

NEW JERSEY MUSIC ADMINISTRATORS' ASSOCIATION

General Membership Meeting Minutes October 4, 2013

A CONTINUATION OF ASSESSMENT IN MUSIC EDUCATION ROUND TABLE SHARING

The meeting opened with a welcome from our President, Peter Griffin. Tom further went on to explain the procedure for the morning asking everyone to limit their comments to 2-3 minutes to insure that all members had a chance to speak. Questions, if any, would be addressed at the end.

DATES TO REMEMBER!

December 6: Assessment in the “Cloud!” – Linda King

February 2: A panel of evaluators for various models. Danielson, Marzano, Stromm, Teachscape

April 4: Higher Ed Update-focus on teacher evaluation. What college graduates need to “know.” We would be inviting Higher Education Coordinators from Rutgers, Rowan, Montclair, and William Paterson. (This topic was originally scheduled for December the executive board thought it wise to switch the dates)

June 6

Hot off the press – Wrap up and round up! - Facilitating Peter Griffin

With about 25 members in attendance the meeting got underway with introductions around the room. It was noted that it was good to see so many “new” faces!”

TomWeber: Treasurer report:

Peggy Valenti: Secretary report

Ron Dolce (NJMEA Liaison): November 1st date for article. Tempo express came out with a lot of important dates. Please get in touch with Tom Mosier if you have not received.

Joe Akinskas (NJMEA) – Reported that the 6th summer workshop had upwards of 90 people registered. He stated that it was held in the visual arts building and it was a wonderfully successful day. He stated that the people who attend this conference frequently find themselves teaching in areas that they are not experts in and they come out to this workshop to get a feeling for these new areas. Thinking about this last spring, the organizers of this summer conference thought it would be a good idea to tap the membership to see if people would be willing to share their expertise with these people who find themselves in this predicament. Joe asked the membership to bring this information back to their district. “If you have people in your district that have experienced a situation like this please ask them to come out and present to share their experiences. If they

want to present, they will present in their own music room in their own districts. On order to make it happen, I would need to have at least 15 people who would be interested in the session.”

Linda King: “What if it’s a teacher that is right out of college who took a position out of their area just to have a job. If they were very successful in their endeavor would this be someone you would like to see.”

Joe: “Absolutely!”

Peter: “Has there been any feedback yet?” (To this new idea)

Joe: “Just a few at this point. There is no restriction on it. When it happens it happens.”

Bob Frampton (NJMEA): “There are a number of things going on. I believe that there are close to 1000 attendees for the National conference. They are creating a workbook (focusing on the Danielson evaluation model) for teachers to take to administrators (those who don’t have supervisors). This will be a 2 day pre-conference workshop. The National honors groups will be performing on Wednesday. Performers are being selected from all the states members. This is a better representation. The Eastern Division is extremely well represented in this performing group. The strength is coming from the Eastern Division in these honor groups.”

“In Tempo express there was a mention of the new National standards that are in review ...encompassing resources from all over the country. New Jersey does not use the National Standards but I am wondering if next time around NJ will start to use them as this is the way everyone is going.”

“The one thing that runs under the radar that you should be aware of is the April 2014 conference in Saint Louis....based on research that has been done by various people. There are a lot of interesting topics. This conference is not publicized a lot. Not a lot of vendors like in other conferences.” Joe felt that this conference was definitely worth attending.

Joe Akinskas is presenting in Nashville.

Peter: “Will the Danielson workbook be available for purchase?”

Bob: “I do not know if it will be available in Nashville. It is really a work in progress. I am sure that it will be available at some point.”

There will be speakers from all over the country talking about various types of evaluations models.

Linda: Spoke about flip-flopping two workshops. “What I would like to do is have a teacher from each one of your districts who is tech savvy come to the December meeting.

All the tools that we will be giving you are all free tools. If we need to move the venue we will move it to a place were we can all fit. Predominately an elementary focus but can be used in middle school.”

Linda: “We are going to ask you to bring an interactive device so you can all participate.”

Dennis Mullins (Advocacy): “I do have briefly something interesting....We did a thing up in Paramus for two days regarding SGO’s. 2 days ago, very wisely, we had Paul Palek come to our district. He presented for all the administration would recommend getting him. Google his name and it will take you to New Jersey spotlight.”

Dennis spoke about the many hours of administration training that it going into the new evaluation models. He also spoke to the supervisor evaluation form that is not really in place yet. He stated that one of the problems with a supervisors evaluation form is the intense variation of our jobs throughout the state.

CCSS.....So many administrators are killing us people in the arts.

“Paul’s message was “do not reinvent the wheel. It has to be rubric based.”

Bob (Edison)....”We have submitted workshops session at the state conference but I’d rather give you all the details in December. Most will be on the collegiate day.

Jason. Paul Palek told to attendees at a recent workshop that there will be no SGO police coming around this year

Rubistar.4teachers.org – Barbara from Chatham shared this website concerning rubrics.

ROUND TABLE

Tom (Egg Harbor): “We are giving assessments that are common. Every single student is being assessed. Every assessment must include level 3 and 4 questions and must be 2 tiered (high middle and low) general assessments. ALL students are being included in the SGO’s. We are not doing samples of students. Supervisors have to collate the scores. Teachers will develop their SGO’s in their October in-service.

Linda Westfield: “Because we did curriculum mapping last year we are in good shape. We are doing pre assessments in all their classrooms. Teachers can decide to do a sample or an entire grand level. We are making it as general and simple as possible for this first year. 2nd and 5th grade – music. My high school staff....tailored their SGO’s personally to them own needs... to where the weakness was in their classroom.”

Linda is meeting with each teacher to discuss their individual SGO’s.

“I keep saying – don’t panic!”

Question: “When teachers have a common course do teachers work together” – Answer: yes

Lou (West Orange): “We are writing the SGO’s based on the assessment results. In our K-5 art and music multiple choice, we are giving the teachers the freedom to choose the assessment. The SGO’s ...I don’t know how we are going to do that yet. They will be based on the assessments. The assessments may be changed by teachers based on the assessment results. SGO’s are different for each teacher but the assessments are the same. Our teachers put together a non-multiple choice assessment and teachers found that this was really difficult. We had to revise our tests. I would advise using multiple choices.

Tom North Plainfield: “I think it was a year or 2 years ago that I got wind of this. I started to go to workshops sponsored by the DOE who admitted that they had no idea what was going on. So I started to look at other states. I just get the form and the teachers can plug in what they have already been doing. I did get my teachers a camera and a hand held recorder to help aid them in their assessments.”

Elizabeth: “We are a managed instruction district. I am being charged with developing SGO’s for my entire department. The teachers like it because I am giving them their SGO. They are only required to do one grade

level. However, the second SGO is an English, Language Arts SGO which I also had to design. I reached out to my 2 colleagues for guidance and my K-5 staff is doing listening, speaking and language acquisition. Grades 6-12 are reading informational texts. Part of our SGO was a reflective essay. My district is providing our staff with professional develop.”

Matt (Linden): “During the summer we were all assigned the task of developing samples. We are developing the pre-assessment first based on broad area and from there; we look at the 2 biggest deficiencies and develop their SGO’s from there.”

West New York: “Our union president dictated that the teacher’s SGO’s will be counted. We did assessments last year for every grade level as a pre test. Teachers will state the 70 percent of students with a 7- percent attendance rate will achieve... We are keeping it as simple as possible. We are only assessing 1 class for our SGO requirement, not all.”

Linda: “We are leaving it up to the teachers. Supervisors are guiding the SGO’s and the principals are approving the SGO. All of my teachers did a pre assessment last year. They could choose the simple or the tiered.”

Jason (Clifton): “We are very fortunate we had a PD day the first day of school. We used that day to write the SGO’s.”

Dennis (Randolph): “We have a professional day all day on the 14th of October. We also had one of the 5th of September. What I am doing that is different is... my most recent understanding of the arts, is that there can be multiple assessments. The initial assessment should not be graded (as stated by Paul). The idea of the rubric is looming large in my mind. What I found very helpful is to go back to the standards. Look at the CPI’s you can get and SGO out of them. An SGO should be broad. Ours have to be in November 1st.”

Paramus: “What we did was prepare the assessments in the spring. We will administer them soon and we will look at them in the October in service and go from there.”

Chatham: “We were encouraged not to reinvent the wheel. Take something that you have always done and quantify it. We developed a user friendly form. These SGO’s are a part of the principal’s evaluation so they are anxious for them to be right. We don’t want them to do exceptionally well on the pretest. We want to see the growth.”

Mount Olive teacher reportswe are at a loss Our SGO’s and they are due today! I gave the other teachers all the examples I could find on line. I think that everyone is hoping for the best.”

South Brunswick: “We are in pretty good shape. Assessments were already in place when I joined the district. Some assessments were updated over the summer. We have had 2 professional development days so far. The SGO is owned by the teacher. One interesting thing that the teachers came up with... our ensembles are actually doing ensemble assessments for one of the two SGO’s. It is rubric scored. They are co-scoring with a peer. At concert time, teachers are recording the performance.”

Ken: (Ramsey): “Like a lot of people we are taking a decentralized approach. If you can convince your supervisor that your goal is appropriate then go for it. The principle behind the SGO is to assess a large population but if you can convince me that a sub group really needs the assessment then you can target this need. I think the art teachers are handling this better than the music teachers. They are developing an SGO based on a core concepts in the subject area.”

Ridgewood: “Teachers have a general and a specific SGO. We have had a good amount of professional development. Make sure you have an, “I don’t know yet” question and an “I’m not sure yet” question. All art

and music teachers are doing a specific grade level to be determined by the teacher. Teachers are encouraged in the high school to pick a course that has a large number of classes.”

Bob (Washington) “We have not talked much about the portfolio concept. - All of my teachers are using the portfolio concept. It is a huge task but we have simplified it. The performance assessments are done all year long. Teachers keep assessments all year long. The teachers make up a portfolio based on these cumulative rubrics (that they gather from the entire year). Just about everyone of my teacher’s has a portfolio SGO and the other is based on a pre assessment. The teachers choose one ensemble to do the portfolio assessment in.

Question: How are they doing portfolios in dance? Answer: The evidence comes from the written rubric.

Montville Twp: “I started July 1. My first department meeting people looked at me like I had three heads. I sat down with the teachers and told them to decide on the area they wanted to assess – get a rubric....we were told that the principals own the SGO’s. We are doing all the work and handing them over to the principal.”

Summit: “We started off like some people did on the first day of school and one day in October. I am desperately trying to make it performance based. I am struggling to find a reasonable number of students to assess. I tell them to show growth and tie into the standards.”

Bob (Edison) – “I will go really quickly – I was told thatreading -----sight-singing. Reading – note reading....lap tops for everybody – lap tops.....writing...critique.....I am being held to the same standard as the principals are being assessed”.....(LOL...could quite get the rest Bob!)

Peter (Orange): “Over the summer we had Dr. Palek come in and speak to our administrators. We had a superintendent’s forum where he spoke to everyone. The SGO things change day by day. The other thing he said to all the staff – “If you think your starting your classes this week doing the same thing you have done for many years you are sadly mistaken.” We are doing portfolio assessments. Arts people have it down - not so much with music teachers. It was the first time I saw fear on my staff. We are assessing ALL students. I said, go and do what you want to do. The supervisors are responsible ...written (one open ended question) 2 tiered SGO’s mandated by the superintendent. They are due today to the principals. The data is to be in the hands of the State Department in early November. We are using Campus for our rubrics.”

Peter (Hopewell Valley): “Everyone has to create one general SGO and one specific. Those teachers who were proactive are doing better then everyone else. We were trained wonderfully this summer by the STROMM people themselves. SMART goal makes a good SGO. Specific Measureable Appropriate, Rigorous and time framed. Principals are to sign off but they are teacher directed...the principals will be reviewing the SGO’s with the supervisors before they are submitted to the superintendents.”

NEW JERSEY MUSIC ADMINISTRATORS' ASSOCIATION

General Membership Meeting Minutes

Friday, February 7, 2014, 8:30 a.m.
The Rutgers Club, Rutgers University, New Brunswick

I. Reports:

President – Peter J. Griffin

- Welcomed everyone.

Treasurer/Membership – Tom Weber

- Account Balance = \$2,010.58 Total Paid Members = 46 + 1 PO Pending

Secretary – Peggy Valenti - absent

NJMEA Liaison – Ron Dolce

- Should have received your Tempo Magazine
- Don't forget to register for the NJMEA Conference in February; This year's booklet is online.

NJMEA News/Update – Joe Akinskas See Conference info below.

Advocacy – Denis Mullins

- The Arts are now included on the State Report Card for high schools
- The National Coalition for Core Arts Standards are open for review at:
<http://nccas.wikispaces.com>

II. Old Business-

February NJMEA Conference –

Friday 2/21 8:30am - Breakfast (All Eastern President will be in attendance)

2:30pm – “Is Counting 2/4 the Heart of It”

Saturday 2/22 9:00am – “Nail Down That Job”

11:30am – “Transitioning From Music Student to Music Teacher”

2:00pm – Collegiate Wrap Up (Q&A for college students)

NAfME will present a Leadership Workshop on 2/22 at 9:00; and a Young Composer's Critique at 10:15am.

III. New Business-

Joe Akinskas – Master Class Initiative

- NJMAA will be sponsoring a workshop for teachers in assignments which may be out of their comfort level. Stay tuned for more info on date and location.
- The Eastern Division is staying on top of what's going on: Report Card & NCCAS
- April – Collegiate Research Conference in St. Louis; Big advocacy contingent going out in June at the National level.

IV. Main Topic

“Thriving or Surviving: Are we maintaining quality of instruction under the new evaluation models?

- *Robert Pispcky - Facilitator*

V. Roundtable

Next General Meeting – Friday, April 4, 2014 – The Rutgers Club, New Brunswick, NJ 8:30am

Higher Education Update – Focus on Teacher Evaluation: What College Graduates Need to Know - *Facilitator: Joe Akinskas*

__NEW__JERSEY__MUSIC__ADMINISTRATORS'__ASSOCIATION__

General Membership Meeting

Minutes

Friday, April 4, 2014, 8:30 a.m.

The Rutgers Club, Rutgers University, New Brunswick

II. Reports:

President – Peter J. Griffin

- Welcome and Introductions

Treasurer/Membership – Tom Weber

- Account Balance = \$1919.63 Total Paid Members = 48

Secretary – Linda King for Peggy Valenti

NJMEA Liaison – Ron Dolce

Tempo article for May has been submitted.

NJMEA News/Update – Joe Akinskas

Proposed session list for summer workshop was handed out (will also be blasted on Tempo).
Saturday Master Classes for those who are out of their field of expertise.

Advocacy – Please see below

III. Old Business-

February NJMEA Conference – very successful; good attendance; good conversation at the breakfast with Eastern Div. President, Bob Frampton and Bob Morrison from NJAEP.

IV. New Business-

2015 Eastern Division Conference - April 9-12, 2015, Providence, RI
Session proposals due June 1st.

VI. Main Topic

Higher Education Update: *What College Graduates Need To Know*
– *Facilitator: Joe Akinskas*

New Technology & Assessment Tools
Advocacy
Teacher Evaluation Process/SGO's
Master Class Initiative
Summer Workshop

VII. Roundtable

**NJMAA By-Laws/Constitution/Election of Officers/Members of the Executive Committee
Meeting Topics for 2014-2016**
*Vote – all in favor of accepting the updated By-Laws and Constitution (change MENC to NafME)

Next General Meeting – June 6, 2013 – The Rutgers Club, New Brunswick, NJ 8:30am

Hot Off The Press – Wrap Up and Round Up – *Facilitator: Peter J. Griffin*

NEW JERSEY MUSIC ADMINISTRATORS' ASSOCIATION

General Membership Meeting Minutes

Friday, June 6, 2014, **8:30 a.m.**
The Rutgers Club, Rutgers University, New Brunswick

III. Reports:

President – Peter J. Griffin

- Welcome and Introductions

Treasurer/Membership – Tom Weber

- Account Balance = \$1514.91 Total Paid Members = 48

Secretary – Linda King for Peggy Valenti

NJMEA Liaison – Ron Dolce

Tempo article will be submitted in August for the October issue.

NJMEA News/Update – Joe Akinskas (absent)/Bob Frampton

- Summer Workshop Update – Registration is open on the NJMEA Website.
- Eastern Division – extended deadline for proposals. Conference is in April - RI
- National Convention will be in Nashville
- NJMEA Leadership will be going to Capitol Hill in June for advocacy
- National Arts Standards were just rolled out (more info on the NAFME website)

Advocacy – Denis Mullins/Nick Santoro

- State Standards will have no changes for 2 years to see how the National Standards play out

NJMAA Elections: NJMAA Officers for 2014-2016

Tom Weber, President Elect

David Imhof, Secretary (w/membership tracking)

Louis Quagliato, Treasurer (w/email blasts)

Board of Directors (which are not on the ballot because they are appointed):

Joseph Akinskas – College Connection/ Summer Workshops for Music Educators

Ron Dolce – Liaison to NJMEA

Linda King – Facilitator for a workshop

Matt Lorenzetti – Advocacy

Patricia Rowe – Webmaster

V. Main Topic

Hot Off The Press – Wrap Up and Round Up – *Facilitator: Peter J. Griffin*

VI. Roundtable

Next General Meeting – October 3, 2014 – The Rutgers Club, New Brunswick, NJ 8:30am

General Meeting Topics for 2014-2015

- October 3rd: Teacher SGO's – One Year Later – Facilitators: Peter Griffin & Tom Weber
- December 5th: New Supervisor Evaluations – Facilitators: Bob Pispcky & Lou Quagliato
- February 6th: Roundtable – Scheduling and Surviving the Evaluation Process
Facilitator: Linda King
- February 19-21: NJMEA Conference (NJMAA Breakfast 2/20)
- March 27th: NOW.... Back to Music Education! Facilitator: Joseph Akinskas
(TIME – Technology in Music Education)
- June 5th: Road Trip - TBA