



1991-2022



ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS SMALL SCHOOL BANDS

In our 31st year of service to small school bands in Texas

2117 Morse Street Houston, Texas 77019 713-874-1151 atssb@att.net

ATSSB NEWSLETTER

Volume XXXI, Number 3

December 1, 2021 (updated 2-7-22)



IN MEMORIAM



Darin K. Johns

March 28, 1968-
November 19, 2021

Beloved band director at Andrews High School, ATSSB Region Coordinator from 2010-2020, ATSSB member from 1997, staunch supporter of small-school bands across Texas, Darin will be missed by all of the students whose lives he impacted, fellow colleagues with whom he shared a mutual love of teaching, administrators who admired his work ethic and professionalism, parents, family and friends who will no longer have his presence but will always carry his spirit.

So long, dear friend. Enjoy the music of the Spheres until we see you again.

President's Column

by Matt Knight

Happy Thanksgiving to ALL!

This is one of my favorite times of year. Lots of good food, good friends, time with family, and a little playoff football squeezed in. I know it was lots of fun in the Knight House, I hope it was the same in yours.

The year has flown by. I can't believe it is already December. Where has the time gone!! So excited to be having live events again! Looking forward to Christmas concerts, all-region auditions, church events and community Christmas events just to name a few. During this busy time, remember to enjoy not only your school kids but family. Work hard and make memories!

ATSSB is so proud all the great bands that competed at the UIL State Marching contest. Congratulations to Menard HS, Whiteface HS, and Irion County HS for earning medals in the 1A classification. In the 2A classification our state medalist were Tenaha HS, Shiner HS, and Plains HS. In the 3A classification our state medalist were Mineola HS, Whitesboro HS, and Queen City HS. In the 4A classification, our state medalists were Argyle HS, Canton HS and Melissa HS. It was

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truly amazing to watch all of these groups as well as the other great bands that were part of this contest. Each group represented what is great about Small School Bands in Texas!

It is hard to believe that TMEA is just around the corner. I know we are all looking forward to being back together in San Antonio for an "in person" convention.

I know we will enjoy all of the great clinics and concert that they will have available. Please make plans to attend the ATSSB General Session. This will let you keep up with the current events of ATSSB and give you a chance to vote in our state board elections. Make plans to attend the ATSSB All State Concerts as well. I know they will be outstanding once again and if you have not attended the ATSSB All State Jazz Band Concert, you are missing out. It is worth your time!!

I know we were all shaken by the bus accident involving the Andrews HS Band. I know we all share our sadness with the loss of Darin Johns, Director of Bands and Marc Boswell, their bus driver. I hope you will join me and continue to lift up in your thoughts and prayers the Johns family, Boswell family, as well as the Andrews Band and community as they grieve and move forward into their new normal.



Matt Knight

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:

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President-Elect Column

by Rodney Bennett

Where has the fall semester gone! It seems like yesterday was August 1 and were getting started with our shows. I hope your marching season went well and was a rewarding experience for your students, audiences, and yourself. Most of us have finished with marching band and are moving into holiday or winter concerts and audition season. For those of you who have the privilege of playoff football teams, enjoy the ride and have fun with you students. I know it's challenging to keep a marching show entertaining for the games while preparing for concerts and auditions.



I would like to congratulate all the bands who advanced to the UIL State Marching Band Championships, and especially the State Champions: Military Class: 1A/2A – Carlisle HS –Chris Clifton, 3A – White Oak HS – Jason Steele, 4A – Lindale HS – Steven Moore and Open Class: 1A – Menard HS – Lynsey Gold, 2A –Tenaha HS – Brian Sours, 3A – Mineola HS – Chris Brannan, and Argyle HS – Jason Bird. Congratulations on outstanding performances that showcased the talents of the small school students of Texas.

I am often reminded of why we are music educators. Seeing the joy in the eyes of a beginner who finally gets “how” to play eighth notes, or the high school student who understands being part of a musical experience that makes the soul sing. We all enjoy the accolades that come with success, but it is not the trophy or medal that really matters. It's the journey and musical growth that takes place daily in our band halls.

As this semester begins to wind down, I realize how fortunate we are that we have the opportunity to teach band at our respective schools and communities. I often do not take the time to thank the students for their daily work and the joys of making music with each other every day.

On a different note, please keep the Andrews Band and their families in your thoughts and prayers. This tragedy has touched all of us in some way or another and reminds us of how precious life is. Through our loss, let us remember how many lives Darin Johns touched through his career as a band director. Seeing posts on social media reminded me of the influence we have on our students' lives and the impact of our actions and words.

Finally, my sincerest wish is for all to have a peaceful, restful, and joyful holiday season.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rodney Bennett". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Immediate Past-President's Column

by Eric Gray

Time to reflect...as we celebrate the holidays and traditions often accompanied with said holidays, our thoughts go back to memories made through the years and the special people and times we have shared together. We have a large Christmas tree we put up in the band hall every year and I invite the seniors to donate an ornament to the tree with their name on it so through the years as we put up that tree, we can remember them and the great experiences we had together. I must admit it is one of my favorite things to do each year and am glad to announce that as of this morning the tree is up and brightly lit! Each ornament is a special reflection of the students that passed through the program over the years, and it truly is a labor of love.



Competitive marching season is over, playoff games still occupy our Friday nights, all region is in full swing and solos with ensembles are being prepared. You know as well as I do it never really stops but please take some time to enjoy the fall season with those you love. Time passes so quickly, and I believe we should always take every opportunity to share our lives and experiences with the people around us.

Let's all continue to remember the Johns family and the Andrews community in their time of grief and mourning. I was at a football game that Friday when I heard the dreadful news, and it truly shook me to the core. Our worst fear as adults who carry young people on buses all over the state and country had materialized that fateful day and we all will never be the same. Darin was such an advocate for students and ATSSB and will truly be missed.

We are so looking forward to the TMEA convention in San Antonio this February and the all-state groups that go along with it. TMEA continues to work to ensure a truly memorable all-state experience for the students and we thank them for that. Let me encourage you to attend the clinics, watch a rehearsal or two, go to the meetings and participate and especially reach out to colleagues and friends and re-connect! We are still experiencing the effects of the pandemic shutdowns, so again as we reflect on our relationships and experiences this time of year, don't forget to make new ones. If you are an "experienced" educator, reach out to the younger generation with encouragement and help. Reach out to the people in your district that you don't see daily and see if you can meet a need in their lives. Find someone that lives in your neighborhood and take them so Christmas cookies!

Speaking of thankful, two of my band students who have cooking in a barbecue competition just brought me some of the results of their work...I love my job!!!

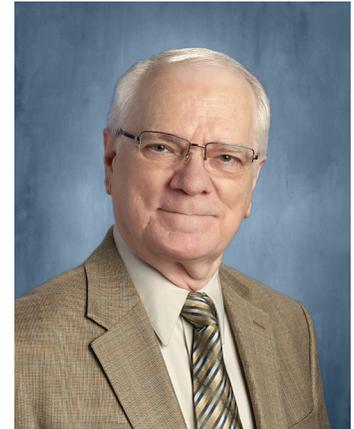
Looking forward to seeing everyone soon. Let me know if there is anything I can do for you. Merry Christmas!!!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Gray". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Executive Secretary's Column by Kenneth L. Griffin

I hope the region audition process went well for all of you and that your students who advanced to Area are preparing for an even better audition for Area January 8. Make sure you have paid the \$25 Area fee (most regions collect that and send one check).

We are all excited to see All-State in February in San Antonio again, hoping things get back to some semblance of normalcy for us all! The clinician for the ATSSB All-State Symphonic Band is Dr. Emily Threinen from the University of Minnesota. We are working with Region 6 and TMEA to commission a piece for the Symphonic Band to premier in honor of Darin K. Johns, Andrews High School band director who was tragically lost in a band bus accident recently. These types of accidents are foremost on the mind of band directors across America each Friday night as they travel, worrying about the safety of their students. So this comes as an even deeper shock to us all when the director himself is the victim of the crash. Our hearts go out to Andrews ISD, his colleagues in Andrews and across Region 6 and the state of Texas, his band students, and Darin's family and friends in this time of sorrow.



The ATSSB All-State Concert Band clinician will be Dr. Caroline Beatty from Texas State University, performing a piece commissioned by ATSSB from Clifton Jones for this performance entitled **RISING**. We also look forward to Russell Schmidt (Valley Jazz Cooperative, Phoenix, Arizona) working with the ATSSB All-State Jazz Ensemble.

There are no forms needed for Area. Students selected to State will receive an email regarding housing, 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 February 9, 2022.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Christina Smith for her service to ATSSB the last two years as Class 2C/3C Representative to the ATSSB State Board of Directors and to Brian Sours for his service to ATSSB the last two years as Class 2A Representative and to Jerry Whorton for his service to ATSSB the last two years as Class 4A Representative. A State office is a time-consuming but necessary role to keep our Association strong and current for our small schools. These outgoing officers 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. I especially want to thank Christina Smith for serving as Chair of the Constitutional Revision Committee which has worked hard to bring the ATSSB Constitution up to the standards required after seeking legal help to strengthen it and hours of work by her committee incorporating the suggested legal additions and refinements. You can see the proposed Constitution elsewhere in this Newsletter. The membership will be voting on its acceptance at the ATSSB General Session in February.

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

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

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. Southwest Emblem in Cisco has been authorized to make and sell Outstanding Performance Series Finalist and Winner patches (see add in this newsletter). They are the only ones with permission to make and sell patches with ATSSB logos and service marks. All other patches are provided by regions and ATSSB (and Fruhauf Uniforms which provides the shoulder patches for ATSSB All-State).

A reminder about piccolo and E \flat clarinet: If your flute player makes the All-State Band at the Area auditions January 8 and would like to play piccolo, have them bring their piccolo to San Antonio. After regular chair auditions are completed for flute, we will hold separate auditions for piccolo in each band from among those students interested in it that were selected for their respective bands. If your clarinet player makes the All-State Band at the Area auditions January 8 and would like to play E \flat clarinet, have them bring their E \flat clarinet to San Antonio. After regular chair auditions are completed for clarinet, we will hold separate auditions for E \flat clarinet in each band from among those students interested in it that were selected for clarinet in 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 and chair placement in their respective bands will have nothing to do with who is selected to play piccolo or E \flat clarinet.

We plan to hold our ATSSB Business Session Friday, February 11, 2022, in CC220 of the convention center. Elections for Class 2C/3C, Class 2A and Class 4A Representatives to the State Board of Directors will be held at that time. 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 panels, planning and executing region clinics and concerts, meetings, etc. 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 during these stressful and unprecedented times. Keep up the great work.



State Jazz Coordinator Column

by Brian Donnell (bdonnell@atssb.org)

Congratulations to the students who earned a chair in the All-State Jazz Band! And congrats to their directors and private lesson teachers as well. The level of competition and playing gets stronger every year, so this is quite the accomplishment!

Members of the band should've received their music for the February clinic already. Take time to find performances of these charts online so you're familiar with the styles and form before the rehearsals begin.

Directors, take some time with your students to help them tape their music, acquire the appropriate mutes, and help with notes and rhythms so they are better prepared before arriving in San Antonio.

Also, look for a sign up list coming your way so you can help with chaperoning rehearsals and possible sectionals. This will come to you from Steven Rash who serves as the band's organizer during the All-State weekend.

This year's clinician is Mr. Russell Schmidt. Check out his work with the [Valley Jazz Cooperative, Phoenix!](#)

Hoping you and your families have a wonderful winter holiday!



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Donnell". The signature is fluid and cursive.

OPS State Chair Column by Collin Anderson



"It's the most wonderful time of the year" – that point between football season and Christmas concerts and Christmas parades and All-Region Band and solo & ensemble and concert/sight reading preparations... It never seems to end, does it? I do hope that you all will take time to slow down and rest during the holiday season as much as possible and be refreshed for the spring semester.

With February not too far away, I want to remind all of our 2021 Outstanding Performance Series winners (1st place and runner-up march and 1st/2nd place and runner-up concert selections) that awards will be presented during the ATSSB general session at the TMEA annual convention. I hope that each of you will be able to attend and receive your winner's plaque during the presentation. Do remember that anyone who may have changed schools during the summer will still receive the award you earned within your previous position.

I would like to offer my thanks to all of the judges at each level of this year's competition, especially for giving your time during the hectic-ness of the end of school, while you are on your off time during the summer, or taking time away from your TBA convention. Having great judges at the region, area, and state levels ensures that the most outstanding performances advance and then rise to the top at state. And, of course, thanks to all of the fine bands and directors who make the Outstanding Performance Series such a great success by accepting the challenge to strive to create such amazing, musical performances.

The OPS Steering Committee will be discussing the possibility of implementing a separate 1A OPS Competition as a pilot program for the upcoming 2022 season. The idea was printed to the SBOD in July, so we will be investigating the possibility.

Wishing you all the best in your Christmas, solo/ensemble, and spring UIL season preparations! Look for any updates to the OPS process in the March newsletter.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Collin Anderson". The signature is cursive and stylized.

903-390-3271 cell

Webmaster's Column

by Marc Nichelson

As we finish out November with such tragic news from Andrews and Waukesha I am reminded of all the moments that sometimes we take for granted (even the “what are you playing for contest” moments at conventions) where I find myself desiring to be even more present with each interaction because we don't know what life has in store for us. We share a wonderful bond through music/band in small school and I wanted to express my gratitude getting to interact with so many of you.



Website Projects Currently in the works:

1. As always please let us know if something on the site is not functioning the way it is intended or a resource you'd like to see on the website.
2. I'd also like to know if some of you would be willing to help submit materials we can publish to our social media that would help small school band directors. These could be teaching resources, videos you've made giving a clinic on certain items, etc. This would be specific to Small Schools and something our audience would find beneficial to use in their programs. If interested, please contact me at mnichelson@atssb.org.
3. If you know of any business that would be interested in beginning an advertising relationship with us, please have them contact me at mnichelson@atssb.org.

As many of us enter a December full of Band Contests, ATSSB Auditions, Concerts, and so much more remember to take the time and appreciate all of the wonderful opportunities we have as teachers each and every day. Thank you all for what you do for students and keep it up! You are making a difference in students' lives every day.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. Nichelson". The signature is stylized and written in a cursive-like font.

ELECTION

Class 2C/3C, Class 2A and Class 4A Representatives to the State Board of Directors will be elected by secret ballot during the ATSSB General Session February 11, 2022, in CC220 using a cell phone, iPad or laptop. Nominees who submitted a biography and/or picture by the time of publication follow below. Only current Retired and Active Members actively involved in 2C or 3C middle schools (including the high directors involved) may vote on 2C/3C Representative. Only current Retired and Active Members actively involved in Class 2A high schools may vote on 2A Representative. Only current Retired and Active Members actively involved in Class 4A high schools may vote on 2A Representative.

Class 2C/3C Representative



Christina Smith is the band director at Center Junior High School in Region 21. She served as Class 2C/3C Representative the past two terms.

She is the band director at Center Middle School, where she has

taught the past 17 years. Before teaching in Center, she taught 7th grade band for 2 years at Henderson Middle School. She has taught in ATSSB schools for 19 years and all of her experience is at the middle school level. The bands at Center Middle School consistently earn "Sweepstakes" Awards at UIL Concert and Sightreading Contest and has grown to over 350 students in the middle school band program. In addition, the 8th grade band has participated in the ATSSB Outstanding Performance Series, and has had pieces advance to the Area and State Level of competition.

As the 2C/3C State Representative, she chaired the ATSSB Inclusion Committee and was charged with working with other directors to determine how best to serve

students with special needs in the audition process. The committee, after much research, proposed a rule change that allows for accommodations for students who need them. In addition, she has served on the Executive Committee that helped plan this past summer's All-State Experience at Melissa and most recently was asked to chair the ATSSB Constitution Committee that will bring recommendations to the membership this February at TMEA. She has also served ATSSB by coordinating sectionals for the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 All State Bands.

"I would appreciate your vote so that I can continue to work to serve you and your students."



Robin Weatherman is the band director at Burkburnett Middle School in Region 7. She is currently in her 27th year of teaching and 14th year at BISD. She is a native Texan and received her Bachelor of Music from Angelo State University. She has one son, Jacob, who is currently studying Industrial Automation.

Robin has spent the majority of her career teaching in small schools. Her 21 years of small school experience includes Robinson ISD and Tom Bean ISD and of course Burkburnett ISD. She also taught 3 years

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in Denison ISD and 3 years in Richardson ISD.

She has had many successful bands and honors throughout the years, including receiving 16 consecutive UIL Sweepstakes Awards. Her varsity band placed 6th in the 2017 State

OPS Competition playing "Blue Ridge Reel" by Brian Balmages.

Robin has been a member of both ATSSB and TMEA for many years. She is also a provisional member of TMAA and has had the privilege of judging UIL Concert and Sight Reading Contest in Region 8.

"It would be an honor and a cherished opportunity to serve as the Class 2C State Representative. My experience in small schools with their challenges, as well as their advantages, gives me a strong understanding of the needs of this organization. If elected, I will use my experience and dedication to music education to represent Class 2C at the state level to the best of my ability."



Class 2A Representative

Henry Dreitner is the band director at Weimar High School in Region 18. He has a B.M.Ed. from Texas State University. He taught in Hallettsville ISD from 2013-2016 and has been head director in Weimer since 2016. His bands have consistent UIL

Superior ratings, multiple OPS State Qualifiers, was the 2021 OPS Runner-up in Concert and was the 2021 State Finalist at the UIL State Marching Contest.



He is a member of ATSSB, TMEA, and TMAA and served as the Region 18/26 Band Organizer. He and his wife Caitlin have two children, Amelia and Henry.

Brian Sours

is the band director at Tenaha High School in Region 21. He is currently serving as the Class 2A Representative.



He has a B.M.Ed. from the University of Arkansas and a Masters Degree in Educational Leadership from Stephen F. Austin State University. He is a member of ATSSB, TMEA, TBA, TMAA and is an alumni of the Alpha Omicron Chapter of the Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia music fraternity. He began teaching in San Saba in 2009 where he led the Golden Armadillo MS and HS bands to their first UIL Sweepstakes in the schools' history. The HS band paced 5th at the 2013 UIL State Marching Contest and has had several OPS state finalists. He moved to Tenaha in 2014, where the Tenaha band has been named ATSSB OPS State Winner in 2015 and ATSSB OPS State Runner-up in two categories in 2016.

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(Nominees, continued from Page 10):

The band has also made three trips to the UIL Area Marching Contest Finals (2018, 2020, and 2021), two trips to the UIL State Marching Band Finals (2020 and 2021). The Tenaha High School Band won the Gold Medal at the 2021 UIL State Marching Band Contest in open class 2A. The Tenaha Middle School Band has also earned 4 consecutive UIL Sweepstakes Awards and been named an OPS State Winner in 2019.

“Originally elected as the 1A/2A Representative, I have enjoyed serving and I’m ready to continue my service to ATSSB and the 2A classification if so reelected. While I was the 1A/2A Representative, I submitted an amendment to add a 1A Representative that ultimately passed a vote of the general membership. This amendment creates separate 1A and 2A Representative positions. I also submitted for recommendation that 1A have their own OPS contest which is currently being considered by the OPS Steering Committee. I chaired the professional development committee that successfully put together several highly acclaimed professional development clinics for the ATSSB All-State Clinic and Concert in June of 2021. Previously, I served a 3 year term as an ATSSB All-State Band Organizer from 2017-2019.”



Class 4A Representative

Josh Kidd is the band director at Graham High School in Region 7. He is a graduate of Texas Tech University in Lubbock, TX. In 2003, Mr. Kidd received an undergraduate degree in Music, specializing in Music Education followed by a Master’s degree in Music Education in 2012.

Currently, Mr. Kidd currently serves as the Director of Bands for Graham ISD. Since his appointment in 2015, Graham High School’s Rompin’ Stompin’ Big Blue Band (RSB3) has been a consistent UIL Sweepstakes Award winner.



Mr. Kidd has spent the entirety of his career in the service of ATSSB Member Schools, having also served in various capacities at Crosbyton CISD, Hale Center ISD, and Lubbock-Cooper ISD. He is an active member of the Texas Music Educators Association, the Association of Texas Small School Bands, and the Texas Music Adjudicators Association.

Mr. Kidd met his wife, Sarah, as a member of Texas Tech’s Goin’ Band From Raiderland. Sarah serves as the math department chair at Graham High School. They have two sons who attend school in Graham ISD: Jackson, a 9th grade saxophonist, and Carson, a 3rd grader. When not with his family, Mr. Kidd spends his spare time sailing, rebuilding classic Volkswagens, riding motorcycles, and serving neighboring groups as a marching and concert clinician.

Marc Nichelson is the band director at China Spring High School in Region 8. He is in his 5th year as the Director of Bands at China Spring ISD. During that time,

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(Nominees, continued from Page 11):

the program has continued a strong tradition of excellence with consistent sweepstakes awards, several State Marching Contest appearances (most recently earning 6th place at the State Marching Contest), and several finalist submissions in



ATSSB's Outstanding Performance Series. Marc originally started teaching in East Texas but has enjoyed the last nine years in Central Texas, teaching at the 2A and 4A levels. He is an active Clinician and Adjudicator, and professional affiliations include the Association of Texas Small School Bands, Texas Music Educators Association, Texas Music Adjudicators Association, and the Kappa Kappa Psi National Honorary Band Fraternity.

In addition to the Director of Bands at China Spring ISD, he serves as the ATSSB Region 8 Coordinator, ATSSB Area Central Coordinator, and the ATSSB Webmaster. In these roles, he finds that he can give back to an organization that meant so much to him (as a student) and to many of the small school band students he has interacted with throughout his career.

"I feel like my experiences through various roles in the ATSSB have provided me a unique perspective of the various operational aspects of the ATSSB and how it relates to the state board and, specifically, the 4A Representative. Seeing the ins and outs of how 4A districts throughout the state interact with the ATSSB (at the Region, Area, and State level) can help lead the discussion and guide policy that serves the students' and directors' interests. Several issues on

my mind would be things to look at in the coming years. First off, I think enriching the student experience during All-State and building a comprehensive student experience at the region and area level that celebrates students and uses the best ideas from around the state would be an important initial step. I also think we need to continue to work to keep a level playing field between schools of various sizes and economic makeups and serve the specific schools of a region-area with more localized clinics that speak to the needs of our classifications/region and how to build the best local student experience in our programs."



Chris Thomsen is

the band director at Manor New Tech High School in Region 18. He has a B.A. from the University of Nevada in Reno and has taught in Manor since 2009,



serving at Decker Middle School, then Manor High School and currently at Manor New Tech High School since 2018. He is a member of ATSSB, TMEA, and is an alumnus of Phi Mu Alpha Music Fraternity. His 2021 band advanced to Area, making school and district history. He started the Manor Tech program in 2019 and was Teacher of the Year in 2020.

He is married to Kendra (PAC Administrator at Baylor Scott and White and NCCPA Outgoing Chair) and they have two children: Caleb Thomsen, 21, studying Manufacturing and Mechanical Engineering Technology at Texas A&M University; and Kristen Thomsen, 18, studying Business Management at Austin Community College.

Constitution Committee 2022

My name is Christina Smith and I currently serve on the ATSSB Executive Committee as the Class 2C/3C Representative. I have been tasked with forming a Constitution Committee by ATSSB President Matt Knight to review the ATSSB Constitution and Bylaws to make sure our affairs are still in good order.

First, I would like to thank the following directors who agreed to serve on this committee and help review the constitution:

Marc Christy, Kemp ISD
Brandon Garmon, Gilmer ISD
Stephanie Haffner, West Rusk ISD
Rod Rodriguez, Stafford MSD
Eric Wharton, Mexia ISD

Finally, we have provided the proposed changes in this article. Nothing has been deleted from the original Constitution and By-Laws. Where the committee believed things should be deleted, they have been struck through but are still visible. Where the committee believed additions should be made, they have been included in red.

We ask that you please review these proposed changes and then attend the ATSSB General Session at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, February 11, 2022, in CC220 to vote for or against the proposed changes.

It is our sincere hope that these changes will make our Association stronger and continue to serve the needs of our students and directors moving forward. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out and I will be happy to assist you.

Thank you for the opportunity for my committee and I to serve you in this matter.

Christina Smith
Center Middle School
ATSSB Class 2C/3C Representative
christina.smith@centerisd.org

PROPOSED CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I

Name

The name of the organization shall be the Association of Texas Small School Bands, hereinafter referred to as "ATSSB."

ARTICLE II

Purpose

~~The Association of Texas Small School Bands~~ **ATSSB** is organized to promote, encourage participation in and maintain small school bands in the state of Texas. The organization shall maintain cooperative relationships with other agencies and organizations which have as their purpose the development of music education in Texas ~~public~~ schools.

This Association is organized exclusively for educational purposes, including for such purposes the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or any future federal tax code.

No part of the net earnings of the Association shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, its members, trustees, officers, or any other private persons, except that the Association shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in this

Article above. ~~Notwithstanding~~ **Notwithstanding** any other provisions of these Articles, the Association shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on by the Association exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or corresponding sections of any future federal tax code.

Upon dissolution of the Association assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or any corresponding sections of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government for a public purpose. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the Court of Common Pleas of the county in which the principal office of the Association is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purpose.

ARTICLE III

Membership

ATSSB membership shall be defined according to the following categories:

ACTIVE (RM, CM, FCM, Retiree) - A current director or assistant director of a Class 1A, 2A, 3A, or 4A high school band in Texas or a current director or assistant director of a junior high or middle school band which feeds a Class 1A, 2A, 3A, or 4A high school band in Texas as defined by the University Interscholastic League by counting enrollment in grades 9-12 (or proportionate enrollment if the high school does not encompass grades 9-12; i.e.: if a high school has only one grade in it, its enrollment would be multiplied by 4; if two grades, its enrollment would be multiplied by two; and if only three grades, its enrollment would be multiplied by 1.333), or a current director or assistant director of a private middle school through the eighth grade, or anyone who has retired from any of these positions as an Active Member. These schools must be certified by the Texas Education Agency or an accrediting agency approved by the Texas Private School Accreditation Commission (TEPSAC). **Payment of the prescribed dues will allow the individual the following privileges: Participation in ATSSB activities, the right to vote, the right to hold office, and admittance to scheduled or called General Sessions upon compliance with registration requirements.**

ASSOCIATE (AM) - ~~any other interested person, including - although not restricted to - 5A or 6A band directors, assistants or Fine Arts Directors, directors of other musical disciplines, institutions, other groups, and lay citizens.~~ **Open to those not eligible for Active Membership, including individuals, organizations, business firms, schools, colleges, universities, booster clubs, etc., and any other interested person, including - although not restricted to - 5A or 6A band directors, assistants or Fine Arts Directors, directors of other musical disciplines, institutions, other groups, and lay citizens.** **Payment of the prescribed dues will allow the individual to be listed in the ATSSB Membership Database. They will also be allowed admittance to scheduled or called General Sessions upon compliance with registration requirements. Associate members do not have the right to vote, hold office, or participate in ATSSB activities.**

HONORARY LIFE (HLM) - An Honorary Life Membership shall be awarded to all Past Presidents of the Association. Honorary Life Membership may also be awarded to persons deemed worthy by unanimous decision of the ATSSB State Board of Directors meeting in a regular session. If bestowed on an individual currently holding an Active Membership, all privileges of Active Membership will continue for life. **Honorary Life Members may participate in ATSSB activities, have the right to vote, the right to hold office, and admittance to scheduled or called General Sessions upon compliance with registration requirements. Honorary Life Members shall be assessed no dues.**

COLLEGE DIVISION (CD) - Instrumental music education majors who are enrolled in a college or university music program. **Shall be open to instrumental music education majors who are enrolled in a college or university music program. Payment of the prescribed state dues will allow the individual admittance to scheduled or called General Sessions upon compliance with registration requirements. College Division Members will not have the right to vote, enter students in the audition process leading toward membership in the ATSSB All-State Band, or be allowed to hold office.**

FOUNDING CHARTER MEMBERS - Those in attendance at the original meeting held March 16, 1991 at Wylie High School in Abilene, Texas at which the Association was formed and whose dues are current. Founding charter members shall have all the rights and privileges of Active Members.

CHARTER MEMBERS - Those who paid an initial \$100 membership fee before the first Business Session (as their dues for the first year) in order to fund the fledgling organization's efforts and whose dues are current. Charter members shall have all the rights and privileges of Active Members.

ARTICLE IV

Dues

Dues for membership shall be determined by the State Board of Directors. **The membership year shall be August 1 through July 31.**

ARTICLE V

State Government

SECTION 1. THE PRESIDENT. The President shall assume office in the manner prescribed in the By-Laws. The President shall be **a current Active Member of ATSSB** ~~concurrently employed as a band director or assistant director in a Class 1A, 2A, 3A, or 4A high school in Texas.~~ The President shall be the presiding officer at all official meetings of ATSSB and shall appoint committees as needed to service the needs of the Association.

SECTION 2. THE PRESIDENT-ELECT. The President-Elect shall assume office in the manner prescribed in the By-Laws. The President-Elect shall be **a current Active Member of ATSSB** ~~concurrently employed as a band director or assistant director in a Class 1A, 2A, 3A, or 4A high school in Texas.~~ The President-Elect shall be chairman of the State Audition Review Committee.

SECTION 3. THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY. The Executive Secretary shall assume office in the manner prescribed in the By-Laws. The Executive Secretary may be a **current or retired Active Member** ~~an Active or Associate Member~~ of ATSSB.

SECTION 4. AT-LARGE REPRESENTATIVES. One representative from each Class ~~(1C, 2C, 1A/2A, 3A, and 4A)~~ **(1C, 2C/3C, 1A, 2A, 3A, 4A)** shall assume office in the manner prescribed in the By-Laws. Each of the ~~five~~ six representatives shall be voting members of the State Board of Directors.

SECTION 5. STATE BOARD OF DIRECTORS. The State Board of Directors shall be composed of the President, President-Elect, the Immediate Past-President, Executive Secretary, At-Large Representatives, Founding Charter Members and Region Coordinators who are currently in good standing with the Association. It shall also include Past-Presidents as ex-officio members.

The Executive Committee shall be composed of the President, President-Elect, the Immediate Past-President, Executive Secretary, and At-Large Representatives. The ~~President's~~ **Presidents'** Committee shall be composed of the President, the President-Elect, the Immediate Past-President, and the Executive Secretary.

SECTION 6. ELECTIONS. Election of state officers shall be held as prescribed in the By-Laws.

ARTICLE VI

Regional Government

SECTION 1. REGIONAL BOUNDARIES. Texas shall be divided into geographical subdivisions called Regions to carry out ATSSB objectives at the local level, to guarantee representation on the State Board of Directors and to provide opportunity for individual participation in, and responsibility for, ATSSB activities. The powers and authority not specifically defined, reserved or restricted to the State shall be left to the respective Regions.

SECTION 2. REGION OFFICERS. Each Region shall elect a Region Coordinator who shall assume duties as set forth in the By-Laws. The Region Coordinator shall be concurrently employed as a band director or assistant director in a Class 1A, 2A, 3A, or 4A high school in Texas, or a current director or assistant director of a junior high or middle school band which feeds a Class 1A, 2A, 3A, or 4A high school band in Texas as defined by the University Interscholastic League, or a current director or assistant director of a private middle school through the eighth grade, or anyone who has retired from any of these positions as an Active Member.

ARTICLE VII

Finances and Assets

Except as provided in the By-Laws, fiscal responsibility for the operation of ATSSB shall rest in the State Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VIII

Convention-Clinic

SECTION 1.(a). The ultimate governing authority of ATSSB shall be exercised by its membership in a Business Session which may be held in conjunction with a Convention-Clinic. Decisions of the State Board of Directors may be appealed to the general membership in any Business Session.

SECTION 1.(b). The date, time and place of a Business Session and /or Convention-Clinic shall be fixed by the State Board of Directors.

SECTION 2. The State Board of Directors shall have the authority to plan and execute educational activities for the convention-clinic, including presentation of musical organizations and classes. It may delegate this authority to the President.

ARTICLE IX

Publications

The State Board of Directors shall have full supervision and control of ATSSB publications.

ARTICLE X

Rules of Order

Robert's Rules of Order, Revised shall be the authority whenever correct parliamentary procedures are required.

ARTICLE XI

Constitutional Amendments

This Constitution may be amended by a vote of two-thirds of the ~~voting members~~ **Active Members, Honorary Life Members and Charter Members** present ~~at a regular or called Business Session of the Association~~ or by ~~email~~ **electronic** ballot at the option of the ATSSB Executive Committee **so long as 10% of eligible voters cast the ballot. To be considered by the membership, a proposed amendment must be submitted by a current Active Member, Charter Member or Honorary Life Member of ATSSB to the Executive Secretary prior to the State Board of Directors meeting in July for verification. All collected proposals will be announced to the State Board of Directors, then published in the September and December Newsletters and in Fall Region Agendas before the vote is taken at the February General Session or email ballot at the option of the ATSSB Executive Committee after the December Newsletter is online. In emergency situations the Executive Board shall have the power to approve a proposed Constitutional Amendment. Should the Executive Committee deem it necessary to approve a proposed Constitutional Amendment, the proposed Amendment must have a unanimous vote from all members of the Executive Board. Written notice of these Executive Committee approved proposed amendments shall be given by email and shall appear in the official publication of the Association at least two weeks prior to the ballot.** ~~Written notice of proposed amendments shall be given by email and shall appear in the official publication of the Association at least two weeks prior to the ballot.~~

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I

Membership and Dues

SECTION 1. FOUNDING CHARTER MEMBERS are those in attendance at the original meeting held March 16, 1991 at Wylie High School in Abilene, Texas at which the Association was formed and ~~who are current in their dues.~~ **whose dues are current.** ~~Founding charter members shall have all the rights and privileges of Active Members.~~

SECTION 2. CHARTER MEMBERS are those who paid an initial \$100 membership fee before the first Business Session (as their dues for the first year) ~~in order to fund the fledgling organization's efforts.~~ **Charter members who are current in their dues shall have all the rights and privileges of Active Members.**

SECTION 3. ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP shall be open to any individual currently serving as a band director or assistant director in a Class 1A, 2A, 3A, or 4A high school in Texas or is a band director or assistant director in a junior high or middle school which feeds a Class 1A, 2A, 3A, or 4A high school as defined by the University Interscholastic League by counting enrollment in grades 9-12 (or proportionate enrollment if the high school does not encompass grades 9-12; i.e.: if a high school has only one grade in it, its enrollment would be multiplied by 4; if two grades, its enrollment would be multiplied by two; and if only three grades, its enrollment would be multiplied by 1.333), or a current director or assistant director of a private middle school through the eighth grade. These schools must be certified by the Texas Education Agency or an accrediting agency approved by the Texas Private School Accreditation Commission (TEPSAC). Payment of the prescribed dues will allow the individual to participate in ATSSB activities, the right to vote and hold office, admittance to meetings upon compliance with registration requirements, and to enter students in grades 9-12 in the audition process leading to membership in the ATSSB All-State Band. A Regular Member who retires may continue Active Membership so long as dues are kept current. **Payment of the prescribed dues will allow the individual** ~~the following privileges: Participation to participate in ATSSB activities, the right to vote, the right to hold office, and admittance to scheduled or called General Sessions upon compliance with registration requirements.~~

SECTION 4. ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP ~~shall be open to individuals, organizations or business firms, schools, colleges, universities, booster clubs, etc., and any other individual not otherwise eligible for Active Membership who wishes to support the cause of ATSSB. Payment of the prescribed state dues will allow the individual admittance to meetings on compliance with registration requirements and to participate in ATSSB activities with the exception of entering students in the audition process leading toward membership in the ATSSB All-State Band. Associate members shall not be allowed to vote or hold office.~~ **shall be open to those not eligible for Active Membership, including individuals, organizations, business firms, schools, colleges, universities, booster clubs, etc., and any other interested person, including - although not restricted to - 5A or 6A band directors, assistants or Fine Arts Directors, directors of other musical disciplines, institutions, other groups, and lay citizens.** Payment of the prescribed dues will allow the individual to be listed in the ATSSB Membership Database. They will also be allowed admittance to scheduled or called General Sessions upon compliance with registration requirements. Associate members do not have the right to vote, hold office, or participate in ATSSB activities. Payment of the prescribed dues will allow the individual to attend scheduled or called General Sessions upon compliance with registration requirements.

SECTION 5. COLLEGE DIVISION (CD) - Instrumental music education majors who are enrolled in a college or university music program. Shall be open to instrumental music education majors who are enrolled in a college or university music program. Payment of the prescribed state dues will allow the individual admittance to meeting upon compliance with registration requirements. College Division Members will not have the right to vote, enter students in the audition process leading toward membership in the ATSSB All-State Band, or be allowed to hold office.

SECTION 6. HONORARY LIFE (HLM) - An Honorary Life Membership shall be awarded to all Past Presidents of the Association. Honorary Life Membership may also be awarded to persons deemed worthy by unanimous decision of the ATSSB State Board of Directors meeting in a regular session. If bestowed on an individual currently holding an Active Membership, all privileges of Active Membership will continue for life. Honorary Life Members may participate in ATSSB activities, have the right to vote, the right to hold office, and admittance to scheduled or called General Sessions upon compliance with registration requirements.

SECTION 7. ~~SECTION 5.~~ THE MEMBERSHIP YEAR shall be August 1 through July 31.

ARTICLE II

State Government

SECTION 1.(a). DUTIES OF THE PRESIDENT. The President shall be the presiding officer of ATSSB meetings and of the State Board of Directors. He **They** shall appoint Area Coordinators, the All-State Band Organizers, the All-State Band Percussion Organizers, and the All-State Band Seating Audition Coordinator. He **They** shall also appoint members to committees and shall represent ATSSB, or appoint an alternate in his place, at meetings deemed relevant to the welfare of ATSSB. He **They** shall be responsible for the overall program at the Convention-Clinic at the discretion of the State Board of Directors and shall perform all other duties pertaining to the office. He **They** may appoint a Parliamentarian as needed and shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.

SECTION 1.(b). PRESIDENTIAL TERM OF OFFICE. The President shall serve a term of two years. The term shall begin immediately upon the conclusion of the All-State Band concert in odd-numbered years.

SECTION 1.(c). ELECTION. The current President-Elect shall assume the office of President immediately upon the conclusion of the All-State Band concert in odd-numbered years.

SECTION 1.(d). VACANCY IN OFFICE. In the event of a vacancy in the office of President for any reason, a President Pro tem shall be elected from and by the State Board of Directors who shall serve for the unexpired term.

SECTION 2.(a). DUTIES OF THE PRESIDENT-ELECT. The President-Elect shall preside at ATSSB meetings and at meetings of the State Board of Directors in the absence of the President. He? **They** shall appoint special committees necessary to the operation of his duties and shall be chairman of the State Audition Review Committee which is charged with the continuous review of the 5-year rotating Prescribed Audition List.

SECTION 2.(b). NOMINATION. At the Spring or Fall Region Meetings in even years, each Region may submit one name for the office of President-Elect to be nominated for election at the forthcoming Clinic/Convention. The presiding officer of each Region shall file the name of the candidate with the Executive Secretary. The Executive Secretary shall notify each candidate of their nomination. If the nominated candidate does not accept the nomination by December 1 by submitting a biography and picture for the December Newsletter, the name(s) will be deleted from the list of candidates. Nominations for the office may be made from the floor.

SECTION 2.(c). PRESIDENT-ELECT TERM OF OFFICE. The President-Elect shall serve a term of two years and will immediately assume the office of President. The term shall begin immediately upon the conclusion of the All-State Band concert in odd-numbered years.

SECTION 2.(d). ELECTION. The ~~general membership~~ **Active Members** of ATSSB shall vote by secret ballot either in the Business Session or by ~~email~~ **electronic** ballot at the option of the ATSSB Executive Committee on the office of President-Elect in odd-numbered years. 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 secret ballot will be cast between the top two with the individual receiving a simple majority of the total votes cast being declared the winner. Proxy voting is not allowed in the election of President-Elect.

SECTION 2.(e). 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 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 between the top two with the individual receiving a simple majority of the total votes cast being declared the winner.

SECTION 3.(a). DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY. The Executive Secretary shall keep a complete record of all ATSSB Business Sessions and regular or called meetings of the Association and State Board of Directors, keep an accurate record of membership of the Association, receive all monies due ATSSB, countersign all disbursements, keep an accurate and true account of all money received and paid out by him, be custodian of all ATSSB property and publish an account of ATSSB finances annually in the ATSSB Newsletter, be responsible for the formulation, editing, printing, and distribution of the ATSSB Newsletter, and fulfill other duties customarily assigned to his office or directed by the State Board of Directors. The Executive Secretary shall conduct the business of the Association in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws and in all matters shall be under the direction of the State Board of Directors. He may engage assistants as needed to whom he may delegate authority in the execution of ATSSB business.

SECTION 3.(b). EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TERM OF OFFICE. The Executive Secretary shall serve a term of two years, after which the appointment shall be reviewed by the State Board of Directors.

SECTION 3.(c). SELECTION. The Executive Secretary shall be appointed by the Executive Committee of the Association (minus the Executive Secretary) and approved by the State Board of Directors. The appointment is subject to review by the Executive Committee in odd-numbered years. The Executive Committee will recommend reappointment or appointment as needed to the State Board of Directors.

SECTION 3.(d). VACANCY IN OFFICE. In the event of a vacancy in the office of Executive Secretary for any reason, the President shall immediately assume the responsibilities of the Executive Secretary. The President shall take possession of all files, equipment, and supplies stored by the Executive Secretary. The President shall assume responsibility for all financial receipts and disbursements. The President may delegate certain responsibilities to members of the Executive Committee as may be necessary. The Executive Committee shall post the vacancy within thirty (30) days through the websites of ATSSB, TMEA, TBA, and/or any other appropriate sites. If time allows, the vacancy may also be published in various music association journals, newsletters, and/or magazines. The position shall be posted for a period of at least two weeks. Upon receipt of applications, the Executive Committee shall review and interview applicants. The Executive Committee shall select and appoint the new Executive Secretary, subject to review by the State Board of Directors at its next scheduled or called meeting.

SECTION 4.(a). DUTIES OF THE AT-LARGE REPRESENTATIVES. Each of the ~~five~~ **six** At-Large Representatives (one from Class 1C, one from Class 2C **or 3C**, one from **Class 1A, one from Class 2A** ~~Class 1A/2A~~, one from Class 3A, and one from Class 4A) shall serve as voting members of the State Board of Directors so as to maintain a balance of opinion among the different classes of schools.

SECTION 4.(b). NOMINATION. At the Spring or Fall Region Meeting of odd years, each Region may submit one name for the office of Class 2C/3C Representative, **one name for class 2A Representative** ~~one name for the office of Class 1A/2A Representative~~, and one name for Class 4A Representative to be nominated for election at the forthcoming Clinic/Convention. At the Spring or Fall Meeting of even years, each Region may submit one name for the office of Class 1C Representative, **one name for Class 1A Representative** and one name for 3A Representative to be nominated for election at the forthcoming Clinic/Convention. The presiding officer of each Region shall file the name of the candidate with the Executive Secretary. The Executive Secretary shall notify each candidate of their nomination. If the nominated candidate does not accept the nomination by December 1 by submitting a biography and picture for the December Newsletter, the name(s) will be deleted from the list of candidates. Nominations for the office may be made from the floor.

SECTION 4.(c). AT-LARGE REPRESENTATIVE TERM OF OFFICE. The At-Large Representatives shall serve a term of two years. The term shall begin immediately upon election and shall last until successors are duly elected.

SECTION 4.(d). ELECTION. The general membership of ATSSB shall vote by secret ballot either in the Business Session or by ~~email~~ **electronic** ballot at the option of the ATSSB Executive Committee on At- Large Representatives. 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 secret ballot will be cast between the top two with the individual receiving a simple majority of the total votes cast being declared the winner. Only Active Members who are involved with Class 1C schools may vote on the Class 1C At-Large Representative, only Active Members who are involved with Class 2C/3C schools may vote on the Class 2C/3C At-Large Representative, ~~only Active Members who are involved with Class 1A or 2A schools may vote on the Class 1A/2A At-Large Representative~~, **only Active Members who are involved with class 1A schools may vote on the Class 1A At-Large Representative, only Active Members who are involved with Class 2A schools may vote on the Class 2A At-Large Representative**, only Active Members who are involved with Class 3A schools may vote on the Class 3A At-Large Representative, and only Active Members who are involved with Class 4A schools may vote on the Class 4A At-Large Representative. Class 2C/3C, **Class 2A** and Class 4A Representatives shall be elected in even-numbered years; Class 1C, **Class 1A** and Class 3A Representatives shall be elected in odd- numbered years. ~~Retired Active Members may vote on the Class Representatives of their choice.~~ Proxy voting is not allowed in the election of At-Large Representatives. **Retired Active Members in good standing may vote on the class representatives of their choice.**

SECTION 4.(e). VACANCY IN OFFICE. In the event of a vacancy of an At-Large Representative for any reason, the President shall appoint a replacement to fill the unexpired term.

SECTION 5.(a). THE STATE BOARD OF DIRECTORS. The State Board of Directors shall be composed of all ~~Founding Members~~, **Founding Charter Members**, current Region Coordinators, the President, the President-Elect, the Immediate Past-President, the Executive Secretary, and the ~~five~~ **six** At-Large Representatives, each of whom must be a member in good standing for the current year. ~~It shall also include Past-Presidents and Founding Charter Members who become Associate Members as ex-officio members.~~

The State Board of Directors shall also include Past-Presidents in good standing as ex-officio members. The State Board of Directors shall be responsible for: 1) the business management and operation of ATSSB and for the management and control of funds thereof; (2) fixing the time and place of meetings and cooperating with the President in planning details of such meetings; (3) adopting annual budgets as needed; (4) approving Presidential appointments filling vacancies as they occur; (5) fixing the amount of dues for memberships; (6) fixing Regional and Area boundaries; (7) interpreting the Constitution and By-Laws; and (8) having the authority to ~~pass upon~~ act upon all matters referred to it by the membership in Business Sessions and by the President.

The Executive Committee shall be composed of the President, President-Elect, the Immediate Past-President, Executive Secretary, and At-Large Representatives. It shall be responsible for hearing appeals in the prescribed Appeal Process and for carrying on the business of the Association when it is impractical to convene the State Board of Directors or when expediency is required.

The ~~Presidents'~~ Presidents-Committee shall be composed of the President, the President-Elect, the Immediate Past-President, and the Executive Secretary. It shall be responsible for representing ATSSB on the ATSSB/TMEA Dialogue Committee and other matters conferred upon it by the State Board of Directors.

SECTION 5.(b). MEETINGS OF THE STATE BOARD OF DIRECTORS. The State Board of Directors shall meet on call of the President or on a request of two-thirds of the membership of the Board. A majority of its voting members present shall constitute a quorum. Proxy voting is allowed in State Board of Director meetings so long as the proxy is made in writing and presented to the Executive Secretary prior to the beginning of a State Board of Directors meeting.

SECTION 5.(c). Executive authority not defined, delegated or prohibited herein is reserved to the State Board of Directors.

SECTION 5.(d). The State Board of Directors shall have the authority to deny membership to any applicant and may suspend or in the case of severe infractions remove any member or officer who violates a part of the Constitution and By-Laws or established rules and regulations, including the TMEA Code of Ethics and Standard Practices.

SECTION 5.(e). APPEAL. A decision of the State Board of Directors may be appealed to the ATSSB membership in a regular or called Business Session.

SECTION 6. STANDING COMMITTEES. The State Audition Review Committee shall be a standing committee, chaired by the President-Elect, charged with annually reviewing the 5-year rotating Prescribed Audition List, considering errata and making recommendations to the State Board of Directors regarding changes. The Past President Committee shall be a standing committee, chaired by the Immediate Past President, charged with recruitment, mentoring, and member welfare. Other standing committees may be formed at the discretion of the State Board of Directors.

ARTICLE III

Regional Government

SECTION 1. REGIONAL BOUNDARIES shall be fixed by the State Board of Directors in cooperation with the Director of Music Activities of the University Interscholastic League.

SECTION 2. REGION COORDINATORS shall be elected by the membership of ATSSB in regional meetings to be held annually to conduct the local business of ATSSB. The Region Coordinator shall be concurrently employed as a band director or assistant director in a Class 1A, 2A, 3A, or 4A high school in Texas, or a current director or assistant director of a junior high or middle school band which feeds a Class 1A, 2A, 3A, or 4A high school band in Texas as defined by the University Interscholastic League, or a current director or assistant director of a private middle school through the eighth grade, or anyone who has retired from any of these positions as an Active Member. He shall be a member of the State Board of Directors and shall call meetings, appoint committees as he may deem necessary and perform other duties pertaining to the presiding office. He shall encourage, solicit and enlist members within his region.

SECTION 3.(a). OTHER REGION OFFICES may be originated at the local level as needed to carry out the functions of ATSSB at the local level, including the office of ASSISTANT COORDINATOR to serve in the absence of the Coordinator and to plan and implement audition procedures at the regional level and SECRETARY-TREASURER to keep an accurate account of meetings and funds expended locally as necessary to carry out the mandates of ATSSB on the regional level. These offices shall be filled by nomination and election at annual regional meetings as needed.

SECTION 3.(b). TERMS OF OFFICES AND VACANCIES. Region Coordinators and other elected officials shall serve for a term of two years. Vacancies shall be filled by appointment of the President to fill unexpired terms or until the Region membership can meet to elect a successor.

SECTION 4. REGION MEETINGS AND QUORUM. Region meetings shall be called by the Region Coordinator or, upon request of ten active members, by the President. Twenty percent of the Active Members of a Region present shall constitute a quorum. Notification of Region meetings shall be made in writing or electronically.

ARTICLE IV

Appeals/Grievances

SECTION 1. AUDITION APPEALS. Appeals regarding the Region, Area or State audition process shall follow the ATSSB Appeals process outlined in the audition process and will be conducted in affiliation with TMEA.

SECTION 2 OTHER APPEALS/GRIEVANCES. Only current Active Members may register an appeal or grievance. Appeals/Grievances must be submitted in writing to the Executive Secretary within 72 hours of the issue in question. Once written notice has been sent to the Executive Secretary, it will follow this process:



Appeals/Grievances once presented in writing to the Executive Secretary will be reviewed by the ATSSB Executive Committee. Should an acceptable resolution not be reached, it will then pass to the ATSSB Presidents' Committee. Should an acceptable resolution not be reached through the Presidents' Committee the issue shall be referred to the TMEA Presidents' Committee for final resolution.

ARTICLE IVV

Publications

SECTION 1. OFFICIAL PUBLICATION. The ATSSB Newsletter shall be the official publication of the ATSSB. Notices, rules, regulations, policies, and any other actions of the Association appearing therein become official.

SECTION 2. OTHER PUBLICATIONS. Books, brochures, pamphlets, or other publications pertaining to ATSSB shall be approved by the State Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VVI

Convention-Clinic

SECTION 1. Business of the Association not covered in any other meetings for the year shall be conducted at a Business Session held in conjunction with a Convention-Clinic at a site, date and time designated by the State Board of Directors. Twenty percent of the Active Members registered at this Convention-Clinic present at the Business Session shall constitute a quorum.

SECTION 2. PROGRAMS. The President shall plan and execute a comprehensive program which shall benefit the membership of ATSSB. Region Coordinators shall suggest clinicians, teachers, performing organizations, and other activities for inclusion in the Convention program.

ARTICLE ~~V~~VII

Fiscal Year and Special Funds

The Fiscal Year shall be from August 1 through July 31.

ARTICLE ~~VII~~VIII

Oath of Office

I, (repeat your full name), realizing the dignity attendant upon the position I hold and the responsibility involved as (repeat the name of your office), do promise to carry out the duties of this position to the best of my ability until my successor has been duly appointed or elected and installed. I furthermore promise to uphold the Constitution and By-Laws, rules and regulations, and to serve ATSSB faithfully, always working for the advancement of small school bands in the state of Texas.

ARTICLE ~~VIII~~IX

Order of Business

1. Call to Order
2. Invocation
3. Approval of Minutes
4. Reports of Special Committees
5. Reports of Standing Committees
6. Unfinished Business
7. New Business
8. Adjournment

Official Licensees

These companies have paid a fee and are under contract to use the ATSSB logo and marks on their products. They pay a royalty on products they sell using ATSSB logos and service marks. Please consider using them before using any other companies for similar services:

PepWear

1540 High Meadows Way
Cedar Hill, Texas 75104
800-587-4287
customorders@pepwear.com



ON SITE DIGITAL
1303 Darter Lane
Austin, Texas 78746
512-699-7223

webmail@OnSiteDigital.com

Audio Refinery

3604 Mockingbird Lane
Amarillo, Texas 79109
806-355-0072
audiorefinery@me.com



Mattei Music Services
202 Covey Lane
McKinney, Texas 75071
972-838-2443

buddymattei@matteimusicervices.com

Jordan Sound Productions

601 Ralson Street
Bullard, Texas 75757
903-539-6485
JordanSP@aol.com



Dave Lane Productions
2504 McCoy Road
Carrollton, TX 75006
davelaneproductions.com
972-221-3283

PROBST AUDIO

210 W. Belknap
Ennis, Texas 75119
972-878-6018
info@ProbstAudio.com

Probst Audio



Cauble SportsWear, Inc.
3209 Commercial Drive
Midland, Texas 79701
800-299-8325
far103flyer@yahoo.com

WEST SIDE RECORDING STUDIO

702 Coggins Point Way
Sugar Land, Texas 77479
281-300-8897
westsiderecording.com



The Amusement Park Recording Studio

2601 Boston Avenue
Lubbock, Texas 79410
806-787-2636
ideafactory@fariswheel.com



Texas Music Festivals, LLC

803 Inspiration
Pharr, Texas 78577
956-499-4002
perez6052@sbcglobal.net



**Southwest
EMBLEM**
SINCE 1960

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