



LOS ANGELES SECONDARY MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION (LASMTA)
P.O. BOX 34666 Los Angeles, CA 90034-9998

LASMTA MEETING

Date: April 11, 2012

Official Meeting Time: 6:00 pm

Irving MS

- I. Call to Order** by Julie West at 6:20.
- II. Attendance:** Julie West, Desiree Fowler, Dan Taguchi, Jennifer Elliott, Brian Blanchard, Dan McNamara, Diana McConnell, Margaret Asato and Raymundo Vizcarra
- III. Reports**
 - A. Approval of the Minutes from March
 1. Motion to accept March's minutes from Desiree Fowler, seconded by Margaret Asato. Motion carried unanimously.
 - B. Treasurer's Report
 1. Dan Taguchi reported checking account balance \$5,200.04. CD has \$6,691. Total balance is \$12,301.94.
 - C. Secretary's Report
 1. The minutes were prepared by Jennifer Elliott and members were notified of tonight's meeting.
 2. Tony White is hosting an SCSBOA Night at Cortines HS on April 26 and a notice was sent out to the LASMTA membership.
 - D. Vice President's Report
 1. Desiree Fowler reported that we have 54 + 7 members.
 2. Schedule for the Solo and Ensemble Festival was posted on the website.
 3. Encouraging teachers to bring groups to the Guitar Festival at Hamilton HS on May 25.
 4. She wrote a letter in support of Julie Corallo's position and is asking for input.
 5. Reviewed the etiquette letter for the Solo and Ensemble Festival.
 - E. President's Festival
 1. Julie West reported that she scheduled the Solo and Ensemble Festival.
 2. The Grammy meeting is still TBA in the end of May. There is food/drinks and the scholarship winners perform.
- IV. Best Practices: Rubrics and Grading**
 - A. Dan McNamara asks them how they think they did and they are usually pretty honest about the grade they deserve.
 - B. Megs Asato uses a 5 point rubric. She also uses a variety of grades such as practice points, clap and count assignments, etc.
 - C. Uses a grading system where they get points for different technical aspects of the piece, such as posture, articulations, bowings, etc.
 - D. Julie West has an alternate assessment for students who cannot make it to a performance.
 - E. Desiree Fowler brought in examples of rubrics she has used. She works to create a positive environment in her classroom.
 - F. Diana McConnell brought up an issue of school's asking for department's to have a standardized grading system. There was a suggestion to call homework a project to deal with the requirement that homework is only 10% of the entire grade.
 - G. Julie West shared an idea of "rehearsal observation" grade.



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- H. Dan Taguchi has his students grade each other during playing tests to keep them engaged.
- V. Old Business:**
 - A. Solo and Ensemble festival is this Saturday with 131 entries from 20 schools. 8 new members due to this event. Volunteers are needed for the event.
 - B. Scholarship Auditions on May 5 should not conflict with the Jazz Festival taking place the same day at Cortines HS.
 - C. Idea to make the past president in charge of Scholarship Auditions. It was discussed that 4 scholarships could be awarded again. Applications are due April 25.
 - D. Arts Branch status, Julie Corallo sent out a brief update to the board.
- VI. New Business**
 - A. Band and Orchestra and Choral Festivals are coming soon.
 - B. Idea was brought up to create LASMTA Awards that could be given to fellow teachers, administrators, retired teachers, etc.
- VII. Next Meeting**
 - A. Last meeting will be at the Grammy Foundation in late May, TBA
- VIII. Adjournment** Meeting Adjourned at 7:56 pm. Moved by Dan Taguchi and seconded by Megs Asato. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jennifer Elliott