

NJMAA General Meeting Minutes  
October 4, 2002  
East Brunswick

## **Welcome and Introductions**

**President's Report** – John Iatesta welcomed everyone and introduced the officers and executive board and their respective responsibilities. They are:

Officers:

- President Elect - Joe Akinkas / NJMAA Coordinator for NJMEA Conference Activities
- Treasurer - Robert Frampton
- Secretary - Tom Maliszewski
- Past President - Michele Yampolsky / NJMAA Coordinator for MENC Eastern Conf. Activities

Executive Board Appointments:

- Liaison to AAE/NJ - Donna Serio
- Liaison to AANJ - Richard Haas
- Brochure - Dotty Kuhn
- Webmaster - Peter Crosta
- Member-at-Large - Nick Santoro / Liaison to NJMEA and NCSME

John also explained his goals for the NJMAA. Due to the rapid increase in size of active membership and the broader range of activities that the organization provides and participates in, the organization needs to revisit the responsibilities normally associated with specific positions in the executive board. In addition John “reached out to the general membership” to utilize their specific skills and talents to advance the organization’s many projects. The final piece was the exciting news that NJMAA is establishing itself as a regional and national presence through the Tri State Music Supervisors and its presence in Nashville and the formulation of a National Supervisors of Music Association.

**Treasurer's / Membership Chair's Report** - Bob Frampton reported a balance of \$1100. There are 24 paid members.

**Secretary's Report** - Tom Maliszewski reported that the general membership mailing would take the form of a post card in subsequent mailings with the exception being the June Luncheon mailing. After today only paid members will receive mailings. General meeting minutes and other inquiries should be directed to the website, <http://www.njmaa.org>

**Liaison to AAE/NJ** - Donna Serio reported that the first meeting would be on the 30<sup>th</sup> of October. All members as well as all interested music teachers and administrators can join for a fee of \$10 for a professional membership.

**Liaison to AANJ** – There was no report

## II. Old Business

**Mentoring Initiative Update** - Joe Akinkas had a last minute school concern, so John Iatesta read the following report on NJMEA's new and novice teacher recruitment and retention program.

The Teacher recruitment and retention was a successful venture. We had 64 participants, food, goody bags, and a slate of superb presenters who gave the kids a working resource of instructional techniques. Many thanks to the NJMAA membership who sent presenters and participants, and special thanks to Executive Board members Nick, Tom, Dotty, and Donna who lived through the development process. The steering committee will be presenting the Initiative at the Eastern Division Conference in Providence next March. I have sent up programs, which outline last week's activities and the schedule of upcoming recruit and retain events.

On Tuesday evening I will be presenting the NJMEA Executive Board with our workshop proposals for the February Conference. They include our annual job fair and breakfast, Turn Around Teaching 2003 by Donna Serio, So You Want to be an Arts Supervisor, and Survival Tips for the Music Facilitator, with an NJMAA panel.

## III. New Business

**NJMEA Conference** –Michele Yampolsky reported that she is looking at having our breakfast meeting move right into a Danny Rocks workshop. Danny Rocks is confirmed to the keynote at our June luncheon. Turn Around Teaching 2003, Survival Tips for Lead Teachers et al., New Teacher Training, The Job Fair, and So You Want to be an Arts Supervisor are all topics for the convention at this time. Joe Akinkas will coordinate.

**MENC Eastern Division Conference** – Michele is looking for informal times to get together at the convention

**Tri-State Music Supervisor's Association** – Nick Santoro reported that there was nothing new at this point in time.

### **New topic for discussion**

There was discussion on the topic of Inclusion and the idea of full or half-day sessions

## IV. Main Topic

Brass Workshop for Non-Brass Majors: *Guaranteed Success!*  
John Iatesta, Facilitator                      Nick Santoro, Presenter

Nick Santoro gave an informative and truly “hands on” presentation. Kudos to Nick for a job well done.

## V. Roundtable / Other

### **Next Meeting:**

Urban Issues in Music Education: A Panel Discussion  
Friday, December 6, 2002  
East Brunswick BOE Offices

# NJMAA General Meeting Minutes

## December 6, 2002

### East Brunswick

#### **Welcome, Introductions, Sign-in**

**President's Report** – John Iatesta welcomed everyone and thanked East Brunswick for his or her continuing hospitality. John urged everyone to become more active in the organization through participation in meetings, presentations, projects and any new initiative that the membership might want to explore. John also encouraged everyone to utilize the website, njmaa.org, especially the message board function to propose and respond to questions of importance to the membership. John announced that we are actively seeking a representative for a new board position titled Liaison for Urban Affairs.

**Treasurer's / Membership Chair's Report** - Bob Frampton reported that there were 37 paid members and a balance in the treasury of \$1458.92.

**Secretary's Report** - Tom Maliszewski reported that all notices would be in post card form mailed only to paid members. Minutes will be posted on the web site. A full letter first class mailing would only be used for the spring luncheon. Tom reminded the membership that he and Rich Hass will be coordinating NJMAA's Job Fair at the February NJMEA Convention and that only paid members can utilize this venue.

**Liaison to AAE/NJ** - Nick Santoro (reporting in Donna Serio's absence) stated that the AAE/NJ is vital to all Arts programs in New Jersey. The organization is in a financial crunch and the \$10 affiliate membership offered to NJMAA, NJMEA and AANJ members not only keeps the membership updated on current events, but financially helps AAE/NJ to fulfill its mission of Arts Advocacy.

**Liaison to AANJ** – John Iatesta read an e-mail originating from Chris High to Liaison Rich Hass regarding the Emerging Artist Program:

Thank you for your submission of artwork to the 2003 Emerging Artists Exhibit. This is an acknowledgement of my receipt of your registration forms. If you have not yet followed up your faxes with the original registration forms, please do so. Please remember to photograph your artwork before framing. You can e-mail me the digital images at any time. I will be sending invitations with directions to the Kean University Gallery to the students and their families, the teachers and you. Please make arrangements for the delivery of your artwork to the AANJ meeting at Kean on Friday January 10, before noon, as the exhibit will be hung Friday afternoon. You should receive information about that meeting from those in charge.

#### **II. Old Business**

**Clarification for February Mtg.** – John reminded the membership that the February Topic **Effective Strategies for the Inclusive Classroom** is geared toward administrators.

#### **Mentoring Initiative Update - NJMEA Conference Update**

Joe Akinskas gave an update on the initiative and its success at the September workshop. Sessions are planned for the Feb. NJMEA Convention and an overview will be presented at MENC Eastern in Providence, Rhode Island.

**MENC Eastern Division Conference** - Nick Santoro reported that there would be a supervisors' get-together at Providence, RI.

### **III. New Business**

John Iatesta reported that a request for a new initiative was submitted: A ASCD/PSA workshop-presentation for non-arts administrators. John will report back to the membership on the progress of this new project.

Nick Santoro gave an update on the NJ Department of Education Standards and Graduation Requirements Forum, held at the Chauncey Conference Center, at ETS in Princeton on November 17 and 18. Nick passed out a summary submitted by William Donald Jr. from Teaneck. A lively discussion ensued and was tabled for further discussion at a later date.

### **IV. Main Topic:**

#### **Urban Issues in Music Education**

Dr. Carol-Frierson-Campbell, Presenter

Nick Santoro, Facilitator

Dr. Carol Frierson-Campbell, Assistant Professor of Music Education at William Paterson University, presented "Urban Issues in Education". She discussed a number of issues and challenges facing urban music teachers today, including the lack of assembly programs, inadequate facilities, shortage of equipment, supplies and textbooks, no apparent voice for or professional recognition for urban music educators and the need for professional development opportunities and collegial support. The lack of community and parental support for music in the urban setting was also discussed. The challenges experienced by urban families have a direct effect on the school music programs, as do issues of finances and security. The presentation evolved into a round table discussion comparing issues in suburban and urban school districts. There was common theme presented regarding the success of music programs and effective, visionary teachers

### **V. Roundtable / Other**

#### **Next Meeting:**

Effective Strategies for the Inclusive Classroom  
Friday, February 7, 2003  
East Brunswick BOE Offices

Respectfully submitted:  
Thomas J. Maliszewski  
Secretary

NJMAA General Meeting Minutes  
February 7, 2003

**THERE WAS NO MEETING DURING THE MONTH OF  
FEBRUARY DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER.**

NO REPLACEMENT MEETING WAS SCHEDULED.

Respectfully submitted:  
Thomas J. Maliszewski  
Secretary

NJMAA General Meeting Minutes  
April 4, 2003  
East Brunswick Board of Education

**I. Welcome, Introductions, Reports**

President John Iatesta opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and beginning the introductions. Donna Serio, vice president also welcomed the guests and everyone in attendance continued the introductions.

**President's Report – John Iatesta**

- John talked about the retention program for new teachers noting that it is free to participants and they will get good information to guide them through their first three years. He cited the research that supports the fact that we are losing neophyte teachers in droves and it is a national crisis; hence the need this important support system.
- John discussed the topics for next year stating that the committee had really tried to reach out for topics that are interesting to members.
- He informed the group that David Weintraub will be appointed to new position of Liaison for Urban Affairs. David will be voice and conscience to help guide us and to help us deal with the issues of urban districts. There has become very little difference in the challenges we face.
- Thank you to all of those folks who participated in workshops in NJMEA and Providence Rhode Island NEMC conferences. It used to be a long-standing association for state department folks and is now being opened up to district supervisors. Previously the workshops have been offered by college professors and vendors. They are now looking for supervisors in the field to offer workshops that address our needs in the schools. Nationally we are the strongest organization of supervisors and it is felt that the leadership nationally will come from the Northeast. Other information concerning future conferences included names of possible presenters:

Teacher Retention and Recruitment - Joe Akinskas NJMEA/NJMAA  
Developing Standards Based Curriculum/Assessment – Scott Schuler (CT)  
Music and Language Arts - Dee Hansen (MENC Supervision Handbook)  
Classroom Management - Donna Serio  
NJ, NY, CT Supervisors- Starting a Music Administrator's Association  
Urban Districts – NJMEA/NJMAA will host national meeting in 2004

**Treasurer's / Membership Chair's Report – Bob Frampton**

- 45 paid members
- check email addresses

**Secretary's Report – Tom Maliszewski**

- Tom was delayed but we all received his mailing. John asked the membership to check the listing to make sure that all information is correct including addresses, phone, district, position, email. Dottie Kuhn is handling that.

### **Liaison to AAE/NJ – Donna Serio**

- Donna introduces guest from Alliance for Arts Education – Denise Sullivan, Interim Director. She talks about the arts graduation requirement and informs the group that the next hearing is critically important noting that there are some State Board members who remain unconvinced of the value of the requirement. Commissioner Librera is still thought to be supportive because they are tied to the state core curriculum content standards. Denise explained that there is really a need for supporters to provide testimony for April 16<sup>th</sup> saying that April 11 is the cut off for speakers to sign up for a slot. She also informed the group that providing written testimony is critical and that attendance at the work session prior to the testimony session is also important. She reminded us that we are all familiar with the battle with the state budget that will effectively eliminate state council on the arts and hoped there would be written testimony from our group to Governor McGreevey and other legislatures to restore the money. She passed out post cards to send in.
- Denise mentioned that she had attended the **Arts Advocacy Day in Washington, DC**. She talked about the problem of there being no tax write off for artists to donate their work to museums until they die and the families donate the work. There is a need to change that.
- The Alliance is working to get arts associations to develop a common letter to be presented to the state board to show the unity of the state groups.
- Denise then talked about a concert at the Stone Pony in Asbury Park to benefit the Arts Alliance. They are seeking student or adult groups of any genre, noting that students really draw a crowd.
- Member questions for the Alliance representative -
  - Bob Frampton -Is the state board considering the cost of the arts graduation requirement?  
Ans. No, it's not really a problem, the board feels there should be flexibility and the arts should be included.
  - Nick Santoro – state board is looking at all options and making it as broad as they can to include everyone.
  - John Iatesta gave a historical perspective of the standards and requirements. He talked about the push for the HS possibly endangering the elementary program because the pie is only so big.
  - Robert McGarry reported the East Brunswick Board has passed a motion to return the funding for the Arts

### **II. Old Business –**

#### **Recruitment/Retention Initiative Spring Update – Joe Akinskas**

- Joe could not be at the meeting; John covered it earlier.

### **III. New Business**

None discussed

#### IV. Main Topic: “Successful Inter-Disciplinary Models: a look at A.C.E.S.”

Denise Sullivan, Interim Director of the Alliance for Arts Education/NJ,  
Presenter Donna Serio and Nick Santoro, Facilitators

- Denise introduced the group from Glen Ridge who were present and listed the other districts that had been selected for the *Grant for Leadership Development* from the Alliance. She described the premise of creating pilot teams to share with other pilot schools and the reach out to other districts to share the model. Funding came from the NJ State Council on the Arts, NEA and a little from the Dodge Foundation. The list of Pilot Schools included: Weehawken, Glen Rock, Franklin Park, Logan, and Woodrow Wilson.
- Presenting first was a teacher from the Glen Rock School District who discussed the dance component that is incorporated in the Gym class. She described the process of working with Columbia Teachers College for professional development. She had written the curriculum with other physical education teachers, who were mostly men who now had to teach dance and right away. CTC was great in transitioning that piece with the teachers. They began with theme projects, and then moved to the process which was important for the children. She described benefits of the program, especially the collegiality that developed. The goals for the children are increased creativity, flexible thought, and self-expression.
- An art teacher next described the arts exploratory program which brings 6<sup>th</sup> graders over to the MS. 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> students are able to select 2 of 4 programs that are precursors to the HS program so they are prepared for HS. They developed curriculum as a team using ACES money and with Columbia they assessed the previous program to discover weaknesses and strengths. They decided to include dance, drama, and art and have the kids rotate through the program. They work to help the kids create a culture and compose a cultural description, then a myth and then a moral, which is a life lesson that is passed along to younger generation. The students learn music and dance from other cultures and then they create their own music and dance and perform for their parents. The kids really internalize these cultures. The computer is a large part of it as well. They create a flag and symbols become very important to the process. (Resource - Judith Burton – Columbia Univ. – area of Creativity)
- The Librarian spoke next telling the groups that she served as the drama person and has an elementary teaching background. Developing a philosophy and the teacher training were great pieces of professional development from Columbia University staff. They trained the special area teachers in their field, then they worked together to write curriculum. Columbia reps worked with them to integrate into the curriculum.
- They focused on cultures – language, art, dance, and music – and how to look at character through the arts. The program changed the way she thinks in the classroom, she now thinks more of how she could infuse the arts in to the classroom everyday. It helped to develop habits of mind to bring the arts into it. It was wonderful having it district wide.



- Members asked questions as to funding and impetus for program. The impetus came from the board that funded it and also had received the grant funds. The goals were to develop models to share, develop a philosophy and for each school to develop a leadership team. Members asked a few more nuts and bolts questions – who sets the number of teachers, and what disciplines were included in the beginning? Where do we go to get information? (From the practitioners and some from DOE web site in the Professional Development area. Another resource is Tim Lucas who is a link to Columbia University).
- Curriculum Director from Logan talked about the origin of their involvement. It is an ungraded program in Logan and through their involvement in creating it they discovered that the arts are a powerful vehicle for learning. They applied for a grant to change the culture of the district by getting arts on the forefront of the school program rather than something to give teachers preps. They learned a lot about residencies, about good planning, about including teachers and defining their role. Their process: The teacher introduces the artists in residence, they have the residency and then there is follow up in the classroom. They learned that it is most productive to work with volunteers, offer to everyone but have a set of willing participants as guides. They found the ATI – two-week workshops in the summer, to be great training for regular education teachers. The director talked about the benefits of teaching through the arts.

#### **V. Roundtable / Other**

- Wrap-up by president, John Iatesta who reminds the members and guests of the up-coming luncheon at The Rutgers Club on June 6 where Danny Rocks will present a program.
- John also reminded us of the posting opportunities on the web site where Dottie has organized a process for sharing job announcements.
- John thanked everyone in attendance and closed the meeting.

#### **Next Meeting:**

**Annual Luncheon**  
with Special Guest Speaker, Danny Rocks, Alfred Music  
Friday, June 6, 2003  
**The Rutgers Club**

Respectfully Submitted on behalf of the Secretary,

Gloria Kieley

# NJMAA Annual Luncheon and General Meeting Minutes

June 6, 2003

The Rutgers Club, New Brunswick, NJ

## I. Networking (11:30)

## II. Buffet Lunch (Noon)

## III. Welcome, Introductions, Reports (12:45?)

### **President's Report – John Iatesta**

- John welcomed everyone for coming. After a pleasant “networking” session followed by a delicious lunch, John announced that the meeting would come to order. It was announced that the 03/04 General Meetings (except for the annual luncheon) would once again be held at the East Brunswick Schools Administration Building. All meetings will start at 10:00 with hospitality starting at 9:30. Special thanks once again go to our host Robert McGarry. Meeting dates and topics are as follows:
  - October 3, 2003 “Mentoring New Music Teachers”
  - December 5, 2003 “Effective Strategies for the Inclusive Classroom”
  - February 6, 2004 “Motivating Your Veteran Staff”
  - April 2, 2004 “Promoting Program Visibility: Ideas That Work”
  - June 4, 2004 “Annual Luncheon”
- David Weintraub, Supervisor of Fine Arts for the Lakewood Public Schools was introduced as a new Board Member. Dave’s responsibility will be the new Liaison for Urban Affairs.
- John gave a brief re-cap of the years events and also spoke to next year’s initiatives which include:
  - 2004 NJMEA Conference
  - MENC National Conference (Minneapolis),
  - NCSME (National Council of Supervisors of Music Education)
  - NJASCD
  - MENC Summer Leadership Conference
  - MENC National Urban Conference
  - NJ Recruitment/Retention Initiative

### **Treasurer's / Membership Chair's Report –**

- Bob Frampton reported that there were 47 paid members and a balance of \$1500

### **Secretary's Report**

- Tom Maliszewski reminded the membership that minutes of general meetings will be posted on the web. Also, all mailings will be to paid membership only. Please see Bob Frampton if you have questions. Tom also solicited input for our column in Tempo magazine. There is an August 1, 2003 deadline for the October issue.

### **Liaison to AAE/NJ**

- Donna Serio announced that there would be a special fundraiser at the Stone Pony for the Arts. Also there is a rally for the Arts. Details you can get from Donna.

**Liaison to AANJ**

- Rich Haas gave an update on the emerging Artists Program. Joan Conway filled in details for the membership.

**Special Presentation**

- Nick Santoro announced that Rich Hass is retiring. He served many roles for the NJMAA from member to board positions to President. Rich was presented with a gift from the organization and well wishes from all assembled.

IV. Main Topic: "Focus on the Big Picture: Putting Daily Problems into Perspective"

Guest Speaker: Danny Rocks, Vice President of Sales, Alfred Publishing  
Michele Yampolsky, Facilitator

V. Roundtable / Announcements

**Next Meeting:**

Mentoring New Music Teachers  
Friday, October 3, 2003  
East Brunswick Board Office