



**NWNMMEA District 3  
Spring General Meeting  
May 7th, 2025 - 3:30pm (Hybrid)  
Heights Middle School**

## **Google Meets Link**

[meet.google.com/szv-fjbw-thh](https://meet.google.com/szv-fjbw-thh)

### **Call to Order**

- Time: Called to order 3:30 P.M.
- Welcome & Introduction - Cody Jackson

### **● NMMEA Ethics Statement**

- “All NMMEA meetings, as well as reports and recommendations, are open to review by all members of NMMEA. We trust the judgment and the conduct of our members and anyone else in attendance to be ethically discreet at all times when discussing personalities and issues. NMMEA strongly encourages members to be positive and discreet when discussing our organization, its events and festivals, as well as fellow teachers. The very nature of music education embodies a broad spectrum of expressions exploring different paths to arrive at artistic and educational goals. Members are encouraged to recognize and remain open to varied approaches and to celebrate both our differences and our similarities.”
- “While guests are welcome, only members of NMMEA/NAfME are eligible to vote and take part in discussions”.

### **● Approval of Previous Minutes: [Fall 2024 Minutes](#)**

- Motion: Dave Bridgewater
- Second: Daniel Fear
- Motion Passes/Fails: Pass

### **- Attendance**

- Members in Attendance

In-Person: Allison Carson Virginia Nickels-Hircock, Siromani Leath,  
Virginia Weaver, Alex Olivas, Kayla Mohlman, Daniel Fear, Ben Ludwig, AJ

Carson, Dave Bridgewater , Cameron Hornberger , Katie Olivas,  
Melissa Mortensen , Les Leach, Amos Brown

Virtual: Tessa Martinez, Kevin Zwiers, NW VP President General Music  
(Anjie Hall), Melody Postoak , Reganne Dunlop, German DeRamos

- If there has been a change in position for you or other educators you are aware of, please email those changes to [president-nw@nmmea.com](mailto:president-nw@nmmea.com)
  - I will update our directory and have it uploaded to the NMMEA website (and emailed out) in the fall semester

## President's Report

- Keep your NAFME membership up to date.
  - NMMEA contact is generally pulled from NAFME registration
  - Reminder: Each director must be current on their membership to register for events and auditions. Be diligent to keep this updated. Amy Williams usually sends me a list of who isn't registered.
  - Renew directly through NAFME website. [www.nafme.org](http://www.nafme.org)
- Please ensure that all officers (VP's, Treasurers, Secretaries) are checking emails semi-regularly, especially with newly appointed folks in positions. I don't expect anyone to check it as often as I do my own, however, going weeks without a response is not professional without providing a reason.
- MPA Rubrics

For those that this affects, please make sure you've reviewed the new MPA forms and become more familiar with them. Most everyone has probably gone through the first round of using it so far this spring semester. There will not be any changes to them at this point unless the NMMEA executive committee deems it to be necessary. We'll likely have these forms for the foreseeable future until the next revision period.
- **Congratulations to All!**
  - Congratulations to all performing ensembles and students who participated in MPA regionally, All-States, Honor Groups, and NMAA State Contests this year! We had great representation all around our region this year!
  - Congratulations as well to all of our elementary students and teachers who participated in your Honor and All-State choirs!

- **Vice President's and Treasurer's Report/Updates?**

*This time is reserved for any general updates or reports needing to be provided by individual sections*

- General Music
  - Anjee Hall, VP
  - Updates: None at this time. Will update after general music meeting.
- Choir
  - Katie Patton, VP
    - Updates: Changing format for MPA
  - Siromani Leath, Treasurer
    - Updates: \$6800+, \$1800 outstanding
- Orchestra
  - VP (TBD)
  - Updates: Closed NWNMMEA Bank Account at this time. Remaining funds transferred/split between band and choir accounts.
- Band
  - Dave Bridgewater, VP
    - Updates: Shiprock hosting Honor Band, Great MPAs - concert and marching
  - John Patton, Treasurer
    - Updates: Bank account has \$6877.25 to start the fall semester with

## General District Announcements/New Business

- **Governor's Proclamation (Arts in 2026)**
  - Daniel Fear to speak on this topic
  - [Proclamation](#)
  - Daniel and other advocates helped influence the governor's proclamation that 2026 is NM is focused on the arts! Thank you Daniel!
- Virginia Nickels to Speak
  - Calliente Choir: looking for more members, willing to adjudicate, lots of events coming up starting in August
  - Jul 22, 2025 cul-da-sac concert Echo Lane
- **NWNMMEA Handbook**
  - Need to take a vote on the revised handbook. Already reviewed by committee (lead by Virginia Weaver) back in September.
  - [2024-2025 NWNMMEA Handbook](#)
  - Motion: Cameron Hornberger

- Second: Daniel Fear
  - Motion: Passes/Fails: Pass

- **Moving NWNMMEA to a single Treasurer & Bank Account**

- With the closing down of the orchestra's bank account, should we consider shrinking things down further and combining everything into a single bank account?
  - Pros - quicker/easier tax reporting, easier payment processing, more fluid communication, possible paid position \$\$ (if voted upon). Districts 6 and 7 pay their treasurer a stipend.
  - Cons - Possible lack of oversight could mean things going into the red, thus preventing another section from holding an event fully
  - Ultimately, would need a flexible, organized and willing person to take on the job and be available to help facilitate W-9's, checks, purchases, phone calls, per each event as needed.
- *Suggestion:* Single bank account would need multiple signers and at least one debit card for each section to be used with approval of the treasurer for purchases/payments.
- Discussion topics
  - approx \$600 stipend paid by other state districts
  - Cards available for each section VP with access with pre-approval from treasurer
  - With the digital age, having better access to account information
  - The varied costs for each section, would it be overwhelming for the treasurer, keeping the separate
  - Line items for each item for each section
  - Budget out the year now instead of waiting, using historical records of what the costs to run events
  - Each section could still have their own secretary to help the treasurer with the paperwork and tracking
    1. Making sure the W9's are updated with accurate information yearly is what holds up the payments and outstanding balances.
  - Get a committee to start gathering a process / procedures for the single treasure position
    1. does the position HAVE to be a member of the NMMEA or teacher
      - Other district has an outsider person from teacher
    2. Would the person need to be bonded?
  - Fee schedule is in the handbook and ready to pay at the beginning of each year

- Motion: Daniel Fear - Form a committee to get a formal proposal of the one treasure position, outlining the how it will work, establishing parameters to protect each section's events.
- Second: Kayla Mohlman
  - Motion: Passes/Fails: Pass
- Now to form the committee
  - Single Treasurer Committee head: Siromani Leath
  - Single Treasurer Committee members: Cameron Hornberger , Daniel Fear, Kayla Mohlman , Alex Olivas, Virginia Weaver
  - Meeting to be scheduled before the end of the meeting
- **MPA & Eligibility**
  - Lots of concerns with this aspect of our MPA events this year.
    - My reminders of eligibility are simply because the event is being treated as **extra-curricular**.
  - *History*: Before my time, MPA was considered in this district as a **co-curricular event**, but it was voted on in the past to view it as extra-curricular which comes with a steeper eligibility threshold. We need to have a discussion about how we want to resolve the eligibility concern so the entry into the event for directors is fair and accommodates the purpose of the event.
  - Statements from other districts' handbooks:
    - **District 7**: "Music Performance Assessment is considered a co-curricular activity for high school students. GPA and attendance requirements do not apply if all co-curricular guidelines have been met."
    - **District 6**: "Co-curricular activities are activities that are an extension of classroom instruction which are required by law, educational standards for New Mexico schools, or local board policy which require no more than five hours per week or twenty hours per month of time for a student outside of the regularly scheduled instructional day for practice, meetings, events, or performances. Co-curricular activities do not require that the students are absent from class other than the sponsoring class for practice, meetings, events, or performance. GPA and attendance requirements of the public school code do not apply to co-curricular activities. Examples: vocational, fine arts, club activities, field trips.
  - Discussion:
    - NMAA sets the based standard, school / district can set a higher standard
      - MPA clarification: NMAA rules
        - Would this change eligibility for state, need to certify that students would still need to meet NMAA eligibility
        - Eligibility versus attendance
        - MPA shouldn't have the higher standard to allow for schools to be able to perform
          - This would be different than NMAA State eligibility
          - However, checking eligibility as if MPA is state to not have the issue of eligibility surprises for state competitions

- Motion: Alex Olivas - Move from NMAA/extra-curricular eligibility for MPA and move to co-curricular eligibility.
- Second: Cameron Hornberger
  - Motion Passes/Fails: Pass

- **Annual NMMEA Award Nominations**

- Nominee/Nominator letter requirements due by: **July 1st**. (Ty Frederick will send out a digital form to fill out)
- [Awards Criteria](#)
  - Administrator of the Year
    - Nominations: Peter Deswood, Assistant Superintendent CCSD
      - Nominator: Cameron Hornberger
  - Award of Distinction (School District)
    - Nominations: None this year
      - Nominator: N/A
  - Emeritus Teacher Award (Retired, Active Member)
    - Nominations: Virginia Nickels-Hircock
      - Nominator: Daniel Fear
  - Hall of Fame (20+ Years, Active Member)
    - Nominations: Daniel Fear
      - Nominator: Kayla Mohlman
  - John Batcheller (5+ Years, Elementary Education, Active Member)
    - Nominations: Evangeline Echols (Animas)
      - Nominator: Kayla Mohlman
  - New and Emerging Teacher of the Year (Less than 5 years, Active Member)
    - Nominations: Kaden Weisheit
      - Nominator: Kayla Mohlman
  - Music Educator of the Year
    - Nominations: Cody Jackson
      - Nominator: Siromani Leath

- **Honor Ensembles**

- Consider submitting an application/recording for the All-State Honor Ensembles
  - Alternative/Guitar - No Rotation
  - Choir & Orchestra - Large School Preference
  - Band - Small School
  - General Music - Elem. Ensemble
  - Jazz - Small School
- Application can be found [HERE](#)
- [Submission Process](#)

- **All-State**

- Any feedback to relay back to the executive committee?
  - Reflective practice
  - We all have great ideas but we tend to undervalue what we know and do
- Consider presenting a clinic at All-State! You all have great ideas and practices to be shared!

- **NMMEA State Dates**

- June 21, 2025 - NMMEA General Music Workshop (Eldorado HS, Albuquerque)
- October 16-25, 2025 - Choir, Guitar & Orchestra All-State Auditions
- October 25, 2025 - NMAA/NMMEA State Marching Band Contest
- October 29-November 8, 2025 - Band & Jazz All-State Auditions
- January 14-17, 2026 - All-State Music Festival & In-Service Conference (UNM)
- January 22-24, 2026 - Jazz All-State (ENMU)
- April 14-15, 2026 - NMMEA State Choir Contest (Tentative)
- April 16-18, 2026 - NMMEA State Band Contest (Tentative)

\*\*See Neil Swapp's *Monday Notes* for any registration links\*\*

- Meeting Date for Fall 2025 Meeting:

- Suggested to move meeting from a Saturday
- Mesa View offered to host
- Earlier start time - 2:30pm
- Wednesday August 13th, 2025 @ 2:30 PM @ Mesa View Middle School
  - Motion: Dave Bridgewater
  - Second: Siromani Leath
  - Pass/Fail: Pass

## **Adjournment of General Meeting**

- Motion: AJ Carson
- Second: Amos Brown
  - Motion Passes/Fails: Pass
- Adjournment Time: 4:31PM