

2024 Convention Minutes

TMEA General Session
Thursday, February 8, 2024
San Antonio, Texas
8:00 AM

TMEA President Dana Pradervand-Sedatole called the General Session of the 2024 TMEA Annual Clinic/Convention to order at 8:19 AM.

The members of the TMEA Executive Board were introduced and outgoing Vice-Presidents Shane Goforth and Matthew McInturf received commemorative plaques. Past-President Michael Stringer was recognized for his years of service to TMEA.

Marisa Perez-Diza, a ten-year member of the Texas State Board of Education, was introduced and thanked for her continuous support of fine arts.

Brian Coatney, Shane Goforth, Gary Keller, and Ramon Niño were introduced as candidates for the office of President-Elect and their video endorsements were viewed by those in attendance. Eligible members may vote online following the conclusion of the General Session until 6:00 PM on Friday, February 9, 2024. Election results will be disseminated through various channels, including the convention app, social media channels, and email notifications to the membership.

Four high school students were recognized as the 2024-2025 TMEA multi-year scholarship winners:

Jolie Bridy, Bill Cormack Scholarship

Rusetsa Karamagi Past-Presidents Scholarship

Matthew Stringer, Past-Presidents Memorial Scholarship

Michale Golston, Executive Board Scholarship

Past and present scholarship winners were asked to stand and be recognized. The Executive Board has allocated a total of \$211,500 for scholarships in the coming year.

President Pradervand-Sedatole announced that the Executive Board has approved the creation of a new scholarship entitled, The Robert Floyd Scholarship for Music Education, valued at up to \$16,000 to be awarded to a current undergraduate student majoring in music education. The first recipient of this scholarship will be announced during the 2025 TMEA General Session.

A compilation of video submissions from esteemed music educators, composers and close friends of Executive Director Floyd conveyed gratitude for his steadfast support of music education and congratulated him on his retirement.

Executive Director Floyd delivered the keynote address, where he not only shared his personal journey, but also expressed a deep admiration for music educators. He urged the audience members to prioritize three fundamental principles: first, to devote all their efforts toward elevating music in

schools and communities to the academic discipline it is; second, to cultivate a genuine love for music within their students, and finally, to demonstrate respect for their students' time, personal lives and family commitments. He closed by saying, "It has been an honor to serve you and the students you teach throughout my journey these past 31 years. It has been a great ride! I'm not quite done yet."

After thanking Executive Director Floyd for his 31 years of service to TMEA, President Pradervand-Sedatole announced that the Executive Board had unanimously voted to name the TMEA Headquarters building in Austin, The Robert Floyd Building. A plaque on the building will read: *"This building is named in honor of Robert M. Floyd for his 31 years of dedicated leadership as Texas Music Educators Association Executive Director (1993-2024) and his unwavering commitment to TMEA's members and the students they serve."*

President Pradervand-Sedatole introduced President-Elect Jesse Cannon II who will assume the presidency following the convention. He thanked President Pradervand-Sedatole and presented her with the Past-President's plaque and pin.

With no further business, President-Elect Cannon declared the meeting adjourned at 9:45 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Kay Vanlandingham
Administrative Director

TMEA STATE BOARD MEETING

February 7, 2024, February 10, 2024

Henry B González Convention Center

5:15 PM

A buffet dinner was served, after which President Dana Pradervand-Sedatole called the meeting to order at 5:44 PM and led the State Board members in the TMEA Oath of Office. In attendance were: TMEA Executive Board and Staff:

Dana Pradervand-Sedatole, President

Jesse Cannon II, President-Elect

Michael Stringer, Past-President

Matthew McInturf, College Division Vice-President

Robert Floyd, Executive Director

Frank Coachman, Deputy Director

Kay Vanlandingham, Administrative Director

Joe Muñoz, Executive Director Designee

Brad Kent, Ex-officio Executive Board Member

State Board Members Present:

Region 1: Ginger Denney, Christopher Reidlinger

Region 2: Gary Keller, Alicia DeSoto

Region 3: Ryan Forkner

Region 4: Rebecca Hildreth

Region 5: Ramon Niño III, Kristi Strother

Region 6: Scott Carter

Region 7: Marilyn Bennett

Region 8: Garth Gundersen, Sara Baker, Deborah Barrick

Region 9: Erin Norvelle Bodhaine

Region 10: Bryan Brassard

Region 11: Richard Flores, Gilbert Sanchez, Amanda Hampton

Region 12: Kathy Mayer

Region 13: Neal Springer, Shannon Wallace

Region 14: David Edge, San Juanita Rodriguez, Michelle Christner

Region 15: Angel Murray Carreon, Dorina Kingston

Region 16: Josh Shaw, Catherine Oliver

Region 17: Kyle Norman, Blythe Hopson

Region 18: Joey Lucita, Rachel Woodburn

Region 19: Gary Hebert, Anita Ladd

Region 20: Paul Doucet

Region 21: Nicholas Durham, Nicole Stewart, Weston Fisher

Region 22: Arturo Uribe, Adria Dunn

Region 23: Desiree Overree, Jeffrey Tipps

Region 24: David Simon, Katie Lewis

Region 25: Todd Dixon

Region 26: Brittany Dacy, Justin Anderson, Andre Clark
Region 27: Danielle Prontka
Region 28: Guy McKinney, Elizabeth Stone, Melody Eriksen
Region 29: Colin Varville, Alejandro Salazar
Region 30: Megan Sisk
Region 31: Evan Brown, James Rees
Region 32: Lisa Holt, Shawn Murphy
Region 33: No representative

Dr. Bradley Kent, UIL Director of Music, reported that 94% of band and orchestra directors prefer the new sightreading process.

The PML Committees have completed their work, and the new PML list will go live on the UIL website in August.

The Seguin High School Performing Arts Center will host the UIL State Mariachi Festival on February 22-24, 2024. Eighty-nine schools have entered this contest.

The finals for the UIL State Instrumental Chamber Music Competition will be held on Saturday, March 23, 2024 in Bastrop.

The dates for Area Marching Band Contest through 2028 have been posted on the UIL website. UIL will release the reclassification and realignment for the 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 school years sometime in March 2024.

Reports from Executive Director Robert Floyd:

Executive Director Floyd expressed his thanks to State Board for the work they do in their schools, districts, Regions, and across the state.

TMEA Active memberships and convention registration numbers are comparable to the same time last year. At the time of the meeting membership stood at:

Active:13.218

Retired: 1094

College Student: 2299

Convention registrants: 11,745

The exhibit show will host 1385 booths with 519 companies represented.

In January 2023 the Executive Board created a new standing DEIA/IDEA committee made of eleven members from each of the five divisions, including a representative from ATSSB. President-Elect Jesse Cannon II, Committee Chair, will lead a round table discussion during the convention as the committee deliberates on priorities for the future. This committee has made significant strides in various areas, notably in refining the criteria for clinic submissions, selection, and content. Additionally, efforts have been directed toward ensuring equitable representation in articles featured in Southwestern Musician.

The Executive Board, in collaboration with UIL representatives, Bradley Kent and Gabriel Musella, met a month ago to review data related to realignment. Alignment will be finalized and announced in late March.

Frank Coachman and Andrew Denman continue to make improvements to the audition entry and tabulation process.

For the first time, all elections for state officers will be conducted online. Voting will begin shortly after the close of the General Session and results will be announced on Friday evening. This year the only contested race is for President-Elect. Candidates are Brian Coatney, Shane Goforth, Gary Keller, and Ramon Niño III.

The 2024 General Session is scheduled for 8:00 AM on Thursday and will feature a performance of the All-State Combined Ensembles and a keynote address from Executive Director Floyd.

The Dallas Winds will present a concert on Thursday night of the convention.

There are six new members of the State Board of Education and are considered by many to be very conservative. There seems to be some support for the residency program that would increase pre-service requirements for the issuance of an intern or probationary teaching certificate.

Representatives from TMEA and Texas Fine Arts Administrators recently testified in support of the stipulation that high school students could only receive a fine arts credit for taking a Floral Design class if they were studying plant science as a part of the Business and Industry Endorsement.

The State Board of Educator Certification is contemplating a new Texas-specific performance assessment (TxTPA) as a replacement for the Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities (PPR) exam.

Three years ago, TMEA joined efforts with Texas Music Administrators Conference to create Texas Arts Education Campaign (TAEC), a non-profit dedicated to promoting and protecting fine arts education in Texas schools. TAEC was successful in influencing legislators to oppose the bills that could have eroded support for arts education. The four special sessions ended with no public education funding. TAEC plans to be more aggressive in seeking funding for fine arts in the next session.

President Pradervand-Sedatole paused the meeting at 6:40 PM on Wednesday, February 7, 2024.

President Pradervand-Sedatole resumed the meeting at 9:00 AM, Saturday, February 11, 2024 and called for Region Reports.

Region 1: The band division members expressed their concern about the apportionment process. They thanked the Board for a fantastic convention and extended their appreciation to Robert Floyd for his many years of service.

Region 2: No report

Region 3: Thanked the Board and Staff for a great convention.

Region 4-5: No report

Region 6: Thank you for an incredible week. The Orchestra and Vocal Divisions would like to see the return of designated Exhibit Hall times in the convention schedule. They shared their concern that school districts within the Region are pulling students for remediation, as much as 25% of class and claiming that the pullouts are not related to testing. They asked the Board to explore this problem.

Region 7: Thank you for a wonderful convention. They respectfully request a larger room for their Region Meeting.

Region 8: Thank you for a great convention. The soloists in the Invited Choir performances were difficult to hear and the Vocal Division would like additional mics to be utilized in the Stars and Night Ballroom. Due to the location of the All-State Choir Rehearsals, there were sound bleed issues. Thank you to Bob Floyd for his many years of service.

Region 9: Thanked the Board on behalf of teachers and students for the well-developed, online judging platform.

Region10: No report

Region 11: Thank you to the Board for their support and to Mr. Floyd for his long-time support of music education. They were very appreciative of the convention app.

Region 12: No report

Region 13: Thank you for an amazing convention.

Region 14: Thanks for a wonderful convention. No report.

Region 15: Thank you for a great convention. No report.

Region 16: In 2023 we presented data to the board regarding a disparity in the representation in our All-State Ensembles, specifically the 5A All-State Band. As a brief reminder, the data presented was pre-COVID as the global pandemic changed the landscape of education and participation. In 2019 81.2% of public schools in Texas were eligible for Title 1 funds, meaning that 40% or more of the students qualify for free and reduced lunch. However, only 37% of our 5A All-State ensembles represent 81.2% of our public schools. Also discussed was the increasing enrollment in the 5A and 6A school districts as UIL continues to increase enrollment cutoffs while TMEA has continued to utilize the same instrumentation sets and ensemble numbers putting a chokehold on the number of students who can qualify for an All-State organization. The meeting concluded with strong support from all sides of our state to seek some type of reform, an offer to have further discussions, and even a request the data from the state. Only to hear a minority of our own leadership say things such as, "We can't just create a poor band." Disappointed and heartbroken is an understatement.

1) 5A/6A- school enrollment cutoffs have increased through the past two to three realignments.

2) Athletics has adapted with state growth and school growth with the creation of Division 2

3) TMEA- has not adapted

4) There is a misconception regarding the apportionment process due to the number of sections that must record.

5) The goal is to create, not take from one to give to another.

6) We do understand the ripple effect that occurs with the smallest changes. However, we must be willing to do the hard jobs.

Recommendations:

1) Creation of another 5A ensemble

2) Limiting 5A students to audition for the 5A track only, creating more seats for the 6A schools through this limitation.

3) Creation of an (open-minded) committee to discuss options to adapt in an ever-changing landscape and serve a broader body of students.

Thank you for the work you have done. The Vocal Division has requested a new performance location. One choir had to stop their concert because the noise outside the performance venue was so loud.

Region 17: Members were not happy that the Region meeting was scheduled at the LaQuinta. Several members in the Elementary Division encountered difficulty gaining access to the Grand Hyatt clinic/concert rooms when the escalators stopped working. There were complaints that the rooms in the Grand Hyatt were too hot. There were sound issues during the Vocal Division concerts. The Orchestra Division voiced concerns about how people are selected to judge the Area Orchestra Contests.

Region 18 Thanked the Board for a wonderful convention and thanked Mr. Floyd for his service. No report.

Region 19-20: No report

Region 21: Asked the Executive Board to reconsider the policy that prevents retired teachers from holding a Region office.

Region 22: Thank you all for a great convention. Members expressed concerns about apportionment and the number of students that make an All-State Ensemble. The Registration Area is not a good venue for Showcase Performances. Musicians cannot be heard.

Region 23: Thank you for a wonderful convention and a special thank you to Bob for his decades of service.

Region 24: Thanked the Board and staff for the work they do year-round. They commented that the Exhibit Hall was well organized. They thanked Mr. Floyd for his service.

Region 25: Region 25 membership really liked their Region room assignment. No report.

Region 26: Great convention. No report

Region 27: No report

Region 28: Thanked the Board for a great convention and Mr. Floyd for his many years of service. They continue to have concerns about apportionment but were very happy that Region 28 was well represented through the Invited and Spotlight opportunities.

Region 29-31: No report.

Region 32: Thank you, Mr. Floyd, for all your work. No report

Region 33: No report

Executive Director Floyd expressed his appreciation for the support he has received from the State Board throughout the years.

Gary Keller, Region 2 President, presented a proclamation from The Office of the Secretary of State to Executive Director Floyd.

Robert Floyd has served as the dedicated Executive Director of the Texas Music Educators Association for an extraordinary thirty years. His passion for music education profoundly affects the lives of students and teachers throughout Texas. Under his leadership, TMEA has flourished, growing its membership from 8,000 to nearly 20,000, and expanding its programs and service to support music educators at all levels. Signed by Jane Nelson, Secretary of State

President Pradervand-Sedatole adjourned the meeting on Saturday, February 10, 2024, at 9:54 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Kay Vanlandingham
Administrative Director