Dear Colleague,

Congratulations and welcome to the ranks of Music Educator in Texas! We are very fortunate that we not only get to serve in the noble profession of teaching, but that we get to do it through music – a subject that impacts all facets of a child’s development.

University Interscholastic League music events are but one aspect of your role as a teacher. The contests themselves serve to provide you and your students with an assessment from leading music professionals, as well as suggestions on how to improve the artistic achievement of your groups. The contest is by no means a destination, but more of a stop along the never-ending journey towards musical excellence.

The University Interscholastic League has served students and teachers in Texas for more than one hundred years, providing healthy educational competition in an organized and structured environment - all designed to foster intellectual and artistic growth for its participants. The rules for our events are developed with input from many groups of stakeholders, including teachers, administrators, parents, other professional organizations, and elected officials. The League is a constantly evolving entity whose success depends on involvement and understanding from all participants. Therefore, I strongly encourage you to familiarize yourself with the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules, as well as the TEA/UIL Side by Side Document. Additionally, your success as a teacher will be greatly enriched through participation in such organizations as the Texas Music Educators Association, the Texas Bandmasters Association, the Texas Choral Directors Association, the Texas Orchestra Directors Association, the Association of Texas Small School Bands, and any other organization that has a voice in music education.

Music is a wonderful gift of the human spirit. May we always cherish its unique ability to communicate the profound sincerity of our soul. I wish you a lifetime of fulfillment in this wonderful profession.

Sincerely,

Bradley N. Kent, D.M.A.
UIL State Director of Music