

# SWKMEA VOCAL DIRECTOR MEETING

Saturday, December 3, 2022

10:00am DCHS F547

Members Present: 30

- I. Welcome
  - a. President Ryan Partin gave welcome and introductions
- II. HS Choir Chair report
  - a. Given by Tori Koehn (Leoti/Wichita County) HS Choir Chairperson
    - i. Dr. Terry Crull (FHSU) HS Choir Clinician
    - ii. Pam McGowne (FHSU) Accompanist
    - iii. Auditions went quite smooth!
      1. 386 Registrations/25 Schools entered/86 scratches/300 auditions
        - a. 116 Sops/85 altos/39 tenors/60 Basses auditioned
        - b. 206 in choir today!
    - iv. Lots of voice changes on the Audition Day creates a lot of problems
      1. At least 14 voice changes
      2. Very hard to change in the computer
      3. Should we add a fee for changes?
    - v. Liked having meeting upstairs in the Office
    - vi. We need to get more schools involved in the choir auditions and student participation.
      1. Shoot ideas of how to expand to these school to Tori Koehn
    - vii. How did we feel about the room split this year?
- III. From the State Presented by President Partin
  - a. KCDA - President Melissa Grady
    - i. Sent survey to all KSHSAA choir directors
    - ii. Vast majority of responses (90%+) are in favor of changing the 456A large group requirements; prepare 3 pieces for large group contest instead of 4. This change will most likely be in place by the 2023-24 school year.
  - b. Choir formula for All-State Choirs - Troy Johnson
    - i. Moving octet and quartet (no change in Southwest)
    - ii. Auditions from all schools in our district is helpful. KMEA districts are in competition with each other for spots in all-state groups. School populations are used in the choir formula.
  - c. Congratulations to the Pratt High School Chamber Singers and Pratt Liberty Middle School Treble Choir for their selection to perform at the 2023 ISW!
  - d. Vote for board positions!

- e. Any new business?
  - i. Brandon Wade (Pratt) spoke about KSHSAA Music Committee
    - 1. Some directors don't like State Large Group
      - a. Many feel it is negative for small schools
      - b. Many looking at bringing clinicians to school instead of taking them to Contest
        - i. May want KSHSAA to provide monetary support to bring in clinicians
      - c. Overall, communities have many different and unique qualities, some are consistent, some have choir one year and not the next, then have it again. 6A groups beside 1A groups at festivals.
      - d. Would be nice if adjudicators have background on Western Kansas and smaller schools
    - ii. KMEA Past-President Gretchen Bixler (Goddard-Eisenhower) gave the example of what they do in the SC District. The Choir Directors during the HS Festival bring in one piece of music and have a choral reading session. This gives all Choir Directors the opportunity to hear music the district likes, not just what Music Merchants want them to hear.
      - 1. Could we do this in SW Kansas?
    - iii. All State Choir students will be announced shortly, but it is a lengthy process.
      - 1. Should be out before break