

VMEA Northwest District I

Meeting Minutes

September 10th, 2008 @ BFA St. Albans

In attendance:

5:30 Call to order. Armand Messier presiding.

Last meeting's minutes

Motion to approve June meeting minutes: Aron. Chris 2nd. Passed.

Treasurer's Report:

Discussion and approval of Timeline

Jazz Festival

- Andy is planning on it, has concern about the number of groups participating.
- Discussion of whether there should be a Jazz Choir this year. It was agreed to first get the choral auditions rolling this year and discuss this for next year.
- Aron had an idea about inviting a professional group to the festival and have students sit in with them, for instance the Joe Levesque Band.

High School Festival

Eric is the W.E. Manager

Chelsie and Danielle are the Chorus Manager

(Aron and Chris are co-managing 6/7 Band, Phil 8th Band, Jennifer McConnell M.S. Chorus)

-Mary brought up some issues with hosting:

-For the dinner she really needs names and numbers in a timely manner.

-Piano: the grand piano is out due to the cost of tuning it and moving it. There is an issue with a metal bar in a set of double doors. The custodial staff did not want to move it and suggested we hire someone.

Eric- will the District cover the cost of tuning it? Yes. And again after moving it if it needs it?

Mary will look at prices for moving it. Thinks it was in the \$500 range.

Donna – if we're in good enough shape we can cover it.

Eric – the grand piano is really good for the scholarship performances.

Middle School Festival

Aron – the time and date on the calendar at MVU is a go. There was some concern about using the theater due to the distractions of the school day, so he will work on another site for the chorus.

IAJE festival – the National IAJE is closing due to financial issues. VT is looking at finding another way to still do a festival.

H.S. Instrumental Auditions

-start at 4:30. Adjudicators:

low brass – Chris/Frank

percussion – Aron/Phil

horn/trumpet – Bruce

saxes – Andy
low ww and dbl reeds – Jessica
clarinets – Mary
flute – Betzi and Sara

Everyone has to do the District piece as their audition piece
-Discussion of conductors

H.S. Choral Auditions – Chelsie and Danielle

- a letter was sent to choral teachers
- it will be SATB
- make it a positive message about auditioning, some kids feel intimidated by the process
- Donna: what if there's not enough students auditioning?
- Armand: Then it will be a smaller and better chorus.

Other

- Armand is working on updating the handbook and it is about halfway done. It needs rubrics for auditions and schedules for festivals.
- discussion of mileage for conductors/accompanists and of raising it.
- website – Armand will update it when he's done with the handbook.
- there was discussion about our Mission Statement
- anyone know of a good music sub for long term?

Adjourned 6:25