

**North Carolina Bandmasters Association
Eastern District**

Spring Meeting
February 2, 2008
ECU School of Music - Greenville
Minutes

- President Jorge Benitez called the meeting to order at 10:06 A.M.
- Motions were made, seconded, and approved to accept the minutes from the August 18, 2007, business meeting as well as the February, 2008, treasurers report.
- Jorge Benitez thanked the directors and students who participated in the Honors Audition help clinics sponsored by the ECU School of Music on Thursday, Feb. 1. Jorge also thanked Scott Carter for his help in coordinating the Thursday night clinic/percussion ensemble concert as well as hosting the All District clinic again in the renovated ECU School of Music. Scott informed the membership that the ECU Summer Music Camp will continue in 2008 and be held from June 15 through June 20. Scott encouraged directors to support this camp and offered \$100 camp scholarships to any Eastern All District student that is also eligible to audition for Honors Band and \$50 camp scholarships to all other Eastern All District participants.
- Jorge also recognized Fuller's Music and Music and Arts for providing refreshments for directors on Friday and Saturday morning.

OLD BUSINESS/REPORTS

- **Concert Band Festivals** - Debbie Davis reported to the membership about the middle school festival, which will be held at West Craven HS on March 5 through March 7. Ricky Allgood, Arden Carson, Mike Kirby, and Vernon Powell will be the judges. February 7 is the registration deadline for middle school festival. Jorge Benitez reported to the membership about the high school festival, which will be held at Havelock HS on March 17 through March 19. Liz Hasty, Mike Robinson, and Mike Williams are the judges for the festival. Registration forms will be updated this week and posted on the district web site. Jorge encouraged directors to read the festival bylaws and order judges scores immediately. Jorge encouraged new directors to seek help/advice from others with festival preparation strategies.

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- **Solo and Ensemble Festival** - Brad Staley reported to the membership that the festival will be held on May 10 at the ECU School of Music and the registration deadline is April 10. The fee for each performance is \$10.
- **Honors Band Auditions** - Brad informed the membership that all forms for this audition are on the state web site. The deadline is 2/15/08 and the auditions will be held again at East Davidson HS and Brown MS in Thomasville. Brad will be stepping down as auditions chair after the 2008 auditions.
- **State Jazz Events** - Tripp Aldredge reported to the membership that the 2008 All Region Jazz auditions were successful, fielding two bands for the clinic on Feb. 22-23 at Beddingfield HS. Tripp also informed the membership about the Eastern Regional Jazz Band Festival on May 3 at Farmville Central HS. Forms for this festival are available on the state web site. There are now 3 regions in the state and Tripp encouraged all directors to participate in Jazz events. Tripp will be stepping down off this board after the Eastern Region Jazz Festival in May.
- **Percussion Committee** - Jorge thanked members who met on 2/1/08 to revise/edit language for the current percussion audition requirements. A list of requirements for each audition level was created and will be submitted to the NCBA Executive Board later this year. Any director with a question or comment about the requirements may contact an executive board member.
- **Auditions Committee Update** - Jorge reported that the committee addressed several concerns from directors about the District auditions procedures/process. Directors were strongly encouraged to follow the registration deadlines for district band auditions. Jorge also stated that the committee is working on methods to enhance the pacing and communication strategies from auditions chairpersons. One proposed change is to lower the sight-reading study time for middle school auditions from 60 seconds to 30 seconds. The Executive Board will study this proposal and present a recommendation to the membership at the fall, 2008, meeting. Hugh Whaley has also submitted a proposal that Jorge will email to members for their input.
- **State Marching Band Committee** - Jim Boyce is the new representative to the committee, replacing Andy Wright. Jim reported on several issues brought before the state marching band committee.

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New Business

- Elections were held for 11/12 Honors Band Auditions Chairperson. Ashley Wright was nominated and elected by acclamation.
- Elections for the Middle School auditions chair were held. Gwen Wilson was nominated and elected by acclamation.
- Elections for the 9/10 Auditions/Clinic chair were held. Chris Howard and Keith Green were nominated. Chris Howard will continue in this office.
- Elections to select a clinician for the 2009 Middle School Concert Band were held. Brian Edmonds, Jason Barclift, Lynn Dale, and Barney Barker were nominated. Brian Edmonds was elected by the membership.
- Elections to select a clinician for the 2009 9/10 Band were held. Perry Ditch and Maurice Medley were nominated, with Perry Ditch being selected as the clinician.
- Elections to select a clinician for the 2010 Middle School Symphonic Band were held. Bobby Hinson, Ralph Caldwell, Kyle Auman, and Mike Oare were nominated. Mike Oare is the 1st choice, followed by Bobby Hinson, Kyle Auman, and Ralph Caldwell.
- Elections to select a clinician for the 2010 11/12 Band were held. Joseph Hermann, Chris Knighten, Joe Allison, and Burt Owen were nominated. Chris Knighten is the 1st choice, followed by Joe Allison, Joseph Hermann, and Burt Owen.
- Elections to select a recipient for the 2008 Award of Excellence were held. David Stroud, Allen Pettit, and Brad Langhans were nominated. Allen Pettit was voted to receive this award.
- Jorge informed the district that a new Commission Committee would be created to study a possible commissioning project in 2012. Any interested members should contact an Executive Board member or Russell Knight.
- Perry Ditch made a motion to increase the late district membership registration fee (after Oct. 1) to \$75. Exceptions to this regulation may be made at the discretion of the President. The motion received a second and passed.
- Jorge reminded members that they may not judge their own students at Honors Band auditions. If you do so, your student will receive a 0 out of 100

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from your portion of the 200 point score. The NCBA Executive Board passed this regulation earlier in the year.

- Perry presented an update on the status of the Honors Band Clinic. The Eastern District made a motion to the NCBA for Honors Band Clinic to move to a 3-day event beginning on Thursday and concluding Saturday. After a survey taken at the 2007 NCBA Honors Band meeting, the motion was amended to have a 2-day event beginning on Friday and concluding Saturday. This past November, the NCBA voted to rescind the earlier motion, thus reverting back to a similar Friday through Sunday schedule for Honors Band Clinic. Any director with concerns should contact a NCBA Executive Board member.
- Jorge would like to keep the Fall retreat in August, with the date being around the 3rd Saturday in the month. The ECU Marching Pirates will host an alumni session after the retreat/business meeting. Jorge asked members to return the retreat surveys so the executive board may prepare for the August 2008, retreat.
- Perry Ditch made a motion to include pre-posted cuts for 9/10 & 11/12 prepared solos for All District auditions. Cuts must be presented at the Fall meeting of the district. The motion received a second, and after discussion, the motion failed.
- Jorge informed members that Perry would present an advocacy DVD to parents/students tonight at both concerts as the bands move to/from the stage. Please encourage everyone to watch this presentation.
- A motion was made to adjourn, received a second, and was passed. The meeting adjourned at 12:14 P.M.

Members/guests present: Noelle Aguon, Tripp Aldredge, Allen Amos, Sam Ballard, Sherri Bankston, Barney Barker, Jorge Benitez, Eddie Best, Jim Boyce, Brent Brondyke, Hosea Brower, Ana Bulluck, Donna Buttrum, Jerry Buttrum, Charlie Caldwell, Bryant Copeland, Lynn Dale, Debbie Davis, Perry Ditch, Bob Ebert, Brian Edmonds, Craig Everett, James Fleming, Pete Frank, Mike Fussell, David Fye, Beverly Goehring, Keith Green, Josh Griffin, Erik Harris, Carol Higgins, Chris Howard, Ginny Huddleston, Margie Jesse, Karen Johnson, Larry Keeler, Patti Knauf, Russell Knight, Amanda Landis, Brad Langhans, Cory Lipsky, Mark Lorek, Jonathan Matthews, Jessica McCaskill, Tim McCoy, Sean McCroskey, Keil McMurray, Maurice Medley, Grant Michel, Bob Norem, Brandon Pope, Rod Reed, Dave Shaw, Greg Shreckengost, Phil Smith, Catherine Snyder, Brad Staley, Mark Stauffer, Fletcher Stubbs, Gene Taliaferro-Jones, Rose Taylor, Brooke Wagner, Roger

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Walker, Bonnie Weaver, Chris Whitehurst, Alexander Williams, Christi Williams,
Gwen Wilson, Andy Wright, Ashley Wright.