# EIU National Association for Music Education

# Meeting Minutes

October 10, 2016

1. Call to order

President Belle Moushon called to order the meeting of the EIU National Association for Music Education Collegiate Chapter at 7:00 pm on October 10, 2016.

1. Officer Reports
2. Secretary
   1. No Report
3. Treasurer
   1. Current balance:
4. Vice-President
   1. No Report
5. President
   1. Penny Wars
   2. NAfME Trips and Activities
6. Topic:

* Penny Wars
  + Composition Wins!
  + Percussion 2nd.
  + Trombones, Last
  + Horns, most money raised.
* IMEC Conference
  + Tentative List
  + Payments due on Nov. 3rd and Dec 11th.
* Oct. 15th trip.
  + New Holland
  + Sign up groups will have an email sent.
* Caroling!
  + Sign-up
* Don Fisher
  + Graduated in 2012
  + Student Taught at Effingham
  + Taught for 3 years at the ROWVA School District
    - Taught Kindergarten, 5-12 band, Music Appreeciation, and Jazz Band.
* Many jobs are starting to consolidate throughout the state
  + Teachers are being asked to teach multiple subjects/odd jobs just to stay full time.
* Tips
  + You can get by with a little help from your friends!
  + Networking is a HUGE plus!
  + ILMEA and Midwest tare wonderful tools as well!
    - Midwest is during EIU’s Graduation. How very unfortunate.
* TEACHING BAND
* *The missed placed choir director*
  + Don’t panic!
  + Remember that there are many things that translate from band to choir
  + Intonation/articulations/rhythm/meter
* Starting out:
  + Band usually starts around 5th grade
  + Instrument tryout nights will happen the year prior to starting
    - It’s up to you if you want to start kids over the summer or wait until the school year
  + There are studies shown that schools are just as successful starting on any number of instrument combinations.
  + Method books are six of one, a half dozen of the other
    - Some offer etter layouts, others offer better theory, ultimately it’s up to the teacher
    - Foundations for Superior Performance
      * The Complete Reference Guide for Band Directors
        + The works. Everything. Timpani repair, harmonic series of everything…
  + Band music in general
    - A few composers composed both band and choral music
      * Holst
      * Vaughan Williams
    - Many composers have transcriptions for band
      * Bach
      * Stroope
      * Mozart
      * Tallis
    - Some composers to keep in mind
      * Alfred Reed
      * Frank Erickson
      * James Swearingen
      * Jim Curnow
      * Etc
  + Instruments
    - Stick with the common brands unless you know specifically otherwise.
    - Yamaha
    - Selmer/ Conn-Selmer
    - Jupiter… occasionally
    - Pearl… as available for Flute
    - Ask your colleagues.
    - If kids want to purchase better instruments, ask a player of that instrument!
    - You get what you pay for.
      * Super cheap but breaks after a year- $60
      * Expect a couple hundred if you want it to last a little while.
  + Sometimes music intimidates me…
    - Band scores can be intimidating at first
    - Studying the score helps!
    - Most band music falls into one of these three groups
      * Melody
      * Accompaniment
      * Rhythm
    - Transpositions- Look for your C instruments if you aren’t sure of the concert pitch.
      * Oboe
      * Bassoon
      * Flute
      * Trombone
      * Tuba
      * Euphonium
    - Look on the left side for the designation of Non-C instruments
      * Look at your Conducting 1 notes.
    - Really a matter of sitting down and reading the score. Don’t be intimidated.
      * WRITE THINGS ON THE SCORE!
  + Band setups
    - There are as many ways to set up a band as there are stars in the sky.
      * That being said, higher and softer in front,
      * Lower and louder in back.
  + *The misplaced band director*
  + Choir setup!
    - The choir has 4 parts
    - Most choirs at schools that have one music director will not have 4 independent parts.
      * Ergo, you only have one tenor.
      * Does he sing it down an octave?
      * Is he confident enough to sing on his own?
  + Fundamentals!
    - Scales!
      * Please teach them the correct way, too.
    - Chord tuning
    - Take the time to learn what voice parts people ACTUALLY have
    - Don’t scare away students when their voice changes.
      * Contact your choir buddies!
  + Scores
    - Everyone sees everyone else’s part.
    - SATB and a piano reduction
  + Music
    - Start with English, and then move onto Latin
    - Learn the pronunciations!
    - Some composers
    - Lyricists
      * Bilings
      * Vaughan Williams
      * Holst
      * Byrd
      * Lauridsen
      * Stroope
    - Light Hearted
      * Linda Stevacek
      * Mary-Lynn Lightfoot
      * Roger Emerson (More pop oriented)
      * Randal Thompson (Challenging)
      * Moses Hogan
      * Andy Beck (Holiday)
      * Vijay Singh
  + Anything Else?
  + Check out state lists
  + Pronunciation is key
    - When learning songs in languages other than English, PLEASE teach the correct pronunciation
  + Further Help
    - Facebook
      * Band Director’s Group
      * I’m a General Music Teacher
      * Choir Director’s Group (or something very similar)
  + Other things
    - “I don’t pick beggars” (to stop students from saying “pick me! Pick me!”) can back-fire.
      * I.E. a student responds “I live in a house.”
  + Other questions:
    - What made you come back to college?
    - Would it be best to go straight to doing something, or would it be good to wait?
      * Depends on your goals.
      * Think about this- will they want public school experience?
      * Can you teach in a public school?
      * It may be best to teach in the public school system first.
        + 3-5 years to get your feet wet (and build of some cash reserves!)
* [djfisher@eiu.edu](mailto:djfisher@eiu.edu)
* Band Office
  + What advice do you have/what do you wish you had spent more time on in undergrad?
    - Being completely honest, I wish I would have paid more attention/done more stuff with general music classes.
    - Listen to Prof. Jensen!
  + What was the best part of teaching Kindergarten?
    - They are really cute- they want to share everything, even to a fault, like a lost tooth.
    - Their performances are pretty adorable too.
    - Some aren’t. Some get expelled.
  + Activities you may be bored with may entertain them greatly.
    - Switching instruments on the same song for an hour is something they love.
  + Did you have anything that went really bad?
    - A lot. I was unprepared for Kindergarten.
      * Kindergarten is intense!
    - The first quarter is the worst- you have to figure out pacing.
      * Ergo, 10 minutes being too long, or 2 minutes being too short.
      * It gets better with time.
  + Summer teaching
    - Homogenous lessons over the summer- each instrument group had a half hour lesson every two weeks.
    - Don’t let them play until you give them some basics.
    - Private lessons.
      * Lessons are encouraged.
      * You can give some for free.
      * Money can be an issue.
      * Also, what is available in your area.
    - Band Camp was during the IHSA “Dead week”- the week that the Football team didn’t need the field.

1. Adjournment

Announcements: Christina was contacted about doing a Fundraiser in Sullivan- Playing Christmas music from 6-8 p.m. in December. We need at least 2 hours of music. Service hours can be gained from this!

Additional handouts for the IMEC deadlines available with Dr. Larson

President Belle Moushon adjourned the meeting at 7:53 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joseph Goldstein, Secretary of the EIU NAfME Collegiate Chapter