

**San Juan Music Educator's Association**  
**Fall Meeting**  
**Thursday, Sept. 5, 2013**  
**Bellingham High School Choir Room**

1. Current President Trisha Norman (Bellingham Elementary Music) welcomed everyone to the meeting at 6:07 p.m. Many people were enjoying the delicious food provided by Trisha Norman and as we ate, Trisha had everyone introduce themselves, sign in with their assignments and contact information. Introductions of everyone were made and there were approximately 45 people in attendance.
2. Trisha then went over the agenda and started with Reports.
  - A. Advocacy
    - 1) Todd Guiton is in charge of the Bellingham School District Advocacy group. At this point, information is based on Bellingham data rather than heartfelt ideas. Parents are gathering and reading John Behnam's book. They have a Facebook page, web page, goals, bi-laws, and are now going for a membership basis for the group with representatives from all levels. The idea is to make a presentation to the School Board.
    - 2) Jared Norman (Lynden Middle School Band) reported for the Lynden Public Schools. They presented to the board last spring. The School Board is now asking questions about music and the arts as they look forward to building and scheduling middle school students into arts classes. They are looking for savvy parents. Jared said, "They can't argue with the data."
    - 3) Other input given was that teachers are the ones that need to provide the data to the parent led group. The data should be given to School Administrators and the School Board prior to a meeting. Preliminary ground work is done by meeting with the superintendent and school board members to ask if it will be ok to present to them.
    - 4) You should ask about a time line. March is good before because it is usually before budget talks.
    - 5) The goal from the state meeting was for each district to start a music coalition to support music in our schools. The plan is to create a report of the positive things that each music program does each year. Then parents present it to the local School Board and/or Superintendent. This creates a record of how each district is doing each year.
    - 6) Kyler Brumbaugh (Sedro Woolley General Music?) has agreed to be the SJMEA Advocacy Liaison leader for our region. Now we need to identify someone from each district to work with Kyler to collect data from each district and give it to him so we can continue to keep records each year.
    - 7) PSA's: check the wmea.org site for some fantastic PSA's from local celebrities.
    - 8) Music Matters: Please encourage everyone to support music education by purchasing the license plates.
  - B. TPEP
    - 1) David Jones (Anacortes Elementary Music) deferred to others.
    - 2) Laurie Bianco (Ferndale Elementary) depends on her relationship with administrators. Laurie also shared her experience in piloting the program. She logged in 30 extra hours of work, but she says this was not necessary because she did too much. Also, growth isn't clearly defined in the law.
    - 3) Carol Leander, (Anacortes Choirs) based on her pro-cert experience, chose what she wanted to work on. Her topic was cycle inquiry based on sight singing. Just one category is used on "focused" evaluation.
    - 4) The new process is more about a conversation about how you will improve yourself. We are always striving to be better and this supports those efforts.
    - 5) Other observations: It is what we music folks do all the time.
  - C. Board Reports:
    - 1) WMEA Summer Session – No big push beyond advocacy.  
Board reports:
      - a. Wmea summer session. No new big push beyond advocacy.
      - b. Senior Solo/Ensemble Contest has rule changes. Check out website.
      - c. The State will no longer be running solo ensemble regional events.
    - 2) The secretary and the treasurer were not here. Charlene Sutton (Mt. Baker Elementary Music) was subbing for Linda Short (Bellingham HS Choirs/Elem. Mus./Secretary)  
Mitch DeGrace (Meridian HS Band/Choir) will send his report by email.  
He said Junior Honor Festival did not go well. He is recommending raising the fee to \$15.00 per person. He also said several families did not pay. A huge thank you to Mitch for all he does!!

- 3) Website - Andy Marshall (Squalicum HS Choirs)
    - a. The forms will be re-tooled
    - b. We will be moving to a google website from our former site which is still working.
  - 4) Junior Events Coordinator - Jarid Norman (Lynden Middle School Bands) reviewed the junior events locations. He will send out the Junior Events hand book to folks.
  - 5) Elementary Music Charlene Sutton (Mt. Baker Elementary Music) shared the elementary events.
  - 6) Senior Events Coordinator – Kirstin Doud (Sehome High School Orchestras/Elem. Music)
    - a. Kirstin is serving her last year on the State WMEA Board and encouraged other people to serve.
    - b. She will contact Senior Events folks individually.
  - 7) Chris is not here. Steve has no report.
- D. Voice News – Please get the information to Trisha.
- E. Everyone received a ballot to suggest an Educator of the year and a Friend of Music. Trisha will email the whole SJMEA membership to proceed with the next steps in the process.
- F. Make sure you are a member of NAFME/WMEA/SJMEA. This is the expectation of teachers participating in our sponsored events.
- G. The Large Group Plaques are here so please pick them up.
- H. Please look at the outline by Linda Moore in small groups to consider for the band and orchestra events.
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We then went to breakout sessions for elementary, band, choir, and orchestra specialists.

These materials were given out to everyone:

1. Yearly Schedule
2. Linda Moore's proposal for secondary events

Trisha called everyone back to clean-up and adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by  
Charlene Sutton  
Substitute Secretary for Linda Short