

## **FGMEA BOARD MINUTES**

### **November 14, 2006**

The November meeting of the **FGMEA Board** was held on Tuesday, November 14, 2006 at the FEA Office in Fairfax. The meeting was called to order by **Charlie Ring, President**. Board members in attendance were: Charles Ring, Joy Petty, Debbie Key, Loretta Schmitt, Nancy Pope, Heather Young, Carla Okouchi, Wendy Peterson, Rachel Grimsby, Jessica Stowe, Christian King, Julie Kastner, Mary Woods, Carolyn Dorey, Mimi Youkeles, Diane Stevens, Tim Whiting and Camille Brady.

### **Charles Ring, President's Report**

- Charlie welcomed Loretta Schmitt (Secretary) back to the board.
- Charlie gave a HUGE thank you to Mary Woods (In-service Chair) for organizing and hosting an extremely successful and informative in-service on building Pyramid Choral programs at all levels. We want to keep these choral programs strong and flourishing. Over 130 elementary, middle, and high school teachers attended. We made history as this was the first time we connected as an entire group! Charlie thanked the social committee for providing refreshments at the in-service.
- Carla Okouchi (Newsletter Editor) would like to remind everyone that all information for the FGMEA winter newsletter is due by November 30, 2006. If any FGMEA members have any announcements or articles they would like to submit for the newsletter please e-mail Carla Okouchi.
- The FGMEA website ([www.fgmea.org](http://www.fgmea.org)) is currently down. Marianne Tagge (Website Chair) is checking into this.
- FGMEA currently has 173 members. Membership rosters were distributed to all cluster chairs. Charlie thanked Jihanna Charlton (Membership Chair) for compiling the membership directory.
- Congratulations are in order to Wendy Peterson (Cluster Chair 7&8) who recently got engaged!
- Hard copies of the October Board minutes, Charlie's letter to Roger Tomhave, as well as Roger Tomhave's letter were sent to all the general music teachers.
- Charlie announced that Carla Okouchi is serving on the FEA Communications Team. Carla informed him that FEA held a Town Meeting on Time on Wednesday, November 8, 2006 at the Waterford in

Springfield. School Board members were present at this meeting. Issues discussed included:

1. Teaching and learning conditions.
2. Professional discretionary use of time after the student day.
3. Impact of expanded workload on families, personal time and instructional quality.

Kitty Reip (Shreveewood ES) shared “The Day in the Life of a Music Teacher” at this meeting.

School board members asked why they have not been sent e-mails from concerned and worn out teachers. The school board wants to be informed about the issues affecting teachers and programs.

Charlie strongly encouraged general music teachers to make a difference and voice your concerns for the general music and elementary choral programs with the school board.

You can communicate your concerns with all school board members at [SchoolBoardMembers@fcps.edu](mailto:SchoolBoardMembers@fcps.edu)

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**FAIRFAX COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD CONTINUED**

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## AUSTRALIAN MUSIC EDUCATORS TO VISIT FCPS IN DECEMBER

**Contact Person: Debra Lindsay (Crestwood)**

**Work Number: (703) 923-5428**

**Home Number: (703) 658-9814**

### Agenda for the Australian music educators visit:

#### Sunday evening, December 10, 2006

Pick up guests at Dulles Airport. "Getting to Know You Dinner" in Reston, Virginia and home visits with American hosts.

#### Monday morning, December 11, 2006:

Visit hosts' elementary schools to observe elementary general music, band and strings classes.

#### Monday afternoon, December 11, 2006:

Lunch in an American restaurant and a reception at Haycock ES with members of the school board and invited guests.

#### Monday evening, December 11, 2006:

Reception at the Australian Embassy and site-seeing tour of Washington, D. C.

#### Tuesday morning, December 12, 2006:

Visit a middle school and McLean High School to observe choral, band and orchestra.

#### Tuesday afternoon, December 12, 2006:

Visit with Carole Wysocki at the Kennedy Center for tour and discussion.

#### Tuesday evening, December 12, 2006:

Visit sites and monuments in Washington, D. C.

#### Wednesday morning, December 13, 2006:

9:00 A. M.: White House tour.

11:00 A. M.: Deliver guest to Reagan National Airport.

### ASSISTANCE NEEDED WITH THE FOLLOWING

- If anyone has a (church) bus they are willing to donate for the evening of December 11, 2006 and/or December 12, 2006, please call Debra Lindsay at (work) (703) 923-5428 or (home) (703) 658-9814.

### HOSTING

If you are interested in hosting some of the Australians music educators please call Debra at the above given numbers.

#### Hosting includes:

- Picking up a person(s) from Dulles on Sunday, December 10, 2006.
- Inviting him/her to your school on Monday, December 11, 2006.

- Delivering him/her to Reagan National Airport, Wednesday, December 13, 2006, and all activities included in the above agenda.
- If the potential host(s) is/are a member of FEA, Debra most likely can arrange a sub for December 12, 13, 2006.

### **Joy Petty Vice-President**

- Joy presented a form for the FGMEA Scholarship for the board to review
- The same parameters were used as the Grant
- Joy will write a cover letter with the grant form and send to all General Music Teachers

### **Debbie Key, Treasurer**

- The ending balance in the treasury is: **\$16,187.15** as of November 13, 2006.

### **Committee Chair Reports:**

#### **Mimi Youkeles, Ways and Means**

##### **Tee Shirts:**

**Motion:** Mimi Youkeles moved that the board vote on the three tee shirt colors. The motion was seconded by Camille Brady.

##### **Motion Passed.**

The board selected royal blue as the color for the Sixth Grade All-County Choral Festival tee shirts. Mimi will send a template of color choices for lettering and logo in an email for the board to vote electronically. Tee shirts will be sold to choral festival participants for \$10.00 per shirt.

#### **Julie Kastner, Christian King, Grant**

- The **FGMEA** Mini-Grants for 2006-2007 were awarded to two applicants this year. The recipients are:
- **Erin Cooper, (Garfield)** received a \$500.00 grant from **FGMEA**. She is working on an after school drumming program.
- **Kathryn Humfeld, (Marshall Road)** will purchase boomwhackers to develop a composition group.

**Motion:** Julie Kastner moved that the remaining grant funds be designated to elementary choral music. Rachel Grimsby seconded the motion.

##### **Motion Passed.**

### **Heather Young and Carla Okouchi, Choral Festival**

- Great inservice on Monday, November 13, 2006.
- Deen Entsminger was most complimentary of FCPS music educators.
- Choral Festival Packets will be sent to the nine schools that were unable to attend.
- Charlie thanked Heather, Carla and all the people who prepared the CD and packed the festival music.
- We should have the Choral Festival CD by next week.

### **Mary Woods, Inservice**

- Thanked everyone for their participation at the pyramid choral inservice
- Please turn in your musical notes into Elaine Stanford for your pyramid by December 1, 2006.

### **Tim Whiting, Resource**

- Tabled until February meeting.

### **New Business**

- Carla Okouchi requested that all items for the **FGMEA** winter newsletter be given to her no later than November 30, 2006.

### **Adjournment**

Without further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:45 P. M. The next executive board is February 13, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,

Loretta Schmitt

Loretta Schmitt, secretary