

# FGMEA BOARD MINUTES

## March 13, 2007

The FGMEA Board meeting was held on Tuesday, March 13, 2007 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, Bev, Ogden, Adam Martinelli, Marti Fucile, Heather Young, Carla Okouchi, Wendy Peterson, Rachel Grimsby, Jessica Stowe, Christian King, Julie Kastner, Mary Woods, Carolyn Dorey, Mimi Youkeles, Tim Whiting and Camille Brady.

### I. Charlie Ring, PRESIDENT'S REPORT

#### A. Member News

- FCPS general music teacher **Linda White (Haycock)** is the recipient of the 2006 VMEA General Music Educator of the Year Award. Way to go Linda!
- **Lee Larsen (Union Mill)** recently became a father with the birth of Jacqueline Marie Larsen.
- **Bene Dodd (Greenbriar West)** had a baby boy on February 2 (Groundhog's Day!) His name is Michael Timothy Dodd.
- **Cindy Redden (Belvedere)** announced that she will be leaving us at the end of this year. Best wishes to Cindy as she moves Baltimore. We'll miss her smiles, hugs, and her upbeat personality!
- On a sad note, retired general music teacher **Dr. Astrid Leonard** passed away after a 3 year battle with cancer. Astrid taught at Lees Corner, Virginia Run, and Jermantown (now Providence).

#### B. Board News

- Charlie thanked **Rachel Grimsby (Social)** for providing refreshments.
- Best wishes are in order to the following Board members:
  - **Loretta Schmitt (Secretary)** whose birthday is today. Happy Birthday Loretta!
  - **Heather Young (Choral Festival)** who recently got engaged!
  - **Jihanna Charlton (Membership)** is getting married on 7/7/07 (she said this is the same date that Carla Okouchi is getting married!)
  - **Camille Brady (Cluster Chair 3&4)** is getting married July 14, 2007.
  - **Wendy Peterson (Cluster Chair 7&8)** is getting married July 21, 2007.

- **Joy Petty (Vice President)** welcomed her first granddaughter, Ashley, on December 19<sup>th</sup>.
- **Jessica Stowe (Social)** recently released her very own CD titled “Art Songs for a New Era” not only did she write both the music and lyrics for the songs but she is the singer as well. Charlie has a copy of the CD and has listened to it over and over. It is superb! He highly recommends it to all of you. Charlie stated, “Jessica, I’m very proud to have such a talented musician on our Board.” Her CD is available at [www.jessicaliedich.com](http://www.jessicaliedich.com).

### **C. Reminder to Members**

**FGMEA** wants to recognize your honors, achievements, births, engagements, marriages, etc. Please contact your cluster chair.

### **Please share your news with your Cluster Chairs:**

- Clusters 1 & 2: Carolyn Dorey
- Clusters 3 & 4: Camille Brady
- Clusters 5 & 6: Cindy Noble
- Clusters 7 & 8: Wendy Peterson

Charlie thanked **Jihanna Charlton (Membership)** for the updated FGMEA Membership Directory and asked the cluster chairs to update their cluster distribution lists if necessary.

### **D. Article**

Charlie distributed copies of a recent article that appeared in the Science section of The Washington Post to the Board. The article explains how music activates different regions of the brain and can act as a key to unlock memory.

Scientist Robert Zatorre asked people to listen to their favorite pieces of music as he ran brain scans on them. People selected whatever kinds of music sent chills down their spine. He found that music activated very ancient parts of the brain. When people experience chills there was a huge range of activity all over the brain. It lit up like a Christmas tree!

### **E. Virginia Standards of Learning for Music**

Previously the 4 strands were: **PERFORM, CREATE, INVESTIGATE, and CONNECT.**

New standards for music are organized into four (4) related strands called:

- **PERFORMANCE and PRODUCTION**
- **CULTURAL CONTEXT and MUSIC THEORY**
- **JUDGMENT and CRITICISM**
- **AESTHETICS**

**F. FGMEA IN-SERVICE PROPOSAL FOR OCTOBER 2007**

- Charlie shared a proposal from Lucinda Sexton and Linda White for the Board's consideration for next year's in-service.
- Lucinda and Linda recently attended a Multicultural Music Conference at the University of Tennessee.
- At the conference they attended a session titled "World Music Instruction: Travel the World through Music and Dance" presented by Dr. Soojin Kim Ritterling (Associate Professor of Music Education, University of Wisconsin).
- Both Lucinda and Linda highly recommend her and would like the **FGMEA** Board to consider having Dr. Ritterling present a similar in-service centering on the music and cultures of Asia and the Pacific Rim for our October 2007 In-service next year.
- The in-service would include multicultural music and movement resources including children's singing games. General music teachers would acquire materials for use in their classrooms.
- Dr. Ritterling's fee is a flat fee of \$500 plus transportation. Elaine Stanford said there might be funding available to help with transportation costs.

Charlie called on Mary Woods (In-service Chair) for a motion.

**MOTION:** Mary Woods moved that we invite Dr. Soojin Kim Ritterling, clinician, whose expertise meets so many needs of the General Music curriculum needs for the October, 2007 inservice.

The motion was seconded by Rachael Grimsby.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously.

## **G. MASTER SCHEDULING IN-SERVICE**

- Charlie thanked Jeanette Essig, Jennifer Himes and the Fine Arts Office for hosting a successful and informative master scheduling in-service on January 26. Approximately 95 elementary band, strings, and general music teachers attended.
- It was beneficial for us to have the opportunity to collaborate, communicate, and have an open dialog with each other. Charlie hopes this is something that the Fine Arts Office will continue in the future.
- Thank you to all general music teachers who presented and attended.
- Jeanette Essig (Music Resource Teacher) said that she was pleased with the in-service dialog and communication as well.

## **II. Jeanette Essig, FINE ARTS OFFICE REPORT**

- Jeanette reported that the **ISD (Instructional Services Department) focus group** meetings on **elementary scheduling** will include **ONLY FCPS LEADERSHIP** (i.e. Cluster Superintendents, Cluster Directors, and Principals). The only representative for Fine Arts will be the Fine Arts Coordinator, Roger Tomhave.
- Charlie stated that he had initially been assured by the FCPS leadership that teachers from **general music**, art, and PE would be included in the focus group. He said that he had made it known to the FCPS leadership that actual **teacher representation** in the focus group was **critical**. Charlie said that the focus group could not be fully effective without including the teachers who work with the children and are directly responsible for implementing the schedule.
- It was suggested by the **FGMEA** Board that Jeanette share our concerns regarding ISD focus group representation to Roger Tomhave (Fine Arts Coordinator).
- Jeanette informed the Board that the recently adopted School Board's Strategic Governance Goals recognize and include the Fine Arts as an academic subject.
- Fine Arts accountability will come through assessment (benchmarks). It will be an "authentic assessment."
- The curriculum writing team this summer will be based on creating an authentic **sixth grade exit assessment** (benchmarks). Plans are to pilot the assessment in some of the elementary schools next year.

- Charlie asked Jeanette if band and strings would be sharing in the responsibility of assessment at the elementary schools where upper grade students only receive one general music class each week.
- Jeanette stated that it would vary from school to school.
- Our current curriculum (POS) meets and exceeds State and National Standards for music.
- Character goals will also come under the School Board's Strategic Governance Goals.

### **III. Nancy Pope, PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Nancy Pope presented the slate of officers and cluster chairs for next year's 2007-2008 FGMEA Executive Board. They are:

#### **Officers**

|                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| President      | Joy Petty      |
| Vice-President | Wendy Peterson |
| Secretary      | Jessica Stowe  |
| Treasurer      | Debbie Key     |

#### **Cluster Chairs**

|                |              |
|----------------|--------------|
| Carolyn Dorey  | Clusters 1&2 |
| Angela Collins | Clusters 3&4 |
| Cindy Noble    | Clusters 5&6 |
| Rachel Grimsby | Clusters 7&8 |

### **IV. Joy Petty, VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Joy announced the recipient of the anonymous FGMEA Scholarship. The **\$500.00** scholarship was awarded to a student from Daniels Run who will attend the **Children's Choral Camp at James Madison University (JMU)** this summer.

Charlie thanked Joy Petty, Julie Kastner, Christian King, and the **FGMEA** Grant Committee for their participation in the scholarship selection process.

## **V. Debbie Key, TREASURER'S REPORT**

As of March 13, 2007 the balance in the FGMEA treasury is **\$13,416.55.**

## **VI. COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS**

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

- Heather and Carla have visited several area rehearsal sites. Everything appears to be running smoothly.
- Due to our limited leeway in scheduling ACCF, we will need to look at moving future festival dates to the third week in April. If this is accepted, the Choral Festival date for next year would be April 18-19, 2008.
- There are still some voicing concerns at various site rehearsal locations.
- Carla is completing detailed instructions for all ACCF selections specifically "Musical Tapestry."
- For teacher clarification, we are required to place all area rehearsals for ACCF, strings and band on the **designated Mondays.**
- Scheduling issues still remain with strings, band and ACCF all vying for the same Monday rehearsal times for students.
- Perhaps Stan Schoonover can communicate a more viable solution between ACCF, band, and strings since the Mondays are all designated Mondays.
- Charlie requested that Heather and Carla begin thinking about recommendations for an ACCF Co-Chair, clinician, location, and date for next year's festival.

- **Bev Ogden, Constitution**

**MOTION:** Bev Ogden moved the following change to the FGMEA Bylaws:

### **Chapter II-Duties of the Cluster Chairpersons**

- A. **CHANGE FROM:** One Cluster Chairperson **from** each of the four cluster pairings.
- B. **TO:** One Cluster Chairperson **for** each of the four cluster pairings.

Mary Woods seconded the motion.

**MOTION PASSED**

**MOTION:** Bev Ogden moved the following change to the FGMEA Bylaws:

**Chapter III-Duties of the Standing Committee Chairpersons**

**B.** There shall be two Choral Festival Chairpersons. One of the Choral Festival Chairpersons shall have served in that capacity at least one time previously. In cooperation with **(add) the FGMEA Board** and the Fine Arts Office, The Choral Festival Chairpersons shall:

Rachel Grimsby seconded the motion.

**MOTION PASSED**

**MOTION:** Bev Ogden moved the following changes to the FGMEA Bylaws:

**Chapter IV-Monies**

**Delete Letter A:** It is already covered under duties of treasurer (Bylaws Chapter I, letter E, #4).

**Delete Letter B:** It is already covered under duties of the treasurer (Bylaws Chapter I, letter E, #8).

**Letter C:** Should become **letter A** and read:

In the event that the Fairfax General Music Educators Association should be dissolved, all monies remaining in the account after payment of any outstanding expenses shall be transferred to the General Music Program to be divided for use in schools for the General Music Program.

Rachel Grimsby seconded the motion.

**MOTION PASSED**

**Bev Ogden will send the proposed Bylaw changes in writing to the FGMEA membership. Proposed amendments shall be ratified by two-thirds of the members present at the FGMEA general meeting on Saturday, May 5 at Robinson SS.**

- **Tim Whiting, Resource**

Tim has been working diligently to update the Resources for **FGMEA**. They include:

- Updated private teacher list
- A variety of master schedules
- Integrated Lessons

Tim suggested that we utilize the **FGMEA** website to access these valuable resources. The resource section of the **FGMEA** website would be password sensitive and be given only to **FGMEA** members.

- **Mimi Youkeles, Ways & Means**

Mimi is ordering choral festival tee-shirts in “chunks” to alleviate leftovers and overstock of shirts.

**Reminders from Mimi (Oakton Elementary) on tee-shirts**

- **Parents** should make **checks payable to your individual schools**. (same procedure as ACCF CDs)
- Your school will then write **one (1) check** made payable to **FGMEA** for all tee shirts.
- **Please send your check to Mimi Youkeles, Oakton Elementary as soon as you have completed your order.**

**VII. New Business**

The Board tabled an additional proposed **FGMEA** Bylaw change to Chapter I, letter E, number 4 (Duties of the Treasurer) until the April Board meeting.

**VIII. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 PM. The next **FGMEA** Board meeting will be held on **Tuesday, April 10, 2007.**

Respectfully submitted,

*Loretta*

**Loretta Schmitt**  
**Secretary**