

ATSSB Newsletter

In our 30th year serving Texas small school bands

Greetings from ATSSB!

We have all seen unanticipated and troubling times over the past six months with the onset of COVID-19, the cancellation of school activities, the uncertainty of the opening of school and the role fine arts teachers will play in the new school year with the restrictions in place regarding social distancing, mask use, restricted group sizes, etc. It is especially troubling that surveys show that half of parents contacted said they would not feel comfortable allowing their children to return to the physical campus for fear of contracting the virus. That leaves band directors especially burdened with the expectation of teaching beginners, preparing a marching band show (uncertain if there will be bussing available or even football games or performance venues open for their presentation) - all amid restrictions regarding space restrictions, distancing, disinfections, lack of room and personnel to match the requirements, etc. No one really knows what will happen to this coming year, but we all have a stake in the future of fine arts in education. If you have a contact at the state level, make sure your voice is heard.

Even with all of the restrictions at the end of the year, ATSSB enjoyed another exciting and productive year in 2019-20. It was evident from the number of members we had in our twenty-ninth year (1237, up from 1218 in the previous year) and from the quality of the 2020 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 Eugene Corporon from the University of North Texas conducting the Symphonic Band. Dr. David F. Wilborn from Texas A&M University led the Concert Band, premiering **Scherzito, After Gustav Holst** by Christopher Lowe (winner of the 2020 ATSSB Composition Competition). Also, Paul Harshman from the University of Washington 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 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 to join and use your credit card to pay dues (<https://www.atssb.org/atssb-membership-application-form/>). 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. Since the TMEA Convention in February will be virtual this year, please see officer columns inside this Newsletter for details on how that will affect region/area/state auditions.

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 start our thirtieth 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

Hello once again! As I am writing this, we are getting some really good information on the virtual auditions that will be taking place this fall. A “new normal” if you will. Seems like this year has been full of those...

ATSSB will be celebrating our 30th anniversary this year! Wow what a tremendous achievement! We must always remember why this organization was formed in the first place and always strive to meet the needs of the students and educators in our small schools. A big thank you to the Founding Charter Members that had the gumption to go out on their own and turn a vision into a reality.

I still remember that very first ATSSB All State Band as they took the stage before the concert. Still gives me chill bumps! Class 4A Representative Jerry Wharton will be leading a committee celebrating our past with success stories from ATSSB students and teachers as we celebrate our past and look forward to our future.

TMEA has done a great job mapping out our route for this new endeavor and hopefully you have been able to receive some online training about how these auditions will take place, beginning with Jazz Auditions coming soon. Remember you must be a member of ATSSB and TMEA to enter your students in our contests so get those memberships up to date as soon as possible.

A new year brings new challenges and opportunities, this year more than ever. While some school districts have begun with both in person and online learners with the possibility of shutting down if covid cases increase, other districts are waiting and determining if total online learning is the best option for their district. Regardless of the method, we must make our educational responsibilities top priority and meet the needs of our students, wherever they are. We had our first football game last night and it really felt great to be back with our kids, teachers and members of our community in a celebration of what we might have taken for granted just a year ago. Times have certainly changed and now more than ever I look forward to opportunities such as this, as a time to come together and get our kids involved and back to normal, so to speak. We are reminded that even though they might complain about it, they really do need and want our classroom environment. I am constantly reminding my students to keep a safe distance and wear your mask because they just want to be close to each other again and sometimes they forget. What was once a disagreement between students or groups has now become less important considering just actually being able to be together. As Ben Franklin is quoted for saying, “We know the value of water once the well is dry”. I believe we have figured out we really need and want to be together once that was removed from us for most of the spring and summer.

Please remember your administrators during this time as well. The guidelines coming from the various agencies are often contradictory and seemingly change every 72 hours. The job they have is monumental and comes with a great deal of stress, attempting to keep everyone safe while taking care of the educational needs of every student in the district. A small word of encouragement can go a long way when often they are receiving a large dose of criticism and complaints.

It has been a very busy summer with lots of Zoom meetings with the Executive Committee, State Board, TMEA, TMAA along with phone calls, emails and a ton of text messages. The people in leadership positions of ATSSB are continuing to work hard on the behalf of you and your students. If there is anything we can do to help, please reach out to the appropriate leadership position. There will be lots of new opportunities and questions along the way and we are here to help in anyway we can. We are here to serve you and our students so please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Gray". The signature is fluid and cursive, written on a white background.

Executive Secretary's Column

by Kenneth L. Griffin



2020 OPS CANCELLED We had to cancel the 2020 Outstanding Performance Series due to the closing of schools and cancellation of contests and festivals. We look forward to some semblance of normalcy sometime in the coming year so we can revive this vital part of ATSSB.

2021 ALL-STATE BAND The TMEA Convention this year will be a virtual one like TBA was. That means that students auditioning for the All-State Band will be selected through the virtual audition process in place now all the way to State. Students selected to the ATSSB All-State Band or Jazz Ensemble will receive a shoulder patch and certificate this year.

KENNETH GRIFFIN

LOST CARD? If you have misplaced your new ATSSB membership card, you can 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 President-Elect along with Class 1C, and 3A 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 electronic voting will select the new officers in January. The General Session will still be held during the virtual TMEA Convention, but there will be no OPS awards given and no officer elections.

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, then DIRECTOR LOGIN, 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 DIRECTORS AND STUDENTS: Read all data regarding virtual entries!** There are three easy steps: 1) DIRECTOR enters students (be VERY careful to select the correct contest, track, instrument, etc.),

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2) After the posted deadline on Friday, students have from Saturday until Wednesday to SUBMIT their recordings using MusicFirst, after which 3) DIRECTORS have until Friday to VERIFY the entries. Once the recorded file is **SUBMITTED** there is no recovery. Be careful that the scales and etudes are correct, the cuts are correct and the recording made is the one(s) you wish to enter, then click on SUBMIT. Directors, you must verify that the recording entered and submitted is made by the student in question by Friday. Also remember that when you enter your ATSSB number in the entry, just use the numbers alone. After that Friday, adjudications begin on Saturday. There are no late entries allowed this year and it will be difficult to make any changes after an entry has been submitted.

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 and all color instruments are auditioning in the 4A Track. If you have a class 1A, 2A or 3A student who wishes to take the 4A Track on another instrument - 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) - color instruments do not need to submit a Track Selection Form since all color instruments are adjudicated in the 4A Track. Also, please realize that since we are aligned with TMEA regarding auditions, directors will be held accountable regarding the policies and procedures 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 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 2020-21, 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 are already used to recording their audition. The method may change somewhat this year since you will be using backtracks and must submit your own files if not able to do it from your band halls.

ADVANCING PAST REGION If you have students who are selected to audition at the ATSSB Area auditions January 9, 2021, be sure to pay the Area fee or their recorded audition file will not be adjudicated at the Area level. All students who have a file adjudicated at Area will receive an Area patch. No forms are necessary at the virtual Area auditions. If you have a student make State, ATSSB will send an All-State shoulder patch and certificate to recognize their accomplishment. Scholarship recipients will be announced on the ATSSB Website and in communications with members.

The Website has undergone a face-lift. Webmaster Marc Nicholson has done a great job managing the new website. It 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/>).

Best wishes for a successful fall semester - however you are teaching it (in-person, virtual or hybrid). 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!

At this point we are all back to school in some fashion. Some of us are still doing “virtual” school from home while other get be in the building. Either way, the theme of the year is “CHANGE”

We are all learning to wear masks. Some of us are learning how social distancing works in our building, on buses and on the marching field. While many others, would just love to have the opportunity!

Change comes in many forms. We are having to adjust the way we teach, the way our classes are set up, and what kids we have (and for how long). The one thing we can't change is why we do what we do.

We have to love on our kids!! Most kids are not part of you band for contest, football games, or even for the love of music. They do it for family and a place to belong. They do it because of each one of you! I hope as you are getting started this year, don't worry because they are not as musical are they should be or don't march as sharp as they should, celebrate the fact that you are together. Contest is the least important thing you do. Our kids are the most important thing we get to be involved with. They are our future!

I have been privileged to sit in on several different meetings as we prepare for auditions this fall. I think the new “Virtual system” is going to be good for all of our students and will put everyone on equal footing. Thanks to Frank Coachman and Andrew Denman for all their hard work behind the scenes to get this system up and running. We are really lucky to have great Region Coordinators in place as well, to help implement this system. I know they will do an outstanding job.

Dr. Charles Trayler has told me many time the best way to build a band program is through Solo and Ensemble and the “All Region” process. Directors, encourage your students to audition for the different “all region” groups in your region. Weather it is a middle school all region group, local all district group, region jazz or the all state process. They will get better by being involved. This is the perfect year for that student that does not feel comfortable with a live audition. Maybe this is the year to get them started! Take the time this fall to work on solos and ensembles as well. So many great things can come from this process.

Be creative this year. Do some different things. Many of the schools are not allowing parents on campus. Do some virtual performances and send the videos to parents. Look at doing some outdoor concerts. One of the neat traditions in Abernathy is we do a “Christmas Village” in front of our Elementary for our community that starts with an outdoor Christmas Concert by our HS Band. The high temperatures over the years has been between 20 to 40 degrees. One year it even snowed! The music is always fun but it is the memories that are important. It is always funny to hear the kids talk about “how cold it was”! It has only been real bad once.

The easiest one to forget at the start of school is yourself. Take care of yourself the best you can. Take time for you and your family. There will always be tomorrow for work but time with your family is precocious. (I am not good a putting work away).

I think my principal Ezra Chambers summed it up best, all of the change to our routines are worth it, if we get to keep the kids in school. They need us and we need them.

Remember you set the tone each day! Your kids feed off of you! They will only be as positive and excited as you are!

Anna Jo and I pray that each one of you have a great fall semester. Love your kids and enjoy the moments!

Change continues....

Just after I sent this letter to Kenneth Griffin, we found out that the 2021 TMEA Clinic and Convention will be virtual. I know this leaves many people with lots of questions and hurt feelings. A few things you need to know. We are committed to complete the audition process this year and name both 2021 ATSSB All State Band. We will also have officer elections for ATSSB State Offices. Keep watch on your email for updates as we have them. I encourage you to reach out to myself or any of your ATSSB State Board with your concerns. Hopefully we will have more information soon. Together we will make the best of this.

Remember your students feed off of you! They will accept this change in the same way that you do. Our kids always mirror us!!

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

Immediate Past-President's Column

by Mike Bartley



MIKE BARTLEY

With a new school year starting for all of us, I think it is safe to say that this will definitely be the most unique year of teaching ever! We are all facing new challenges everyday whether teaching in-person or remotely. Whichever scenario you are in, I hope that everyone is settling in and finding their stride with their students. Personally, I know that it is great having the in-person students around again, and I can tell that they are glad to be back with friends and in a normal routine. I think we can all see that the past few months showed us how much students need the interaction with each other. I also hope that as educators we are able to continue to share ideas with each other to get students and educators alike through the year.

It is the time of year to make sure that you renew your memberships for TMEA and ATSSB if you haven't already done so. Both of these organizations are among the best in the country at serving music education and the students involved. If you are a head director, please encourage everyone on your staff to join even if you don't already pay for it out of your budget. Also, please remember that it is necessary to join both organizations to enter your students for auditions. I encourage you to not wait until the last minute to join!

With TMEA going to virtual auditions this year, I hope everyone still pushes their students to participate as they have always done. It is going to be different like everything else, but emphasize the positives with your students as this is still an important process for all of us.

I have one final word of encouragement for anyone who teaches at the middle school level. This will be the biggest challenge of all with 7th graders who lost one fourth of their beginner year. It will also not be easy with 8th graders who possibly feel behind and overwhelmed. If you are in this situation, don't give up! Continue encouraging those students to stick with it. It may take extra time this year, but those students are very resilient and will finish where they always do at the end of the year.

Good luck to everyone, and I hope that you have a great year in spite of the circumstances!

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

Outstanding Performance Series

By Collin Anderson, OPS State Chair

What an adventure we have all been living through! It has been a struggle to think through a newsletter article regarding the Outstanding Performance Series when it had to be cancelled for the 2020 season! It would have given me great pleasure to list the winners that would have normally received plaques in February.

Many of you are probably feeling the same types of struggle, having UIL C/SR cancelled before you performed, having to majorly adapt your summer band programs, trying to envision marching drills or even classroom arrangements with appropriate physical distancing, and a host of other issues you are trying to resolve. On top of it all, some of you haven't even been able to go back to school yet, while others of us have been at it for over two weeks!

Know, that as colleagues, my phone and email address are ready for you to contact me; feel free to ask questions, offer suggestions, or just call to vent if you need.

My hope and prayer is that we will be able to offer a new OPS season beginning in March of 2021 and carry it to completion with judging in July and awards at TMEA in 2022.

At the very least, just remember that we all still have the beautiful gift of music to share with our students in whatever way we get to do so! Wishing you all the best year possible!



COLLIN ANDERSON

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 six 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, Hailey Sherrill from Smithville High School in 2019, and Daniel Bartley from Canton High School in 2020. 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 9, 2021 to apply, with the scholarship recipient being announced at the virtual ATSSB General Session February 11, 2021.



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
July 7, 2020
2:00 p.m. ZOOM Meeting

36 Participants

Kenneth Griffin declared a quorum and Eric Gray called the meeting to order. He suspended the agenda and introduced Frank Coachman. He noted that TMEA has declared auditions will be virtual through Area (**Editor's note:** TMEA has announced that the Convention in February 2021 will also be virtual).

Griffin shared hosting so Coachman could share his screen. He shared a PowerPoint screen and discussed the items listed, going through the process TMEA has devised. TMEA talked about what this next year will look like, then come up with plans for activities regardless of what happens so schools can make plans. They come up with virtual auditions with no live region activities through Area, hoping to keep students apart so that when the convention comes around, perhaps we will be able to have a real convention-clinic. They felt like it would not be fair across the state (rural to urban). There is no clear idea what things will look like in 6-8 months, but we hope there will be time and place for region clinics and concerts in the spring, depending on the schedules. TMEA hopes to provide some sense of normalcy. Went to Music First (MF) since they have worked with them before. They have a platform TMEA can interface with. MF will host auditions. Students may compete on any Internet-connected digital device. Everything is archived. Recordings can have backing tracks. Recordings will be video, hoping to black out video in adjudications. If not, we are hoping the blended audition process will allow in-person adjudication with a monitor who can screen the video so anonymity is preserved. In the audition process, it will continue as usual but students will be assigned an account. Once the account (entry) has been created, there will be a fee charged for the account (\$2-\$3). The process from there was explained in detail. Darin

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(State Board of Directors Minutes, Continued from page 7):

Johns raised the question about the additional \$3 fee since most have already set budgets and regions have already set fees. Coachman suggested that a small fee be assessed to those selected to cover the shortfall. Griffin said ATSSB could help if we have to. Brian Sours asked if recorded audition will become permanent. Coachman responded that it could become normal to use as a first round for middle schools for large regions. It might work for some, but not all. Benjamin Keltner asked if region rules would have to be amended and Coachman said to not try to rewrite region rules. TMEA will write an addendum to show how it works depending on how the process falls out. In some districts they will be all virtual, so we do not want them penalized – or if a school closes down. We plan for the worst but hope for the best. Possibilities at this time are 50-50 for February convention. Eric Gray thanked Frank and TMEA for all they are doing and encouraged everyone to gather their questions and send to the Executive Committee which will compile them and send them on to Frank after we have had time to digest this information. Save your questions and let Frank Coachman get back to all his hard work. Coachman thanked the State Board for allowing him to come and told them to let TMEA know how to make the process as easy as possible.

The minutes printed in the March Newsletter were approved after a motion by Darin Johns and a second by Brian Beeson.

Special Committee reports:

- No UIL report.
- Website report by Marc Nichelson. Job Board facelift by the end of August. Webmaster account \$1017.16 – trying to get website back to self-sustaining with advertising. Any concerns, contact him at nichelson@atssb.org. He encouraged Region Coordinators to make their atssb.org accounts active.

Standing Committee Reports:

- SARC – No report
- CompComp – Unable to log into ZOOM meeting
- Past-President – Mike Bartley and Kenneth Griffin talked to Todd Toney from Dallas Winds about a survey regarding the purchase of Dallas Winds musicians making a video clinic of the etudes. \$100 per school gets codes for all instruments for all kids with emails of the musicians for questions to start a dialogue about the music. We told them we are doing this at TBA, but it could be a good thing to have a different perspective. Watch for that survey. They need about 50 schools to do that to cover their costs. Griffin asked Bartley to catch the SBOD up on the clinic that ATSSB was going to sponsor at TBA. Griffin explained how TBA's George Little did not think that clinic would fit their virtual parameters. Chris Brannan did not want to get involved with it, so we cancelled. It. Bartley said that they will look at something again (actually Eric Gray will as Immediate Past-President!) for next summer.
- OPS – Collin Anderson had no OPS report since we had to cancel OPS. Hopefully, next season we will get there. Griffin reminded him reminded about his motion. Steering Committee moves to raise judging stipend from \$75 to \$100. Griffin amended that to include Jazz judges. Anderson accepted the amendment. Comes as a motion from committee. Second by Jerry Whorton. Brian Beeson asked about the host fee. Griffin suggested raising host fee to \$125. Amendment accepted. Brian Sours asked if the raised honoraria will be too expensive. Griffin noted that ATSSB had sufficient funds to cover the increased honoraria. Collin Anderson clarified the question and Brian Sours agreed. Griffin agreed it was all fine. Fees and proposal were calculated and funds are sufficient to cover the increase. Motion carried.
- JAZZ – Brian Donnell thanked Marc Nichelson for his help. Jazz page is up and updated. He shared a screen of the jazz web page, pointing out the changes. Noted that the accompaniment track will not be on CD – it will be online at a password-protected site (password will be sent to Region Coordinators). You can download the tracks or run from the site. Area listening sites are posted there, balanced by area.

In the President's Report, Eric Gray noted that we were still working to prepare, with more questions than answers. If you have questions, let us know. If you will think about Frank Coachman's presentation, send questions or suggestions to the representatives on the Executive Committee. We need to consider how it affects small schools. We are still in need of apprentice organizers - send names to him. It is a 3-year process. Thanks to everyone taking care of their situations. We will get through it.

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Executive Secretary Kenneth Griffin was not going to have a report, but things came up. Region rules must be on file. He read a list of the regions he still had no updated rules from and asked coordinators to send them as Word documents. He asked coordinators to update their websites. Marc Nichelson will help as needed. As you get updates on your schools, update your webpages.

There being no old business, we moved on to new business:

- Licensee payments. See the link in the agenda to see what we have received from licensees over the years. Asked region coordinators to make sure vendors in their regions are Licensees. We follow TMEA policy of only allowing royalty payments to the Scholarship Fund and cannot pay a royalty to regions. They may pay up to \$300 for refreshments but are not allowed to speak to the assembly.
- Set Fall Region agendas. Hearing no changes suggested or added or deleted, motion made by Brian Beeson, second by Trent Graves. Motion carried.
- Table consideration of recording for State because Scott Probst was not able to get online at the moment.
- Considering the Alignment Agreement, much discussion ensued. The only two things we changed in the original proposal was adding TMEA All-State ensembles (Jazz II) and changing the meeting of the Dialogue Committee from annually to as needed. The TMEA Executive Board made several other changes: adding the two TMEA All-State Percussion Ensembles, changing the color instruments to straight tracking, adding that either organization can call for a Dialogue Committee meeting, and changing the configuration of existing ATSSB ensembles must be “reviewed” by the TMEA Executive Board to must be “approved”. Motion made by Darin Johns, seconded by Rod Rodriguez that we add “5A to item 1.a.iii. “TMEA 5A Symphonic Band – open to only”, change the wording for color instruments back to the original configuration item 1.b.ii. “ATSSB Concert Band – open to only 3A, 2A and 1A classifications (with the exception of color instruments, restricted to 4A, 3A, 2A, and 1A classifications), replace the “approved” in item 5.a. with “reviewed” as in the original agreement, and remove the “every year” from item 5.c. In the ensuing discussions, Jerry Whorton interjected that if we leave that as saying configuration changes must be “approved”, we no longer have the ATSSB All-State Band, but the TMEA Small School All-State Band. Laurie Mollenkopf agrees with the motion – we do not want to lose our independence as ATSSB or ability to configure our ensembles as we see fit – if TMEA has to approve everything we do, we are no longer our own organization. Whorton said color instrument tracking was brought to SARC and it was voted down so color instruments are represented by areas from across the state. Brian Sours questioned TMEA’s reason for changing the “reviewed” to “approved”. Whorton noted that the agreement has been in force for 12 years and they have not seen the need for the “approval” clause in our ensemble configuration. Brian Sours noted that usually there is a justification clause for changes – TMEA just changed it and said nothing. Trent Graves asked what happens if they say no? Griffin said we go back to the original agreement in 2015 until we both agree on an alignment agreement. Russell Hopkins asked if we were voting on making the changes as discussed and was told yes – as worded above. The question was called. Motion carried.
- We returned to the agenda for recording at state with Scott Probst. The Board had emails and the written proposal for digital recording at State. Still could not connect.
- Moving on to the next item of business, Constitutional interpretation regarding region meeting notifications. Interpret “in writing” to mean any form of writing, including electronic. Motion by Matt Knight, second by Marc Nichelson. Motion carried.
- Euphonium numbers – Griffin suggested we write a letter to TMEA asking for clarification regarding the numbers entering and the numbers selected to state that they quote because we feel like we have justified the numbers through our process of study: Our regions expressed an interest in the increase to state, the SARC reviewed the issue, and the SBOD considered the matter and voted to add the numbers recommended. Jerry Whorton asked if the membership voted on the baritone increase. Griffin said the SBOD voted on it as representatives of the membership. Laurie Mollenkopf moved that we send the letter, asking for clarification and why TMEA is saying “No” to our increase. Second by Kevin Kuehler. Jerry Whorton, based on discussions with Kenneth Griffin, asked if there been any open dialogue other than they would not approve this. Nothing until the agreement came after the TMEA Executive Board meeting. Brian Sours asked if we could put the baritone issue to the membership. Motion

carried.

The meeting had to be suspended until after the General Session quickly coming up. Jerry Whorton moved to suspend, Brian Sours seconded. Motion carried. Meeting suspended online at 3:30 p.m.

Meeting resumed at 3:50 p.m. Griffin apologized for limit to 100 in General Session. We will fix that for future meetings. Rod Rodriguez offered their school Pro account. Griffin said we have a Pro account, just did not pay the \$50/month fee to increase it to 300.

Admitted Scott Probst to talk about recording the performances at State. Griffin asked if he had anything to share other than the emails and proposal he had already shared with the SBOD. No CDs for sale – all digital. We as an Association will pay that fee, given to all participants at State. Regions will have to make their own plans at the region level. Griffin expressed his opinion that it looks like it is where we need to go. Jerry Whorton asked if the model been used in any locations already. Scott Probst responded that he had done it in several regions last year, pointing out Region 5 All-Region Orchestra. It is online – Spotify, YouTube, etc. Search for TMEA Region Orchestra. Griffin put the link into chat. Probst said the region was happy with it and will do it again next year. He has not heard a lot from ATSSB regions but it may be because they have not had their meetings yet. The other organizations are very happy to do it. Every student that plays can hear it, not having to buy a CD, using any connection free on any device. Griffin thanked Probst for his time and Probst left the meeting.

Next – consider virtual recording at all levels through Area. Griffin noted that this item has no action. We can't do anything about this other than follow TMEA audition procedures.

Next – Region and Area online training July 31. Griffin moved to require each Region/Area must be represented. Second by Matt Knight. Laurie Mollenkopf asked if we could invite others to join us in the meeting. Griffin said he will ask. Eric Gray noted you can always all be in one room with one connection if needed, but they have allowed extras in the past, but we will get clarification. Darin Johns asked if all these were suggestions or motions. Griffin responded there was a motion and a second on the floor to tell Regions they WILL have someone at that meeting. Motion carried.

Consider suspending all clinic-concerts until after Area, January 9, 2021. Encourage Regions to hold clinic-concert in the Spring following the TMEA lead. Motion by Kevin Kuehler, second by Jay Sutton – amended by Kevin Kuehler and the second by Jay Sutton to be after January 10, 2021. Jerry Whorton asked what to do about regions which have a contract with a big name out of state? Are they tied to that, are we going to bail them out, or what? Griffin noted that if the contract was made before the pandemic, you had no way of knowing there would be a pandemic cancelling all public gatherings by law, so if it is cancelled by that, there is nothing to do but tell the clinician. Motion carried.

Recording of state concerts – motion by Brian Beeson, Second by Angie Liss. Brian Beeson asked what it cost us in the past. Griffin replied nothing. It was all based on CD sales. We also pay FOH \$1500 to mike the jazz group (for all jazz groups, including TMEA jazz groups). Motion passed.

New business, Darin Johns asked about omitting timpani in the percussion auditions. Griffin noted that was one of the questions you send to the Executive Committee; also, come up with scenarios of how to deal with quarantined students, etc. that cannot come to a central location or site for recording. Brian Beeson noted that since Region meetings were digital, if they could go ahead and elect officers online? Griffin replied yes. Jerry Whorton asked about pushing the jazz deadline back 30 days, so he moved that we move the window for jazz back 30 days (regions can keep where it is) – second by Brian Sours. Darin Johns asked if we are moving it too close to marching contest. Griffin questioned if we are using TMEA audition process, can we do it at a different time? Frank Coachman said with backtracking, that once the window started there will be 5 to 7 days – could be different in each region. Angie Liss asked if TMEA sets the deadline like in athletics (certified by a certain time) can region coordinators go in and set the audition date or will TMEA set the deadline, taking that away from us? Griffin responde that we do not know but that was a good question to ask of the Executive Committee. We will have to wait on a lot of this stuff. Angie Liss noted that she was confused too. If she goes

(State Board of Directors Minutes, Continued from page 10):

in and sets it up and they log on and set up an account, the \$2-\$3 fee is charged, so if a student does not record would they then be a DNA? Laurie Mollenkopf wanted to know why the jazz deadline was set for September 30. Matt Knight thinks it is for if selected for State, they are ineligible to go to Area in other tracks. Jerry Whorton noted it was originally put in place for windows for shipping CDs, now digital and should not require as much time. Russell Hopkins wanted us to keep in mind those that do not make State can then try out in region auditions and be eligible for Area. Laurie Mollenkopf suggested then a deadline different from September 30. Elmer Shenck said the reason for September 30 was to avoid marching contests on Saturdays in October. Ask the Executive Committee to ask how jazz deadlines will work. Jerry Whorton said he was not suggesting extending deadline for the future, just this fall, that Elmer Shenck's thoughts were correct and we need to address all of these issues. Griffin asked if we could set the deadline. Eric Gray said we can unless TMEA says we all do it at the same time. Griffin noted that we may have different deadlines for entry, but TMEA will set accounts after that and THEN the window opens for 5 days for recordings to be uploaded. Again, ask Executive Committee to ask TMEA. Asa Burk said that just because we move the deadline forward, you can still do your auditions in the normal time frame. No one knows what marching season is going to be like so this can be a great time to get more kids involved in the jazz process. Griffin then wanted clarification: State Marching Contest timeline – regions enter students, they are assigned an account, then have a 5 day window to submit their recording to be selected for region, certain ones are certified to advance to area and the recording they entered is advanced to Area? Darin Johns wanted us to remember we have to judge all of these recordings. Assuming marching contests happen, October will be a busy month. If you set a later date for entry, we still have to judge them. Griffin noted that, while not ideal, judging could be completely virtual – they are hoping it can at least be a hybrid with 6 judges together with social distancing enforced to adjudicate the entries with a monitor not showing the video just playing the audio for the judges. Or it could be from your individual locations if we are in a virtual lockdown. Griffin noted that we ARE going virtual, so be prepared. Brian Donnell was asked online to catch up regarding September 30 deadline extension to October 30. Jerry Whorton told him we were wanting the deadline for Region and Area both 30 days back. Brian Donnell asked then when we would judge area. Whorton responded that we would have the month of November. Whorton then amended the motion to be only this year, following the same Area process, just compressing everything to get schools up and running. Donnell said he was all for more time, especially for getting a handle on the new process, but he was leery of getting all of the materials up in time to certify. Trey Graves reported that the TEA release that just came out part allow schools 3 weeks to phase in an opening. For us to extend this deadline to allow schools to get to some sort of normalcy before we have that deadline. Whorton suggested he withdraw this until later (meet SBOD again digitally). Brian Donnell thought they make one recording then certify, then they have to rerecord. Ask TMEA through Executive Committee. Eric Gray asked if a month was too long. They recorded the same day as region auditions in the past. Gray suggested we bump it two weeks, not a month, to the middle of October. Two weeks to make recordings and still meet deadlines. Brian Donnell noted that he was not the one that gets all of those files together. All of them have to be accurate. A month seems like a long time, but we spent 3 weeks tracking down correct recordings. A lot of things can go wrong and I can't imagine putting an entirely new procedure in place. Whorton asked if we were going to have to use MusicFirst software only all across. Ask Executive Committee to ask TMEA if one or two recordings for jazz. Donnell noted we will work with what is decided. Jerry Whorton removed the motion to discuss it in the future. Angie Liss noted this could all be moot – let's ask TMEA.

Region Reports: Region 13 Rod Rodriguez – to all wanted to know if we could poll the region coordinators to see who is moving their clinic-concert to next semester. Griffin said he would. Rodriguez said Region 13 is discussing not having middle school auditions. Griffin asked if Region 13 is considering not having middle school auditions at all? Eric Gray noted that would be a local decision.

Griffin noted this is the time he asked about patch orders. He will send the patch order to all and wait for all of you to make a decision. We are having lapel pins for our 30th anniversary for the State Board members.

Area Reports – none.

Eric Gray noted that this was all uncharted territory. He wanted us all to listen to what folks tell you and we will gather again soon. Thank you for participation.

Benjamin Keltner asked who the Area South Coordinator will be? Emerico Perez, moved to Alice but they are 4A now. Griffin thanked the Board all for the help.

Meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Webmaster's Column

by Marc Nichelson

I hope this finds you all well and navigating Fall 2020 in the best ways possible. I know I have had to choose positivity in so many situations surrounding doing school during this pandemic and I would encourage you to keep choosing to be a positive force in your students lives as well as a positive force for your district.

Here are a few projects moving for the website:

1. The job board facelift is in the works (was slowed down by the COVID school start).
2. We are beginning to build out our footprint on Social Media (Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram). To celebrate 30 years, we would like to feature stories of awesome success stories that have come from our Small School Band Programs. These could be non-music related success stories from students who have gone on to do GREAT things as adults, or music educators that have moved through the small school ranks and became a respected educator in our state. You can submit contact information of people you feel like fit this description at:

<https://www.atssb.org/atssb-featured-person-submission/>

3. 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 via email at mnichelson@atssb.org.
4. 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 most of us heard on Sunday we will not get our customary time in San Antonio to fellowship and enjoy learning alongside of each other (whether that is on the convention floor talking shop, in one of the amazing clinics, or on the Riverwalk enjoying some time away from it all). However, understand I am happy to help leverage technology to help connect small school programs so we can continue that wonderful synergy developed through years of learning from one another. If you have ideas of how we can better serve you all in the digital space please reach out! I also am available to help our ATSSB membership out with this new digital audition process should the need arise. We all are busy right now trying to keep our heads above water. I commend you for your hard work thus far and look forward to hearing about all the wonderful innovations you have come up with during this time!

Best wishes,



MARC NICHELSON

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>.

State Jazz Coordinator's Column

by Brian Donnell



BRIAN DONNELL

Hello everyone. Hope this finds you and your families safe and well.

With the cancellation of the TMEA convention, we will turn to seating our region, area and state jazz bands virtually.

To prepare for the upcoming auditions, make sure you have this year's set of music, have contacted your region chair for the region auditions, and set aside some time in late September to familiarize yourself with the MusicFirst platform that will be used for the audition submissions.

Things to consider about the virtual auditions:

- students will be submitting the auditions within MusicFirst. Although coaching by directors during the audition is not allowed, directors will have the opportunity to listen to the student's recording prior to them pushing the submit button. Once the student pushes submit, their recording chance is finished.
- students will record a separate audition for area if they qualify. They may not use the same recording for more than one event.
- drumset players would benefit from using a headphone splitter so that external speakers are used for the backing tracks and headphones used by the player.
- microphone placement for drumset should be in front of the set and backed away to help with the balance. Do not place the mic close to the set or you will pick up mostly cymbals and extra noise.
- students may use one (ONE, 1) USB microphone to record. You **MAY NOT** use any type of audio processing device between the mic and computer. Also, there may not be any editing used in the recordings.
- I would recommend finding the very best USB microphone you can or an XLR to USB adapter for your existing mics.
- spend time in September exploring the best place to audition so it's a clear recording that showcases each student's tone quality, style, articulation and timbre.

Visit the jazz page for all things jazz related. www.atssb.org/jazz

All the best this fall!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Donnell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Brian Donnell
donnellb@greenhill.org

ATSSB All-State Band Scholarship Fund

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

RECEIPTS

309 Memberships after 10-1 \$ 7,725.00
 Individual donations received \$ 270.00
 Dividends \$ 8,129.26
 Licensee royalties \$ 13,827.45

TOTAL RECEIPTS +\$ 29,951.71

EXPENDITURES:

Scholarships paid -\$ 19,500.00
 Scholarship plaques -\$ 607.47

TOTAL EXPENDITURES -\$ 20,107.47

Value of scholarship fund 7-31-20 .. \$ 150,752.45**

Scholarships awarded Fiscal Year 2020:

19 3-Year \$500.00 scholarships
 4 4-Year \$2,000.00 scholarships

Scholarships redeemed and paid to date this Fiscal Year \$15,500.00

There are 9 \$500 scholarships and 2 \$2000 scholarship awarded in 2020 that are unclaimed to date = \$ 8,500.00 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 expenses as needed.

ATSSB FINANCIAL REPORT

July 31, 2020 - end of fiscal year 2019-2020

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

RECEIPTS:

Dues \$ 62,200.00
 Jazz fees \$ 13,080.00
 Area fees \$ 53,025.00
 OPS fees \$ 0.00
 Late fees (paid to Scholarship) \$ 8,800.00
 Licensee royalties (paid to Scholarship) .. \$ 13,167.31
 Program Fund Dividends \$ 1,174.18
 Kenner scholarship donations \$ 105.00
 Miscellaneous receipts \$ 29,982.20
 Patches \$ 15,505.10

TOTAL RECEIPTS \$ 197,038.79

AVAILABLE FUNDS \$ 300,472.30

EXPENSES:

All-State expenses \$ 17,769.59
 Area expenses \$ 13,209.50
 Audit \$ 1,500.00
 Commission Fund \$ 10,605.00
 Composition Competition \$ 500.00
 Executive Secretary stipend \$ 43,750.00
 Internet \$ 1,143.39
 Jazz Ensemble expenses \$ 5,720.00

Kenner Scholarship Transfers \$ 1,124.00
 Misc. expenses \$ 15,383.31
 Office expenses \$ 7,774.84
 Officer & Org. convention expenses \$ 5,153.86
 OPS expenses \$ 7,284.82
 Patches \$ 17,942.14
 PayPal, Square fees \$ 1,552.37
 Postage \$ 47.05
 Programs \$ 1,190.50
 Refunds \$ 475.00
 Scholarship transfers \$ 27,145.11
 State Board of Directors expenses \$ 2,341.19
 TBA expenses \$ 2,300.00
 Telephone \$ 958.26
 TMEA \$ 220.00
 Website \$ 1,481.04
TOTAL EXPENSES -\$ 186,570.97

BALANCE:

Amount in checking account 7-31-20 \$ 113,901.33

Elmer and Anita Schenk Family Trust Program Fund:

Value of fund as of 7-31-20 \$ 20,180.41*

*Dividends are paid to ATSSB to pay for programs each year.

Bruce Kenner Memorial Scholarship Fund value as of 7-31-20 \$ 12,533.83**

Commission Fund value as of 7-31-20 \$ 15,954.56**

Class 2C Representative Column

by Christina Smith

After 15 years in the same district, my fall semester planning is almost down to an art; students and parents understand rehearsal schedules and expectations, resulting in a sense of stability for all involved. However, in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, the stability we once found in our routines has been upended; anxiety and unease now replace tradition and ritual. Guidance and plans constantly shift creating a never ending sense of unease and there is no light at the end of the tunnel.

This is the new world we all find ourselves in personally and professionally. I have found that the only certainty we can count on today is that things will not be “the way we have always done it.” However, I believe that if we can adjust our mindset, and get comfortable being uncomfortable, we can find a way to navigate our new normal and begin not only to survive but to thrive. I have explored new ways to reach my students with technology, I have learned new methods of instruction, and spent time trying to refocus my music curriculum in order to close learning gaps created in the Spring and reach those students who have chosen virtual instruction.



Taped to the wall next to my desk is a quote my principal gave staff members over 10 years ago. I read it often, and use it when visiting with students. To paraphrase, it says “Life is 10% what happens to me, and 90% how I react to it.” With this in mind, I encourage you to choose to find the good in the current situation and to view it as an opportunity. Try not to concentrate on how this year is different, what your band ‘would have been doing’, or focus on how many new guidelines come our way. This is one of the best “teachable moments” we have ever been given. Embrace it, and hopefully through our example, our students will see that in all things our attitudes set the tone for what is possible. It is possible for us to not only weather this storm, but to adjust and excel.

I will leave you with one more thought, “The same boiling water that softens the potato, hardens the egg. It’s about what you’re made of, not the circumstances.” My hope is that you have a wonderful fall semester, and choose to find joy in being able to be with your kids in your classroom again making music and memories, despite everything going on around us.

ATSSB General Session

July 7, 2020

3:30 p.m. by ZOOM

Eric Gray called the meeting to order at 3:34 p.m. and welcomed the membership. He noted that we were still in the midst of the coronavirus pandemic. He knew we were all hoping that this would all be behind us at this point, but the reality is that nothing is certain. TMEA is working on virtual auditions through Area January 9, 2021. We will disperse information as it becomes available. He noted that we just have a few items on our agenda today.

Approve minutes in March Newsletter after a motion by Matt Knight, second by Jay Sutton. Motion carried.

A motion was made by the Executive Committee to approve the Constitutional Amendments allowing online voting. Second by Gary Winner. Eric Gray noted that this allows us to change in-person to online if needed due to pandemic or other unforeseen issues that would prevent in-person voting. Kenneth Griffin noted it would need Executive Committee approval. Motion carried.

Baritone issue to present to the membership. Eric Gray noted that the membership voted in February to add 5 baritones to each all-state band. The item was presented to TMEA but they did not agree. Our Alignment Agreement says they review. In a new alignment under consideration, TMEA changed wording to "approve" instead of "review." State Board will revisit that with TMEA and would like to have the approval of the entire membership. Jerry Whorton agreed, noting that the State Board had approved it. Rodney Bennett asked what the premise was for adding baritones. Kenneth Griffin asked Matt Knight who reported that the SARC said it was for balancing the ensemble, that we were now sending one but felt like we should send 2. SARC recommended it after study and the State Board approved it. Motion by Gary Winner, second by Brian Sours to send to all membership. Since this meeting was limited to 100 and several could not get in, we should move forward with the poll. Brian Sours asked for a time limit and Gary Winner amended his motion to restrict the poll to 1-week limit. Jerry Whorton noted that in the State Board meeting, he compared to 6A and other all-state groups with similar instrumentation and Griffin said he would put that in poll then run the poll by the Executive Committee. Motion carried 89-1.

Meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

2020-21 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
Gina Muela, Littlefield Junior High School (2019-2021)	Class 1C Representative
Christina Smith, Center Middle School (2020-2022)	Class 2C Representative
Brian Sours, Tenaha High School (appointed 2020-2022)	Class 1A/2A Representative
Angie Liss, Howe High School (2019-2021)	Class 3A Representative
Jerry Whorton, Melissa High School (2020-2022)	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 Jay Sutton, Redwater 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 Jeremiah Ward, Fredericksburg MS

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:	Marc Nichelson, Robinson HS (5,8,18,23,29) - 903-780-7971 (cell)
Area South Coordinator:	Emerico Perez III, Orange Grove HS (11,12,13,14,15) - 361-661-0303

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 October 3 and October 18. 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 by November 15.

AREA CERTIFICATION DEADLINE: December 13, 2020

AREA: Saturday, January 9, 2021

THERE WILL BE NO ALL-STATE CLINIC AND CONCERT THIS YEAR since the TMEA convention is virtual due to the pandemic. Students selected to the ATSSB All-State Band will receive a shoulder patch and certificate for their accomplishment.

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:

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audiorefinery@me.com



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903-539-6485
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davelaneproductions.com
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Probst Audio

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972-878-6018
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Probst Audio



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