



FLORIDA BANDMASTERS ASSOCIATION – 72nd year
DISTRICT MEETING #4 MINUTES
(ver. 08-07)

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| DISTRICT NUMBER: 1 | MEETING DATE: April 23rd, 2008 |
| MEETING NUMBER: 4 | LOCATION: The Randy and Gail Folsom Estate |

Item 1: Call to Order and Introductory Remarks

- Thanks to Gail and Randy Folsom for hosting our meeting.
- Thanks to Randy Nelson and the Choctawhatchee Band as well as Randy Folsom and the FWBHS Band for sponsoring our meal.

Item 2: Members and Guests Present

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Jody Dunn – Crestview HS | Dan Akins – Crestview HS |
| Mike Philley – Davidson MS | Susie Smithey – Gulf Breeze MS |
| Dan Wooten – Niceville HS | Nick Kozar – Pensacola Christian Academy |
| Chad Hannah – Choctawhatchee HS | Connie Pettis – Jay MS/HS |
| Tim Willis – Bailey MS | Amanda Leddy – Pace HS |
| Randy Nelson – Choctawhatchee HS | Jarod Leddy – Pace HS |
| Joe Hooten – Tate HS | Doug Holsworth – Escambia HS |
| Randy Folsom – Ft. Walton Beach HS | Jordan Wood – Escambia HS |
| Neal McLeod – Gulf Breeze HS | David Riggs – Avalon MS |
| Dan Smith – Ft. Walton Beach HS | Kim Odom – Richbourg MS |
| Don Snowden – Pensacola Jr. College | Pete Krostag – Pine Forest HS |
| Paul Harris – Meigs MS | Scott LaBorde – Bruner MS |
| Eddie Steadman – Ruckel MS | Hank Phillips – Pryor MS |

Item 3: Reading of Previous Minutes

- Minutes are online at www.flmusiced.org/fba

Item 4: Treasurer's Report

- Current Budget Status: \$16,861.98 - no outstanding bills
- State assessment still due @ \$.80 per entry
- Proposed Budget for Next Year: No foreseeable changes

Item 5: Announcements, etc.:

- None

Item 6: Music Advocacy Issues with FBA and FSMA

Legislative Action Alert: April 17, 2008

Our newest challenge has appeared and we need your assistance!

SB 1914 (Senator Gaetz) accepted an amendment which allows “practical arts” into the required fine arts credit for high school graduation. The language in this bill now reads:

5. One credit in fine or performing arts, which may include speech and debate or practical arts. (line 382)

We anticipate that if this passes there will be huge consequences for arts programs in high schools. It is our belief this required credit, in many places, has been responsible for holding music and art opportunities in place for our students. We also believe that all students should have at least one experience in an arts course for graduation given the changes in the coming creative economy and workforce.

The next stop for this bill is the floor of the Senate.

ACTION REQUIRED TODAY!

Contact your state senator with the message:

“Oppose SB 1914 which adds “practical arts” to the one credit for fine or performing arts. That phrase must be removed!”

Phone calls and emails should be directed at your own state senator (see below). It is important to take this action now – and again, when we know that the bill is moving to the Senate floor (another alert will be sent when it is scheduled).

Please motivate all booster organizations, community arts supporters, and anyone else who may be able to influence a senator on this topic. This is a "heavy lift" and will require large numbers from constituents of the senators.

To find your state senator

If you do not know who your state senator is follow these 6 steps – **1)** Do not use this window for emailing, but click on [this link](#) (read on). **2)** Once you know your senator, click [here for the Florida Senate](#) and **3)** select your senator from that list. (It is important to use the second link, NOT the first one, to send an email). **4)** Click on the email address provided in the senator’s information and **5)** paste “Oppose SB 1914” in the subject line. **6)** Paste the talking points (as many or as few as you wish) into the body of the email – and then personalize the email in some way. Remember NOT to send emails from a school district system! Phone calls may be the most effective tool at this point, in any case.

If you know who your state senator is follow these 5 steps -- **1)** go directly to the [Florida Senate](#) and then **2)** select your senator. **3)** Click on the email address provided in the senator’s information and **4)** paste “Oppose SB 1914” in the subject line. **5)** Paste the talking points (as many or as few as you wish) into the body of the email – and then personalize the email in some way. Remember NOT to send emails from a school district system! Phone calls may be the most effective tool at this point, in any case.

You may also want to utilize the [“Click here to find your representative by school name”](#) link to be certain of the senator that represents your school’s area (it might be different than your home address).

Talking points About SB 1914

- The arts include music, dance, theatre, and visual art. These are the only courses that are offered during the school day that require a student to tap their own creative, imaginative, and innovative skills at even the most basic levels of skill development. Without these courses, students are entirely focused on linear, sequential tasks. Students need arts courses that teach how to synthesize details into the big picture, to understand non-verbal communication, and to be creative enough to know what to do when there isn’t a single, “right” answer.
- We have to stop treating the arts as a non-essential subject. It is essential as our economy changes. More and more business leaders are saying they want creative, innovative, and imaginative people in their workforce. How can we provide that without provide some experience in the arts?
- While the bill language puts the “practical arts” requirement on the fine arts credit it should be noted that few of those courses have anything to do with the arts and those that do are focused on skills rather than artistic/creative elements . Calling them “practical arts,” is, in fact, complete mis-direction, since all of these courses are “career and technical” courses which have nothing to do with how to be creative. A better place for this credit requirement would be to allow it to substitute in another area, such as the 4th year of math, or the 3rd year of science.
- There should be no “fight” between the arts and workforce electives – both fields are important for success in the creative economy – and there would not be if there were sufficient periods in the day and sufficient funding to provide learning opportunities for all Florida students.

Date: [Mon, 21 Apr 2008 14:44:38 -0400]

From: James Perry <James@flmusiced.org>
To: ReynoldsJ@pcsb.org, david.lewis@polk-fl.net
Cc: frank@chgmail.com
Subject: Fine arts credit

To: Component Association Boards –

Thanks for your efforts on emails and communications with senators regarding Senate Bill 1914. The effort needs to continue throughout this week or until there is a more information. Please keep those communications going!

Update: House Bill 7045 has passed the House of Representatives and is very similar to SB 1914, but does NOT have the “and practical arts” on the fine arts credit. SB 1914 has been referred back to committee and is not yet scheduled to be heard on the Senate floor. It, of course, is the bill that adds “and practical arts” to the fine arts graduation credit.

What happens next? HB 7045 has been sent to the Senate which could either 1) take up HB 7045 or pass it as is, or 2) substitute SB 1914 for HB 7045, pass it and send it back to the House for their approval. Of course, any bill must pass both chambers to become law.

Any new communications (phone calls! or emails) to senators should say, “We prefer HB 7045 which does not add “and practical arts” to the fine arts credit.” Links for communicating can be found in the Alert of April 17 at <http://www.flmusiced.org/LegNew/Content/Default.aspx>.

The outcome of this will be hugely important to the way music and other fine arts programs exist across the state!

Item 7: Unfinished Business

- [Complete adjudicator evaluation forms for Solo/Ensemble and Concert MPA's](#)
- Comments / Suggestions concerning Concert MPA's.
- Thanks to all our audition and MPA hosts:
 - Pace HS (All-State auditions)
 - Ft. Walton Beach HS (Marching MPA, Concert MPA's)
 - Gulf Breeze HS (Solo & Ensemble MPA)
 - Crestview HS (Jazz MPA)

Item 8: Committee Reports

- None

Item 9: New Business

Corresponding Dates for 2008-09:

| | | <u>Site:</u> |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|---|
| 1 st District Meeting | August 13, 2008 | Tate HS |
| All-State Auditions | September 13, 2008 | Pace HS |
| Marching MPA | October 11, 2008 | Tate HS |
| 2 nd District Meeting | October 22, 2008 | Pace HS |
| 3 rd District Meeting | January 21, 2009 | Gulf Breeze HS |
| Solo & Ensemble MPA | February 20 & 21, 2009 | Gulf Breeze HS |
| Jazz MPA | February 28, 2009 | Crestview HS |
| HS Concert MPA | March 6 & 7, 2009 | Fort Walton Beach HS |
| MS Concert MPA | April 16 & 17, 2009 | Tate & Fort Walton Beach HS |
| 4 th District Meeting | April 22, 2009 | Folsom Estate |

Discussion

- Much discussion regarding moving the Marching MPA date later in the calendar.

- Rationale being August 18th start date, students' summer already being affected too much, FBA should be the culminating event for our marching season. (MOTION FAILS)
- Motion (Hooten/Wiilils) – Marching MPA date should be October 11th
 - Rationale – Corresponding date as years past. Availability of quality judges is easier because we are the only district going at this time. Traditionally a good gate no matter the site. (MOTION PASSES)

Items to be discussed:

*Randy Folsom informed the district that the GCGC circuit meeting was on Sunday (4/27) @ 2pm at Pace HS. He also assured everyone that Terry Sanders promised that there would no conflicts like the ones that occurred this year.

*Bobby Stuart was present and thanked Mr. Dunn and the members for their patience and efforts to help with the recording process. He is looking forward to working with is in the future.

*Mr. Dunn asked that we enhance our efforts as mentors within our counties, feeder schools, etc.

*Encourage advocacy for our programs

Item 10: District Adjudicators for Next School Year

None

Item 11: Nominations for State MPA Adjudicators

None

Item 12: Nominations for Adjudicators List (secret ballot)

None (Randy Nelson has finished the internship process.....YEAH!!!!)

Item 13: Suggestions to State Committees

None

Item 14: Proposals to the Executive Board

None

Item 15: Correspondence

- Requests to host MPA's (See above dates/sites)

Item 16: For the Good of the Association

- Upcoming Concerts:
 - May 9th @ Tate HS (Tate Jazz w/Steve Wiest from North Texas)
- Summer Convention: July 10-12 @ Altamonte Springs Hilton
- Job Openings Next Year: Navarre High School (See Neal McLeod for details)
- Teachers of the Year: David Riggs (Avalon MS) & Chris Tredway (Lewis MS)
- Retirements: none
- District Chairman Swan Song
 - We would all like to extend our sincere appreciation to Mr. Jody Dunn for all of his hard work and patience over the past four years as a district officer. He is a credit to our profession and has served our district in the best possible manner. He is a true professional and an example for us all. Thank you Jody!!!

Item 17: Next Meeting Date

- August 13, 2008 @ Tate HS

Item 18: Adjournment

(Willis/Folsom)

Respectfully Submitted,

**Mike Philley
District 1 - Secretary**