

NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

2011 MUSIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

May 23, 2011
Lincoln, Nebraska

The 2011 Nebraska School Activities Association (NSAA) Music Advisory Committee met on May 23, 2011, at the NSAA offices in Lincoln, Nebraska, with five music coordinators present:

District I - Jim Kucera, Waverly Public Schools
District II - Doran Johnson, Omaha Westside High School
District IV – Teresa Rotert, Hershey Public Schools
District V- Tim Trausch, Wilcox-Hildreth High School
District VI - Sharon Hoffman, Bayard High School
NSAA – Bud Dahlstrom, NSAA Assistant Director

NSAA Assistant Director Bud Dahlstrom called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

The purpose of this 2011 NSAA District Music Coordinators Committee meeting was to evaluate the District Music Contests that were held April 14-16, 18-20, 2011 and to plan for the 2012 Contests. Reports and discussion on the District Music Contests comprised most of the meeting.

The following were the major items that were reported on and discussed:

1. **Reports from each of the NSAA District Music Coordinators:**
 - A. **Overview of District Music Contests at each site:**
 1. Each of the District Coordinators reported that the 2011 District Music Contests went well and expressed their appreciation to the contest hosts.
 2. District I reported that the new process implemented for hiring and contracting judges for this year's contests was very effective and eliminated the late hiring of judges and helped keep contest expenses down.
 3. District II had less participation at some class sites due to a split in high schools, the contest dates falling before spring break for some schools and the transfer of four schools to another district due to the Nebraska Department of Education moving the date for the annual Skills USA conference from March to April.
 4. District III submitted a report for next year's contest sites, directors and dates.
 5. District IV reported that one event had to be postponed on April 15 due to a snowstorm and was rescheduled and held the following week.
 6. District IV is encouraging their site hosts to contract different judges on a two-year rotational basis.
 7. District IV reported that the Class AA, A, and B site in Grand Island would not host contest next year unless they could pick a date outside the six days designated on the NSAA calendar for holding district music contests.
 8. District V expenses were lower this year and within the budget forecast by the district managing committee for their three contest sites.
 9. District V reported that the contest site in the west, hosted for many years in McCook, would be moved in 2012 to Chase County High School and a three-year rotation is being planned for contest hosts beginning next year.
 10. District VI reported that music contest went well in Scottsbluff and that Chadron State College would not be hosting the other District VI contest site next year. A search is underway to find another host school for this event.

B. Number of schools and individuals participating at each site:

1. There was a slight decrease in the number of schools and students participating at District Music Contests this year with 299 schools and 21,689 students attending 25 contest sites.
2. There was discussion on ways to prevent the scheduling of athletic events which conflict with district music contest dates established on the NSAA calendar and have a negative impact on participation and attendance for these events. It was agreed that making information about contest week available as soon as possible for school program administrators was a good practice to avoid the scheduling or rescheduling of conflicting events during that time. The music contest dates for four years in advance are shown on the annual NSAA desk calendar which is sent to all schools and the on-line NSAA Music Manual.

C. District Contest entry fees at each site—late fees, expenses/receipts, future adjustments:

1. Each district coordinator reviewed their sites contest fees. Five of the six districts reported balanced or surplus revenue budgets for their events with one reporting a deficit. An adjustment to the receipt totals in District VI will be made for this year's contest financial report.
2. Five schools intending to attend music contest missed the March 20 entry deadline but attended by meeting the provisions of the NSAA Approved Ruling for late contest entries.

D. Other items for discussion from each of the districts:

1. Updated adjudicators ballots for Large and Small Ensembles were examined and approved by the committee for use beginning in 2012 and will be posted on the NSAA website this summer. These are modifications which do not change the basic structure, scoring formulas or rating scale of the present ballots but which do provide more specific guidance for each ensemble's performance caption on the ballot.
2. The 'NSAA Outstanding Performance/Honorable Mention Award' program for soloists and small ensembles developed to recognize the top performers at NSAA District Music Contests was reviewed. The awards were presented to the top performers from each contest site performance center (adjudicator's room), regardless of class or type of vocal or instrumental performance in the solo or small ensemble categories. The necessary adjudicator forms, tracking documents and award certificate logistical details were discussed and clarifications decided on for providing the certificates and tracking the award recipient details.
4. A change of interpretation was discussed for non-coed high schools' large vocal ensemble entries known as a "Mixed Chorus" (performance time limit-18 minutes); to be allowed to consider their designated "Mixed Chorus" to be made up of same gender students with the same maximum time limit. This interpretation was approved by the committee and will be noted in next year's music manual.
5. An opportunity was presented for music contest student performances on statewide television beginning in 2012 or 2013. A selection process for students achieving the NSAA Outstanding Performance Award was developed and included solo and small ensemble performances from students representing all six NSAA districts. No formal action was taken by the committee regarding this opportunity.

2. Planning for 2012 NSAA District Music Contests was discussed with emphasis on securing host sites and Directors for all of the contests.

- A.** Dates for the 2012 NSAA District Music Contests will be April 16-21.

B. All sites for 2012 District Music Contests have been secured with the exception of the AA, A, B, C site in Districts IV and VI.

3. Discussion on any changes that need to be made to the NSAA Music Manual and the NSAA District Music Contest online entry form:

The committee discussed the addition of clarifying sections in the Points of Emphasis information found under the Scores section of the 2012 NSAA Music Manual to include required documentation for judges presented with downloaded and/or photocopied music which is in the public domain. This unprotected music is available from various sources without charge and can be used at district music contest providing the proper documentation is attached to the judges' music.

4. 2011-2012 NSAA Music Proposals:

Music proposals for the 2011-2012 school year were discussed.

A. A proposal for next year's NSAA legislative process was discussed and approved for increasing the performance maximum time limit for Percussion Ensemble entries from six minutes to 10 minutes to allow four additional minutes for equipment set-up and removal.

Appreciation was expressed on behalf of the NSAA office and association membership for the outstanding work provided by members of the Music Advisory Committee during the past year.

The next meeting of the NSAA District Music Advisory Committee has been set for May 21, 2012 at the NSAA office in Lincoln, Nebraska.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Bud Dahlstrom, Assistant Director