

ATSSB Region 8  
Region Meeting Minutes  
Saturday, May 4, 2019

Darrell Umhoeffer, TMEA Region 8 President:

The TMEA Region 8 website is being revamped this summer. TMEA will be instituting two new invited performance ensembles for future conventions – percussion ensembles and mariachi ensembles. TMEA dues will remain the same this year. Make sure you have liability insurance. Please make sure you're updated with region rules and policies. After a vote the next region meeting was set for Saturday, August 10<sup>th</sup> at Temple College.

Tony Clines, UIL Region 8 Executive Secretary:

The region had a phenomenally good year. We had 488 groups go to UIL this year, up 40 from two years ago. 100 middle school bands and 86 middle school choirs participated. 196 organizations achieved sweepstakes awards this year! 2543 solo events participated with 1194 earning 1<sup>st</sup> division ratings and 1891 ensemble events participated with 1069 1<sup>st</sup> division ratings. Two mariachi ensembles (Bryan HS, Teague HS) are going to the state mariachi festival! State Marching Contest participants were recognized – China Spring HS (4A) and Valley Mills HS (2A) which took 1<sup>st</sup> place. And – our region had not one single rule violation the entire year! If there are certain judges you want or don't want judging you, let your CONTEST HOST know. If each director suggested 2 names, your contest hosts would be very grateful! The sooner you can suggest names, the more likely you can have judges you want.

Final clarification of UIL Concert/SR Evaluation: the TEA amendment finally allows ineligible students to participate in C/SR. It is only for C/SR, and only for students enrolled in the ensemble class. (You don't necessarily need to be enrolled to participate – but you must be enrolled to participate if ineligible.)

Entry fees went down this past year, partly because the region can't have a balance over \$50K by the end of the year due to state regulations. Entry fees will go back up in most cases to correct an overcorrection to not go over \$50K.

Tony recognized and thanked the calendar committee.

Bob Vetter, Texas Bandmasters Association Region 8 Representative:

Convention is July 25-27, clinics will start at 9AM on the 25<sup>th</sup>. Flyers were distributed. Jerry Junkin is the featured clinician, John Mackey is the featured composer, and the Boston Brass are the featured performers.

Tony Clines, UIL Band:

UIL Twirling will be Sept. 21 at Fairfield HS.

**UIL Marching contest dates:**

1A/2A UIL Marching Contest will be Tuesday Oct. 15 at La Vega HS. Approved by acclamation.

3A UIL Marching Contest will be Wed. Oct. 23 at McGregor HS. The date was approved first, followed by an 8-5 vote for McGregor or Groesbeck hosting.

4A UIL Marching Contest will be Sat. Oct. 19 at Midway HS.

The 3A UIL Area Marching Contest will be Sat. Oct. 26<sup>th</sup> at either Belton, Robinson or Hays Consolidated.

**UIL Solo/Ensemble contest dates:**

Groesbeck Zone will be Saturday Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>.

South Zone, Friday Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>, A&M Consolidated HS in College Station.

Central Zone, Sat. Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>, Temple College.

North Zone, Saturday, Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup> at University HS, Waco.

West Zone, Saturday, Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup> at Ellison HS, Killeen.

**UIL Concert/Sightreading contest dates:**

West Zone MS will be March 3-4 @ Copperas Cove HS. Participating schools overwhelmingly approved a choice between March 3-4 and March 24-25.

East Zone 1A-4A HS will be March 4-5 @ Groesbeck HS.

West Zone 1A-4A HS will be March 4-5 @ Cameron HS.

Waco Zone MS will be March 24-25 @ Midway MS.

South Zone HS/MS will be March 26 @ College Station HS

Groesbeck Zone MS will be April 21-22. The date was pushed back a week due to Easter break.

The contest will be a half day first then a full day on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day.

The ATSSB portion of the meeting was called to order by region coordinator Marc Nichelson at 11:02 AM.

The minutes from the previous meeting (available on the region website) were approved with a motion from Rachel Berg and a second by Crystal Senzig.

Sara English, Webmaster, reported that all dates from the agenda emailed to directors are now on the website.

All middle school region audition music is posted to the website. Both zones are using Year B. Stephanie Schmidt, treasurer, reported that we ended up in the black overall for the year and the region currently has \$13,900 in the bank.

Vice Coordinator Jon Schriver had no report.

Region Jazz auditions will be September 18 at Groesbeck HS. Agenda item: Directors voted to approve having a separate Area taping at China Spring HS on September 25, with a motion from Gust Witt and a second from Rachel Berg. The Region Jazz clinic and concert will be Saturday, November 23 at China Spring HS.

Marc reminded the directors that we did change the names of MS bands to East Zone Symphonic Band, West Zone Symphonic Band, and Combined Zone Concert Band, but we are keeping the same names for the audition zones (Groesbeck Zone and Robinson Zone), so be aware of these differences.

All dates for All Region Band auditions are in the agenda.

Area Central auditions are Saturday, January 11<sup>th</sup> at Robinson HS.

Region Band clinic and concerts will be Saturday, January 18 at Groesbeck HS and MS.

The OPS entry deadline is May 25<sup>th</sup> at midnight.

Nominations will soon be open for four region officers per ATSSB bylaws. The Webmaster, Treasurer, and both Middle School Coordinators are up for reelection. All of these officers are OK with remaining in their positions. Nominations will be accepted at the fall meeting in

August. Also, ATSSB state representative offices are open for 2C, 1A/2A, and 4A representatives. Region 8 nominated Jon Schriver for 2A and Marc Nichelson for 4A. Official nominations will be at the fall meeting.

Two action items were acted on regarding region rule changes.

#1 – warmup room instruction – directors voted on the proposal as listed in the emailed agenda: “Once the audition begins as noted at the start time of the audition, students may not receive additional instruction due to the necessity of directors being needed to judge the auditions.” Directors approved the proposal with a motion from Josh Nowlin and a second from Crystal Senzig.

#2 – middle school audition music cuts – to align with high school audition procedure, directors were asked to approve a change to make cuts the day of the audition instead of prior to the director’s meeting at the audition. Directors approved the change with a motion from Crystal Senzig and a second from Adam Debes.

New business:

ATSSB.org and the ATSSB region websites are about to undergo a massive update, soon after the OPS contest concludes. There will be an email announcement when this takes place. All region website addresses will be changed to [www.atssb.org/regionX](http://www.atssb.org/regionX) (X being the region number)

Local contest announcements:

McGregor HS will host a pre-UIL marching contest on October 5, and their usual pre-UIL concert/sightreading contests in the spring.

Whitney HS will host a marching contest on October 12. Judges will be Cari Martin, Willie Owens, Steve Hart, Jeremy Gomez, and Richard Falls. The format will be Prelims/finals, UIL/Area, and videography will be available.

Temple Jazz Festival will be the last week of March. Temple College band festival will be at the end of April, possibly expanding to a 3<sup>rd</sup> day, specific dates will be out in the fall.

Madisonville USBands marching contest will be Saturday September 28. Format will be a morning performance, lunch provided at the contest, and a 30 minute afternoon clinic with a judge.

Troy HS will host their marching contest on October 8. The format will be a performance then a clinic with a judge immediately following.

Pride of Texas Music Festivals did a concert band festival in on April 8, with a festival performance then games/bowling afterward, and will likely do it again this year. Jon Schriver spoke for how good it was.

Collin Anderson spoke for the FCA Victory Bowl Band, June 7-8.

Craig George and Collin Anderson (HS concert/sightreading contest hosts) encouraged directors to submit names for judges for their contests – the first judges they contact for availability are the names submitted to them by region directors.

The meeting adjourned at 11:24 AM with a motion from Mark Dorsey and a second from Vice Admiral Jon Schriver.