

ATSSB Spring Region Meeting

May 2, 2020

Online via Google Meet

All motions and voting were done via the chat function on Google Meet.

The meeting was called to order at 10:02.

The minutes from the previous meeting in January were approved with a motion from Mark Dorsey and a second from Krystal Michal.

Webmaster report (Sara English): Everything should be up to date. Groesbeck Zone middle school audition music is on the website. Please use the new website ([www.atssb.org/region-8](http://www.atssb.org/region-8)), not the old website. Please notify Sara if you're leaving the region, changing jobs, or otherwise need your directory information updated.

Treasurer report (Stephanie Schmidt): Stephanie had not joined the Google Meet yet, but Marc Nichelson dropped a link to her report in the chat. More supplies were bought (manila folders, etc.) this spring. The "misc." entry also includes meals and hotel for clinicians. The treasurer's report was approved with a motion from Laura Neal and a second from Krystal Michal.

Vice Coordinator - This year's region jazz clinician will be Alex Parker from Baylor. Please help new head directors in the region figure out who to contact for region jazz entries.

Middle School Zone Reports: Brian Boecker (Groesbeck Zone) was not present. We are on Year C for middle school music; all music (both zones) is on the website. Know that the music and processes are different between the Groesbeck and Robinson zones, especially for percussion. Mark Dorsey (Robinson Zone) has no report other than the same info that music is ready on the website.

Region Coordinator's report (Marc Nichelson:

All dates and sites for ATSSB events for 2020-2021 are already approved. Clinicians are already set and are in the agenda email.

Marc began discussion on three rule changes that need to be discussed and voted on.

Rule #2 pertaining to an increase in region entry fees to \$11 was already voted on at the last meeting.

The wording in rule #4 (pertaining to the entry fee process) was altered to match what we're already doing, which indicates that directors must send both their TMEA card AND ATSSB card with their entry check. Collin Anderson asked, can scanned and emailed forms suffice, and Marc said yes. This proposal makes rule #5 redundant.

Mark proposed adding the appointed position of Region Librarian, who will scan and compile ALL music for each all region band for downloading. Descriptions of the position of Region Band Organizer have been edited to reflect collaboration with the Region Librarian.

Marc entertained a motion to vote on all 3 changes as a package. The directors present approved these changes with a motion from Mark Dorsey and a second from Neil Haag.

Marc is looking for band and percussion organizers for the Middle School East Zone region band. These positions need to be filled by directors who are not already hosting the clinic and concert (as has been done in the past).

If anyone has any ideas for how to make recordings of the all region concert, let Marc know. He included Probst Audio's FAQ for streaming recordings for information purposes only; we are not voting on this issue at this meeting.

If you know anyone moving or changing positions, please reach out to an officer so we can get the region directory info updated. Jon's Schriver's new email is [jschriver@cameronisd.net](mailto:jschriver@cameronisd.net).

New officer elections: normally we would nominate and elect candidates for Region Vice Coordinator and Secretary at the spring meeting, but this will be postponed until the fall so directors can vote in person.

There was no new business for the meeting.

Announcements (contests, etc:)

Stephanie Schmidt announced for the USBands, Madisonville contest at the end of September. Registration can be found on the USBands website. Tim Grace announced for the McGregor Invitational contest on Oct. 3rd. He can be reached at [tgrace@mcgregorisd.org](mailto:tgrace@mcgregorisd.org). The entry form is at <https://form.jotform.com/92135387580159>

Today's TMEA meeting will be on Zoom. So far UIL dates are set for the fall as normal. If ATSSB Jazz needs to be pushed further back we will have to suspend the rules to make that happen.

The ATSSB portion of the meeting adjourned at 10:29 with a motion from Kristi Flusche and a second from Crystal Senzig.

Notes from the TMEA Zoom meeting:

Frank Coachman dropped in before the meeting to say hello and thanks for doing what we do.

Darrell Umhoeffer, Region 8 President:

Darrell shared a meme that stated "please start your virtual meetings on time because there's no traffic and everybody who's not here doesn't really want to be there". :)

The next region meeting will be August 8 at Temple College.

Darrell's agenda is in the email we all received.

Tony Clines, UIL Region 8 Executive Secretary:

This past spring, 224 groups in our region did get to go to UIL Concert and Sightreading contest; 80 of those organizations earned sweepstakes. 2460 students in our region got to perform a solo at UIL (with 1198 1st divisions) and 2087 ensembles performed (with 1170 1st divisions). In addition,

mariachi ensembles from Bryan, University HS and Teague were able to participate this year.

4 bands from our region advanced to the 3A state marching band contest (Clifton, Whitney, Troy, and C.H. Yoe). This fall will advance 2A, 4A, 6A classifications to the SMC. This will be the first year for non-advancing Area Marching contests (in 3A/5A classifications), as well as for the 1A, 2A 4A UIL Military Marching and contest. Details for these contests will be on the UIL website.

For this year only, physicals will be waived for students who have already had exams and can document it. Clarification: if 8th graders had physicals while in 8th grade, UIL will allow them for marching band in 9th grade.

Thus- the only students who need to get a physical for marching band this year are students who did not have a physical of any kinds last year.

This year will have a UIL Sightreading pilot program in regions 6,13,15,25,26. The earliest the program could go statewide would be in the spring of 2022.

For the most part, the UIL contest calendar will use comparable dates to last year's events.

Please let your contest hosts know who you would like them to hire for judges! Thank your hosts! Tony suggested to contest hosts that if your contest was canceled, contact the judges from the cancelled contest first. If your band's UIL contest was cancelled, UIL says you may use the music you would've performed this year at next year's or any future contest. It will not count against the 4-year rule.

Most UIL contest refund checks have been mailed. Checks are mailed to business offices, and are labeled "Contest Entry Refund" on the outside. Region finances are very low at the moment due to these refunds; Tony is taking a reduced salary for a while to help with finances.

UIL marching contest dates and sites:

Twirling - September 19, Fairfield

1A/2A marching - October 13, La Vega

4A/5A/6A marching - October 17, Midway

3A marching - October 21, McGregor  
2A,4A,6A Area - October 24  
3A,5A Area - October 31  
Pilot State Military Marching 1A,2A,4A - October 31

UIL Solo & Ensemble dates and sites:

Jan 30, Groesbeck Zone (Groesbeck HS)  
Feb 5, South Zone, A&M Consolidated HS  
Feb 6, Central Zone, Temple College  
Feb 20, North Zone, University HS  
Feb 27, West Zone, Ellison HS - this is a change from Feb 27 to avoid conflict with a choir UIL solo/ensemble contest and accompanist issues.

UIL Concert & Sightreading contest dates and sites:

March 3-4, East Zone 1A-4A will be at Groesbeck HS.  
March 3-4, West Zone 1A-4A - In the past, this contest has been held at C.H. Yoe HS (Cameron). Bobby Yerigan offered to host this contest at the new Lake Belton HS. Directors voted 59% to 41% to move this contest to Lake Belton HS.  
March 9-10, West Zone+Temple MS will be at Copperas Cove HS. Bobby Yerigan also offered to host this contest at Lake Belton HS, but directors voted to keep it at Copperas Cove HS.  
March 23-24, Waco Zone/Belton/Midway MS will be at Midway HS. Bobby Yerigan also offered to host this contest at Lake Belton HS, but directors voted to keep it at Midway HS.  
April 20-21, Groesbeck Zone MS will be at Groesbeck HS. This will be a 1 ½ day contest.  
April 22, South Zone HS/MS will be at College Station HS.

Bob Vetter, Texas Bandmasters Association:

The TBA Board of Directors is monitoring COVID-19; at this time convention activities will continue as planned, and preregistration is ongoing. If the convention is cancelled due to local restrictions, TBA will try and host a virtual convention and offer virtual professional development.

Bre Osbourn, TMEA Band Division President:

TMEA's application deadline for the Invited Band Information and Application for Convention 2021: is June 15. It is not a substitute Honor Band competition, nor does it affect the Honor Band rotation or your participation in the normal rotation. There is no fee - you must submit a march and ONE other work.

The deadline is the same for Invited HS/MS Jazz Band and Invited Percussion Ensemble applications.

June 1 is the deadline for all TMEA clinic proposals.

Dana Pradervand, TMEA Band Division Vice President, clarified a couple points about the Invited Band process. In response to a question, she stated that there will be no change to the Honor Band rotation so unfortunately, 6A and CC bands will be unable to compete for Honor Band on this rotation.

Frank Coachman stated once again, and passed along the same sentiment from Bob Floyd (TMEA Executive Director), of how proud they are for all Texas band directors stepping up and serving students during this unusual COVID-19 period of time.