

ATSSB Newsletter

In our 29th year serving Texas small school bands

Greetings from ATSSB!

ATSSB enjoyed another exciting and productive year in 2018-19. It was evident from the number of members (1218) we had in our twenty-eighth year (up from 1202 in the previous year) and from the quality of the 2019 ATSSB All-State Bands that our organization has maintained our original goal to be "sensitive to the needs and interests of small school band programs in Texas." Most small schools in Texas that have band programs are participating members of the Association.

The All-State Band Clinic was a positive one with Dr. John Cody Birdwell from the University of Kentucky conducting the Symphonic Band, premiering **Springerle** by Jack Stamp (commissioned by ATSSB). Dennis Johnson from Murray State University (Kentucky) led the Concert Band. Also, Christopher Bruya from Central Washington University led the All-State Jazz Ensemble in a wonderful performance in the Henry B. Gonzales Convention Center Hemisfair Ballroom 1.

We invite you to join ATSSB and hope that we can help you achieve your goals this year. You can download the application from the new ATSSB website (<https://www.atssb.org/files/execsec/App.pdf>). You can also open the application online and enter your data using your computer before printing it. Or you can use the online application process (<https://www.atssb.org/atssb-membership-application-form/>) to join and use your credit card to pay dues. A membership card and receipt will be emailed to you and your name added to the roster of your ATSSB Region Coordinator so you can be kept up to date on ATSSB activities. If you wish to have students participate in ATSSB activities this year, you must also become a member of TMEA (<http://www.tmea.org>) because the two organizations have unified the audition procedure for membership in Texas All-State Bands.

We hope you will get actively involved in ATSSB - or at least communicate your desires and suggestions to the State Board of Directors through your Region Coordinator (or directly to the Executive Committee).

We expect another banner year for ATSSB as we start our twenty-ninth year of service to small-school bands, growing together as unified small-school band directors, and we want you to be a part of it. Thank you for your continued support.

President's Column

by Eric Gray



ERIC GRAY

Greetings from the east Texas pineywoods! I hope everyone had a relaxing and rewarding summer break. It seems like the hottest part of the summer shows up about the time summer band begins, funny how that happens each year...

Along those lines, please make sure you have done your UIL Safety Training, CPR Training and anything else your district requires for you to keep your kids safe and healthy! Keep your marching band kids hydrated and healthy and please use common sense when marching out in the heat.

To me, the start of a new school year always brings about the same feelings of optimism and energy for the projects ahead, while at the same time looking forward to being an active mentor and role model in the lives of the students that come into our classrooms every day. Please understand your role in the shaping and molding of the young lives that come into your band hall everyday and how very important that is. Be positive, teach with passion and energy, let your students see your love for music and your desire to see them succeed in everything they do. They come every day expecting great things from us, live up to their expectations!

I had the wonderful opportunity to spend 2 days in Austin this summer with the leadership of TMEA and some truly amazing music educators from across the state. TMEA Summer Dialogue 4 was an incredible opportunity to visit and share concerns about music education and what we believed was the vision we should have for our programs. Thank you to Robert Floyd and Joe Munoz for making this dialogue session such an invigorating time to reflect and renew our purpose and passion for music education.

Congratulations to TMEA as we begin to celebrate our 100th year of existence and service to music education in Texas. Please make plans to attend the February convention as special emphasis will be placed on the 100th anniversary of TMEA. It will be something you will not want to miss!

Finally, thank you once again for allowing me to serve you and the students of ATSSB. Let me encourage you to get involved; volunteer for a leadership position, mentor a young teacher, take your jazz ensemble to play at the local nursing home, etc. No one has to do everything but everyone can do something! Make the world around your band hall a better place and give your students all the energy and excitement you can give them. Let me know if I can be of any service or help to you!

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

Executive Secretary's Column

by Kenneth L. Griffin



KENNETH GRIFFIN

2019 OPS Winners As you all know, we ordinarily send the September Newsletter as a printed edition so we can include the CD of the OPS winners, but we no longer will be producing a CD. This year, each 2018-19 member will receive a link to download or listen to the 2019 OPS winners instead of the CD. Look for your link to the site.

LOST CARD? If you have misplaced your new ATSSB membership card, you can now go online to retrieve it and your receipt. Just go to <https://www.atssb.org/membership/> to type in your last name, then the last four digits of your Social Security number. You will get a pdf file of your card and receipt. Should you have any problem accessing it, email me and I will get it to you promptly (atssb@att.net).

STATE OFFICERS Class 2C, 1A/2A and Class 4A Representatives are up for election in February. Nominations for these offices are open through your region meetings, so be thinking about your fellow directors and who would serve best in these positions.

Nominee biographies will be published online in the December Newsletter and elections will be held at the General Session in February. The meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, February 13, 2020, at 1:00 p.m. in Room 225 of the Convention Center. Be sure to check the convention schedule to confirm the time and place.

Want to serve as an ATSSB officer? Many people have asked me over the years how they could get involved with ATSSB in a leadership capacity. Volunteer to help in region band auditions (as a judge, a clinic host, clinic organizer, etc.) and respond positively when asked to run for a region office. Your service will encourage members to nominate you for state office (Class Representative or President-Elect). If you would like to serve in an appointed leadership role (Area Coordinator, OPS State Chair, State Chair Audition Coordinator, State Jazz Coordinator, All-State Band Organizer, etc.), let the President know via email or other contact of your interest in the position. If you would like to be considered for the appointed position of Executive Secretary, notify the President who will inform the Executive Committee of your interest, then when the position is up for review (at TBA in odd years), your name will be submitted to the Executive Committee for consideration. Just so you know, the Executive Committee is charged with this review every two years, but is also charged with replacing the Executive Secretary in case of a vacancy for any reason.

ONLINE ENTRY Remember that entries for all-region band auditions (jazz, middle school or high school) must be done online. Go to the TMEA website (www.tmea.org), click on DIVISION, then BAND, then AUDITION ENTRY PROCESS. LOG IN AS DIRECTOR, then follow the prompts. You should end up on your profile page which will also list available competitions in which you are eligible to enter students. If a contest is not listed, contact your Region Coordinator to see why not (or when it will be available). We wish to thank TMEA Deputy Director Frank Coachman and TMEA IT Administrator Andrew Denman for allowing us to utilize the TMEA servers and for designing the FileMaker Pro audition entry and tabulation software. We are indebted to them and TMEA for their tireless work on behalf of music education in Texas. **CAUTION: there are penalties for late entries!** Remember, when you enter your ATSSB number in the entry, just use the numbers alone.

AUDITIONS As you send in entries to ATSSB all-region auditions, remember that students from schools in class 1A, 2A and 3A are auditioning in the 3A Track to All-State and students in class 4A are auditioning in the 4A Track. If you have a class 1A, 2A or 3A student who wishes to take the 4A Track - or any student wishing to take the 5A or 6A track - they **MUST** submit a Track Selection Form with their first audition entry (whether it is to ATSSB or TMEA). Also, please realize that since we are aligned with TMEA regarding auditions, directors will be held accountable regarding the policies and procedures in effect for TMEA and ATSSB which include an obligation to judge at region and area auditions.

TRACKING Students advancing to Area will be designated by the Track they selected (4A or 3A). The number allowed to advance in each Track is listed online as "All-State Band Profile". The region auditions determine the

(Continued on page 4)

(Executive Secretary's Column, Continued from page 3):

Area Candidates from each of the regions in the state. Be sure you are aware of eligibility requirements and that you have taken care of all of the necessary paperwork (ATSSB membership, TMEA membership, region entry fees, forms completed, etc.) in advance of auditions. Please see the updated ATSSB Officers and Organizers in this Newsletter (and keep up with changes online) and contact your Region Coordinator if you have any questions regarding auditions. If you are already a member of ATSSB for 2019-20, your name and address is in your Region Coordinator's database and you will be receiving emails and/or mail-outs regarding these auditions.

JAZZ Students selected to advance to Area Jazz auditions will record their audition. The resulting recording will be uploaded to the TMEA servers and Area adjudications will use the audio files to select the 2020 ATSSB All-State Jazz Ensemble.

ADVANCING PAST REGION If you have students who are selected to audition at the ATSSB Area auditions January 11, 2020, be sure to pay the \$25 Area fee (in advance or at the door) or they will not be allowed to audition at the Area level. No forms are necessary at Area. If you have a student make State, TMEA will send you a username and password with which your student can access the TMEA website to download the Medical Release and Student Code of Conduct which they must bring to San Antonio signed and notarized. Area auditions will be like this past year. There will be separate auditions for 3A Track and 4A Track (but only one for the Color Instruments - all designated 4A Track for adjudication purposes). One panel will hear 3A Track, then immediately hear the 4A Track. Flute, clarinet and trumpet (possibly percussion) will be heard by separate panels - one panel for 3A Track flutes and a separate panel for 4A Track flutes, both panels running at the same time, so there will be separate holding rooms for 3A Track and 4A Track flutes, etc.

ELECTRONIC MEDIA The State Board has voted to allow the use of electronic media in lieu of printed music in auditions (a book will still be provided on the stand for all students who wish to use it). The media is for the music only and may not be used as a tuner or metronome during the live audition, although a non-audible metronome may be used to set the opening tempo then turned off before starting to play.

HOUSING We will once again utilize the Hyatt Regency for all ATSSB activities until the concerts. If at Area you have a student selected to the ATSSB All-State Band, you will need to sign them up for a room and include the Designated Chaperone (who must also stay at the same hotel as the student). Much has already been written regarding these procedures - and more clarification will come. Please keep your eye on the website for updates and policy clarifications. TMEA legal counsel has advised their Executive Board that if there is an incident of any kind at the convention involving a student, the liability rests with the designated chaperone and the school district, not on TMEA or ATSSB. Based on that opinion, it is highly recommended that you sign up as your student's designated chaperone and plan to stay in the Hyatt Regency where your student(s) will be housed. To be sure, there is a LOT of paperwork involved in any organized activity, but it can all be taken care of if planned properly in advance. Use the Director's Checklist available to you online that should help with keeping it all in perspective and to help you navigate all the "red tape" used in the audition process:

<https://www.atssb.org/files/execsec/DirectorChecklist.pdf>

The Website has undergone a face-lift. The State Board of Directors voted to accept the committee's proposal to upgrade the ATSSB website (www.atssb.org). A consultant was hired to develop the site and it is now active, so take a look if you have not already done so (you need to anyway since it is the official document of ATSSB!). The website is a treasure trove of information and forms needed for all aspects of the ATSSB audition and competition experience, so check it out and keep track of all updates as they are announced, especially the catch-all page (<https://www.atssb.org/executive-secretary/atssb-a-to-z/>).

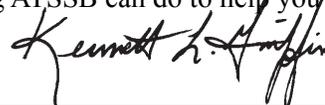
After 28 years, it is hard to remember what we did at the beginning, although the ATSSB History online helps. To clarify, I have posted a list of the **1991-92 membership** for you to see should you have any questions about who was a Founding Charter Member (was at the original founding meeting in Abilene on March 16, 1991 and paid \$100 dues to

(Executive Secretary's Column, Continued from page 4):

help get the association started), a Charter Member (who also paid \$100 dues before school started to help get it started), or a Regular or Associate Member that very first year:

https://www.atssb.org/files/execsec/ATSSB_1991-92.pdf

Best wishes for a successful marching season. Please let me know if there is anything ATSSB can do to help you in your task.



President-Elect's Column

by Matt Knight



MATT KNIGHT

Welcome back everyone! Where did the summer go? We have finished summer band, had two public performances and headed to our 2nd ball game tomorrow. It seems like just yesterday we were leaving TSSEC. You know, I think it was yesterday... Congratulations to all the outstanding bands that were part of the OPS process this year. What a great way to show off the talent in our small school bands. Any group that advanced along the way should feel honored! Thanks to Collin Anderson for all your hard work with this project. You always do an outstanding job! A special shout out to Kenneth Griffin for being named the 2019 Phi Beta Mu "Outstanding Contributor" for his work with ATSSB the last 28 years. A well-deserved honor for a great man. Thanks for all you do!

I hope your new year is off to a great start. The fall moves so fast. Marching fundamentals, show music, National Anthem, and those "traditional stand tunes" that seem to never go away. As you are getting started I hope you look at your program through the eyes of your kids. Your seniors are living all the "last firsts": Last summer band, last Meet the Antelopes, last "first show" of the year. These are the leaders of your program, and you want it to be a special year. Your juniors are trying so hard to be the leaders and can't wait until it is their year next year. Some are even getting to play 1st part. Most importantly, they got to drive to summer band!! Your sophomores are so excited that they know what is going on, most of the time. They found their locker without help and still have most of their music. Most of all, they are not Freshmen! Our Freshman are always a special group. They grow so fast. They start from "how do you hold this" and "you want me to play what.." to "I can't believe we just did that" and "that was amazing!" Remember to share each of those moments with your kids. Many of them enjoy music but most of them do it for you! Always remember that. Make Memories!!

I hope you will encourage your students to be part of the all-region process. Weather it is a middle school group, all region jazz, all city band or the all state process, there is so much to learn from the experience. So many students just want someone to encourage them to try. Just ask! I hope you will take a little time to help in your region. Offer to host an audition, host an all-region group, or even copy music and stuff folders. Region Coordinators have a thankless job. We all know the many hours they put in to help your kids as well as the directors in their region. Take a few minutes to drop them a text or email just to say thanks. A few of those, go a long way to make their day!

Hope you have a great fall. Please contact me if I can help you in any way!

Make Memories!

Immediate Past-President's Column

by Mike Bartley



MIKE BARTLEY

Another school year has begun and I am excited to be back in the swing of things! Every year brings a new set of challenges with the new faces that we have in our programs. The students are always excited about marching band, so it is easy to feed off of the energy that they produce. This year has proven once again to be quite hot, but we have had success while pushing through without incident. I always love to see how the new show unfolds and then morphs into its final product later in the season.

I want to congratulate all of you who participated, as well as placed, in the OPS and Honor Band contests. The competition gets tougher every year due to the amazing work that is being done in our ATSSB schools throughout the state. I think all of us should be proud of what we are accomplishing in our programs. Let's keep it up!

I always like to put in a plug to encourage everyone to renew their memberships to ATSSB and TMEA in order to be able to register your students for auditions.

It is important to belong to our professional organizations. They offer so many resources and so much support to us as teachers that they are an invaluable part of our careers.

I wish all of you a great semester, and I hope that you have many successes with your students this year!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Bartley".

Outstanding Performance Series

By Collin Anderson, OPS State Chair

CONGRATULATIONS to all the participants and winners in the 2019 Outstanding Performance Series competition! To those who won at the state level, remember that awards will be presented at ATSSB general session at the 2020 TMEA convention in February.

I want to thank everyone for who helps make our OPS process a great success. Thank you, Region and Area Coordinators, for all the hard work that went into securing judges and arranging the listening sessions while also working through the still somewhat new process of manipulating the online data. A word of thanks also goes to all OPS judges at each level this spring; thank you for giving up time during the summer or at TBA to listen and help pick our winners. To all of the bands and directors that entered, thank you for keeping the OPS competition alive and well by showcasing the talents of your students. Finally, to Marc Nichelson, a hearty thank you for running our tabulation during the state contest at TBA.



COLLIN ANDERSON

I want to once again thank ATSSB and the SBOD for entrusting me to chair the OPS competition. It is an honor and privilege to serve our incredible organization!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Collin Anderson".

\$1000 Bruce Kenner Memorial Scholarship

The ATSSB State Board of Directors created the \$1000 Bruce Kenner Memorial Scholarship in 2014 and five students have already been selected to receive the \$1000 award: Meagan Fowler from Canton High School in 2015, Caleb Cude from Whitesboro High School in 2016, Jacob Nance from New Deal in 2017, Donna Hyde from Kemp High School in 2018, and Hailey Sherrill from Smithville High School in 2019. Applications are now being accepted from seniors in ATSSB schools interested in getting a teacher certificate and teaching band in a public or private school. Applicants have until January 11, 2020 to apply, with the scholarship recipient being announced at the ATSSB General Session February 13, 2020.



in memory of
Bruce Kenner

Mr. Kenner was a band director in small schools all over Texas for 30 years and a proud member of ATSSB. His family wanted to continue his passion and love of music, teaching, and helping students for years to come. They wanted to honor him with this scholarship.

Seniors may apply by filing out an online application, attaching a resumé and statement. Applications will be reviewed by a committee which will select 3-5 finalists, from which the ATSSB Executive Committee will select the recipient.



If you have a senior in your band interested, have them complete the application at:
<https://www.atssb.org/bruce-kenner-memorial-scholarship/>

Other details may be viewed at <https://www.atssb.org/kenner-scholarship/>

State Board of Directors Meeting

7:23 a.m., July 25, 2019

Menger Hotel Minuet Room

Present: Region 22 Coordinator Anthony Alvarez, Region 3 Coordinator Area North Coordinator and Immediate Past-President Mike Bartley, Region 7 Coordinator Brian Beeson, Region 21 Coordinator Gehrig Blankenship, Region 2 Coordinator Asa Burk, Region 14 Coordinator Charles Cabrera, Class 1A/2A Representative Brandon Garmon, Region 11 Coordinator Leo Garza, Region 9 Coordinator Trent Graves, President Eric Gray, Executive Secretary and Founding Charter Member Kenneth Griffin, Region 10 Coordinator Russell Hopkins, Region 6 Coordinator Darrin K. Johns, Region 29 Coordinator Jason Younts, Region 15 Coordinator Benjamin Keltner, Region 16 Coordinator and President-Elect Matt Knight, Class 3A Representative Angie Liss, Founding Charter Member and Past-President Michael Marsh, Region 12 Coordinator Laurie Mollenkopf, Class 1C Representative Gina Muela, Region 18 and Composition Competition Coordinator Ann Lowes Mueller, Region 8 Coordinator and Webmaster Marc Nichelson, Region 23 Coordinator John Pritchett, Region 13 Coordinator Rod Rodriguez, Class 2C Representative Christina Smith, Class 4A Representative Jason Smith, Past-President George Strickland, Past-President and Charter Member Robert Vetter, Kelli Wilson (proxy for Region 5 Coordinator Ross Langdon), and Past-President John Young. Attending as guests were OPS State Chair Collin Anderson, State Jazz Coordinator Brian Donnell, Area West Coordinator Don Summersgill, Area East Coordinator Joe Hewitt, UIL Assistant Music Director Gabe Musella, and Area South Coordinator Emerico Perez. **Not present:** Founding Charter Members John Gibson and R. Michael Hardy and Elmer Schenk, Founding Charter Member and Past-President Fred Pankratz, Charter Member and Past-President Don Stockton, Past-Presidents Brandon Brewer, Jim Jones, Steven Moore, Ronnie Page, Gary Robbins and Rob Toups, Area Central Coordinator Perry Morris, Region 4 Coordinator Jason Steele, and Region 1 Coordinator Kevin Kuehler.

Meeting **called to order** at 7:23 a.m. by Eric Gray.

The **Invocation** was given by Laurie Mollenkopf.

The **Oath of Office** was administered by Kenneth Griffin.

Mr. Gray **suspended the agenda** to allow OPS State Chair Collin Anderson to give his report so he could attend the OPS judges'

(Continued on page 8)

meeting:

Mr. Anderson noted OPS adjudication room changes (302, 303, 304 with 305 as office). He said that he had three items to report:

He reported that the OPS committee was looking at a separate non-varsity track but would not add it for 2020 because they were still investigating it.

The committee moved that a second monitor be paid if using two panels in adjudications. After a second by Robert Vetter, motion passed.

The committee approved adding recordings made at a TMEA Honor Band performance to the list of approved contests/festivals.

Minutes of the SBOD meeting February 14, 2019, as printed in the March Newsletter were approved as amended after a motion by Brian Beeson and a second by Laurie Mollenkopf.

Under the reports of Special Committees:

Mr. Gray introduced UIL Assistant Music Director Gabe Musella who gave a **UIL report**:

No Pass / No Play rule was implemented last spring. Local ISDs will decide whether to implement or not.

Under a new initiative, the solo & ensemble committee added more than 700 new Class I solos to the list with several new categories of ensembles. Class II & III will be addressed this year. He referred to the website to see who is on the committee.

New sightreading procedures have been approved with details on the TMAA website.

Class 1A, 3A and 5A will participate in the State Marching Contest November 4, 5 and 6 in the Alamodome in San Antonio. If 30-39 qualify for Area or State, 12 bands will advance. If more than 40, 14 will advance.

Student physicals are required grades 9 and 11 for marching band participation with medical questionnaires required each year.

There is a study looking at holding the State Marching Contest for each classification each year beginning in the fall of 2020.

Amplification on the marching field is under study (how many individuals can be amplified).

TMAA ad hoc committee is working on new Area/State adjudication sheets.

The Website Report was given by Marc Nichelson:

The new website is up. He asked everyone to reach out to him for login codes and he will help with WordPress. Be sure to request plugins through him.

Pictures submitted by members will rotate on the opening page soon.

The site can be accessed by mobile devices and can even be controlled using the WSordPress app on iPhones and iPads, etc.

Be sure to be prepared to use the site for ATSSB email accounts (use personal email for personal communications, but the ATSSB email account for anything to do with region/area/ATSSB business).

Christina Smith reported on the **Inclusion Committee**:

Since the SBOD had already received the report of the committee, motion was made by committee to adopt the report (attached) and add wording regarding inclusion to Section I.I. of the Student Entry and Registration Procedures of the Prescribed Audition List. After a second by Jason R. Smith, motion carried.

The Executive Committee met prior to the SBOD meeting and voted to move that the SBOD reappoint Kenneth Griffin to a two-year term as Executive Secretary and add \$2500 to his annual stipend. After a second by Russell Hopkins, motion carried.

Heard reports of **Standing Committees**:

President-Elect and **SARC** Chair Matt Knight had no report.

Ann Lowes Mueller, Coordinator of the **Composition Competition**, announced that the committee had reviewed thirteen entries and selected one winner with one Honorable Mention. Those will be named at the General Session on Friday. She noted that the oversight committee (Class Representatives) and she will be looking at rewriting the rules and procedures in preparation for the 2022 competition.

Mike Bartley reported on behalf of the **Past-President Committee** that he and Rob Toups would present a clinic at 1:00 sponsored by ATSSB regarding how to have a smooth transition in a successful program when the head director retires or moves.

State Jazz Coordinator Brian Donnell noted that the website was up and running and the jazz pages are updated. He

told Region and Area Coordinators to pick up the official accompaniment CD for this year from him.

President's Report by Eric Gray:

Mr. Gray reported that he and Matt Knight attended the TMEA Dialogue Series III this summer and were able to add perspective regarding effects on small schools. Special emphasis was made regarding the push for more technological courses and career training for marketable skills moving into lower grades, causing conflicts with fine arts selections. He noted that TMEA and UIL were very interested in ATSSB's opinions on these matters. He reported that Joe Munoz, TMEA Band Division Vice-President, told him that TMEA was adding an all-state percussion ensemble and mariachi band in 2021 and asked if ATSSB were considering the same. He thanked Marc Nicholson for the new website and noted that all volunteers and organizers were in place for 2020. He noted that he would be running the state chair auditions once again but thought it was time someone worked with him this year to take over that role in 2021.

Executive Secretary's Report by Kenneth Griffin:

Gave a **Scholarship Report** which showed a value of \$154,194.96 as of June 1, 2019, noting that we still lack paying 15 \$500 and 3 \$2000 scholarships. Noted that the **Kenner Scholarship Fund** was valued at \$14,031.22 as of June 1, 2019, and that 5 \$1000 scholarships had been awarded in the last 5 years. The **Program Fund** was valued at \$22,834.56 as of June 1, 2019 and that dividends from that fund have consistently paid for all-state programs since the fund was started with a donation from the Elmer and Anita Family Trust. Noted that a new brokerage account had been set up with \$10,525 for the **Commission Fund** from the additional \$5 Area fee added in 2019. Noted that we have under contract for coming years:

2020

David Welborn, Texas A&M University – Concert Band

Concert Band will premier **Scherzito, after Gustav Holst** by Christopher Lowry, winner of the 2020 Composition Competition

Eugene Corporon, University of North Texas - Symphonic Band

Paul Harshman, University of Washington – Jazz Ensemble

2021

Brian Balmages – Symphonic Band

Brian Balmages – commissioned composer (premiered by Symphonic Band)

Don Lefevre, West Texas State University – Concert Band

Russell Schmidt, Valley Jazz Cooperative, Phoenix – Jazz Ensemble

There was no old business.

Under **new business**:

Mr. Griffin reported that, after consultation with TMEA, **Licensees** will not be allowed to pay a royalty to individual regions in addition to the contracted royalty for the scholarship fund. They may pay up to \$300 for refreshments at region meetings but may not be allowed to give a sales pitch to the region.

Laurie Mollenkopf moved and Matt Knight seconded to approve the **Fall Agenda** to be sent to Region Coordinators for inclusion in their fall region meetings. Motion carried.

Kenneth Griffin moved and Angie Liss seconded that **Probst Audio's bid** to record the 2020 All-State performances on CDs be accepted. After a discussion regarding the future of CDs and streaming or downloading as an option, motion carried.

Ann Lowes Mueller moved and Darin K. Johns seconded that we adopt the **TMEA Code of Ethics** into the Rules and Regulations of the Prescribed Audition List. Motion carried.

Matt Knight moved and Mike Bartley seconded that the State Board make the motion to approve the

Constitutional Amendment regarding the removal or rejection of a member of ATSSB. Motion carried.

A discussion regarding an ATSSB all-state percussion ensemble and mariachi band was referred to committee.

Brian Beeson moved and Mike Bartley seconded that the time and place of the **General Session** is to be set for 2:30 p.m. on Friday, July 26, 2019, in CC205. Motion passed.

There was no other new business.

There were no **Region reports**.

There were no **Area reports**.

Mr. Gray **adjourned** the meeting at 8:18.

Minutes of the February ATSSB General Session

The General Session of ATSSB met in CC205 on Friday, July 26, 2019, with approximately 100 in attendance. President Eric Gray called the meeting to order at **2:30 p.m.**

Collin Anderson from Groesbeck gave the invocation.

Mr. Gray introduced the head table: himself, Executive Secretary **Kenneth Griffin**, Class 1C Representative **Gina Muela**, President-Elect **Matt Knight**, Class 4A Representative **Jason R. Smith**, 3A Representative **Angie Liss**, Class 2C Representative **Christina Smith**, Immediate Past-President **Mike Bartley**, and Class 1A/2A Representative **Brandon Garmon**.

The **minutes** of the General Session February 15, 2019, were approved as printed in the September Newsletter after a motion by **Brian Beeson** from Burkburnett and a second by **Kyle White** from Grand Saline.

Reports from Standing Committees:

Ann Lowes Mueller, Composition Competition Coordinator, announced the winner of the 2020 Composition Competition was Christopher Lowry for **Scherzito, after Gustav Holst**. Honorable Mention was awarded to Kelly Bennette for **Belt of Orion**.

OPS State Chair **Collin Anderson** announced the 2019 OPS winners and runners-up. He noted that there would no longer be CDs produced, but that winning files would be available to 2018-19 ATSSB members as a free PDD (Permanent Digital Download) on the new website when mechanical licenses had been procured.

In the **President's Report**, Mr. Gray reported on State Board of Director action: Kenneth Griffin was reappointed as Executive Secretary for a two-year term with \$2500 added to his stipend; Probst Audio's bid to record the 2020 All-State concerts was accepted; The TMEA Code of Ethics was adopted into the ATSSB Rules and Procedures. He then noted that Kenneth Griffin had been awarded the 2019 Phi Beta Mu Outstanding Contributor Award. He also noted that the new ATSSB website was up and running.

Executive Secretary **Kenneth Griffin** reported on the status of the scholarship and program funds. He reported clinicians and composers under contract for the next two years:

2020: Eugene Corporon (UNT), Symphonic Band, Dr. David Welborn (A&A), Concert Band, Paul Harshman (University of Washington), Jazz Ensemble. The Concert band will premier Christopher Lowry's **Scherzito, after Gustav Holst** as winner of the 2020 Composition Competition.

2021: Brian Balmages (FJH Music), Symphonic Band, Don Lefevre (WTAMU), Concert Band, Russell Schmidt (Valley Jazz Cooperative, Phoenix), Jazz Ensemble, ATSSB has commissioned Brian Balmages to write a piece for the Symphonic Band to premier.

There was no old business and no new business.

The State Board moved for the adoption of the Constitutional Amendment regarding the refusal or removal of membership as needed. After a second by Don Summersgill, motion passed.

Mr. Gray then adjourned the meeting at 2:43 p.m. after a motion by Jason R. Smith and a second by Matt Knight.

Webmaster's Column

by Marc Nichelson

I hope everyone's year has gotten off to a great start! Although it has been quite warm, I know it has still been rewarding to enjoy marching band with your students. Good luck this season and I know your students will have another great year.

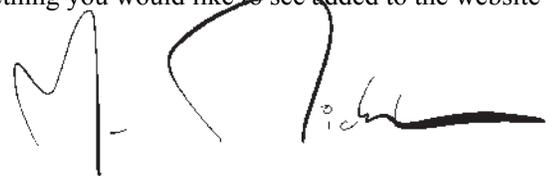
Website is up and running with content going up daily as our Region and Area Coordinators continue to build out their sections of the website. This has been a monumental task, but we are very pleased to see all of the ATSSB information housed under one site.

We are also finishing up setting up Gmail accounts for our officers and coordinators. Once we have everyone up and running your contacts for the ATSSB will be at an email address that ends in "@atssb.org". Example: my email will be mnichelson@atssb.org .

Still wanting to collect pictures for the website (for those whom already sent pictures THANK YOU) If you have a picture featuring, your band performing (or just one you think would be good for the website) and it's a high-quality image you may submit it at the following link:

<https://driveuploader.com/upload/c5HTeIQAcJ/>

As always if you see something you think is missing from the website, or something you would like to see added to the website please feel free to reach out!



State Jazz Coordinator's Column

by Brian Donnell



BRIAN DONNELL

Happy New School Year to all!

Region Jazz auditions are approaching rapidly, so please check with your region coordinator for audition date and site. This is Year D for jazz auditions – Cuban Fire Ant...Sweet!, Just Ahead, Sink or Swing, and C Modal Blues for Improv.

Remember that all students auditioning should perform with the appropriate CD accompaniment track. Ask your region coordinator if he/she has this year's specific CD for the auditions.

Specifics about music cuts, rules and more can be found on the website - <https://www.atssb.org/competitions/jazz-ensemble/>

Give me a call, text, email if you have questions about the process.

All the best,



Brian Donnell
972-978-9161
donnellb@greenhill.org

The ATSSB Newsletter is the official publication of the Association of Texas Small School Bands. Any correspondence should be addressed to ATSSB; 2117 Morse Street; Houston, Texas 77019. You may also contact us on our Web Site (www.atssb.org) or email the Editor (Kenneth Griffin) at atssb@att.net or call 713-874-1151. Letters to the Editor will be published as space permits if signed and verified, although writers may remain anonymous by request. Advertising rates are available at <http://www.atssb.org/execsec/AdPolicy.pdf>.

ATSSB All-State Band Scholarship Fund

Value of scholarship fund 7-31-18 ... \$ 151,372.47*

RECEIPTS

330 Memberships after 10-1 \$ 8,250.00
 Individual donations received \$ 1,293.00
 Dividends \$ 7,769.29
 Licensee royalties \$ 18,822.09

TOTAL RECEIPTS +\$ 36,134.38

EXPENDITURES:

Scholarships paid -\$ 31,000.00
 Scholarship plaques -\$ 796.00

TOTAL EXPENDITURES -\$ 31,796.50

Value of scholarship fund 7-31-19 \$ 152,738.86*

Scholarships awarded Fiscal Year 2019:

25 3-Year \$500.00 scholarships
 7 4-Year \$2,000.00 scholarships

Scholarships redeemed and paid to date this Fiscal Year \$31,000.00

There are 13 \$500 scholarships and 2 \$2000 scholarship awarded in 2018 that are unclaimed to date = \$ 10,500.00 encumbered.

*Value of fund fluctuates with market, but fund pays dividends per share per month regardless of stock value. Dividends are reinvested in the fund. Money is withdrawn from the fund to pay scholarships as they are redeemed.

ATSSB FINANCIAL REPORT

July 31, 2019 - end of fiscal year 2018-19

Amount in checking account 7-31-18 \$ 76,048.27

RECEIPTS:

Dues \$ 59,505.00
 Jazz fees \$ 13,840.00
 Area fees \$ 52,625.00
 OPS fees \$ 41,100.00
 Late fees (paid to Scholarship) \$ 8,250.00
 Licensee royalties (paid to Scholarship) .. \$ 18,507.09
 Program Fund Dividends \$ 1,186.20
 Kenner scholarship donations \$ 1,550.00
 Miscellaneous receipts \$ 35,581.00
 Patches \$ 16,201.18

TOTAL RECEIPTS \$ 248,345.47

AVAILABLE FUNDS \$ 324,393.74

EXPENSES:

All-State expenses \$ 23,360.38
 Area expenses \$ 12,693.33
 Audit \$ 1,747.92
 Commission Fund \$ 10,525.00
 Executive Committee expenses \$ 4,000.00
 Executive Secretary stipend \$ 40,000.00
 Internet \$ 1,019.35
 Jazz Ensemble expenses \$ 4,082.80

Kenner Scholarship Transfers \$ 1,108.00
 Misc. expenses \$ 2,361.68
 Newsletter \$ 1,182.98
 Office expenses \$ 4,301.55
 Officer & Org. convention expenses \$ 3,784.50
 OPS expenses \$ 27,063.73
 Patches \$ 16,103.20
 PayPal, Square fees \$ 1,479.75
 Postage \$ 1,179.07
 Programs \$ 1,218.85
 Refunds \$ 890.00
 Scholarship transfers \$ 55,661.09
 State Board of Directors expenses \$ 2,285.13
 TBA expenses \$ 1,748.04
 Telephone \$ 927.84
 TMEA \$ 25.00
 Training Session (TBA 2018) \$ 239.76
 TOTAL EXPENSES -\$ 220,960.23

BALANCE:

Amount in checking account 7-31-19 \$ 103,433.51

Elmer and Anita Schenk Family Trust Program Fund:

Value of fund as of 7-31-19 \$ 22,834.56*
 *Dividends are paid to ATSSB to pay for programs each year.

Bruce Kenner Memorial Scholarship Fund value as of 7-31-19 \$ 13,031.23**

Commission Fund value as of 7-31-19 \$ 10,086.46**

2019-20 ATSSB Officers and Organizers

Officers

Eric Gray, Gilmer High School (2019-2021)	President
Matt Knight, Abernathy High School (2019-2021)	President-Elect
Mike Bartley, Canton High School (2019-2021)	Immediate Past-President
*Kenneth L. Griffin, St. John Paul II Catholic School (appointed 2019-2021) ..	Executive Secretary
Anna G. Muela, Littlefield Junior High School (2019-2021)	Class 1C Representative
Christina Smith, Center Middle School (2018-2020)	Class 2C Representative
Brandon Garmon, Union Grove High School (appointed 2019-2020)	Class 1A/2A Representative
Angie Liss, Howe High School (2019-2021)	Class 3A Representative
Jason R. Smith, North Lamar High School (2018-2020)	Class 4A Representative

Region Coordinators

1	Kevin Kuehler, Borger HS	12	Laurie Mollenkopf, La Vernia JH
2/31	Asa Burk, Argyle High School	13/17	Rod Rodriguez, Stafford HS
3/20	Mike Bartley, Canton HS	14	Charles Cabrera, Robstown HS
4	Jason Steele, White Oak HS	15/28	Benjamin Keltner, Port Isabel HS
5/30	Ross Langdon, Alvarado HS	16	Matt Knight, Abernathy HS
6	Darin K. Johns, Andrews HS	18/26	Ann Lowes Mueller, Retired
7	Brian Beeson, Burkburnett HS	21	Gehrig Blankenship, Rusk HS
8	Marc Nichelson, China Spring HS	22	Anthony Alvarado, Clint HS
9/33	Trent Graves, Coldspring-Oakhurst HS	23/27	John Pritchett, Retired
10/19	Russell Hopkins, Warren HS	24/25	Angie Liss, Howe HS
11	Leo Garza, Retired	29/32	Jason Younts, Fredericksburg HS

The SBOD (enclosed by the border) includes as voting members the following active Founding Charter Members(*) who are not presently serving as officers: John Gibson (Founder), R. Michael Hardy, Michael Marsh, Fred Pankratz, and Elmer Schenk. Serving as ex-officio members of the SBOD are Past-Presidents John Young, Brandon Brewer, Robert Vetter, Rob Toups, Jim Jones, Steven Moore, Gary Robbins, George Strickland, Ronnie Page, and Don Stockton.

Area Coordinators, Area Audition Sites (Regions encompassed) - Site Telephone

Area West Coordinator:	Don Summersgill, Shallowater HS (1,6,16,22) - 806-789-3551 (cell)
Area North Coordinator:	Mike Bartley, Argyle HS (2,3,7,24) - 972-989-0363 (cell)
Area East Coordinator:	Joe Hewitt, Tyler Chapel Hill HS (4,9,10,21) - 903-330-6548 (cell)
Area Central Coordinator:	Perry Morris, Robinson HS (5,8,18,23,29) - 979-540-0515 (cell)
Area South Coordinator:	Emerico Perez III, Orange Grove HS (11,12,13,14,15) - 361-661-0303

All-State Symphonic Band Organizer	Brian Sours, Tenaha HS
All-State Symphonic Band Percussion Organizer	Brian Straw, Henderson HS
All-State Concert Band Organizer	Luis Zepeda, London HS
All-State Concert Band Percussion Organizer	David Speer, New Deal HS
All-State Jazz Ensemble Coordinator	Brian Donnell, Greenhill School
All-State Jazz Ensemble Organizer	Benjamin Keltner, Port Isabel HS
All-State Band Organizer Apprentice	Justin Ketner, Winona HS
All-State Band Percussion Organizer Apprentice	Jordan Fitzwater, Community HS
All-State Band Seating Tryout Organizer	Eric Gray, Gilmer HS
All-State Band Seating Tryout Office Manager	Kristi Flusche, Groesbeck HS
All-State Band Section Rehearsal Coordinator	Jerry Whorton, Melissa HS
ATSSB Outstanding Performance Series State Chair	Collin Anderson, Groesbeck HS
ATSSB Composition Competition Coordinator	Ann Lowes Mueller, Retired

Dates to Remember

JAZZ ENSEMBLE REGION AUDITIONS must take place between the first Saturday in September and the first Saturday in October.

AREA JAZZ recordings are to be uploaded to the TMEA server immediately after region jazz auditions.

JAZZ ENSEMBLE DESIGNATED SET ADJUDICATIONS are to take place between the Sunday preceding and the Saturday following the State Marching Contest.

AREA CERTIFICATION DEADLINE: December 14, 2019

AREA: Saturday, January 11, 2020

ALL-STATE CLINIC: February 12-15, 2020

Dr. David F. Wilborn, Texas A&M University – CONCERT BAND

Premier performance of the winner of the 2020 ATSSB Composition Competition

Eugene Corporon, University of North Texas – SYMPHONIC BAND

Paul Harshman, University of Washington - JAZZ ENSEMBLE

ALL-STATE CONCERT Saturday, February 15, 2020: Concert Band at 9:00 a.m. in the Lila Cockrell Theatre; Symphonic Band after the Concert Band in the Lila Cockrell Theatre; Jazz Ensemble at 12:30 a.m. in the Hemisfair Ballroom 1 of the Convention Center.

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
(855) 737-9327
www.pepwear.com



Probst Audio

P.O. Box 8018
Ennis, Texas 75120
972-878-6018
info@ProbstAudio.com

Jordan Sound Productions

P.O. Box 170
Bullard, Texas 75757
JordanSP@aol.com
903-539-6485 (telephone) 903-956-0230 (fax)



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



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
http://www.westsiderecording.com



Mattei Music Services

202 Covey Lane
McKinney, Texas 75071
(972) 838-2443
matteimusic@attwb.net

Mattei Music Services

The Amusement Park Recording Studio



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

MUSICSMITHS AUDIO

MUSICSMITHS AUDIO

1509 Hollow Tree
Round Rock, Texas 78681
512-731-0365
www.musicsmithsaudio.com

David Lane Productions

2504 McCoy Road
Carrollton, Texas 75006
972-221-3283
dave@davelaneproductions.com



Texas Music Festivals, LLC

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



California T's



1611 University
Lubbock, Texas 79401
(800) 763-1071



Woodstock Enterprises

404 W. 11th
Idalou, Texas 79329
806-778-7545
800-223-4511
www.woodstocknet.net

Southwest Emblem

300 Conrad Hilton Avenue
Cisco, Texas 76437
254-442-2500
http://www.southwestemblem.com

