



**FLORIDA BANDMASTERS ASSOCIATION – 73<sup>rd</sup> year  
DISTRICT MEETING #2 MINUTES**  
(ver. 08-08)

<b>DISTRICT NUMBER: 8</b>	<b>MEETING DATE: November 5, 2008</b>
<b>MEETING NUMBER: 2</b>	<b>LOCATION: Bridgewater Middle School</b>

**Item 1: Call to Order and Introductory Remarks**

- Thank you to Mike Antmann and Bridgewater MS for hosting our meeting and providing dinner
- Thank you to Rod Shuttleworth and Dr. Winds for setting up his selection of Solo and Ensemble Music

**Item 2: Members and Guests Present**

Courtney Coker	Derek Shapiro	Matt Kaminskas	Keith Nichols
Lisa Bujnicki	Becky Swartz	Charles Watford	Lindi Jaques
Chris Perez	Phil Obado	Jason Ford	Lindsay Cannon
Chris Cannon	Joel Moody	Holly Swanson	Chris Segó
John Antmann	Jeremy Robins	Melissa Sandusky	Marianne Flannigan
Leo Lamos	Darius Langston	Jack Eaddy	Melvin Wright
David Laniewski	Michael Simmons	Gary Hernandez	Rufus Redding
Mike Antmann	Kedrick Redding	Franklin Jennings	Hannah Jennings
Bernie Hendricks			

**Item 3: Reading of Previous Minutes**

- The minutes from the previous meeting can be found on the website <http://www.flmusic.org/fba>

**Item 4: Treasurer's Report**

- We currently have \$34,582.50 in our account. This amount includes all bills paid EXCEPT the Citrus Bowl which so far totals \$5,860.75. We are trying to get some fees of this amount waived like the \$1000 stadium rental fee and some other fees we have been charged. We are not sure yet if these fees will be waived...
- Our gate for Marching MPA was \$14,700.25... if we have to end up paying the full amount of the Citrus Bowl that will leave our gate at \$8839.50...

**Item 5: Music Advocacy Issues**

- All constitutional amendments that threatened the arts or educational funding were thrown out by the state legislature

**Item 6: Communications**

none

**Item 7: Unfinished Business**

**Marching MPA**

- Congratulations to everyone for a successful Marching MPA. The judges were very impressed at the quality of performances exhibited by our high school groups. Thank you to the middle school directors who stepped up and helped out with working a shift.
- We brought in a gate of \$14,700.25.
- Discussion on site other than the Citrus Bowl due to the cost. Referred to Marching MPA committee (Bernie) to explore other options possibly a high school, Disney or UCF. We are

tentatively booked at the Citrus Bowl for November 7<sup>th</sup> 2009. In 2010 the Citrus Bowl will not be available due to renovations

### Upcoming Events:

- High School Jazz MPA: February 5, 2009 at Lake Highland
- High School Solo and Ensemble: February 6-7, 2009 at Lake Highland
- Middle School Jazz MPA: February 19, 2009 at University HS
- Middle School Solo and Ensemble: February 20-21, 2009 at Discovery MS
- High School Concert MPA: March 5-7, 2009 at Ocoee High School
- Middle School Concert MPA: April 16-18, 2009 at Oak Ridge HS

\* Links in MPA Online have already been created for all of these events. So, start the process of registering NOW!

Entries done on-line and print the following forms:

- From S&E Screen: Entries List and Student Roster
- From Concert Screen: Roster for each band
- From Jazz Screen: Roster for each band
- From Main Screen: Assessment Form
- Any Special Permission Forms you received back from the music committee.

All forms and a check for assessment due to district chairman by: **January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2009!!!!**

Remember that on the 15th day past the due date, entry forms will no longer be accepted.

\*\*\*Remember that with the way we schedule for Concert MPA in our district... the sooner you turn your forms in the more likely you will be to receive your first choice in performance date. This year all of your paperwork and assessment check must be turned in with no mistakes in order for your school to be considered in their first choice. Hannah be looking for every paper to be present with the correct signatures, assessment form, and assessment check including the recording fee for the amount of groups you will have performing. Once everything is turned in correctly she will put your name in order on a list. Then she will go through the list starting at the top and give the school their first choice, and so on. Once a day is full she will give that school their second choice, if that day is full the school will get their third choice. If you want to get your first choice of performance dates she encourages you to turn your forms in early!

## Item 8: Committee Reports

none

## Item 9: New Business

Requests for re-classification must be approved by district vote.

**Apopka HS** – from AA to BB passed (F. Jennings/Eaddy)

**Colonial High School** from AA to B passed (Eaddy/Berry)

**Evans HS** from A to B passed (Eaddy/Perez)

**Oak Ridge HS** from A to B passed (Sego/ Wright)

Discussion: Best Practices for Marching Band and the motion.

- Several talking points were raised including the following;
- If we (FBA) do not address this issue, then FSMA could possibly create a rule that might not appeal to Band directors.
- Reasons for Limiting to 3 plus 1 marching competitions
  - Excessive Practice Time
    - Some states limit the hours a band can practice just as the football teams have limitations.
  - Excessive fees (Required fees)
  - Travel cost

There needs to be some clarification to the motion as to what the 4 events are: 3 competitions and MPA. Does a parades count as a competition? If a band takes a Bowl Game trip (or something like that), is that considered a competition?

- Who will Police band participation?
- What about bands that participate in competitions out of state?
- The issues of how band competitions should be handled by the band director and the principal. They should be responsible for whatever they decide to do.
- FBA should make a recommendation rather than a mandating and telling directors how to run their programs.
- Students should not be penalized (removing S&E or other MPA opportunities).
- From a data standpoint. What data has been brought forth that supports the limitation of band competition. It seems that it is a school based decision and what works at one school, may not work at another. By setting a limitation are we lowering the bar for our band achievement?
- District 8 will defeat this motion at the board meeting

## Item 10: State MPA Dates and Sites

- State S&E:
  - North: March 30-April 1, 2009 West Port High School Ocala
  - South: April 6-8, 2009 Palmetto Ridge High School Naples
- State Concert MPA:
  - North: April 20-24, 2009
  - South April 20-24, 2009 North Port High School

## Item 11: Nominations for Adjudicators List

Rich Ervin – S & E woodwinds – passed (Dimitry/Moody)

Tom Butler – S & E woodwinds and Piano – passed (M.Antmann/Bujnicki)

## Item 12: Suggestions to State Committees

## Item 13: Proposals to the Executive Board

**Motion:** Direct FSMA to form a committee to research “Best Practices” for marching band participation, finances, rehearsal, and performance time commitment. Members of the committee should include members of the FMEA Research Committee, school administrators, and currently active band directors who form a representative cross-section of band programs throughout Florida. A final data-driven and research-based “Best Practices” document shall be provided to the music teachers and principals throughout the state as a guide for balancing the function of the marching band in the context of the overall band program. (F.Jennings/Eaddy)

**Rationale:** The FSMA *Policies for Governance* states:

The purpose of the [FSMA] board, on behalf of the member schools, is to see to it that FSMA achieves appropriate results for appropriate persons at an appropriate cost, and avoids unacceptable actions and situations.

The board will govern with an emphasis on

- a) outward vision rather than an internal preoccupation,
- b) encouragement of diversity of viewpoints,
- c) strategic leadership more than administrative detail,
- d) clear distinction of board and executive director roles,
- e) collective rather than individual decisions,
- f) future rather than past or present, and
- g) proactivity rather than reactivity.

Furthermore, the “Ends of FSMA” are defined:

The purpose of FSMA is high quality, broad based, thriving music programs in member schools. In accomplishing this purpose, the following areas are of importance:

\* Models for and tools to recognize best practices in excellent music programs

“Best Practices” for marching band is often a nebulous and unclear area of discord for band directors in various types and sizes of school throughout Florida and the country. As this issue becomes more contentious, FSMA has clearly stated its own role to provide “strategic leadership” that is “proactive” and that puts an emphasis on “diversity of viewpoints.” Therefore, it is the role of FSMA to research and publish what truly are the “Best Practices” for marching band and its role in the overall band program. It is the job of FSMA to take the lead to rationally and objectively analyze the issue and provide leadership. Punitive and arbitrary designations of field show participation do not provide a comprehensive or specific direction to guide directors. A **research-based** guide for Directors and Principals will serve as an invaluable resource for all areas of dispute on this topic.

## **Item 14: Other**

## **Item 15: For the Good of the Association**

- Make sure that you are paying attention and active in what is going on at your school. Budgets are being cut again and music programs are in jeopardy. Go to the SAC and FAC and PTSA meetings, so the music programs will not be overlooked.

## **Item 16: Next Meeting Date**

January 24, 2009 at Winter Park High School at 11:00 AM

## **Item 17: Adjournment**

7:58 (Eaddy/F.Jennings)

## **Submitted By,**

Bernie Hendricks  
District 8 Secretary