

**NCMEA BOARD MINUTES**  
**Quorum Business Park, Suite 105**  
Charlotte, NC  
April 28, 2007

President **McKoy** called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Following singing of the National Anthem, the minutes of the 01/20/07 NCMEA Board meeting were approved with the only change being inclusion of “Executive Director” in discussion of the Executive Director’s Review (p. 2). Appreciation was expressed to Brad Goforth, HIV/AIDS Resource Director, for offering space for this Board meeting.

**President McKoy** presented the recommendation of the Editor’s Search Committee (Phifer, McKoy, Cribbs, Yoder-White) to hire Carla Copeland-Burns as the editor of *The North Carolina Music Educator*. **This motion passed.**

President McKoy reported about the recent town meetings held across the state about proposed new high school requirements and indicated that the arts are being considered as a requirement for high school graduation.

Candidates for Southern Division President-Elect were announced as Bennie Ferguson (GA) and Philip Wyatt (WV). President McKoy invited members to complete an on-line survey to gather information requested from MENC President Brinckmeyer. These responses will be included in McKoy’s state report to the National Executive Board.

**Barbara Geer** (President-Elect, MENC) encouraged Board members to participate in the current revision of the MENC Strategic Plan, reminding membership that this plan guides the financial emphases of the organization for the next 5 years.

**Jerry Cribbs** (Chair, Finance Committee) proposed that:

- NCMEA offer \$200 to the HIV/AIDS Consortium as compensation for using their office for our meeting space. A motion to offer this funding was made by Scott Laird; Bill Myers seconded; and the motion passed.
- A recommendation to award NCMEA mini-grants to Lisa Packer (\$500), Betsy Hughes (\$500), and Amy Dagenhart (\$500) was made and passed.
- The Finance Committee recommendation to move \$150,000 from a SECU Money Market account to two 1-year interest-bearing CDs—one for \$90,000 to yield 5.74% and one for \$60,000 to yield 5.20%. This recommendation was made to accommodate FDIC suggested practices regarding housing of funds; the recommendation passed.
- A recommendation from the Finance Committee to move funds as follows: \$50,403 to a 2-year CD bearing 5.1% interest, \$50,188 to a 2-year CD bearing 5% interest, \$50,403 to a 3-year CD bearing 5.1% interest, and \$50,191 to a 3-year CD bearing 5.1% interest. The recommendation passed.
- Presented a recommendation from the Finance and Executive Committees to increase on-site conference registration to be \$20 more than pre-registration (\$65 pre-registration, \$85 on-site) from the current \$10 higher was presented and passed.
- Presented a recommendation to reduce refunds for cancellation of conference registration to 80% (rather than current 100% refund practice) was presented and passed.
- A recommendation from the Finance and Executive Committees to purchase magnets with the NCMEA logo to be sold for \$4 each to be offered through pre-registration and at conference was presented and passed.

President McKoy presented The Executive Director Review Committee recommendations that the Executive Director's salary be increased to \$36,500 annually. Additionally, the Committee recommended providing a one-time \$3,100 bonus to the Executive Director, for a total of \$39,600 for the 2007-08 fiscal year. The recommendation was approved.

**Reta Phifer** (Executive Director) reviewed issues related to finances:

- Presented the proposed 2007-08 budget, projected P&L report, and updates in the balance sheet as follows: (1) High School Choral account currently has \$21,289.52 and (2) Middle School Choral account has \$2006.11 (rather than a deficit). Phifer expressed appreciation for Board members' requests for funding.
- Reviewed 2006 NCMEA Conference expenses, comparing 2006-07 figures with proposed 2007-08 figures. Phifer pointed out that \$10,000 was approved at the last Board meeting for the 2007 General Session; of this amount, \$6,000 will come from the Super Fund.
- Shared additional points to consider related to the proposed 2007-08 budget included the following: (1) \$1200 was added for District Presidents; (2) \$6,800 was kept intact for travel for President, President-Elect, Executive Director, Collegiate President, and Editor, (3) Grant amount is \$4500 rather than \$6000, and (4) payroll expenses will be \$45,950, to yield a budget surplus of \$6,654 (p. 3). The 2007-08 budget was approved.
- Recognized Jim Wolf for his extraordinary selfless work in assisting NCMEA with financial planning and reporting, helping insure that the organization makes wise financial decisions and carefully guards its non-profit status.
- Encouraged the Board to become more involved with budget and encouraged including a person outside the organization to meet regularly with the Executive Director to review financial records.
- Expressed appreciation to Connie Phifer Savell and Jim Wolf for their support during this past year's transition.
- Invited Board members to visit the NCMEA office following the meeting and offered advocacy kits to District Presidents and guests Eddie Adams and David Brooks.
- Phifer alerted the board about the continuing need for completion of W-9s.
- Reported on the \$1000 reimbursement received from ECU for the Barbara Bair Scholarship as the selected student did not attend ECU.
- Reported that an umbrella policy insuring lodging for honors groups at conference is still in discussion.
- Alerted Board members that plaque distribution has been delayed.

President McKoy presented a certificate recognizing the brick purchased by NCMEA for the MENC Wall of Fame to Dr. Fran Page. Additional bricks have been purchased for Hortense Reed and C.H. Duncan.

**Maribeth Yoder-White** (Past-President) reported that, as of March 2007, North Carolina (4,558) ranked 4<sup>th</sup> in the Southern Division in total membership, behind Florida (6,763), Georgia (5,234), and Virginia (4,567). In comparison to NCMEA membership at the same time last year, active and retired memberships have increased, while collegiate and Tri-M memberships have decreased. North Carolina presently boasts the highest collegiate membership in the Southern Division (589).

**Amy Daw** (Coalition) reported on the NC: The State of the Arts Conference, recognizing Mark Propst, Christie Howell, and Fran Page as presenters. Daw encouraged more participation from music educators across the state, indicating that this will become a biennial event. Board members viewed the inspiring DVD produced by ARTS NC, "North Carolina Leaders on Music Education," an advocacy tool that will be available by July 2007.

**Barbara Geer** (Conference Chair) shared the revised Conference Meeting Room Request and Requirements Form, requesting that complete, accurate information be sent to her by June 20. Geer alerted Board members about possible changes in space to accommodate increased number of sessions. A sample of a completed Conference Meeting Room Request and Requirements Form will be emailed to Board members.

**Eddie Adams** and **David Brooks** (guests) provided an inspiring, information presentation about their experiences at the Southern Division MENC Conference as NCMEA's representatives to the 2007 Leadership Conference. Both extended appreciation to the Board for the financial support provided.

**Hazel Chapman** (Elementary) reported on a new policy regarding sickness which allows the elementary board to make decisions regarding student participation in Honors Chorus. Additional issues addressed by the Elementary Board include support for travel for Elementary Section Chair and honoraria for the Honors Chorus coordinator.

**Dave Albert** (Band) alerted the Board that the 2007 Honors Band is being held this same weekend. Albert discussed continuing need for membership to insure that their practices are in compliance with NCMEA policy.

**Ann Huff** (High School Choral) reported that the North Carolina High School Choral Section executive board will be meeting in late spring/early summer to discuss and address various issues and concerns prior to the November fall conference members meeting. Items to be addressed are:

- a) Cell phone policies at student events.
- b) Dress code policies for performance at student events.
- c) Raising the honorarium for clinicians at student events. The executive choral board has proposed and voted via email to raise the honorarium for clinicians and adjudicators at student events from \$250 per day to \$300 per day. This will now need to go before the members at the November meeting.
- d) Raising the fees for student events.
- e) Adding sight-reading to solo/ensemble festivals.
- f) Requiring sight-reading at large ensemble festivals.
- g) Formatting all music at student events to Braille. The Morehead Governor's School for the Blind has offered to format the music for us.

Special thanks were extended to all involved with the North Carolina High School All-State Choral Festival held in Greensboro, North Carolina on January 26 and 27, 2007. It was a success with wonderful performances by all three choirs and conductors. Dr. Kenney Potter, from Wingate University conducted the 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> grade chorus, Dr. Carol Krueger from the University of South Carolina conducted the 11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> grade chorus and Dr. Hugh Ferguson Floyd from Oberlin College Conservatory of Music conducted the ACDA Women's All-State Chorus. Many thanks to the executive choral board for help with registration, logistics, set-up and walk through. Ken Brooks and Ron Vannoy did a great job as warm-up and walk-through conductors for each of the choirs.

Jane Woody was presented with a plaque of thanks and recognition for her years of service to the North Carolina High School All-State Festivals. Beverly Alt was presented as the new All-State

coordinator. Special thanks go to both these ladies for their time, efforts and talents given to this year's High School All-State.

State Solo/Ensemble Festivals, Large Ensemble Festivals and Workshops went well this year. Thank you to all site hosts for their efforts and time spent in this endeavor. Special thanks to Ed Yasick for his incredible organization and hard work in making sure all festivals flowed smoothly.

**David Dobbins** (Middle School Choral) reported the following:

**District Festivals** - All festivals have been successfully completed, with no significant problems reported. After this year's focus on financial solvency of festivals, there was considerable effort put toward "breaking even" at each site. At least one site was switched from two days to one packed day, since there were fewer than 30 groups. As of the writing of this report, not all festivals have reported their financial statements to the Student Activities Chair, so the complete financial picture is yet unavailable. Sites are also still in the process of reporting scores. That information will be forwarded to the appropriate parties when available.

**All-State** - Preparations for the May 18-19 event at the Greensboro Coliseum are in full swing. This year's clinicians are **Lisa Fredenburgh** from Meredith College (SATB choir), **Sandy Holland** of the Charlotte Children's Choir (6<sup>th</sup> Grade choir), and **Tony Guzman** of Luther College (SSA Choir). All registered schools have received their numerical allotments, information packets, schedules, rules/regulations forms, medical emergency forms, music lists, and rehearsal CDs. Coliseum has requested the NCMEA Certificate of Insurance to be registered with them. Reta has forwarded this to them confirmed that it has been processed. Next year's date has also been reserved with the coliseum. (May 16-17, 2008)

**Other Issues—(old business)** - Regarding the previous issue over which children may participate in All-State or Honors Chorus auditions--in an effort to reach a consensus regarding these situations, we need to pro-actively 'draw a line,' and at the same time deter controversies, bad publicity or the possibility of lawsuits. Section chair (Dave Dobbins) has consulted with M.S. board and come up with the following policy:

Middle School and Jr. High students may register for and/or participate in Honors Chorus auditions and in All-State Chorus, given that all registration requirements are met as defined on current event registration forms, as well as in the Middle School Section's annual newsletter, on the NCMEA website, and in the NCMEA constitution. This shall include, but may not be limited to the following conditions:

- Students are currently enrolled in a Middle School or Jr. High School or enrolled in an alternative educational setting at a parallel age/grade level to Middle School/Jr. High.
- Students are currently enrolled in, or are registered members of an active chorus. An active chorus is defined as a group of student-singers who have a publicized, set schedule of regular rehearsals and public performances. There are clear policies in place as to the requirements for participation and/or the academic grading policy. The chorus has a director and/or teacher who is responsible for rehearsal, performance, and rules/regulations/guidelines for student participation.
- The employed, appointed, or publicized director of the chorus must be an active member of NCMEA (paid, up-to-date membership) as of the time of both event registrations and the actual event.

The hiring/receiving of private voice/musical instruction does not qualify as membership in an “active chorus” as defined above. All-State and Honors Chorus are **choral music** festivals. Students who receive private vocal/musical instruction from an instructor can be registered (by their instructor) for performance/adjudication at their local NCMEA District Solo/Small Ensemble Festival- given that the instructor is an active member of NCMEA (paid, up-to-date membership) as of the time of both event registrations and the actual event. The instructor will then be registered as the student’s sponsor, and must accompany the student to the event.

**Conference** - Plans are currently being made (among section officers) for 2007 Conference. Several guest lecturers and clinicians will present on subjects such as teacher’s vocal health, improving musicianship during choral rehearsals, and of course, the latest literature. Featured guest/clinician will be Vijay Singh.

**Orchestra** (Scott Laird) reported that the NCMEA Orchestra Section has been busy during the winter and spring of 2007. Both the Eastern and Westerns Regions have successfully held the following events:

- Eastern Regional Orchestra Auditions, Kristin Stiteler, chair, Joli Robinson, host
- Eastern Regional Junior Orchestra Auditions, Wendy Steslicke, chair and Janice Swoope, host
- Western Regional Auditions, Sabrina Howard, Chair
- Eastern Regional Orchestra Auditions, Kristin Stiteler, chair, Joli Robinson, host
- Western Regional Junior Orchestra Auditions, Britany Green, chair, Andrea Jackson, host
- Eastern Regional Orchestra, Kristin Stiteler, chair
- Western Regional Senior Orchestra, Sabrina Howard, chair, Appalachian State University, host
- Eastern Regional Contest/Festival, Barbara Smith, chair, NC Wesleyan College, host
- Western Regional Contest/Festival, Donny Walter and Amanda Turner, chairs
- Both the Eastern Junior Orchestra Festival, Wendy Steslicke, chair, and Ruth Johnsen, host, and Western Junior Orchestra Festivals, Britany Green, chair and host, are coming up on May 4/5.

All of the events have been successful and membership has worked together to ensure an overall quality experience for the students.

**Collegiate** (Jane McKinney) reported that President Carl Cruthis met on March 23<sup>rd</sup> at UNCG with CMENC members from three colleges to plan events for the upcoming NCMEA Conference. The students will be planning sessions on musical theatre production, world music, Orff, conducting, first year teaching, dynamics of the job interview, and contemporary a cappella groups. The students also discussed requesting the participation of college and university ensembles in a statewide tour of public and private schools during Music in Our School Month.

**Higher Education** (Bill Myers) alerted Board members to improvisation and reading skills addressed by the NAEP assessment.

**Andy Carter** (Jazz) reported that membership in Jazz Section has tripled since the inception of this new section, with significantly increased festival participation. Carter requested assistance identifying a high school jazz choir for conference performance.

**Sonja Williams** (Nominating Committee) presented the following slate of candidates for NCMEA leadership: President-Elect, David Albert and Libby Brown; Secretary, Jessica Traversino, Susan Trivette, and Marsha Vanderwerff; and Member-at-Large, Sharen Hart, Jason Thompson, Susan Mills, and Windy Fullagar. Scott Laird moved to accept the proposed slate of candidates, Bill Meyers seconded, and the motion passed.

Based on committee recommendation, **Susan Hensley** (Music Education Advocate Award) presented Bob Buckner (Director of Athletic Bands, WCU) as recipient of the Music Education Advocate Award. This recommendation passed.

**Wendy Cooper** (District 3): Cooper reported on various events occurring in this District 3.

**Carol Earnhardt** (Ruth Jewell Scholarship Chair) reported that the Committee reviewed 8 applications and unanimously recommended Amanda Robbins, a junior at UNCG, to receive the Ruth Jewell Scholarship. This recommendation was approved.

**Dave Albert** (Constitution) indicated that an updated, accurate Constitution of the main NCMEA by-laws will be available for discussion at the August Board meeting.

**Libby Brown** (Information Services) alerted the Board to her continuing work to provide an updated list of North Carolina music teachers and contact information.

**Gloria Knight** (Multicultural Awareness) reported that Dr. Susan Mills will serve as the clinician for the Multicultural Section for the NCMEA 2007 Conference. Dr. Mill is the Music Educator Coordinator from the Appalachian State University. She will present two sessions featuring South African Music.

**Lisa Qualls** (MIOSM) explained that the Music In Our Schools Showcase is a program designed to spotlight school music programs, recognize superior performances, and promote the importance of music education during March, Music In Our Schools Month<sup>®</sup>. Voting for the 2007 Showcase occurred March 1 – March 15, 2007. Voting was open to members and nonmembers. The entries that received the most votes at each level and the favorite overall were announced March 19, 2007. At the time of her report, she was uncertain of the level of participation among students and teachers in North Carolina.

Lisa emailed approximately 300 Elementary Music Teachers soliciting feedback about the Music In Our Schools Month Showcase. Their responses were varied including the following:

- “My chorus members really enjoyed the elementary chorus videos, seeing other elementary schools with so many instruments, and singing along with Simple Gifts, which we prepared to sing along. I think it really inspired my students of the possibilities of interpreting music. “
- “The voting aspect was very good by linking current cultural trends with music education.”
- “The transition from WLC format to Showcase was awkward.”

The following recommendations were made by several teachers.

- 1) MENC place the music videos on **their** website and use RealPlayer for viewing the videos because You Tube is blocked on many school computers.
- 2) Provide a downloadable DVD of the Showcase on the MENC website. You Tube does not allow videos to be downloaded.

The Young Professionals' Symposium is scheduled for November 11-13, 2007 during the NCMEA In-Service Conference. High School juniors and seniors interested in pursuing music education as a career are encouraged to send in their application for this year's Symposium. The application is posted on the NCMEA website and can be down loaded very easily. The application deadline for the Symposium is June 15, 2007. Directions for filing the application are printed on the application.

The Symposium will begin Sunday afternoon, November 11<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 and conclude Tuesday morning November 13<sup>th</sup>. Students will be paired with a collegiate mentor while at the conference. As a participant in the Symposium, students will have opportunities to attend concerts, visit exhibits, attend a variety of sessions, including three sessions designed especially for them. They will have the opportunity to talk with music educators presently teaching chorus, band, orchestra, or general music. The students will also be recognized at the Awards Banquet Monday evening, November 12, 2007. Rising Seniors need to come prepared with music to perform. Assistance will be provided as they prepare for their college audition.

The students will have several options related to hotels for lodging. Students participating in the Symposium will need to pay for their hotel room and meals during their stay in Winston Salem. NCMEA will provide dinner for the students Sunday and Monday evening. Breakfast will be provided Monday morning.

Students will be notified when their application has been received and processed. In August, students and directors will receive a packet containing detailed information about this year's Symposium. Lisa encouraged those with questions to contact her.

**Marsha Vanderwerff** (General Music) reported that 2007 is a text book adoption year for music around the state. Music teachers have been meeting with our two music text book publishers, Silver Burdette, and McMillan-McGraw Hill to advise and evaluate. The McMillan McGraw Hill series was unique this year offering a virtual text book, interactive CD-rom component. North Carolina was one of only three states across the nation to have this special technology component developed for us. The statement below explains it further:

North Carolina has a rich musical heritage that teachers are obligated to share with students. In order to help teachers satisfy these requirements, Macmillan/McGraw-Hill created a comprehensive North Carolina in the Spotlight package consisting of both traditional (print) and CD-ROM components. The product was developed with input from a teacher advisory board in North Carolina, authors specializing in music pedagogy, ethnomusicologists, technology developers, and The Hal Leonard Corporation. The CD-ROM component incorporates audio,

video, interactive animations, student materials, teacher materials, and resource materials all in one easy-to-use format.

Teachers who served on the advisory board spent 3 days providing advice and feedback to the company and the result is really something we can be proud of. It is nice to know that North Carolina music education is on the cutting edge of technology and with these new textbooks can really enhance student learning in tomorrow's classrooms.

North Carolina music educators also had a hand in improving and advising on the new Silver Burdette edition as well. Many advances were made to make materials and resources for teachers readily available via the World Wide Web.

Plans for the 2007 NCMEA convention are underway. Suggestions for clinicians are being accepted. So far, Jeff Kriske and Randy Delelles are possibilities as well as Phyllis Weikart. The office of General Music is interested in the needs of the membership. Marsha indicated that feedback from the Board and membership are important, and asked to be notified of any specific concerns or needs.

**Dan Johnson** (Research) reported that as the chair of the research committee, he collaborated with the Higher Education and Teacher Education committees to arrange for Dr. Chris Azzara from the Eastman School of Music to present at the 2007 conference. In the spring issue of the NCMEA Journal, he plans to make the initial call for research posters to be presented at the conference and will follow up with email reminders in the fall. In the journal, he will also submit a synopsis of selected research presentations for another installment of "Research Reconsidered."

Also at the conference, there are tentative plans to introduce a different format for the poster session which has proven successful at other state conferences, and which has the support of NCMEA researchers. Pending logistic arrangements with the hotel staff and any input from the NCMEA board, the research posters will be displayed near the food court so that they are more accessible throughout the conference. Researchers will present their research in that area at the appointed time and answer any related questions. Hopefully, this presentation format will raise the level of awareness and appreciation for NCMEA research.

**Brad Gully** (Tri-M) reported on continued recruitment efforts for new Tri-M members. Events for Tri-M membership will be planned for the NCMEA conference.

**Victor Hebert** (Technology) reported that technology will again have 11 plus workshop sessions for the upcoming conference. Saturday will again be a big day for hands-on experiences, as will Sunday. Monday will be devoted mainly to workshop sessions rather than laboratory experiences. Again this year, Apple Computer will support our conference by supplying computers for our on-site lab (Music Technology Learning Center-MTLC). Soundtree is also supporting our conference again this year and will probably furnish that lab hardware and software and keyboard controllers. New this year will be participation by M-Audio. M-Audio has become a leader in Music Technology for education. Additionally, since Korg, M-Audio, Sibelius, Pro Tools, and several others are now under one umbrella, our workshop offerings will veer away from notation to more audio, video, and educational perspectives. Last year, there were almost fifty workshops on music notation. That will probably change this year to make room for more audio, especially music recording and podcast creation. Additionally more

software is expected to be available in the lab than last year. Saturday is fast emerging as the hands-on segment of our program. In sum, there will be 11-13 technology sessions and 10-12 hands-on periods that will mostly be "open" MTLC sessions.

**Teresa Allred** (Barbara Bair Award) recommended that E.J. (Wilton Earl) Mitchell from Glenn High School receive the Barbara Bair Award. This recommendation was approved.

**Rue Lee-Holmes** (Honor Superintendent) recommended Dr. Terry Holliday, superintendent of Iredell-Statesville Schools, as recipient of the Honor Superintendent Award. This recommendation was approved.

**Sonja Williams** (Bill McCloud Scholarship) recommended Amanda Robbins from UNC Greensboro as recipient of the Bill McCloud Scholarship. This recommendation was approved.

**Fran Page** (Hall of Fame) reported that no nominations were received for the Hall of Fame Award. Andy Carter made a motion that the deadline for this award be extended to the August meeting, Bill Myers seconded the motion, and the motion was approved by the Board.

**Christy Howell** (SDPI /Government Relations) reported the following:

**1. NCDPI REPORT:**

• **NC: THE STATE OF THE ARTS IN 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY EDUCATION**

The NC: The State of the Arts Conference (held in Charlotte March 29-31, 2007) provided a wonderful opportunity to bring together all facets of the arts community to focus on educating the whole child in and through the arts. Thank you to all those involved, including the sponsors, partners, presenters and local host committee members who made this conference a success. There is much work ahead to ensure that arts education- that is, sequential, discipline-based delivery of the NC Standard Course of Study in dance, music, theatre arts and visual arts, by licensed arts educators in K-12 schools-- is part of a rigorous, comprehensive and balanced curriculum for all children. Leaders in the arts, including NCMEA members are encouraged to use the outcomes of this opportunity to forge a vision for the future of arts education in North Carolina. Stay tuned to NCMEA Coalition reports for conference follow-up initiatives, and ways that you can become involved.

• **2008 GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL AUDITIONS**

The NCDPI Exceptional Children Division is working on scheduling performing/visual arts auditions for the 2008 Governor's School program to be held on the campus of Meredith College in Raleigh. Please note that auditions will be held on two separate dates due to space availability and that every effort is being made to avoid statewide conflicts.

**2. GOVERNMENT RELATIONS REPORT:**

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

1. The State Board of Education met in Raleigh April 4-5, 2007. For Discussion was GCS 11 – Future-Ready High School Core Curriculum Framework  
Presenter(s): Dr. Rebecca Garland (Executive Director, Office of the North Carolina State Board of Education)

Description:

The North Carolina State Board of Education in December 2006 directed Board and Department of Public Instruction staff to conduct a series of regional meetings on the future-ready high school core curriculum framework that the Board adopted. This information item will provide feedback to the Board from the series of regional meetings on this topic. Notes from the minutes of the SBE meeting regarding this discussion are as follows:

**Discussion/Comments:**

- After providing an overview of the feedback gathered from the regional meetings, Dr. Garland stated that the Board was asked to provide additional public meetings. She suggested a highly structured clarifying session provided in three venues across the state prior to the Board's action on this item.
- Superintendent Atkinson concurred that there is a need for another round of face-to-face and/or a satellite delivered meeting to garner support for higher standards. In addition, she recommended that the Board seriously consider the timeline.
- Board members agreed that according to the feedback there is a lot of misinformation across the state regarding the proposed curriculum.
- Mr. Wayne McDevitt shared a newspaper headline entitled the "State School Plan Facing Opposition." He then shared the irony of the next day's article which spoke about manufacturers waiting to fill top jobs citing that the traditional trades have gone high tech and a machinist, for example, needs to understand trigonometry to master today's computers and most manufacturing jobs require advanced math and physics. Lt. Governor Perdue asked Mr. McDevitt to share a copy of the referenced article with Board members. A brief discussion and other examples were shared about the disconnect existing in today's business and education communities in terms of the need for a seamless transition.
- Chairman Lee remanded the whole framework and information from the public meetings back to the Globally Competitive Students Committee for further work to be brought back to the Board for consideration when the committee determines it is ready for further discussion and action. In addition, the committee chair, Ms. Taft, will invite and engage any dialogue she determines appropriate to come back with a proposal. There were no objections from board members to proceed in this manner.
- Chairman Lee charged the Globally Competitive Students Committee with the expectation of its work around the core curriculum to consider, as a part of its deliberations, whether to delay the implementation timeline and, if so, to justify their conclusions and recommendations brought forth to the Board for action.

Further, he stated that the committee should pay special attention to the following areas:

- **Including the arts and CTE as a part of the core curriculum**
- Clarifying the math sequence while being realistic in terms of the approach of the math sequence
- Clarifying the opt-out feature

- Incorporating second languages (alternative approaches especially in the elementary school years and how that might fit in as a part of any proposals the committee brings forth relating to the languages)

In addition, he recommended that the committee provide a complete list of endorsements.

## 2. STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION CONSIDERING REVISIONS TO FUTURE-READY CORE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

After gathering extensive stakeholder input on potential new high school curriculum requirements, the State Board of Education has directed its Globally Competitive Students Committee to consider potential changes to the framework that the Board first approved in December 2006.

Since early February, State Board of Education members have been traveling across North Carolina to host eight regional meetings on the framework, which has come to be known as the Future-Ready Core. The framework is a core of 17 courses Board members had identified as critical to student preparation for the economic and societal demands of the 21st century. In addition to these 17 courses, the Future-Ready Core requires an endorsement of at least four units in one of the following: Career Technical Education, Arts Education, Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (JROTC), Advanced Placement/Internal Baccalaureate, second language, multidisciplinary or other.

In sending the Core framework to its Globally Competitive Students committee, the Board leadership asked that that the committee look at four issues:

- the appropriate effective date for these changes;
- how the mathematics requirement sequence should be structured and a proposed opt-out policy;
- how second language learning could be effectively addressed in grades K-8, and
- the possibility of adding course requirements for the arts and for Career Technical Education.

These four issues were consistently mentioned by participants in the eight regional meetings and represent primary concerns voiced by education associations and other stakeholder groups.

"We held the regional meetings to hear from our stakeholders, and we are listening to their concerns and ideas," said State Board of Education Chairman Howard Lee. "We are especially eager to ensure that the timeline for implementing new high school curriculum requirements is on target. I believe that raising standards for high school is important so that all students are well-prepared for adulthood, but we also have to build in time to prepare teachers and students to meet the higher standards. That is very important to our success."

The original framework approved in December 2006 was scheduled to go into effect with the students entering ninth grade in 2008-09. Board members have been hearing that this timeline is too aggressive for local schools and districts to be ready for success.

The Future Ready Core includes the following items:

4 units of English

4 units of mathematics

3 units of science  
3 units of social studies  
2 units of a second language  
1 unit of health/physical education  
4 units in an endorsement area (Career Technical Education, Arts Education, Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (JROTC), Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate, second language or other).

This course list is nothing new for many students with college or community college aspirations, but for students in the Career Course of Study, it increases the mathematics requirement from three courses to four and adds second languages. For students in the Tech Prep Course of Study, this list would add second language and one math course to their current requirements. The Core raises the number of required courses from 20 to 21 for all students except for Occupational Course of Study students.

In addition to the courses required in the Future-Ready Core, students would also have a number of elective courses to choose. The exact number of electives varies depending on the high school schedule and how many potential courses can be taken in a given year. On a block schedule, which is commonly used across North Carolina, students could have as many as 11 more courses to take during their high school career.

The Globally Competitive Students committee of the State Board of Education will meet again on May 1 to consider the Core and potential changes to it.

For more information, please contact the NC Department of Public Instruction Communications division, 919.807.3450.

### **3. NCAE PASSES BUSINESS ITEM SUPPORTING ARTS EDUCATION REQUIREMENT FOR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION**

According to Karen Archia, Media/PR Coordinator for the North Carolina Association of Educators (NCAE), NCAE passed a new business item that supports art(s) education as a requirement for high school graduation beginning 2008. Below is the text of the business item:

“The 2007 NCAE Representative Assembly directs the NCAE leadership to advocate for an arts requirement on the high school level by lobbying the State Board of Education to include arts in the new graduation requirement which will begin in 2008.

Rationale: The arts are universally proven to teach innovation, creativity, collaboration and critical thinking skills, thus making the arts a valuable asset in the educational process. The No Child Left Behind Act, Section 9101, recognizes the arts as a core academic course, so it should be included as a graduation requirement. A study conducted in 2005 showed that students who have four years of arts in high school scored 87 points higher on the SAT than those students who only had one-half year or less. Since the SAT scores play a vital role in college admissions, the arts help prepare our students for college. Furthermore, the arts are influential in lowering the dropout rate. Studies have shown that only 1.4% of students with high arts involvement are likely to

drop out of school by grade 10, compared to students with low arts involvement, who show a dropout rate of 4.8%.”

#### 4. NCPTA CALLS FOR FUNDING FOR ARTS EDUCATION

According to the NCPTA-R-2006 Resolution, the NCPTA “Calls on state legislators to fully fund arts education programs in grades k-12 in all counties; that our PTA membership advocate for arts education with school administrators and boards of education, and other individuals that may influence and/or develop beneficial school policies relevant to arts education; that PTA membership advocate for reasonable and equitable conditions for arts teachers to include adequate resources, appropriate schedules, and reasonable teaching loads to facilitate them to adequately deliver and assess the comprehensive Standard Course of Study in the areas of dance, music, theatre arts, and visual arts; calls on state legislators to ensure that a unit of credit in arts education be required for graduation from high schools across the state in keeping with the majority of other states who already have this requirement;

##### **HELPFUL LINKS:**

- <http://sbepolicy.dpi.state.nc.us/> - Each month SBE Highlights keeps you informed about the decisions made and actions taken by the North Carolina State Board of Education.
- <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/legal/> - Links to education statutes, policies, a full explanation of the disciplinary process, and more
- <http://sbepolicy.dpi.state.nc.us/> - State Board of Education Policy Manual
- [http://www.ncpublicschools.org/sbe\\_meetings/index.html](http://www.ncpublicschools.org/sbe_meetings/index.html) - Meeting dates, agendas and executive summaries for SBE meetings
- <http://www.ncga.net> – NC General Assembly

Jenny Davis: not here

**Anne Goss** (District 2) reported that Cleveland County High and Middle School Choral Clinic Concerts will be held at Barnes Auditorium, Kings Mountain High School on February 15, 7:00 p.m.

**Adam Joiner** (District 4) reported the selection of Carol Earnhardt as Teacher of the Year at Glenn High School.

**Jason Thompson** (District 7) reported that students from across Guilford County auditioned for and participated in *On Stage!*, a showcase of the county’s most talented cultural arts students. This event was presented by The Guilford Education Alliance and Guilford County Schools and occurred April 19 at 7 p.m. at the Greensboro War Memorial Auditorium. The talent showcase highlighted the artistic ability of students in the district and also served as a fundraiser to support the missions and initiatives of the Guilford Education Alliance and arts education programs within Guilford County Schools.

Students from the following schools participated in the event: Alamance Elementary, Alderman Elementary, Bessemer Elementary, Bluford Elementary, Jesse Wharton Elementary, Parkview Elementary, Peeler Open Elementary, Pilot Elementary, Wiley Elementary, Eastern Middle, Kiser Middle, Lincoln Middle, Penn-Griffin School for the Arts, Welborn Middle, Andrews High, High Point Central High and Page High. Pam Farlow, Arts Curriculum Specialist for Guilford County Schools, coordinated the event.

This year's Penn-Griffin School for the Arts' dinner theatre was a tremendous success. Students in a variety of areas throughout the school participated in the production along with business partner POLO Ralph Lauren. The dinner theatre show occurred Tuesday, February 20 with dinner being served before the 7 p.m. performance.

Mrs. Winner's restaurant catered the dinner and the school orchestra and ninth-grade piano student Brian Castro provided dinner music. Visual art students created table decorations and CIS students served as wait staff for the evening. POLO Ralph Lauren employees provided and served dessert. Following dinner, students from Penn-Griffin took the stage in the areas of dance, chorus, band, guitar, piano and orchestra. All performances celebrated Black History Month.

The 2007 Elementary All-County Chorus for Rockingham County Schools occurred Friday, March 2. The event brought together selected students from 10 elementary schools for a time of music making and learning of advanced repertoire. Brett Nolker, Assistant Professor of Music at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, served as the clinician.

For her commitment to arts education, Paula Owens, elementary music specialist at Morehead Elementary, is the 2007 Arts Education Teacher of the Year. Guilford County Schools (GCS), the United Arts Council of Greater Greensboro (UAC) and Kindermusik International, Inc. sponsored the award. Mary Beth Boone, elementary art specialist at Summerfield Elementary and Lennis Cooper, Jr., choral director at Mendenhall Middle School, are the two finalists.

Board Chairman Alan Duncan presented all three recipients with a certificate at the Guilford County Board of Education meeting on March 29 from the board in appreciation of their teaching excellence. Additionally, Owens received a plaque and \$1,000 for professional development. Boone and Cooper each received a plaque plus \$300 to use toward professional development.

**Marie Riedesel** (District 8 President) indicated that a District 8 report would be sent.

**Linda Boltz** (District 11 President) reported that during the spring, she encouraged her district members to brag on themselves, their students, their schools, and their school districts. It is well known that arts organizations do a marvelous job of bringing positive recognition to all our schools and districts. Here are some recent examples from District 11:

- Millbrook HS Madrigal Singers, (Megan M. Bender, Choral Director) went to the Heritage Festival in Williamsburg April 12-15. In addition to winning the Chamber Choir division with a Gold rating, and being invited to perform at the Heritage Festival of Gold next spring, they won the *Spirit of Festival award, which goes to the group who best represents their school and community* at the festival. In order to be chosen for this

award, the festival director spoke to hotel management, adjudicators, festival staff, and bus drivers.

- Holly Springs High School Band (Michael E. Biasi, director) in its first year has accomplished some feats. They have only 9th and 10th grades. Two students were selected 1st and 2nd Chair Alto Saxophonists in the 9/10 Central District Wind Ensemble, and the same positions in the 9/10 North Carolina Honor's All-State Band. One of these same students was selected to attend the Interlochen Music Academy in Michigan this summer. Holly Springs Concert Band earned a Superior Rating at North Carolina Music Educator's State Festival in March.  
Michael E. Biasi, Department of Fine Arts Chair, Director of Bands,
- The Wake High Schools are combining with the North Carolina Master Chorale and are presenting the Mozart Requiem at Meymandi Concert Hall on April 22nd. The students will also do 1 song as their own choir, under the direction of Dr. Al Sturgis.

**Altravise Terry** (District 12 Substitute) reported that elementary schools in District 12 reported events that celebrated the Music during Music Our Schools Month. Students were presented stickers, asked to write papers, create posters and perform for parents and friends.

Many of the schools participated in the choir and band festivals; while some counties hosted solo and ensemble, honors band, honors choir weekends to provide opportunities for their students to perform. Guest clinicians and adjudicators helped to make the weekend a success.

Elizabeth City State University, North Carolina Central University, Winston-Salem State University, North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University, St. Augustine College and Shaw University, visited many of the high schools in the district allowing students to audition for music and band scholarships.

Four students from Southeast Halifax High School will attend Elizabeth City State University on music scholarships and one student from Northwest Halifax High School will attend WSSU on a music scholarship. Several students from Rocky Mount High School will be attending college on Music Scholarships.

Mr. William Woods, Director of Bands St. Augustine College, served as clinician for Rocky Mount High School.

Dr. Kenneth Ruffm Director of Bands at NCA&T, provided a recruitment concert on the campus of Southeast Halifax High School for students in Northampton, Halifax, Wilson, Edgecombe, Halifax and Nash Counties. There were approximately 150 students in attendance.

Mr. Jorim Reed, NCCU Director of Bands, provided a one-day clinic for the students at Northwest Halifax High School. He spoke with the students about attending college and worked through the music for the spring concert. He invited the students to participate in the NCCU Annual Band Blast, a day packed with music and fun.

During the earlier portion of the semester, percussion instruments and flags from the fall semester were seen in many gymnasiums. Winter Drum line and Auxilery Contest were hosted at Rocky Mount High School in Rocky Mount – Hosea Brower, Director of Bands, Southeast

Halifax High School –Derek Wiggs Director of Bands, Northwest Halifax High School – Teicher Patterson, Director of Bands.

Conway Middle School hosted a Gym Battle of the Bands to defer cost of expense for the band program. Altrovese Terry serves as Director of Bands

The Music Educators in District 12 are currently working on Spring Concerts, Theme Park Competitions and Festivals, Graduation and Community Performances.

Rocky Mount High School – Tuesday, April 24, 2007 7:00pm – Rocky Mount High School  
Northwest Halifax High School – Thursday, April 16, 2007 6:30pm

Chaloner Middle School - Tuesday, May 8, 2007 - Roanoke Rapids High School 7:00pm  
Roanoke Rapids High School - Thursday, May 17 - Roanoke Rapids High School 7:00pm.

Roanoke Rapids High School will host the Eastern North Carolina Band Festival on Saturday, September 22. In addition to the competition format, we have added a clinic-style component. All bands will get 30-45 minutes to spend with a music judge in a rehearsal or feedback setting. Those interested in attending should contact Brian Myers via email, [myersb.rrhs@rrgsd.org](mailto:myersb.rrhs@rrgsd.org).

Jewel of the Millennium Band Festival will be held at Northwest Halifax High School on October 13, 2007 at 11:00am. Band will receive video and audio tapes, for details, contact Teicher Patterson, [mrmusiceastman@yahoo.com](mailto:mrmusiceastman@yahoo.com) or (252)586-7077

The Northampton County High School East will host the 3<sup>rd</sup> Marching Empire Band Festival in October. Please Contact Ferdinand Cooper for details at Northampton County East High School.

**Brad Staley** (District 14) reported that concern has been raised in District 14 regarding some schools losing music students due to AP courses (in non-music subjects) being scheduled year-round. These AP courses were designed to be taught in one semester, but some principals have allowed teachers to mandate that students stay in them for an entire year. This causes some students to have to drop performance-based music classes to get their AP credit. In smaller high schools with only one section of a course, this is hitting hard.

### **Old Business**

President **McKoy** alerted the Board about continued inconsistencies between Sections related to student-sponsored activities. McKoy requested that Section Chairs be prepared to investigate and determine alignment of policies between Sections at the August Board meeting. McKoy reminded the Board that applications for awards and scholarships are due to scholarship/award chairs by April 1. Current information regarding awards and scholarships will be placed on the NCMEA website.

### **New Business**

President **McKoy** reminded Board members that, as of July 1, 2007, a lodging cap of \$100 exists for clinicians. Expenses beyond this should be approved by the Executive Director in advance. McKoy announced that a meeting of the Student Events Committee will be held on Friday prior to the Fall Board meeting to discuss consistency in Sections' policies and procedures, including adjudicators' and clinicians' fees.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m. Board members were invited to visit the NCMEA office immediately following the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,  
Maribeth Yoder-White (for Debbie Jones)

**Attendance**

Connie McKoy, President  
Jerry Cribbs, President-Elect  
Marie Riedesel, District 8 President  
Victor Hebert, Technology Chair  
Maribeth Yoder-White, Past-President  
Brad Gulley, Tri-M Chair  
Rue Lee-Holmes, Honor Superintendent Chair  
Sonja Williams, Member-at-Large, Bill McCloud Scholarship Chair  
Ann Huff, Choral Section Chair  
Dave Dobbins, Middle School Choral Chair  
Barbara Geer, Conference Chair  
Lisa Qualls, MIOSM/Young Professionals Symposium Chair  
Wendy Cooper, District 15 President  
Altrovis Terry, District 12 President (substitute)  
Susan Hensley, Music Education Advocate Award  
Anne Goss, District 2 President  
Eddie Adams, guest  
David Brooks, guest  
Teresa Allred, Barbara Bair Award  
Lorna Graves, District 6 President  
Carol Earnhardt, Ruth Jewell Scholarship Chair  
Adam Joiner, District 4 President  
Dave Albert, Band Chair (substitute)  
Lynda Boltz, District 11 President  
Jane McKinney, CMENC Chair  
Andy Carter, Jazz Education Section Chair  
Jennifer Walter, Exceptional Children Chair  
Marsha Vanderwerff, General Music Chair  
Hazel Chapman, Elementary Section Chair  
Amy Daw, Coalition Chair  
Mark Propst, Arts Coordinator  
Libby Brown, Information Services Chair  
Fran Page, Hall of Fame Chair  
Christie Lynch Howell, NCDPI/Government Relationships  
Jason Thompson, District 7 President  
Scott Laird, Orchestra Section Chair  
Bill Myers, Higher Education Section Chair  
Reta Phifer, Executive Director