



1991-2019



ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS SMALL SCHOOL BANDS

In our 28th year of service to small school bands in Texas

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ATSSB NEWSLETTER

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December 1, 2018



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President's Column

by Mike Bartley



I really do not know how to start this particular article other than to jump right into marching band. I have to say it has been an amazing year and I want to say congratulations to all of the bands that participated at the UIL State Marching Contest this year! I would like to give the medalist bands big congratulations: Canton

HS (who I am very partial to and extremely excited about), Argyle HS, North Lamar HS, Valley Mills HS, Sundown HS, and Thorndale HS. The level of competition gets greater every cycle and I am so excited to see what the future brings!

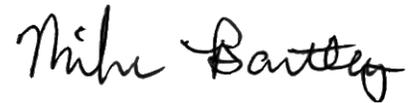
I hope all of you had a great break at Thanksgiving and had a chance to get some rest to reenergize for the VERY BUSY marathon to Christmas. I know we have All-Region auditions, three concerts, and a parade before we are out. I have a feeling everyone is in a similar situation and holding on for dear life! Throw in some EOC's, Christmas parties, and many other distractions, and I know we all will be ready for the next break! I hope we can all take some time to enjoy the season and share some moments with our family and friends.

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(President's Column, continued from Page 1):

Please do not forget that Solo and Ensemble Contest is around the corner. Now might be a great time to get the music out for the students to practice over their break. I know our entry deadline is the week we come back, so we have to move now in order to have everything in place. I'm sure everyone has turned their attention to concert season, so for those of us who go early, the deadline for that will be shortly after we return to school as well. It is hard to think about how quickly these contests come every year, but they have a way of sneaking up on us!

Again, I want to wish everyone the best throughout this time of year as it truly is the most wonderful time of the year! I hope to see you in San Antonio at TMEA!!



State Jazz Coordinator Column

by Brian Donnell

Congratulations to everyone around the state whose schools participated in this year's Region, Area and State Jazz Band process! I heard from many regions about the wonderful clinics and concerts their students had during the fall.

Thank you to all the directors who adjudicated the Area recordings in November. I know that's a lot to do when so many are involved with state marching.



For those who have students in the All-State Jazz Band, you should be receiving emails from Mark Conaway about specifics in February. Please respond as needed, especially to his plea for chaperone help during the rehearsals. The students should have their music to practice and will be expected to have listened to recordings before arriving in San Antonio. Chris Bruya, Central Washington University, has selected terrific music for the clinic!

There are a few tweaks to the audition process that I will present to the SARC in February, but I encourage you to email or call me if there's something you would like to see put in place.

The audition music packet for 2019-2020 will be available from Buddy Mattei in late February.

As always, it's an honor to serve our membership, and I'm available if there's anything I can do to help with the jazz band portion of our association.

And be sure to come hear the band on Saturday, February 16, at 11:30 a.m. in the Hemisfair Ballroom 1 of the Convention Center!

Sincerely,



President-Elect Column

by Eric Gray

Hello all from the East Texas Piney Woods! We just finished our 2018 football season, endured 2 lightening delays, a Buckeyes stop in the middle of the night and have returned home to the band hall at 4:00 on a Saturday morning, a few hours before the annual community Christmas Parade and festivities. Hallelujah, where's the Tylenol?

A big congratulations to all the wonderful bands that advanced to the area and state level of the UIL Marching Contests! Keep setting the bar high for yourselves and your students! You guys are truly a model of marching and playing at the very highest level.

By now I am sure you and your students are busy preparing for the many wonderful holiday performances, all-region auditions, solo & ensemble preparations and have begun looking at spring performance opportunities. Be sure to take some time for yourself and your family this Christmas season and reflect on the true meaning of the season and why we do the things we do for our students and communities. I know if you are like me, sometimes we get so busy with the things that we must accomplish each and every day, that we forget to share our appreciation with the people we work with and the people that love us regardless of how the band performed at halftime last night! Let me encourage all of us this holiday season to make a special effort to reach out to those around us and make sure they know how much we appreciate their presence in our lives.

As TMEA convention is rapidly approaching, we are busy preparing the panels for the All State Band auditions. Thank you to those of you that have already volunteered and those of you that are in the process of being asked! One of the changes we have in place is starting the auditions in San Antonio at 5:00 this year. This is one hour earlier and should ensure that the auditions are completed before the first scheduled rehearsal that night. It will also give the students a chance to eat before that rehearsal instead of having to wait until very late in the evening. If you have a student that advances to the state level this year, be well aware of the changes in the schedule and make sure that everyone is in place at the earlier time frame than we have used in the past.

On a final note, a big thank you goes out to Kenneth, Mike and the entire Executive Board for working with me during my very brief term as President Elect. It has truly been an eye-opening experience as to how much work it takes to keep this organization operating in the manner of which it was created. The amount of behind the scenes work and organization is staggering! When you run into these people throughout the year, be sure to tell them how much we all appreciate their time and effort. I know I have been guilty of taking all this for granted in the past and getting to see everything "behind the scenes" if you will, has changed my perspective yet again. I am truly honored and humbled to be here and look forward to seeing you in February!



ATSSB at TMEA

Wednesday, February 13, 2019

- Check in at Registration in the Hyatt Regency Los Rios Foyer at the top of the escalator (bring signed and notarized medical release and one copy of the signed Code of Conduct, pick up badge and late-breaking information) beginning at 1:30 p.m., then check into the hotel (or whenever rooms are cleaned and ready for occupancy)
- All-State student meeting 4:30 p.m. in the Hyatt Regency Ballroom B
- Chair auditions begin in the Hyatt Regency at 5:00. Also, the All-State Jazz Ensemble begins rehearsals in the Hyatt Regency Rio Grande Ballroom at 5:00.
- Organizational Rehearsal of ATSSB All-State Symphonic and Concert Bands 8:30-10:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 14, 2018

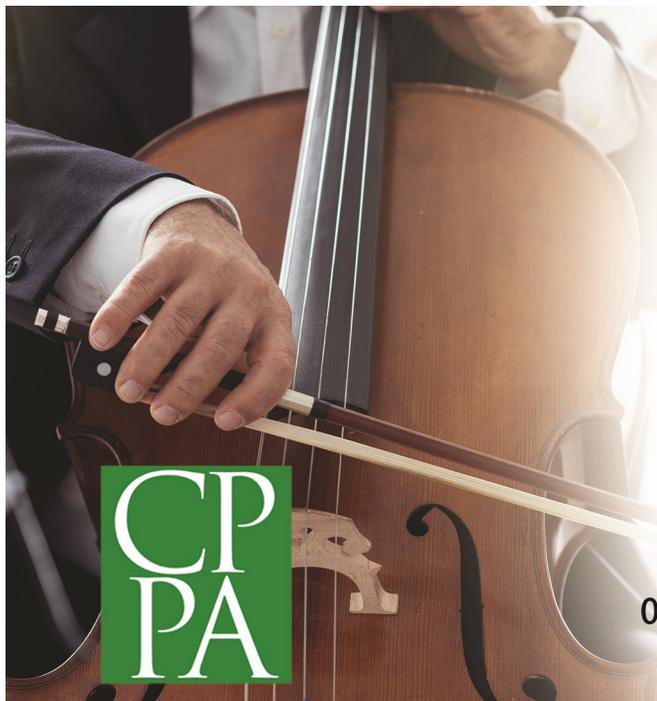
- ATSSB State Board of Directors breakfast meeting at 6:30 a.m. in the Menger Hotel
- Section Rehearsals Thursday morning

Friday, February 15, 2019

- ATSSB General Session and officer elections in CC 225, 1:00 p.m.
-

Saturday, February 16, 2019

- ATSSB Concert and Symphonic Bands Concert at 9:00 a.m. in the Lila Cockrell Theatre (open to the public with no admission charge - no tickets required) - Symphonic Band is scheduled to start at 10:00 but may be earlier or later - immediately after the Concert Band performance and Scholarship recognition.
- ATSSB All-State Jazz Ensemble Concert at 11:30 a.m. in the CC Hemisfair Ballroom 1 (open to the public with no admission charge - no tickets required)



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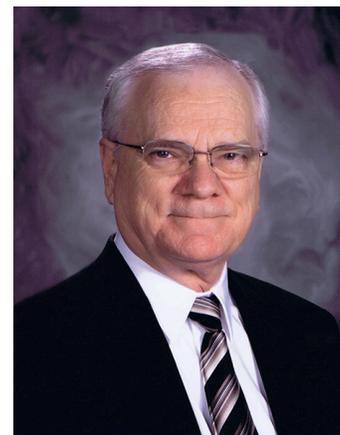
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Executive Secretary's Column by Kenneth L. Griffin

I hope the ATSSB audition process went well for all of you at the region level and that you are looking forward to Area January 12. When you go to Area, make sure you have paid the \$25 Area fee (most regions collect that and send one check).

There are no forms to take to Area. Students selected to State will receive a login from TMEA (through their band director) after Area with which they download the Medical Release (needing signatures and a Notary Public) and a Code of Conduct (needing signatures) that they must bring to registration on Wednesday of the clinic. Be sure you make hotel reservations for your students that make the All-State Band (including the students selected to the 2019 ATSSB All-State Jazz Ensemble), and that you make housing plans for their Designated Chaperones using the housing worksheet provided before January 15 (see sample in this Newsletter on pages 16-17). One director per room will go online to reserve the rooms for all students and their Designated Chaperones (who must stay at the same hotel as the student they are chaperoning).



I would like to take this opportunity to thank Marilyn Bennett for her service to ATSSB the last two years as Class 1C Representative to the ATSSB State Board of Directors. Also to Angie Liss as Class 3A Representative. A State office is a time-consuming but necessary role that they took on their shoulders to keep our Association strong and current in our small schools. They also contributed as members of the Executive Committee as it met to accommodate the needs of students and their directors in the interim between State Board of Director meetings.

You will find a schedule of rehearsals and performances for our All-State groups in this newsletter. Notice that the schedule is subject to change and will be kept up to date at:

<http://www.atssb.org/execsec/2019Rehearsals.pdf>

Please make an effort not only to thank our Licensees for their support, but also to use their services. These companies have paid a fee and are under contract to use the ATSSB logo and marks on their products. They pay a portion of their receipts to the ATSSB All-State Band Scholarship Fund. Please consider using them before any other companies offering the same or similar products. See the list elsewhere in this Newsletter. Also, be sure to ask anyone selling items at ATSSB activities (region concerts, etc.) if they are official ATSSB Licensees. This brings up a point regarding recorded examples of ATSSB audition music. The only officially approved recordings are those by Licensees. We realize some college and university faculty members make recordings, but you need to be careful they do not use their own editions or interpretations utilizing individual editorial changes that might confuse the student when auditioning. Check to be sure the recordings are provided by official ATSSB Licensees before purchasing them. Not only will you be maintaining consistent recording and performing standards, you will also be supporting our Scholarship Fund since Licensees pay a royalty on all sales to the Fund.

Remember that All-State students are required to bring their own wire stands to San Antonio. **Music stands will not be provided** in chair auditions or in rehearsals (TMEA will provide music stands in the Lila Cockrell Theatre and the Hemisfair Ballroom 1 for the concerts on Saturday). It is also recommended that students bring their personal tuners to rehearsals (clinicians have asked for that a number of times in the past). Our Band Organizers will have a limited number of wire stands for sale

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(Executive Secretary's Column, continued from Page 5):

prior to auditions and at rehearsals.

A reminder about piccolo and E \flat clarinet: If your flute or clarinet player makes the All-State Band at the Area auditions January 13 and would like to play piccolo (flutes) or E \flat Soprano Clarinet (clarinets), have them bring these instruments to San Antonio. After regular chair auditions are completed for flute/clarinet, we will hold separate auditions for these two instruments in each band from among those students interested in it that were selected for their respective bands. A notice concerning this policy will be placed in the flute and clarinet links they will receive at Area this year if they are selected for the All-State Band. Piccolos and soprano clarinet players will audition on the actual piccolo or soprano clarinet parts.

Remember that we will be using the TMEA housing forms and reservation procedures at Area. Look over the Housing Quick Guide from TMEA at www.atssb.org/QuickHousingGuide19.pdf and make yourself familiar with the requirements (it is also in this Newsletter on pages 21-22). It is pretty simple, really. If you have a student (or students) make the All-State Band at Area (or already have an All-State Jazz Ensemble student), go to the housing table and get with other directors to fill out a room worksheet, putting four students to a room where possible (TMEA will combine others that are incomplete after Area). Make sure you also put a Designated Chaperone in a room at the bottom of the worksheet for each student listed. Decide who will go online before January 15 to reserve the room, using a credit card to make the reservation (you can pay individually using a school check at checkin). We hope this process goes smoothly for you, but feel free to ask questions at Area if you are uncomfortable with any of the procedures. If you have already made reservations at another hotel and must stay at the Hyatt Regency as a Designated Chaperone, you can cancel the other reservation (there will be no cancellation fee if you reserved the room through the TMEA housing process and you cancel the other reservation by January 25).

We plan to hold our ATSSB Business Session in room CC225 of the Convention Center at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, February 15. Elections for Class 1C, Class 3A Representatives to the State Board of Directors and President-Elect will be held at this meeting. I hope you can make plans to attend this year. Remember that proxies are not allowed in these elections. A short biographical sketch and picture of each candidate for state office who has submitted documentation can be found in this Newsletter. If any are missing, check back because biographies and/or pictures will be added if and when the candidates have submitted the information to this office.

When you get a chance, be sure to thank our Region and Area Coordinators for their efforts in securing audition sites, hosts, audition chairmen, computer equipment and logistics, etc. Also, let's not forget to thank our State Chair Audition Coordinator (Eric Gray of Gilmer) and all of his helpers and judging panels in advance of the work facing them as the two bands are seated; also Collin Anderson from Groesbeck for serving in the State Chair Auditions Office this year. Our All-State Symphonic Band Organizers (Justin Wallis, Anna), All-State Symphonic Band Percussion Organizer (Curtis McCarthy, Anna), All-State Concert Band Organizer (Brian Sours, Tenaha), All-State Concert Band Percussion Organizer (Brian Straw, Henderson), Apprentice Organizer (Luis Zepeda, London) and All-State Jazz Ensemble Organizer (Mark Conaway, Sunnyvale) still have a job ahead of them. The convention-clinic and concerts will take a LOT of preparation, advanced planning and organization. Rehearsal and performance space has been arranged for all three organizations, chair audition rooms arranged with screens, tables and chairs before chair auditions begin on Wednesday night, programs have to be completed, badges for the students have to be secured and sorted, not to mention many other activities taking place in the background as we prepare for the clinic. All of the

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(Executive Secretary's Column, continued from Page 6):

people involved give so much of their time to make it a success. It would not be possible if it weren't for their dedication to the profession and the students in the All-State Bands who benefit from their efforts. Everyone associated with the audition process owes a great deal of gratitude to TMEA Deputy Director Frank Coachman for his untiring efforts on behalf of all Texas musicians. He has been an invaluable friend to ATSSB for many years now. We are all fortunate to have him as a colleague and friend as we strive to better our students musically. We also appreciate Andrew Denman, TMEA Information Technologist, for his efforts to keep the audition tabulation software in top form.

Since this will be our last communication before San Antonio, let me address those of you who will have students in the All-State Band for the first time. Please remember that many are in the "big city" for the first time. They will need frequent contact with you to allay their fears and keep them focused on their role as they represent not only ATSSB, but also their bands, school and community. Drop by rehearsals often, especially at breaks, to see that they have a place to go and that they know what they may do in their free time. It also helps to have directors observing rehearsals at all times. Not only do we learn good rehearsal techniques from our fine clinicians, but also we can act as a restraining presence to students who might otherwise allow their attention to drift during rehearsals. There is certainly nothing wrong with leaning over a student with a cap on and quietly asking him or her to remove it - or watching a section and noticing a student talking in a distracting manner and quietly asking them to stop. Our Organizers are with the band almost constantly, but we cannot expect them to be there every minute nor expect them to see every infraction of rehearsal protocol. Try to drop by and give a listen - and a hand.

Our corporate supporters are so consistent in their desire to help provide shoulder patches and "breakout" refreshments for the all-state students. They will be recognized in the all-state programs, but I just wanted to say an additional "Thank You" to them in advance for their contributions to the continued success of the ATSSB All-State Band. The Elmer and Anita Schenk Family Trust made a sizeable donation to ATSSB a number of years ago that is now in a brokerage account from which earnings provide the all-state programs each year. Thank you, Founding Charter Member Elmer Schenk, for your thoughtful gift to ATSSB.

Be sure to visit with your Region Coordinators about issues you wish addressed at the State Board meeting coming up. Make your opinions about issues confronting ATSSB known to your representatives to the State Board so they can be discussed with a consensus from the membership.

Thanks to all of you for your continued diligence and hard work on behalf of the students in our small school programs. Keep up the great work.



The ATSSB Newsletter is the official publication of the Association of Texas Small School Bands. Articles of interest to small school band directors will be published. Letters to the Editor from members will be published if signed, although writers may remain anonymous by request. Send all inquiries to ATSSB, 2117 Morse Street, Houston, Texas 77019; fax them to 713-874-1151, or email them to the Executive Secretary at atssb@att.net with appropriate attachments. Advertising is accepted for the Newsletter. See the Advertising Policy on our website:

<http://www.atssb.org/execsec/AdPolicy.pdf>

ELECTION

Class 1C and Class 3A Representatives to the State Board of Directors and President-Elect for 2019-21 will be elected in the ATSSB General Session on Friday, February 15, 2019 at 1:00 in Room CC225 of the Convention Center (check the convention program to be sure of the meeting room and times which may change as the convention approaches). Nominees who submitted a biography and/or picture by the time of publication follow below. Only current Retired and Active Members actively involved in 3A high schools (including their junior high directors) may vote on 3A Representative. Only current Retired and Active Members actively involved in Class 1C junior high schools may vote on 1C Representative. Any current Active Member may vote on President-Elect.

Class 1C Representative

Marilyn K. Bennet is the director at Olney Middle School in Region 7. Completing thirty-one years of public school teaching, Mrs. Bennett has previously taught in the Palacios, Munday, Holliday, and Dalhart (Texas) school systems as assistant band director, woodwind specialist, and elementary music specialist.

While teaching in Munday, the Purple Cloud Band was a state finalist in the State Marching Contest numerous times, a finalist in the TMEA Honor Band Competition, and was named a finalist several times in the ATSSB Outstanding Performance Series. The Munday High School Band also received the distinction of being named the 1994 and 2000 TMEA Class A Honor Band. Under her direction, the second varsity band at MHS received excellent ratings, as did the Munday Middle School Band.

Mrs. Bennett is a member of Phi Beta Mu International (Alpha Chapter), TMEA, TBA, NBA, ATSSB (Class C/CC, Class C Representative), Women Band Directors International (Immediate Past-President, President, International Board Secretary, JH/MS Contributing Editor and Texas representative), Pi Kappa Lambda, Mu Phi Epsilon, Music Educators National



Conference, and Fellowship of Christian Musicians. She has also been a member of the Texana Community Band (Edna), Etesian Winds, North Texas Directors Band, the North Texas Church Orchestra, and the Falls Chamber Orchestra. She is also a life member of Tau Beta Sigma and the Tri-M Music Honor Society.

Mrs. Bennett currently serves as Secretary for TMEA Region VII and Region VII North Zone All-District Band. Previously she served as a member of the State Board of Directors of TMEA for sixteen years (1990-2005), Regions II and XIII Secretary, Region II North Zone Secretary, and as secretary to the TMEA Regions II and XIII Band Division Chairmen. She has also served Regions II and XIII as secretary to the ATSSB Region Coordinator. In addition, Mrs. Bennett served as Region XIII Junior High Region Band Coordinator and clinic host for various district and region events. She is the founder and organizer of the Red River Sixth Grade Honor Band, which includes students from the North Zone of Region VII.

Mrs. Bennett received both Bachelor and Master of Music Education degrees from Midwestern State University (Wichita Falls). While at MSU, she studied with the late William Boyer (double reeds and conducting), Norval Crews (clarinet and saxophone), and the late Myrna Brown (flute).

Honors include Who's Who in Mu Phi Epsilon, Outstanding Young Women of America, Notable Women of Texas, Who's Who among America's Teachers (1998, 2002, 2004, 2005), TMEA Honor Band Director

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(Nominees, continued from Page 8):

(1994, 2000), and Outstanding Young Women of America. Mrs. Bennett was the recipient of the National Band Association Citation of Excellence in 2000. She was given the prestigious honor of the Bell Award in May, 2007 while teaching at Palacios High School and received another Bell Award in May, 2013. Women Band Directors International presented their notable Silver Baton Award to her in December 2017. Mrs. Bennett was also named Co-Citizen of the Year in 1993 by the Munday Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture.

In addition to school activities, Mrs. Bennett has participated in church activities, including Sanctuary Choir, director of the handbell choir, children’s choir, and Vacation Bible School. She has also been involved in various community activities.

Mrs. Bennett has been married to husband and band director, Rodney, for thirty-eight years, twenty-nine spent teaching together in the same schools. Mrs. Bennett has one son, Ronnie, lead minister of the One Community Life Church. Ronnie resides in Wichita Falls with his wife, Ashley, daughter Ezra England (8), and son Jude Jackson (10). Daughter Emma Grace (20) is a student at Texas Tech University.

In her leisure time, she loves to read, garden, cook, sew, and complete needlework projects and other crafts.



Julie Cook is the director at Howe Middle School in Region 24. She received a Master of Music Education from the University of Oklahoma in 2005. She taught in Junction from 1999-2005 and Howe from 2005 until the present, a class C school in Region 24/25. She is a member of ATSSB, TMEA, and TBA.

Julie has been married to Morris Cook for thirty-five years and they have three grown children - all of whom have graduate degrees:

Taylor, 4th year dental student at UTHSCSA; Talitha, band director in Littlefield; and Kayla, RN/BSN Nurse at JPS in Fort Worth.

She has served as Middle School All-Region Coordinator for Region 24, on the State Audition Review Committee, and was chair of the President-Elect Search Committee for ATSSB this past summer.

Julie was named Teacher of the Year in 2012-13 and has helped to cultivate multiple All-State students from Howe, assisting with multiple trips to the State Marching Contest. Her middle school bands have been finalists in 1C Honor Band numerous times and is a consistent OPS finalist.

“I would love to serve the state of Texas, in particular the class 1C bands as their Representative to the State Board. I feel as though the experience I have gleaned in my career will help propel the future of our great organization forward.”



Shannon Landrum is the director at Tenaha Middle School in Region 21. She received her Bachelor of Music Degree from the University of Texas- Arlington in 2009 where she performed with the marching and concert bands, was the clarinet section leader, and chapter president of Tau Beta Sigma-Gamma Nu. Ms. Landrum completed her student-teaching under the direction of Kathy Johnson at Argyle ISD and Valarie Howell at



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(Nominees, continued from Page 9):

Bedford Junior High. Shannon is originally from Shawnee, Oklahoma and graduated from Prague High School where she was a three-time small school all-state student.

Ms. Shannon Landrum is in her tenth year teaching, and began her teaching career at Port Arthur ISD. Shannon moved to Beaumont ISD in 2010 as an assistant band director at Odom Middle School, teaching a wide range of beginners and non-varsity bands. She became one of the district's curriculum writers



and organized an after-school private lesson program for students. She served on the District Education Improvement Committee and became a Mentor Teacher through Lamar University. Shannon also performed with the Calvary Baptist Church Orchestra in Beaumont for several years. Ms. Landrum taught the following years as the Director of Bands in Gruver, Texas and Hinton, Oklahoma where her bands received superior ratings. Shannon completed her Masters of Education in Administration Degree from Lamar University in 2015.

Currently under Ms. Landrum's direction, the Tenaha Middle School Band has received back-to-back UIL Sweepstakes Awards for the first time in history and Shannon was awarded the Tenaha ISD "Rising Tiger" Award of 2017.

Ms. Landrum believes that she is a qualified candidate for this office because she has spent 10 years teaching middle school bands and a wide range of students at Title I Programs. She understands the challenges

faced by middle school directors and would like to encourage and support other directors in educating young musicians across the state of Texas. Ms. Shannon Landrum would appreciate your consideration for the position of the 1C Representative for ATSSB.



Gina Muela is the director at Littlefield Middle School in Region 16. She is currently in her 17th year in Littlefield and 16th as the head director at Littlefield Junior High.

Gina started her teaching career in Van Horn and then moved to El Paso, where she assisted at Hanks High School and taught beginning band at Glen Cove and Tierra Del Sol Elementary Schools. She continued her teaching career at Eldorado Middle School (Schleicher Co. ISD) for 4 years and Eldorado High School for 8 years. The Mighty Eagle Band was a consistent sweepstakes winner and made two appearances at the state marching contest, placing 3rd



in 1999. During her years as the MS director, she had the privilege to work with Mike Marsh, her former band director from Clint. Her first year at Eldorado was also the first year of the ATSSB organization and it was an honor to be working behind the scenes during this momentous occasion.

Gina returned to teaching her preferred teaching age when she accepted at a job in Littlefield. While here, the Maroon Honors Band has been UIL Sweepstakes winners for the past eleven years and have been chosen

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(Nominees, continued from Page 10):

as Best In Class for the Greater Southwest Music Festival in 2011, 2013, 2015 and 2017. They have also been finalist in Class C TMEA Honor Band in 2011, 2013, 2015, and 2017 and have been on the OPS recordings in 2010, 2012, 2013, 2014, and 2016.

Gina received her Bachelor of Music Education from Baylor University where she was a student of Dr. Richard Shanley and Michael Haithcock. She is a member of ATSSB, TMEA, TBA and Phi Beta Mu. She also serves as the Region 16 3A/4A Middle School All Region Band organizer.

“As a middle school director, I firmly believe that my responsibility to my students is to prepare them for their high school band experience. The success of the high school band is directly related to the knowledge that the incoming freshmen bring in every year.”



Dean Weber is the director at Canadian Middle School in Region 1. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree from McMurry University in Abilene, Texas in 2006. Upon graduating, he began teaching at Cisco as the assistant director. While at Cisco, the middle school began competing in UIL and earned their first sweepstakes award. After five years at Cisco, he went with his wife to Canadian to become the assistant director of the Canadian Wildcat band from 2012 to present.



As the middle school director of the Wildcat band, he has placed at the state

level of the ATSSB Outstanding Performance Series contest and his bands have received contiguous Sweepstakes Awards since 2009. He has served as a member of the teaching staff for the McMurry University marching percussion camp from its inception in 2009.

Mr. Webber is a member of TMEA, ATSSB, Salyers Percussion Education Team and has served as Percussion Coordinator for Region 1 Middle School Symphonic Band.

He and his wife Jennifer have two children: 8-year-old Derek and 15-month-old Dawson.



Class 3A Representative

Stephen Cox is the director at Eastland High School in Region 7. He graduated from Howard Payne University with a B.M.Ed. and taught at New Braunfels Christian Academy from 2010-2012 and Eastland High School from 2012 until the present. He is a member of ATSSB, TMEA and TI:ME and has served ATSSB as Region 7 Jazz Coordinator. His Eastland band was the 2018 3A OPS Concert winner and was presented at the 2018 Midwest Clinic. He is listed in SBO Magazine as one of 50 Directors Who Make a Difference as the 2016 Texas representative.



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(Nominees, continued from Page 11):

“Our small school kids can do anything, but their frequent lack of opportunities make them feel disadvantaged. I believe it is our job to show them that a small school experience is a gift and not a handicap. ATSSB is all about giving great opportunities to small school band programs and I would like to be an advocate and servant to that cause.”



Angie Liss is the director at Howe High School in Region 24. She is a graduate of Howe High School where she was a band member (flute) under the direction of Elmer Schenk. She attended Baylor University on a piano scholarship for two years before transferring to Texas Woman’s University where she graduated with honors with a degree in Music Therapy. Ms. Liss worked for 6 years as a music therapist in various capacities including inclusion classrooms and self-contained campuses in the Arlington and Allen Independent School Districts. During those years she was also very active as an accompanist for several DFW metroplex band and choir programs. She continues to serve as an accompanist, not only for her church, but also for many area band and choir students.



She is in her 25th year in the Howe ISD, starting as an assistant band director under Elmer Schenk in the fall of 1994 before being named the head band director in the spring of 2005. Howe H.S. bands have been

very successful in their 40+ year existence as a program including 33 sweepstakes awards, 21 appearances at the state marching contest and numerous finalists in the TMEA Honor Band.

She and her husband, Andreas, live in Howe where they spend what little extra time they have working around the farm and at their church. They have four grown children; Erica (University of Arkansas) is an Algebra 2 teacher at Fayetteville (Arkansas) High School. Her husband, Matt, also a graduate of the U of A, works as a healthcare and wellness manager at Mercy Hospital in Fayetteville. Russell (another Razorback alumni) is employed as a software engineer at the Cerner headquarters in Kansas City, Missouri. Tyler is a field service specialist with Cameron-Schlumberger in San Antonio and Blake is a GIS engineer for Oncor in Dallas.

“My desire to serve again as your 3A Representative is to continue to be involved in the ever-changing complexion of the small school band. My heart truly has a passion for students and I will always work to do all that I can to help foster their opportunities in music and support you as you work for your students as well. Thank you for your consideration on this year’s ballot.”



Brad Long is the band director at Kountze High School in Region 10. He is in his 26th year of teaching, previously serving as director of the Kountze Middle school band for fourteen years, Director of Bands at Hardin High School for seven years, and as assistant band director at Kirbyville High School for three years. He graduated from Karnack High School and received his Bachelor’s Degree in Music Education from Lamar University.

(Continued on Page 13)

(Nominees, continued from Page 12):

His wife, Melissa, also teaches at Kountze High School. His daughter, Brittany, is working on her Bachelor's Degree in English Literature at McNeese State University and plans to continue her education, pursuing a college teaching position. In his spare time, he enjoys cooking, playing golf, and spending time with his dachshund, Rey.

While teaching in Kountze his bands have received many honors. Under his direction, the Kountze Middle School band earned numerous sweepstakes and placed in both OPS State and TMEA State Honor Band Finals.

While serving as Head Band Director for Kountze High School his band advanced to UIL Area Marching Contest, received sweepstakes, and advanced to the OPS State Finals. He also had four students place in the ATSSB All-State Band, with one student placing in the 4A-All State Band.



He is a member of ATSSB, TMEA, TMAA, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, and Kappa Delta Pi International Educational Honor Society.

"My high school band director, Melvin Reddic, was like my dad. When I look back on my career, I pray that I can say that every student I influence can use what they learn to improve their life in some way. I look forward to bringing that level of compassion and concern for all students involved with ATSSB."



Cari Martin is the band director at Teague High School in Region 8. She and her husband, Chris, have two children: Eli and Sydney.

She graduated from Crowley High School and earned a BME (Instrumental) at Ouachita Baptist University and an M.Ed. in Educational Leadership from Stephen



F. Austin University. She served as Assistant Director and Colorguard/Twirling Sponsor in Fairfield 1997-2000, Crowley Middle School 2000-20001, Teague High School 2001-present.

She is a member of ATSSB, TMEA, TMAA, ATPE, Sigma Alpha Iota, TBA, and the SFA Honor Society.

Her bands in Teague have been consistent Sweepstakes, consecutive Area Finalists at the 3A SMC in 2015, 3A State Honor Band Finalist 2015-16, and State Finalists in the ATSSB Outstanding Performance Series in 2014.

"It would be an honor to serve in the capacity of Class 3A Representative. I am passionate about helping others and will work hard in this position. I truly believe in music education and what it can do for the life of a student. Any music ensemble is like a huge family and every student has an important role in the overall process. Students focus, helping others, leadership, skills, teamwork, time management, caring for others, striving for excellence, working towards achieving a common goal and students being a part of something bigger than themselves are all essential aspects of music education."



(Continued on Page 14)

(Nominees, continued from Page 13):

Jennifer Webber is the band director at Canadian High School in Region 1. She received a Bachelor of Music Education degree from McMurry University in Abilene in 2006. Upon graduation she worked for Hawley ISD for one year before joining her husband, Dean Webber, at Cisco ISD. While at Cisco, her bands were consistently in the State Finals of the ATSSB Outstanding Performance Series and received runner up in both the march and concert selection in 2011.



In 2012 the band finished fifth in the TMEA Honor Band Competition. After Cisco, Mrs. Webber and her husband went to Canadian Texas to become the directors of the Canadian Wildcat band. Mrs. Webber is in her seventh year at Canadian High School. In that time the band has been in the State Finals of the ATSSB Outstanding Performance series several times. The band received ninth place in the 2013 TMEA Honor Band competition in class 2A, seventh place in the TMEA Honor Band Competition in 2016 in class 2A, and 10th place in 2017 in class 3A. The marching band also advanced to the 2017 class 3A State Marching Contest.

She has served as guest conductor for the McMurry University summer music camp and Junior High Symphonic band clinician for the region 16 and region 6 all-region bands. She is a member of ATSSB, TMEA and Alpha Chi and has served as ATSSB Region 1 Symphonic Band Coordinator for the past five years.

Mrs. Webber resides in Canadian Texas with her husband, Dean, and their eight

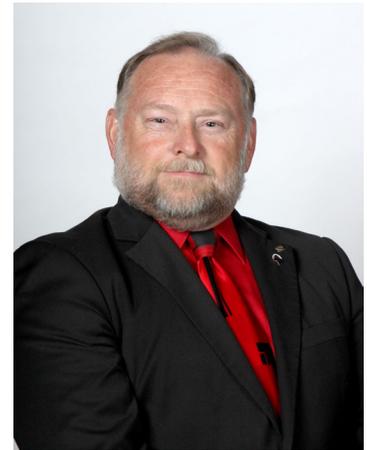
year old son Derek and their fifteen month old son Dawson.

“It would be an honor to serve as the Class 3A Representative to the State Board of Directors.”



President-Elect

Rodney Bennett is in his thirty-seventh year of teaching and eleventh year as Director of Bands for Olney ISD in Region 7. He previously held the same position at Palacios ISD for three years and was Director of Bands for twenty-three years at Munday I.S.D.



Bennett holds Bachelor of Music and Music Education degrees from Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls and the Master of Music degree from Eastern New Mexico University (Portales).

Mr. Bennett currently serves as TMEA Region VII Band Chairman and served in this position for Region II from 1994-2005 and 2008-2014. He has also served in various capacities as Region and Area Honor Band host and Region, Area, and State Honor Band Judge. Bennett has also served as TMEA Region XIII Region Band Organizer and Region II North Zone A-AA-AAA District Band

(Continued on Page 15)

(Nominees, continued from Page 14):

Chairman. He was also a TMEA clinician at the 1994 and 2000 conventions.

Mr. Bennett currently serves on the TMAA Marching Band Adjudication Sheet Revision Committee. He has also served on several U.I.L. committees, including the U.I.L. State Marching Band Contest Revision Committee as the Class A Representative and the U.I.L. Sight-reading Committee. He has served on the TMEA Honor Band Revision Committee and now serves as the Region VII Band Division representative to the U.I.L. Music Advisory Committee. While at Munday, Mr. Bennett served as a member of the Munday High School Campus Improvement Team and on the Munday I.S.D. District Improvement Committee.

Mr. Bennett is a member of Phi Beta Mu (Alpha Chapter) and served as a Member At-Large on the International Board from 2009-2017. He has also served on the International Bandmaster of the Year and Texas Young Bandmaster of the Year Selection Committees, and chaired the Outstanding Contributor and Constitutional Revision Committees. Bennett was a clinician as part of a panel presentation on successful small school band programs at the Midwest Clinic in 2000 and 2004, both sponsored by Phi Beta Mu. He also performs annually at the Texas Bandmasters Association Convention as part of the Phi Beta Mu Reading Band.

Bennett is a member of the Association of Texas Small School Bands (ATSSB) and served as Class A Representative on the State Board of Directors (1994-1996, 2001-2002). Bennett has also been nominated several times for President-elect of ATSSB and continues to serve as a judge for Region, Area, and All-State tryouts.

He is also a member of the Texas Music Adjudicators Association, Texas Music Educators Association, Texas Bandmasters Association, American School Band Directors Association, and the National Band

Association. Since 1999, Mr. Bennett has served as Director of Doc's Oil Bowl Band (Shriners All-Star football game), and is the only remaining charter member of the group (founded in 1974). Bennett is a life member of Kappa Kappa Psi and holds a Faculty Life membership in the Tri-M Music Honor Society. He is also a member of the Fellowship of Christian Musicians, previously serving as an advisor to the Munday High School Chapter and current sponsor of the Olney High School group.

Mr. Bennett was recently selected as one of "50 Directors Who Make a Difference" by School Band and Orchestra magazine and featured in the December, 2018 issue. He was elected to the John Philip Sousa Foundation Legion of Honor in 2013 and was also the recipient of the UIL Sponsor of Excellence Award in the same year. Bennett was named to the Who's Who in American Education (1996-1997, 2002-2003), Who's Who Among America's Teachers (1992, 1998, 2002, 2005), TMEA Class A Honor Band Director (1994, 2000), and was named Co-Citizen of the Year in 1993 by the Munday Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture. He was honored in 1994 and 2000 by the National Band Association with a Citation of Excellence. Mr. Bennett was a 1996 recipient of a Texas Music Educators Association Scholarship for Graduate Study.

Under his direction, Munday High School Bands received nineteen consecutive first divisions in marching, fifteen Sweepstakes Awards, 1994 and 2000 TMEA Class A Honor Bands, finalists in the ATSSB Outstanding Performance Series from 1997-2005 (first place awards in 1999 and 2000). The Purple Cloud Marching Band was a U.I.L. State Marching Band participant nine times since 1987, and was selected as a finalist seven times from 1987-1999. State finalist bands in these years ranged from sixth place to two second-place finishes. The Purple Cloud Band performed at the Centennial

(Continued on Page 16)

(Nominees, continued from Page 15):

Parade to commemorate the centennial of the Capitol Building in Austin, Texas in 1988 as well as the re-dedication of the Capitol Building in 1995. Under his direction, the Munday High School Band served as a Texas representative to Washington, D.C. in 2004 as part of the ceremonies of the dedication of the World War II Veterans' Memorial during Memorial Day festivities. The Olney High School Band performed at the WWII Memorial in May, 2018 as part of the Memorial Day commemoration.

During his tenure at Palacios, the Fighting Sharks Band received the first U.I.L. Sweepstakes Award in ten years. The PHS Band advanced to the Area E U.I.L. Marching Contest, another first in a decade.

While in Olney, the band has received multiple Sweepstakes Awards and advanced to the Area Marching Contest in 2011, 2013, 2015, 2017, and 2018. The Olney HS Band qualified for the 2013 UIL State Marching Band Contest and was a 1A finalist. This marked the first time in 25 years that the Olney Band qualified for the UIL State Marching Band Contest. In 2015 the Olney HS Band was alternate to UIL State Marching Contest and participant in the 2017 SMBC. The band was also named a finalist in the 2015 TMEA Honor Band competition. The Pride of Olney has achieved nine Sweepstakes Awards, of which there have been seven consecutive honors (2012-2018).

Rodney is married to wife Marilyn (also a band director) for 38 years. Bennett has one son, Ronnie (lead minister – One Life Community Church) in Wichita Falls, Texas. Ronnie and wife Ashley have three children - Emma, Jude, and Ezra. Bennett is also a former member of the United States Marine Corps, member of the American Legion, and an avid railroad enthusiast.



Matt Knight is in his 26th year at Abernathy ISD where he served 3 years as the assistant before moving into the head director position. He grew up in Garland, Texas, graduating from South Garland High School in 1987. After earning his Bachelor of Music degree from Texas Tech University, Mr. Knight accepted the assistant band position under one of his mentors, Harold Bufe. Knight was



the 2009 recipient of the First State Bank Teacher of the Year Award and currently serves on the Abernathy High School Leadership Team. He is also a member of the Goin' Band Association and a former member of its board of directors (president for five years and on the board for 13 years). Knight has also served as music director/coordinator for his church and is an active member in the Abernathy community.

Professionally, Knight has maintained Abernathy's tradition of excellent with consistent sweepstakes bands. Abernathy has appeared numerous times at the area level of the UIL Marching Contest and was a 2005 State Marching Band Contest participant. Knight and the students of Abernathy have had multiple pieces advance to the state level in the Outstanding Performance Series

During his 11-year tenure as the Region 16 ATSSB coordinator, Knight has been instrumental in promoting opportunities for students to perform. Region 16 has gone from four all-region bands to seven and maintained

(Continued on Page 17)

(Nominees, continued from Page 16):

an all-region jazz band. With over 2500 students auditioning each year, approximately 850 of these students are placed in performance groups. Of these performing groups, Knight has been a host/coordinator for the A-AA All-Region Band for 23 of the last 25 years. He believes in leading by example and hard work being a good teacher.

In keeping with the spirit of student performance and growth, Matt's greatest local accomplishment has been in the arena of solos and ensembles through the qualification of over 1000 students in the last 15 years for the Texas State Solo and Ensemble Competition. Student opportunity and growth are paramount to Matt Knight surpassed only by his focus on relationships with students and colleagues. The two concepts of opportunity and relationship are the foundation for Knight's career and fuel his desire to represent small

schools on the state level.

On a personal note, Matt enjoys working with his wife of 20 years, Anna Jo, who is the elementary music teacher and an assistant band director in the Abernathy program. Their son, Keelan, is a junior at Abernathy. He is currently drum captain and is looking forward to pursuing a career in engineering or architecture following college.

"I am humbled to be nominated for ATSSB President-Elect. It would be an honor to serve the directors and students of small schools on the state level. I believe in the importance of opportunity for small school students and in the support of the small school director. I promise to bring a level head to the table but to lead with a passion for students and their directors. Thank you for the vote of confidence through your nomination."

Constitutional Amendment

ARTICLE II State Government

Change Article II of the By-Laws from:

SECTION 2.(d). VACANCY IN OFFICE. In the event of a vacancy in the office of President-Elect for any reason, the President shall appoint a nominating committee which shall have two weeks to solicit a minimum of two candidates for the office (including those names which appeared on the last President-Elect ballot). The Executive Secretary shall send a ballot by first-class mail to all Active Members of record. If there is no clear majority, the winner is the candidate with the most votes, provided the runner-up has a shortfall from 50% that is at least double that of the leading candidate; if there is no such candidate, then a second ballot will be cast by mail between the top two with the individual receiving a simple majority of the total votes cast being declared the winner.

To:

SECTION 2.(d). VACANCY IN OFFICE. In the event of a vacancy in the office of President-Elect for any reason, the President shall appoint a nominating committee which shall have two weeks to solicit a minimum of two candidates for the office (including those names which appeared on the last President-Elect ballot). The Executive Secretary shall send a ballot by first-class mail to all Active Members of record. If there is no clear majority, the winner is the candidate with the most votes, provided the runner-up has a shortfall from 50% that is at least double that of the leading candidate; if there is no such candidate, then a second ballot will be cast by mail between the top two with the individual receiving a simple majority of the total votes cast being declared the winner.

Rationale: Use of current electronic media negates the need for expensive mail ballots.

2019 ATSSB All-State Band Rehearsals

The Symphonic Band will rehearse in the Hyatt Regency East Ballroom at all times. The Concert Band will rehearse in the Hyatt Regency West Ballroom at all times. The Jazz Ensemble will rehearse in the Hyatt Regency Rio Grande Ballroom at all times, then the Convention Center Hemisfair Ballroom 1-2 on Saturday for a microphone check. Concert and Symphonic Band concerts will be in the Lila Cockrell Theatre on Saturday; Jazz Ensemble concert will be in Convention Center Hemisfair Ballroom 1-2 on Saturday.

WEDNESDAY, February 13, 2019: 1:30-4:30 p.m. Student check in at Registration in the Hyatt Regency Los Rios Foyer (top of escalator) - (bring signed and notarized medical release and one copy of the signed Code of Conduct, pick up badge and late-breaking information)

| | | |
|--|-----------------|---------------|
| Student Meeting in Hyatt Regency Center Ballroom | CONCERT BAND | JAZZ ENSEMBLE |
| Music Reading Session | 4:30 p.m. | 4:30 p.m. |
| Chair Auditions for Bands in Hyatt Regency | 5:00 p.m. | 5:00 p.m. |
| Organizational Rehearsal | 8:30-10:30 p.m. | |

THURSDAY, February 14, 2019:

| | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| Section Rehearsals (rooms TBA) | CONCERT BAND | JAZZ ENSEMBLE |
| Break | 8:15 a.m. | Rehearsal 8:15 a.m. |
| Rehearsals | 9:15 a.m. | 9:45 a.m. |
| Lunch | 9:30 a.m. | 10:00 a.m. |
| Rehearsal | 11:30 a.m. | 11:30 a.m. |
| Break | 2:45 p.m. | 2:45 p.m. |
| Rehearsal | 4:00 p.m. | 4:30 p.m. |
| Supper | 4:15 p.m. | 4:45 p.m. |
| | 6:00 p.m. | 6:00 p.m. |

FRIDAY, February 15, 2019:

| | | |
|-----------|--------------|---------------|
| Rehearsal | CONCERT BAND | JAZZ ENSEMBLE |
| Break | 8:00 a.m. | 8:15 a.m. |
| Rehearsal | 9:30 a.m. | 9:45 a.m. |
| Lunch | 9:45 a.m. | 10:00 a.m. |
| | 11:30 a.m. | 11:45 a.m. |

ATSSB GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING IN CONVENTION CENTER at 1:00 p.m., Convention Center CC225

| | | |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Rehearsal | 2:30 p.m. | 2:45 p.m. |
| Break | 4:00 p.m. | 4:15 p.m. |
| Rehearsal | 4:15 p.m. | 4:30 p.m. |
| Supper | 6:00 p.m. | 6:00 p.m. |

SATURDAY, February 16, 2019:

| | | |
|---|--------------|---------------|
| Meet dressed for concert in CC004 | CONCERT BAND | JAZZ ENSEMBLE |
| Move to Stage (Put belongings in CC005) | 7:00 a.m. | |
| Mike Check | 8:30 a.m. | |
| Concert | 9:00 a.m. | 11:30 a.m. |
| Post-concert reception for bands in CC005 (must vacate by noon) | | 12:30 p.m. |

This schedule is subject to revision. Please check the website for an up-to-date rehearsal schedule when available: <http://www.atssb.org/2019Rehearsals.pdf>

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Send \$22 for a recording of the 2019 ATSSB All-State Bands program recorded and digitally mastered. Add \$3 for shipping and mail to Probst Audio at the address below. Make sure you print your name and address and enclose payment. If you missed previous years' recordings, a limited number are available (be sure to indicate previous years' orders).

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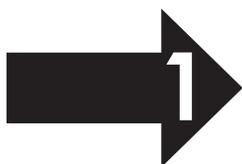
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A percentage of all proceeds are donated to the appropriate ATSSB scholarship fund.

19 ATSSB/TMEA

Online Entry: Jan 14–15 ONLY



Log In

Go to www.tmea.org/AShousing

Log in with your TMEA Member ID (your email) and Password



Choose Hotel/Enter Billing Information

Hyatt Regency will default as the hotel choice. Enter credit card information. *(Note: This credit card is used as a guarantee and can be changed/paid via any accepted means upon check-in).*

Click **Save Information**.



Verify Your Students

Click **My Student List** from the Navigation Links and verify that your All-State students are listed.

If they are not, contact TMEA, (888) 318-8632, x109



Create Rooms

Click **My Room List** from the Navigation Links

Select gender for the room occupants and click **GO**.

Your student list will display. Select students for the room and enter the chaperon's TMEA Member ID or 0 for a non-member.

Click **Create Room**.

*To find more students, click the drop-down to display students from your campus, district, region or Area. Click **GO**. To select someone who is not your student, **contact the director listed** to gain agreement.*



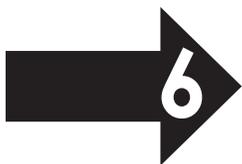
You MUST complete this step to have a chaperon hotel reservation!

Create Your Chaperon Room **(DON'T SKIP!)**

Go to the **Create a Room** section. Select Chaperon. Click **GO**. Enter your TMEA Member ID. You can enter other TMEA IDs or non-member names for this chaperon room.

Click **Create Room**.

*Only one chaperon room per school is allocated. Note: If another director entered your students, and you aren't sharing a chaperon room they create, **you must create your own chaperon room**. A room will not be assigned for you.*



Print Your Room List

Go to **My Room List** and use your browser Print to print this page for your records. You will be notified by Jan. 18 of room assignments.

Log Out of My TMEA.

Don't Lose \$50! When you submit your chaperon room via All-State Housing, a room will be reserved for you. If you previously made a reservation through the TMEA member housing system, you **must cancel it before Jan. 23 or you will be charged a \$50** cancellation fee! Go to www.tmea.org/housing today! There will be no exceptions made for this late cancellation penalty.

Room Planning — Complete before Jan. 14!

1. Once All-State students are named, work with other directors before Jan. 14 to plan rooms with four students.
2. Decide who will enter these rooms on Jan. 14–15 and take this page home to complete that entry.
3. Log in Jan. 14 to enter hotel choices, billing, and to enter these students into rooms.

*The housing system will allow you to select students assigned to you, or, from your campus, your district, Region, or Area. To select students other than yours, obtain agreement from their directors (their contact information will be listed with their students in the housing system). **The system does not automatically create chaperon rooms. Ensure you have one!***

Hotel Assignment (**Base Rate: taxes not included**)

Hyatt Regency will default as the hotel choice as all ATSSB students will be housed in the Hyatt Regency.

| Hotel | 4 people | 3 people | 2 people | 1 person |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Hyatt Regency | \$168/night | \$168/night | \$168/night | \$168/night |

Combine Students for 4-Person Rooms

If you are working with other directors to fill rooms, agree on who will enter the room and document who will be housed together to help facilitate that entry to the housing system. You will need the Member ID of each student's hotel chaperon (or enter 0 for non-members).

| Student | School/ISD | Chaperon ID |
|---------|------------|-------------|
| | | |
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| Student | School/ISD | Chaperon ID |
|---------|------------|-------------|
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| | | |

| Student | School/ISD | Chaperon ID |
|---------|------------|-------------|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

Combine Members for a Group Chaperon Room

If you are sharing a chaperon room with other directors, decide who will enter the chaperon room and note the directors' Member IDs here. You will enter the Member ID of each director sharing the chaperon room with you.

| Member ID | Name | School | District |
|-----------|------|--------|----------|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |