton mentioned that sports conflicts will become an issue for February All-State-only, some students (especially from smaller schools) may choose to not commit to All-State so they don't miss their sporting events.
- Rabehl said allocation of section coaches to each instrument section is very special for students, but that some educators may have a problem committing to missing so much of the Clinic to help with All-State.

It was moved by Barnes, seconded by Laura Sandham, and carried unanimously that All-State Camp is presented exclusively in February.

IV. APPROVED ALL-STATE OPTION PLANNING AND TIMELINE

- Zumwalde has asked the VPs to list 2-3 individuals each in an email (by the end of the week) that would be good resources to form a task group and planning committee for February All-State. Incoming board members and non-board members to be included. Zumwalde also wanted greater-MN teachers to be on the task force.
- Barnes and Mariska want to reach out to conductors personally, and for MMEA to plan a coordinated release of information to the public (MBDA, MNSOTA, ACDA, website, social media, college campuses, conductors, member email list).
- Mantini advised being vague in All-State dates so we don't have to backtrack.
- Lumely/Mantini: "All-State Camp will be held in conjunction with the 2021 MMEA Midwinter Clinic."
- Bushman advised getting a schedule together ASAP so conductors can consider adjusting repertoire.
- Kaus suggested that MMEA look at MSHSL press release on event cancellation for language about cancellation and leaving future dates open.
- Zumwalde state Task force is one combined team (Band, Choir, Orchestra, Jazz) being formed to help plan and schedule February All-State: schedules, logistics, costs, spaces, concert information, transportation, meals.
- Bergstrom suggested section coaches or applied college music faculty could create tutorial videos of tricky spots in their All-State music to help prepare for February – due to reduced sectional time.

- Mantini, Holmes, Mariska recommended that Jazz Band concert be on Saturday concert. Schaefle stated that was assumed as an action after March 2020 Clinic review. Meetings with Orchestra Hall have not yet been held.

V. MMEA FINANCIAL UPDATE

- Payroll Protection Program Loan funding from US Congress: The first funds were committed. Additional funds have been committed and MMEA is again applying. Small Business Administration (federal agency) reopened website this morning at 10:30 a.m., but site crashed within an hour. MMEA's bank, Old National Loan, continues to work diligently in processing loans via SBA.
- As of April 21, accounts receivable is \$21,000, which is largely the AMEX bill.
- As of April 21, accounts payable is \$39,000, which is largely the February All-State concert money.
- Schaefle stated cashflow analysis will be revised with new All-State plans, and that it will need to be regularly revised (at least monthly) throughout the year.

Barry Zumwalde adjourned the meeting at 5:10 p.m with a unanimous vote of all present.