

## FGMEA Board Meeting Minutes October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2008

The October meeting of the FGMEA Executive Board was held on Tuesday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at the FEA office in Fairfax.

### I. Call to Order

**Joy Petty, President**, called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Board members in attendance were: **Joy Petty, Carla Okouchi, Debbie Key, Rob Stansbery, Charlie Ring, Elaine Stanford, Jacquie Yoerges, Christian King, Betsy Nerdhal, Cynthia Carlton, Mary Woods, Deb Rudd, Danielle Menard, Angie Collins, Carolyn Dory, Bev Ogden, Michael Dennis** and **Gayla Kobialka**.

### II. President's Report: Joy Petty

Joy thanked **Rachel Grimsby** for her efforts regarding the August in-service. **Rachel** not only suggested Konnie Saliba as a clinician for the in-service, but provided Saliba's housing and transportation as well. FGMEA greatly appreciates all of **Rachel's** work.

Joy thanked **Rachael Goldman** for contacting the clinicians for the October in-service, *Tough Kids Toolbox*. Joy also thanked **Mary Woods** and the staff at Kings Glen ES for hosting the event. The in-service was held on Monday, October 27<sup>th</sup>, and was very successful.

Board members who notified Joy that they would not be attending the October Board meeting are: **Vanessa Utell, Rachel Grimsby, Karen Judkins, Dori Eggan, Jeanette Essig, Cindy Noble** and **Rachael Goldman**. Board members are reminded to please e-mail Joy if they will be unable to attend a Board meeting.

FGMEA proudly announces that three FGMEA members, **Caroline Desmond** (Dranesville ES), **Lucinda Sexton** (Daniels Run ES) and **Erin Rosa** (Daniels Run ES) will present workshops at the OAKE National Conference. The conference, *Kodály in the Capital: A Musical Legacy*, will be held March 12 – 14, 2009 in Washington DC.

The New Teachers Shower for Board members and Great Beginnings class members will be held Monday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5:00 p.m. at Lane ES in Room 121 (teacher's lounge). Board members are asked to please bring a munchie to share, and to bring 20 copies of a proven lesson plan, along with necessary manipulatives. After a social time, Board members will share a brief description of their lesson plan. In addition, Board members are asked to please bring any extra materials (posters, bulletin board decor, etc) to donate to the Great Beginnings class members. Please e-mail **Bev Ogden** to let her know if you **will or will not** be attending, and what food item you will be bringing. Board members who are unable to attend may e-mail Joy an appropriate lesson plan.

Joy asked Cluster Chairs to update distribution lists with the current membership roster. Cluster Chairs should send out the minutes and newsletters as soon as they receive them. Please include Joy in your distribution lists. Minutes of the October meeting, as well as minutes and newsletters for the remainder of the academic year, will only be sent to FGMEA members. Cluster Chairs should send these documents in a timely fashion and include a personal message to those in their Clusters.

### **III. Vice-President's Report: Carla Okouchi**

Carla distributed the results of *Time to Teach; General Music Survey*. To the question, "Is every student in your school (grades 1 – 6) currently receiving at least 60 minutes of General Music instruction a week?," the responses were 58.4 percent NO (80 of 137) and 41.6 percent YES (57 of 137). In October of 2007, responses to the same question were 55.4 percent NO (72 of 130) and 44.6 percent YES (58 of 130). A comparison shows a 3 percent increase this year over last year in the number of students not receiving 60 minutes of General Music instruction.

#### **October 2008**

Total Schools: 137  
Yes: 57  
NO: 80

#### **October 2007**

Total Schools: 130  
Yes: 58  
NO: 72

**MOTION: FGMEA shall make the Fine Arts Office aware of the results of the *Time to Teach; General Music Survey*.**

Motion made by: **Gayla Kobialka**. Seconded: **Debbie Key**.

Following discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Elaine will provide that information to those in the Fine Arts Office.

Carla thanked **Danielle Menard**, **Karen Judkins** and **Jacque Yoerges** for attending Fairfax County Fiscal Year 2010 Budget Community dialogue meetings. She noted the importance of teacher representation at these meetings. There are a few more dialogue meetings, and FGMEA members are urged to attend. This information can be found at [www.fairfaxcounty.gov/government/budget/publicmeetings.htm](http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/government/budget/publicmeetings.htm).

Carla stressed the importance of all general music teachers taking the time to fill out Superintendent Jack Dale's survey. Budget cuts are inevitable and we must protect the fine arts programs being offered in FCPS. Please share your thoughts about FCPS and its budget priorities at

[http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=dQBMAdcVB1\\_2bvBXw1JHN5zw\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=dQBMAdcVB1_2bvBXw1JHN5zw_3d_3d).

### **IV. Secretary's Report: Rob Stansbery**

The minutes of the September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2008 General Membership meeting were distributed via e-mail to Board members, and were approved as corrected.

## **V. Fine Arts Office Report: Elaine Stanford**

Elaine informed the Board that Susie Orr, Social Studies specialist, will be training General Music teachers whose schools are involved in the Global Awareness initiative. This training will take place on January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at Providence ES, from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Teachers can register for this training through MyPLT by signing up for Global Awareness Technology Project Training for Music Teachers, Section #06. If they type in “global” in the title of the course, it will come up for them.

The General Music Sixth Grade Assessment will continue in pilot form for the 2009 – 2010 academic year, and will be implemented countywide during the following academic year.

Elaine stated that Men’s Chorus and the ACCF read-through are taking place on the same date and that the conflict could not be avoided. Video of the ACCF read-through will be done, and will be available for those teachers who must miss the read-through.

All General Music teachers should check SASI data on chorus enrollment and make sure it is correct. If there is a discrepancy, please e-mail the FAO with corrections. There were many incorrect numbers in the data recently taken from SASI; Elaine will research the cause of this.

The ACCF packet and information is available on 24 – 7. Elaine noted the success of this change. A pdf of the ACCF program will be distributed to participating teachers when it has been prepared, and it will be teachers’ responsibility to check the accuracy of the information therein. This year ACCF attendance for General Music teachers will be done via MyPLT.

Elaine noted that there may be conflicts between ACCF rehearsals and Solo & Ensemble this year. This information will be available on 24 – 7, and it is the teachers’ responsibility to check this and present an early request for a date change for some Solo & Ensemble participants. When requests are not made early, there is not much that can be done to correct the conflict.

## **VI. Treasurer’s Report: Debbie Key**

Debbie distributed the *FGMEA Treasurer’s Report for October 28, 2008*. The bank account reconciles as it should. The balance forwarded from the September 2008 report was **\$15,744.55**. Deposits and credits totaling **\$120.00**, and withdrawals and debits totaling **\$606.01** resulted in an ending balance on October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2008 of **\$15,258.54**.

Debbie distributed the *FGMEA Budget for 2008-2009*. Projected income of \$19,537.00 and projected expenses of \$18,585.00 are based upon the End-of-Year Report for 2007–2008.

## **VII. Committee Chair Reports**

### **A. Membership: Betsy Nerdahl**

Betsy distributed a list of current FGMEA members. There are currently 142 members of FGMEA. Membership is down from 2007 – 2008.

### **B. Choral Festival: Cynthia Carlton and Deb Rudd**

ACCF music packets will be packed on November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The ACCF read-through in-service will be held on November 10<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 p.m. at Kings Glen ES.

The rehearsal CD is in production.

Teachers at EXCEL schools who require a substitute code in order to attend the November 10<sup>th</sup> read-through should contact Cynthia for the code.

### **C. Grant Committee: Christian King**

The Grant Committee has received grant applications; the applications are due November 1<sup>st</sup>. The committee will be meeting on Monday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 1:00 p.m. at Forestville ES to review the applications and choose a recipient. Any Board members who would like to participate in the selection process are welcome to attend.

### **D. New Teacher: Mary Woods for Rachael Goldman**

The brunch for FGMEA Board members and new teachers will be held on Monday, December 1<sup>st</sup> from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. at **Mary Woods'** house. Invitations will be sent via e-vite. Board members will bring appetizers, desserts and drinks to share, and all are invited to bring a "White Elephant" gift, as well as some music for some music-making fun.

## **VIII. New Business**

**Carla Okouchi** noted the disparity of responses to her recent inquiry regarding time allotted for bubbling of grade forms. Schools across the county seem to have very different schedules and requirements in this area. **Bev Ogden** noted that general music teachers are not being targeted, that school Principals and SASI operators determine the due dates of scan forms, and that all teachers within that school are to meet those dates.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rob Stansbery  
FGMEA Secretary