

MMEA - WD Meeting**May 2, 2006****Westfield Pub****Westfield, MA****Present:** See attached sign in.**Call to order:** 4:06 PM**Correspondence:** Questions regarding the CD were referred to the website which now has info posted regarding the vocal audition and CD packet availability.**Secretary's Report:** Rebecca - M/S/P to accept report with spelling errors amended.**Treasurer's Report:** Scott - It looks as if we are ending this year in better shape than we had anticipated. M/S/P to accept the 05-06 report. M/S/P to accept the proposed 06-07 budget. A new treasurer has been appointed to the All-State board.

We presented Sue Dunbar with a plaque honoring her 30 years of dedicated service as MMEA-WD librarian. Sue had to leave early to accept her excellence in teaching award, which she was also receiving on the same night! Sue reminded us that there is still \$2000.00 insurance money left on account at Blodgett's for the jazz library music replacement. Brian Rabuse, Patrick Kennedy and other jazz educators from our district are working on deciding how best to spend this.

Coordinator Reports**Scholarship:** Vera - After extending the deadline, only 2 applications were received for this year's scholarship. The committee unanimously decided to offer the scholarship to Linda Skinner from Westfield High School (Patrick Kennedy). M/S/P to offer the scholarship to Linda Skinner. M/S/P to amend the amount from \$1000.00 to \$1500.00.**Choral:** Kayla - absent. Carol reports that choral packets with CD's will be available at the dinner meeting next fall. We are in year D for the rotation.**Website:** Beth - Scott and Beth are still working to get the library up on the website.**B/WW/P:** Claire - Claire handed out the senior audition list. She needs one more bass clarinet solo for the year 2010 in order for the list to be complete. Scott recommends looking at what other districts are using.

On the **percussion discussion**: Claire reviewed the proposed new audition plan. She recommended that we implement this in stages. Claire, Dan Albert and Jill Mongeau will go ahead and implement as they see fit. The list needs to be confirmed by the next board meeting in order for it to be in place and posted

on the website for next fall.

Strings: Denise - Denise invited folks to offer their comments and opinions. She is considering changing the viola audition piece next year.

Jazz: Brian Rabuse resigned this position. Patrick Kennedy will be taking his place.

Senior High Business

Band: Joanne Nelson - absent. She will be assisted by Bill Carr. They are working on finding a director.

Orchestra: Carl Jenkins - absent. He is hoping to get Ronald Feldman from Williams College as director. Patrick is curious to know whether or not Mr. Feldman has had experience working with young people.

Jazz: Lauren - absent. Scott reports that Lauren has contacted Jeff Holmes as a director. M/S/P to accept Mr. Holmes.

Choral: Terry - absent. Terry is recommending Michael Levi for next year's choral director.

Junior high Business

Male Chorus: Liz will manage with Holly Joy assisting this year. Liz has asked Tony Lechner from the PVPA to direct next year's chorus.

Treble Chorus: Mike and Staci - absent. We are concerned that neither of them are here for the meeting; nor were they available last year to make meetings. This created communication problems. Holly Joy offered to step in as manager of this group if needed.

Jazz: Ken Longstreeth - absent. No definite conductors to recommend yet.

Orchestra: Steve - Nothing to report yet.

Band: Dan - Dan is looking into conductors at this point.

Elementary: Diane - Due to the success of last year's sharing session, she and Carol are looking to set up 3 for next year. One in October, one in January and one in April. Steve offered to help get people from out of state - Vt and N H - in the loop. K.C. Conlan (ACDA) has offered to lead a reading session for the October sharing.

Calendar - Junior District has been moved in order to avoid the conflict with All-Eastern. West Springfield is still available for the new dates. (See attached).

Note: All meetings next year will be held at Westfield North Middle School. All dates cannot be confirmed until May 15 (UMass rules). All-State has moved to 3/22-24 due to a Symphony Hall conflict. All-Eastern is 3/8-10 in Hartford.

M/S/P to accept calendar.

Unfinished Business: Discussion about whether or not we could save money in piano tuning costs - it seems extravagant to tune all pianos for both rehearsal and concert dates. Perhaps we could get by with having the rehearsal pianos tuned once for the first day, and the concert grand tuned once on the day of the concert since it isn't used for rehearsal.

Announcements: Karen Atherton will be going to England as an exchange teacher next year. Congrats!

Congratulations were offered to Joe McCaffrey, Patrick Smith and Dot Mahoney on their imminent retirements!

Carol reminds everyone that we are always happy to post jobs on the website - just send them along.

To dinner and entertainment!

Adjourn: 5:30

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Phelps, secretary