

TMEA/ATSSB Region 8 Meeting Minutes
Fall Meeting - Saturday, August 3, 2024
Submitted by Eric Senzig, ATSSB Region 8 Secretary

Links to agendas and useful information:

TMEA Region 8 Google Drive (this contains TMEA Region 8 financial reports, the meeting agenda, and minutes from the previous meeting):

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1alzV64XQEA_tTg9Cwhs0L6_AGBhvlc4E

ATSSB Region 8 Website: <https://www.atssb.org/region-8/>

Spring ATSSB Region 8 Meeting minutes:

<https://www.atssb.org/files/Region-8/Spring-2024-Region-Meeting-minutes.pdf>

Fall ATSSB Region 8 Meeting agenda:

<https://www.atssb.org/files/Region-8/2024%20Fall%20Meeting%20Agenda.pdf>

UIL Region 8 Music website: <https://uilmusicregion8.com/>

TMEA Meeting

Amy Trigg, TMEA Region 8 President::

Amy introduced all of the officers and division chairs for Region 8.

Debra Barrick, treasurer, presented the treasurer's report and financial report, which were approved by the region.

If you get paid by the region with a check, please cash the check in a timely manner. Debra still has checks outstanding from January.

Announcements from TMEA:

Membership is \$65 and liability insurance is still \$30. You can send a check with your membership form or pay with a credit card.

The next TMEA Convention will be February 12-15, 2025. The President's Concert will feature the Jason Max Ferdinand singers. Tickets are available for \$20 and can be purchased with your membership. Housing for TMEA opens on Thursday October 3 at 6:00 AM. Please read all housing information carefully as you book your hotel. TMEA is also arranging a block of rooms at hotels outside of downtown for cheaper rates.

Amy read the legislative updates from TMEA Executive Director Joe Munoz: learn about your candidates! September's Southwestern Musician will have more information on how to engage your candidates and learn how they support fine arts, and more information about our legislative agenda. TMEA is watching the State Board of Education for adjustments to the fine arts TEKS and the potential timeline for any changes. TMEA is also developing an online learning resource for current members to obtain PD credit with asynchronous video courses.

Pam Hyatt, TMEA Region 8 Vice President:

Teachers new to Region 8 were recognized and encouraged to follow the QR code displayed outside the auditorium to connect other teachers in Region 8. We have a TMEA Mentorship program that is available to teachers who are new to the region.

Amy Triggs entertained Region 8 nominations for TMEA President-Elect. The candidates nominated were Josh McGuire and Jennifer Martin; the region nominated Josh McGuire. Division president nominations will take place in division meetings.

The spring 2025 Region 8 Meeting will be May 3 at Harker Heights HS.

Darrell Umhoeffer, UIL Region 8:

Darrell spoke about UIL business, since Executive Secretary Tony Clines was attending the region executive secretaries' meeting.

Please go to the UIL Music Region 8 website, uilmusicregion8.com. This has all of the official information you need, including calendar and fees.

Entry fees will increase a little bit this year. The superintendents' committee approved the increases. The region strives to keep increases at a minimum but they must keep up with other costs being driven up by inflation.

Darrell's email address is dureg8@gmail.com. Please email him if you are new to the region or have a new position in the region. Tony Cline's email is tcreg8@gmail.com.

Texas Music Forms has a lot of outdated director information - please make sure your information with them is current.

Be aware that the UIL Forms 4 and 5 are new this year.. There is some new clarification on non-varsity and sub non-varsity groups within UIL. Concert & Sightreading will now have all online adjudication, which our region has been doing for at least a year anyway.

Contest hosts need to contact Darrell if he doesn't contact you by the end of the month.

Amy Triggs, Region 8 TMEA President::

The Region 8 Google calendar is still being cleaned up and is a work in progress - should be done in a few days.

Handouts and membership documents will be in the Google drive. Pam Hyatt is working on a website that will have an accurate calendar, contact info for leadership, links for everything you need.

New teachers were recognized (and encouraged to contact Pam on the QR code).

Band Division Meeting

Darrell Umhoefer, UIL Region 8:

News from the summer music advisory committee: some things were considered for possible future action. UIL is considering adding a jazz division similar to the current mariachi division. UIL is also considering medals for 1st/2nd/3rd place at Area marching contests.

Be aware of the new wet bulb thermometer UIL guidelines and how they affect you. Know that UIL will not back you up if you are not following these practices. However, these guidelines do not affect football games and marching band contests. Contest sites are required to provide cooling zones! If you have questions, contact Darrell.

An issue was raised from the floor about a calendar conflict. The West Zone middle school band concert and sightreading contest should be March 5-6, 2025, but the calendar says March 6-7. Darrell will adjust the calendar to reflect the correct date of March 5-6, 2025.

Darrell will now be taking over the financial end of UIL Region 8. The PO Box will still be the same, but Darrell's name will now be on the address.

Contest announcements:

Temple College will host a band festival on May 13, 2025, and will host a jazz festival on the last weekend of March.

The Drums Along The Brazos drumline contest will be on Saturday, November 9, 2024, at College Station High School; the entry deadline is October 26.

Academy HS will host the Academy Marching Invitational on October 12, 2024. Judging will be Area style with prelims and finals.

Riesel will host Solo and Ensemble contests on February 28th and May 2, 2025. Email Crystal Senzig at csenzig@rieselisd.org for more information.

Shoemaker HS will host the Central Texas Steel Band Festival early May.

The Troy Marching Festival will be on Wednesday October 2, 2024. Judging will be UIL format with a clinic afterwards for each band.

Troy HS will host the Jingle Jazz Festival on Saturday December 14, 2024. They need 8 jazz ensembles to sign up to have the festival.

ATSSB Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 11:05.

If you didn't get an email from Marc with the agenda, email mnichelson@atssb.org RIGHT NOW. Marc needs your address to add to his email roster, which is the way that he communicates with all directors.

The minutes from the previous May meeting are on the region website (see the links above).

The minutes were approved with a motion from Mark Dorsey and a second from Alex Atkinson.

Rachel Berg, Webmaster:

The region calendar is updated on the website. She has also updated the festival announcement page. If you have festival or contest information to send her, her email address is rberg@chinaspringisd.net.

Chris Moix, Treasurer:

We hosted OPS judging with minimal expense. Chris' email is region8treasurer@atssb.org if you have any questions. His cell is 254-721-8217, but he prefers text contact during the day due to his campus phone policy. Please make sure to update the address your business office has for ATSSB Region 8, so your entry checks go to the correct place (see below).

Jon Schriver, Region Vice Coordinator:

See the agenda for information on jazz auditions, and contact Jon if you have questions.

Kristi Flusche, Groesbeck Zone Middle School Coordinator:

Groesbeck zone etudes are up on the website. The set of audition music this year is Year A. Marc adds: make sure you give your students the correct etude, because every year some poor director gives their kids the wrong audition music and there's nothing Jon or Marc can do about it at the audition.

Mark Dorsey, Robinson Zone Middle School Coordinator:

Check the website and contact him with any questions.

Marc Nichelson, Region Coordinator:

You must have both ATSSB and TMEA memberships to enter a contest. He strongly suggests that ALL directors become members of ATSSB. When entering students, the head director submits the audition entries. Please send your TMEA invoice for the auditions and a copy of your ATSSB membership card to Chris Moix at region8treasurer@atssb.org.

Entry fees will be the same this year - \$11 per student per instrument for All Region Band, \$25 per student per instrument for All Region Jazz..

BIG CHANGE: because we have a new treasurer, you MUST change the address on file with your business office, and if this means your office needs a new W-9, do it NOW. The new address to send your entry fees to is:

ATSSB Region 8
c/o Chris Moix
Hillsboro High School
1600 Abbott Avenue
Hillsboro, TX 76645

If your online address form doesn't like five line addresses, delete the line that says "Hillsboro High School" to make it work.

Spell everything correctly on your entries. Do not use all caps! These mistakes will make more work for someone else later down the line, and no corrections can be made after the entry deadline. Kristi Flusche adds: make sure you know the difference between tenor sax and tenor trombone, because it's easy to miss on a drop down menu. Double check your entries before submitting!

Remember that the ATSSB state board has policies in place for repeat offenders of entry violations; penalties for repeat offenders can lead to your removal from entering students and a campus administrator having to enter students for you.

ALL directors in your district are expected to be available to judge ALL contests in which your students are entered. Marc repeated this three times for emphasis.

Dates and sites for all auditions are listed in the agenda (see links above).

The deadline to enter students is 14 days prior to the audition. After that there is a late fee. The late fee will be applied for entries done before the deadline that are in need of corrections.

Seven days before the contest is the hard deadline for entries unless you contact Marc directly before the contest. The deadline for payment is the day of the contest; showing up with a PO showing proof of a check being processed is fine.

Concert site discussion:

In the past two years, there had been discussions about expanding the length of the all region clinic and concert to two days instead of the current one day clinic. Those discussions led to Darrell Umhoeffer at Midway ISD being approached to host our clinic and concert. (Midway has 7 rehearsal areas compared to 5 in Groesbeck, the current hosts, and Midway has two performance stages that could potentially run concurrently.) Discussion began to determine a site for this year, keeping the clinic and concert a 1 day event for this year, and voting between Groesbeck and Midway ISD to be the host site. If we vote to move to Midway, the region jazz clinic and concert would be moved from November (its current date) to be included with the rest of the January all region clinics and concerts. Also, if we vote to move to Midway, the hosts would no longer provide lunch, and directors would be responsible for taking their students to lunch (which would not be a problem with all of the restaurant options in the area). Troy Kaufman made a motion to have Midway ISD host the Region 8 All Region clinics and concerts; the motion was seconded by Chris Moix. During discussion, Marc stated that if we vote to move to Midway, it is likely we will have two performance sites running concerts at the same time this year. Crystal Senzig pointed out that one director schools (and others as well) will have a hard time potentially picking kids up from two concert sites. Jose Sanchez recommended that if this vote passes, Marc send a survey to determine if directors prefer one concert venue or two simultaneous concert venues. If the vote passes, Marc will likely hire the Groesbeck staff to help run the clinic and concert, since they have so much experience running the clinic and concert at their own campus. Discussion closed and the region voted overwhelmingly to move the clinic and concert site to Midway ISD beginning in January 2025.

Review all of the rules you are responsible for! Ask early if you have questions!

All region jazz auditions are September 18. Gatesville offered to host the audition, since Groesbeck's admin will begin charging custodial fees for some events; as it turns out, neither Groesbeck nor Gatesville would require custodial fees to host the smaller jazz audition. After Marc requested a show of hands indicating directors' preference, the region jazz audition will remain in Groesbeck.

Area jazz recordings will be September 25 at China Spring HS. The area jazz fee is \$40 per student advancing, payable to Region 8, due at the recording.

Dates and times for auditions are listed on the agenda (see links above). Clinicians and organizers for each band are also listed on the agenda.

Area band auditions are on January 11th, 2025, in Robinson. The Area band fee is \$25 per student and payable to ATSSB Region 8. You must have a payment on that date for your student to audition.

At the clinic and concert, if you have students participating, you should be available to help as needed.

Rule proposals:

Michael Hamilton proposed to shorten the percussion audition by removing the timpani tuning portion of the audition. Allison Hamilton made a motion to accept this proposal with a second from Jon Schriver. The adult monitor will set the timpani tuning before each student performs. Directors need to be aware that, at this time, percussion students advancing to Area will still be scored on timpani tuning. The motion passed. Considering that TMEA does not score timpani

tuning at any point in their auditions, if you want to propose that ATSSB eliminate timpani tuning at the state level, email Marc to take your proposal to the state board.

Michael Hamilton also proposed to add an All Region Percussion Ensemble to Region 8's slate of all region ensembles. (This proposal would be for high school only.) The proposal would add 10 percussion chairs that qualify for All Region; beginning with the first chair student, students would indicate if they want to participate in the All Region Percussion Ensemble or All Region Symphonic/Concert Bands until the percussion ensemble is filled with 10 participants. Tami Morgan seconded the proposal. During discussion, Chuck Moon in Region 20 was suggested as a resource, since he organizes their all region percussion ensemble. Marc stated that the new clinician fee could be paid for with a \$30 campus fee from all participating districts, but he believes the region could probably pay for it outright. A middle school all region percussion ensemble could also be considered in the future if this proposal works well. The motion to create a new all region percussion ensemble passed.

Amy Delavergne made a motion to propose limiting middle schools to one audition zone or the other. This would prevent a school from having some students audition in one zone and some students audition in the other. Nathaniel Tubbs seconded the motion and the proposal passed.

Collin Anderson, Outstanding Performance Series state coordinator:
State finalists were recognized as well as runner ups and winners. With over 900 audio files to process, Collin will be looking for ways to streamline entries and make it a little more like TMEA's honor band process. The non-varsity categories were very popular with more than 120 entries in the pilot year. Collin says ... meet your deadlines!

There were three potential ATSSB state officer nominations from our region to consider.
For ATSSB President-Elect, Jon Schriver nominated Marc Nichelson. The nomination was seconded and approved by acclamation.
For ATSSB 3A Representative, no one was nominated from Region 8. Marc nominated Ben Keltner from Region 15/28, who started the non-varsity track proposal for OPS. The nomination was seconded and approved by acclamation.
For ATSSB 1C Representative, Collin Anderson nominated Krist Flusche. The nomination was seconded and approved by acclamation.

Kristi Flusche, ATSSB State Audition Coordinator:
Kristi is looking for a setup crew for the ATSSB state auditions at the beginning of TMEA. If you have students, please be available to judge. Please make sure you're going to TMEA if you accept to judge. The audition meeting will be at 4PM on the Wednesday of TMEA.

ATSSB Hall of Fame nominations are open.
Jeanie Griffin, wife of ATSSB Executive Secretary Kenneth Griffin, passed earlier this summer, and the ATSSB State Board created the Jeanie Griffin Scholarship in her honor. Marc proposed that Region 8 contribute \$1000 to the Jeanie Griffin Scholarship. Collin Anderson seconded the motion and the motion passed.

There was no new business.

Contest announcements:

Email Ron Luedke, the new director at Whitney HS, for information on the Lake Whitney Marching Festival. (He was unable to attend the region meeting.) The contest will be on October 12.

Riesel HS will host their Marching Invitational on September 28. Email Crystal Senzig at csenzig@rieselisd.org for more information. Crystal also spoke for CENTEX Honor Band. Auditions will be January 22, 2025 for high school and January 24 for middle school, and the clinic and concert will be Saturday February 1. CENTEX is an honor band opportunity for 1A-3A schools in our region with auditions and a clinic and concert that take place after ATSSB's all region clinic and concert.

McGregor HS will host their Concert and Sightreading Festivals on February 19, 2025 for high school and March 20 for middle school (though schools can attend either festival). This is a great performance opportunity for bands not participating in UIL.

Cameron Yoe HS will host their pre-UIL festival on February 26-27, 2025.

Academy HS will host their marching festival on October 12 (see above).

New directors and directors in new positions were recognized.

The meeting ended at 12:14 with a motion from Mark Dorsey and a second from Alex Atkinson.