



PMEA District 12

May 2010

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Notes from the C/I Chair – Anne Sprissler

It has been a busy spring for the elementary and middle school ensemble directors of District 12! Six very successful Fests were held in Chester, Delaware and Philadelphia Counties where our young musicians worked with excellent guest conductors and experienced the joy of making wonderful music with others. I would like to thank the hosts and their school districts for providing these extraordinary musical events. As music teachers in their own districts they are quite busy and yet spent time and energy making it possible for all students of District 12 to participate. At this time I would like to thank all of the Fest hosts in the past four years who have hosted during my term of office. I am in awe of your generosity and grateful for the attention to detail not only in organizing the event for both the students and their directors, but also in following the PMEA guidelines. It has been a pleasure to get to know you and work with you.

I would also like to take the time to thank the District 12 Board members that I have had the privilege to work with the past four years as well. I would especially like to recognize Christine Gehring, Elementary C/I Chair and Sue Dickinger, High School Chair for all of their advice and help in organizing the District 12 Fall In-Service Conference every year. No task was too big or too small.

The Fall In-Service Conference has always been a labor of love to organize. I have met wonderful music educators both as clinicians and participants. I have found that no one refused any favor when asked a and I could rely on the same friends every year (you know who you are) to man the registration table and to do all the last minute things that needed to be done.

Mark your calendars now. Make plans now to attend the 2010 PMEA Summer Conference, to be held Monday, July 19 and Tuesday, July 20 at the Penn Stater Conference Center Hotel in State College. This event is open to all PMEA members; however space is limited, so be sure to register before the July 5th deadline. Registration is just \$30 and includes all sessions, breaks and Monday lunch and dinner and Tuesday breakfast. Attendees are responsible for making their own housing arrangements. Rooms are available at the Penn Stater at the rate of \$103 for a single or double room, and \$113 for a triple or quad. Reservations can be made by calling 800-233-7505 by June 18 or until the hotel is sold out. Be sure to specify the PMEA reservation code: PAMG10A. Check your summer issue of PMEA News for further details and a registration form. Online registration will also be set up shortly.

This fall, the conference will be held on November 2, 2010 at Stetson Middle School in the West Chester Area School District. Valley Forge Christian College generously offered as well and we will return there in 2011.

At the last state C/I meeting I attended in April, we discussed the introduction of Webinars to the membership. We are looking into offering Act 48 credit as well. The webinars are for all members of PMEA but will have many tailored to the general music teacher. PMEA is not just a festival organization!

Elections for a new elementary and middle school curriculum instruction chair positions will be held shortly. One of the three will chair the committee and goes on to represent District 12 at the state level. Please take the time to cast your ballot.

*Another turning point, a fork stuck in the road
Time grabs you by the wrist, directs you where to go
So make the best of this test, and don't ask why
It's not a question, but a lesson learned in time*

*It's something unpredictable, but in the end it's right.
I hope you had the time of your life.*

I did. Thanks!

Thanks to our hosts!

The students may receive all the applause, but our kudos goes out to the fantastic hosts. We know how much work you all did to give our students a great experience, and we give you our sincere thanks.

Delaware County 5/6 Band Fest
Boyle
5/6 String Fest
Chester County 5/6 Band Fest
Middle School Chorus Fest
7/8 String Fest
Elementary Chorus Fest
District Orchestra
District Band
District Chorus
Region Band
Chorus Auditions
Instrumental Auditions

Alan Reno, Andrew Bugosh, and Jonathan

**Henry Yorgey and Sara Stell
Michael Ducassoux
Ryan Maule
Maureen Brady**

**Joanne Haley, Kara Suarez, and Jane Urban
Nick Corvino
Tim Pry
Ashley Fisher
Bill Wenglicki
William Johnson
Scott Litzenberg**

District Solo List for 2010-2011 Auditions

You can find the solo list in pdf form on our website at www.pmea12.org.

Greetings from the Higher Education C/I Chair

Greetings!

As the spring semester draws to a close, District 12 higher education faculty continue working to achieve approval from the Pennsylvania Department of Education for compliance with the new requirements for special education and English language learning requirements. Faculty from across

the state met during a Society of Music Teacher Education (SMTE) meeting in Pittsburgh at the April PMEA conference to learn latest accomplishments toward that goal. Each music education department implements the requirements officially in January of 2011. We continue to learn from each other, and find the PMEA meeting a valuable time for exchanging information face-to-face.

In April, I attended the MENC conference in Anaheim. Pennsylvania was well represented at MENC's first attempt to gather PK-12 teachers and higher education faculty in the new conference format. Keynote sessions, research sessions, clinics, SMTE work group sessions for various action groups (ASPAs), and ASPA sessions filled the days! For more information about the different ASPA groups, see www.smtc.us. The ASPA groups welcome participation from PK-12 teachers in their ASPAs. For example, I became co-facilitator of the ASPA named Professional Development for Experienced Teachers (PD-ET). Our ASPA is interested in gathering examples and ideas of meaningful development, and posting criteria for what constitutes meaningful professional development for experienced teachers. With your contributions to such an ASPA, we can add to the body of knowledge to move the profession forward. If you would like to join that ASPA, please send an e-mail to Dr. William Bauer (wib2@case.edu). He'll enroll you in the Google Groups associated with that ASPA. (Other ASPA membership enrollment information can be found at the smtc.us site.)

Best to all of you as you move into the final weeks of school! Please do not hesitate to e-mail me if you have any questions!

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Updates from State Board Meeting

Find out what went on at the January meetings of the District Presidents, the state Executive Committee, and the PMEA Board Meeting by reading the minutes, posted on our website at www.pmea12.org.