



VMEA Mission:

To promote quality music education throughout the Commonwealth by providing leadership, instructional resources and professional development opportunities for Virginia's music educators.

Meeting of the Executive Board

All Meetings will Occur at [THIS ZOOM LINK](#)

January 11, 2025

Conference Committee: 9:00am

Executive Board: 10:00am

1. Call to Order – Mike Horanski, President
Introduction of Presiding Officers
2. Review of Voting Procedures – Danielle Yonkers
3. Confirmation of the Agenda – Mike Horanski Moved to confirm, My- Van. 2nd David Holly. Agenda Approved.
4. [Roll Call](#) – Mandi Steele 49 people in attendance.
5. Approval of [minutes of the September 2024](#) – Motion to approve the minutes made by Alice Hammel. Chris Mosely seconded. Minutes approved.
6. [Strategic Plan](#)
 - a. Provide professional development and resources/materials for music educators to support best practices in music education
 - b. Develop and enhance membership
 - c. Develop current and future leadership
 - d. Advocate for music education in all Virginia schools
 - e. Organizational Vitality
7. Financial Reports
 - a. VMEA Chief Financial Officer – Steve Turner
 - i. VMEA Operating Account- \$178,197.19
 - ii. VMEA Conference Account- \$121,154.89
 - iii. Fine Arts Coalition Grant Account- \$ 12,790.91 *not VMEA funds
 - iv. TOTAL ASSETS- \$312,142.99
 - b. Section Treasurers
 - i. VCDA, Sherri Matthews- \$68,899.06
 - ii. VBODA, Steve Turner- \$216,200.75
 - iii. VAMEA, HollySunderland- \$5029.97 as of 11/29/24
 - iv. VEMEA, Ernie Stokes- \$27,447.89
 - v. VGDA, Kathy Robinson- \$14821.50
 - vi. Higher Education (VAMHE), Steve Turner- \$5,530.15



- vii. Collegiate, Steve Turner- \$3,633.09
- viii. Honors Choir, Steve Turner- \$389.06
- ix. Stamback Memorial Fund, Steve Turner- \$ 2,240.15

8. [Report Slides](#)

- a. Section Presidents
 - i. Choral – MyVan Nguyen- See slide 1 for full report
 - ii. Instrumental – Darren Kirsch & Carrie Finnegan
 - 1. Completed SRO Events
 - 2. Working on New Regions for Orchestra 2025-2026
 - 3. Working with VCDA- working to build new structure for All VA
 - 4. Continuing to revamp All-VA Audition procedure with Kathleen Jacoby to meet membership needs and wants.
 - iii. Elementary – Stefan Castro- See Slide 12 for full report.
 - iv. Guitar – Hart Wells- See Slide 2-3 for full report
 - v. Administrators – Chris Moseley- See slide 13 for full report
We connections to everything! Excited about upcoming conference at Eastern Division in Hartford, CT in April.
VMEA Specific- looking at legal issues in music education and teaching members
 - vi. Higher Education – Kim Ankney- See Slide 4 for report
 - vii. Collegiate –Hannah Greer Young- See Slide 5 for full report
 - 1. Emily, college member speaks on behalf of CoVMEA. Attention to numbers of members at conference, and top sessions for college students.
- b. Department of Education – Kelly Bisogno, Sherry Hatton
 - i. Sherry thanks the board for the work in planning the conference.
 - ii. Resources found on website [GoOpenVA](#). Links are fixed, let us know if there are issues!
 - iii. Utilize Canvas resource hub! Still a work in progress. Open for asthetic design feedback.
 - iv. Instructional Guides coming soon! Waiting for approvals.
 - v. Thanks for performing groups at board of education meetings in Richmond. If you have a group that would like to come, don't hesitate to get in touch! Would love some summer performance groups in Richmond. Board LOVES hearing students. Theatre, dance groups, all connections to classroom.
- c. MIOSM – Marie Weber
 - i. Stefan Castro- Theme is United through Music. Meeting with NAFME soon. More details to come.
- d. VMEA Professional Development Conference – Amy Birdsong & Alan Johnson- See Slide 6-7 for full report
 - i. February 1- Session proposals and Room reservation links will be available. Book and apply early!
 - ii. Performance applications available on March 1.
 - iii. Application deadlines for performances and sessions is May 1.
- e. Advocacy/Government Relations – Michelle Milligan See Slide 8 for full report
 - i. Entering General Assembly session. Working with Virginia Coalition for Fine Arts Education. Monitoring bills that are coming through. Shout out to Barbara Law and John Brewington for reading bills behind the scenes. Contact if you'd like to assist!



- ii. Seeking a Co-Chair! Please assist if you are able.
- f. Tri-M – Jennifer Morris- See Slide 9 for full report
- g. Elementary Grant Program – Kimberly Upshaw
Stefan Castro: Awarding two \$500 grants for PD. Angie Clemons Rockingham County for VMEA PD Day. Benjamin Garlic in Carroll County hoping to collaborate with RU for PD for District 7.
- h. Leadership Symposium – Jonathan Hargis
 - i. Thanks to Mike and J.R. in assisting with revising the format. Thanks to Chris Mosely for being the clinician for upcoming leaders. Planning for future events with a session possibly on Wednesday prior to conference. Still a work in progress. Looking to build relationships and connections and involve district chairs in a better way.
- i. Awards – Jonathan Hargis
 - i. Please be assertive in nominating people. Possible revamping some awards. Looking for ways to recognize more teachers including beginning teachers.
- j. Membership – Caroline Player, Brandy Buckles Baxter, Austin Johnson-Stawarz
 - i. In November added 253 members, largest influx of new members.
 - ii. Working on master list of schools by district, including public, private, and collegiate. Creating list of addresses, members, and percentages.
- k. Council for Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion – Ashley Cuthbertson See slide 9 for full report.
- l. Council for Creativity & Innovation – Taylor Walkup-Amos See slide 11 for full report
- m. Historian – Jack Elgin
 - i. Appreciates the records and videos of meetings, minutes, and performances.
- n. State Executive – J.R. Snow
 - i. Thanks for conference! Definitely a team effort!
 - ii. Workshop Wednesday was successful and will continue.
 - iii. Live streamed performances, available for families. We had 1185 people subscribe to those. Very helpful for families and communities that couldn't make the trip.
 - iv. Thanks for the report slides. This will continue, so send in and we will add to the full document.
 - v. Please considered Advocacy and Government relations report. Very important work and needs more help!
 - vi. [All VA Professional Development Proposals](#)- register at that link, shared by Evan Ayars. Deadline February 10.
 - vii. Thanks to Chris Mosely for highlighting partnership organizations: NAfME and NFHS. Lots of great opportunities there.
- o. President's Report – Mike Horanski
 - i. Thankful for the opportunity to see as many sessions as possible at conference. Great start with the Orff ensemble, Guitar Ensemble, Bands and Choirs were all such a highlight! OUR Superbowl! Best way to reach as many members as possible. Looking forward to All VA event in the spring connecting K-12 students and teachers.
 - ii. Loved seeing the previous conference programs and magazines and photos from VMEA's history. Reinforced that what we do is such a build from the past people, and extremely grateful to those that have come before. in 20-40 years from now, they will be looking at our work.
 - iii. Thanks to all for the work preparing for conference! Thankful for vision and trying new things, and varying the schedule. Continuing to look for ways to improve.



- iv. Strategic plan- We have heard the need to strengthen lines of communication. May create an in person pre-conference meeting opportunity for district leaders.
- v. District Chairs- reminder about keeping hosts on top of event reports. ALL reports should be completed by June 2025.
- vi. Encourage people in districts to apply to perform at conference. Talk with teachers of strong groups from assessments.
- vii. Feb 1 is the opening for room reservations. They will sell out, so reserve as soon as possible! Remind teachers at District Events.

9. Old Business

- a. Policy and Procedure Revisions- J.R. Snow.
 - i. Leaders of our organization will be invited to a document in the next few weeks, to assist with updating our procedures manual. Each given an assigned section, along with how to instructions.
 - ii. Deadline is April 15 is deadline for revisions. Vote will happen in June.

10. New Business

- a. Policy Additions
 - i. [Norms](#), [Indemnification](#), [Whistleblower](#), [Harassment](#)
 - ii. Prompted from PD from NAFME in summer. Verified by conversations with non profit lawyers and leaders. These 4 policies were recommended by NAFME to be in our policies and procedures. Documents were sent out prior to meeting for review.
 - iii. No questions. Motion to approve Annamarie, 2nd Alice Hammel. No discussion. Motion carries- Policy additions approved unanimously.
- b. [2025-2028 Calendar](#)
 - i. Typically voted in the fall.
 - ii. Couple of additions/changes to upcoming calendar, noted in red.
 - iii. Updated 2027-2028 calendar, and added homeschool application deadline.
 - iv. Will update with other changes as needed.
 - v. Motion to approve by Jonathan Hargis. 2nd by David Holly. Calendar approved.
- c. Jonathan Hargis moves to conclude. Michael Erlich 2nds.

This Concludes the Business Part of the Meeting

11. Announcements

- a. Next Executive Board meeting will be on **June 7, 2025**: VIRTUAL
- b. Other Announcements