



## Central District NMMEA - Fall Meeting Minutes

Date: Saturday, August 9, 2025

Time: 9:30 AM

Location: Los Lunas High School

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### 1. Call to Order

President William Austell called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM.

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### 2. Ethics Statement

The NMMEA Ethics Statement was read aloud and displayed by President Austell at 9:30 AM.

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### 3. Member Introductions

Introductions began at 9:33 AM.

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### 4. Officer Reports

#### Secretary's Report – 9:38 AM

Secretary Joshua Dumais reported that members may edit the district roster directly until the end of the week; thereafter, changes should be submitted via email. Meeting minutes are posted on the NMMEA website and are accessible at any time.

- Motion: Samantha Rice moved to approve the Spring minutes.

- Second: Ana Maria
- Outcome: Motion passed at 9:39 AM.

### President's Report – 9:40 AM

President Austell shared the following updates:

- “Monday Notes” from Neil Swapp have been helpful and well-received.
- Audition Protocol Changes for All-State were discussed.
- This year is designated the “Year of the Arts” by the Governor! Members are encouraged to promote the arts.
- Please ensure NAFME account information is up-to-date.
- All district events must be properly supervised, ideally with an extra adult (preferably an NMMEA member with a background check).
- Members are invited to submit suggested changes to the MPA rubrics by September 1st.
- Two additions to the financial guidelines:
  - Schools are responsible for ensuring participation fees are paid by the end of the semester in which events occur.
  - Schools with outstanding payments may be barred from future participation.

Discussion:

Kurt Schmidt suggested revising the final bullet to specify “individual program” instead of “school” to avoid penalizing unrelated programs.

### Treasurer's Report – 9:54 AM

Catherine Danner reported that the year ended with a positive balance, and there are no overdue payments. She reviewed the “General Information and Reminders” document, highlighting key items in yellow.

- Motion: Nate Van Dam moved to approve the Treasurer's Report.
- Second: Rena Sedillo

- Outcome: Motion passed at 9:58 AM.
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## 5. Vice President Reports

- General Music – 9:59 AM: Ana Maria reported a successful year and expressed enthusiasm for the upcoming year.
  - Orchestra – 9:59 AM: Zach Bush announced that an additional day has been added to Orchestra MPA.
  - Choir – 10:00 AM: Miguel Jaramillo shared that choir events ran smoothly.
  - Band – 10:00 AM: Samantha Rice reported high participation and successful events. The goal is to further increase participation.
  - Guitar – Donovan Perea has left the district, leaving his position vacant. The district hopes to elect a new VP later in the meeting. For reference, the following teachers were identified as guitar teachers in District VI during our last meeting:
    - CHS – Cherokee Randolph & Joseph Santiago
    - SODA – Mike Hinds
    - RRHS – Jim Rivera
    - Socorro HS – Heather Sanchez
    - Sandoval Academy – Sarah Farrell
    - Belen HS – Chris Orphal
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## 6. NMAA Representatives' Reports

- Jadira Flamm (Choir):
  - Updated language requirements were shared.
  - Ongoing discussions about a cappella vs. percussive/accompanist use.
  - Proposal to split middle school choir into sections is on the table. However,

it might not proceed due to limited participation.

- Daniel Holmes:
    - State Marching Contest: October 25th
    - Concert Contest: April 16–18
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## 7. Business

Old Business – 10:04 AM

No items were discussed.

New Business – 10:04 AM

- Recognition of Award Recipients:
  - Daniel Holmes – Music Educator of the Year
  - Donna Schmidt – Hall of Fame
  - Rio Rancho Public Schools – Certificate of Recognition
- Guitar VP Election:

Donovan Perea has left the district. Samantha Rice nominated Joseph Santiago to serve as Guitar VP for the remainder of the term.

  - With no other nominees, Joseph Santiago was elected Guitar VP.
- Treasurer Bonding:

Neil Swapp recommended that districts bond their treasurers for liability coverage (\$125/year, up to \$25,000).

  - Motion: Joshua Dumais
  - Second: Nate Van Dam
  - Outcome: Motion passed at 10:12 AM.
- Honor Group Registration Discussion:

Currently, our district does not register honor groups online; the state recommends that we begin doing so for documentation and liability purposes.

Suggested registration fields:

- Student Name
- Grade
- Instrument/Voice
- Comments
- Honors
- Ensemble
- Sections were asked to discuss:
  - Which fields are necessary for your section?
  - Are any additional fields required?
  - What is the ideal registration timeline for your section?
- Code of Conduct Proposal:  
William Austell proposed adding the shared Code of Conduct to the district handbook.
  - Motion: Brad Dubbs
  - Second: Rena Sedillo
  - Outcome: Motion passed at 10:29 AM.
- District Financial Guidelines:  
Proposal to adopt the NMMEA State Financial Guidelines into the district handbook.
  - Motion: Samantha Rice
  - Second: Mariko McWhorter
  - Outcome: Motion passed at 10:31 AM.
- Handbook Edits:  
Proposed edits by Cathy Danner, Miguel Jaramillo, and Kurt Schmidt were reviewed. Changes are highlighted in yellow in the shared document [HERE](#).

- Motion: Brad Bratcher
  - Second: Daniel Sault
  - Outcome: Motion passed at 10:53 AM.
  - Choir MPA Sight Reading Procedures:
    - Miguel Jaramillo presented changes from state-level discussions regarding Choir MPA procedures (see page 29 of the [handbook](#)).
    - Motion: Kurt Schmidt
    - Second: Will Kramer
    - Outcome: Motion passed at 10:55 AM.
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## 8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:57 AM. Section meetings followed after a short break.

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Respectfully submitted,  
*Joshua Dumais, Secretary*