

TO: Region Representatives to the TMEA/UIIL Music Advisory Committee

FROM: Dr. Bradley N. Kent
State Director of Music
University Interscholastic League

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SUBJECT: MAC Agenda Items and Region Representative Voting Process

Below you will find proposals that have been submitted to the Music Advisory Committee for deliberation and vote at your spring region meeting. To do so effectively it is important that each proposal be reviewed and considered so that you will know how to vote on behalf of your region. **NOTE: Held in conjunction with the summer music conferences on Wednesday, July 24th at 5:00 at the convention center in San Antonio (room to be listed in the convention programs), region representatives (one from each region in the band, vocal, and orchestra division) will cast their region's vote on each agenda item at the MAC meeting. Each of the three representatives will vote on general membership items. For proposals specific to a division, only the division representative from the region will vote.**

Also, during your region meeting please feel free to open the floor for discussion of any topic that might seem of importance to your colleagues. **You may then forward to the state office at music@uiltexas.org any new proposals that emerge and we will include them on the agenda for discussion at next year's spring region meetings.** Note that **three years must elapse** before any prior agenda item may receive new consideration.

- **Discussion Items** have been submitted since the prior year's spring meetings. A Discussion Item will be considered for vote at the summer meeting only after that item is presented and voted upon at the spring region meetings. A Discussion Item that receives a favorable vote at the summer meeting will become an Action Item the following year and receive a vote at the spring region meetings and the summer MAC meeting.
- **Action Items** originated as Discussion Items and received a favorable vote by the MAC for further consideration. Action Items that receive a favorable vote at the summer MAC meeting will go before the UIL Standing Committee on Music and Technical Advisory Committee to receive further consideration.

NOTE: Any proposal from last year's MAC agenda that does not appear below is due to one of the following reasons: 1) The item received a favorable vote from the MAC process and was advanced to UIL for consideration. (Any proposal that was advanced to UIL for consideration either went into rule or was not adopted by UIL); or 2) The item did not receive a favorable vote from the MAC at the summer meeting.

ALL DIVISIONS (General Membership)

DISCUSSION ITEM (for vote): Submitted by the Region 10 and Region 6 General Membership.

PROPOSAL: UIL create protected dates for music events for all divisions.

RATIONALE: Organizations that share students/directors are often presented with conflicts as regions are selecting dates for the various UIL adjudicated contests. Separating events into exclusive dates will all but eliminate those potential conflicts. UIL Music Concert and Sightreading events have been reclassified to evaluations that are closely tied to the TEKS. Unlike contests, music evaluations do not lead to advancement or additional rounds of competition. However, under current UIL policy, events that do lead to advancement are provided scheduling priority over UIL Concert & Sightreading Evaluations. To address this discrepancy, UIL music evaluations should have the same scheduling privileges as UIL academic events, including statewide protected dates, which would allow dedicated time for UIL leaders, event hosts, and participants, to include securing venues and finding adjudicators.

DISCUSSION ITEM (for vote): Submitted by the Region 10 General Membership.

PROPOSAL: UIL extend the window for region solo and ensemble contests to later in the spring.

RATIONALE: Many students are preparing Solo & Ensemble material while also preparing for Area round auditions in the All-State process. Extending this window would allow the strongest players in our ensembles to focus on each of these major competitions with minimal overlap in preparation.

DISCUSSION ITEM (for vote): Submitted by the Region 10 General Membership.

PROPOSAL: UIL regions have calendars set by April 1st of the preceding academic year.

RATIONALE: The release of UIL dates in April will allow districts to better prepare their event calendars for the upcoming school year.

VOCAL DIVISION

No Proposals

ORCHESTRA DIVISION

ACTION ITEM (for vote): Submitted by the Region 16 Orchestra Division.

PROPOSAL:

Concert: performance requirements for Sub-NV ensembles be adjusted so that Sub-NV ensembles perform music that is one level lower than NV ensembles. If there is no availability to perform one level lower, as would be the case for MS Sub-NV, we would propose a further modification in the requirements: Grade 1, Choice, Choice. Stage and Sightreading performance criteria for Sub-NV ensembles be included in the C&CR.

Sightreading: requirements for Sub-NV ensembles be adjusted so that Sub-NV ensembles continue to include the extra minute of preparation, but to also perform music that is one level lower than that of NV ensembles. If there is no availability to perform one level lower, as would be the case for MS Sub-NV, we would propose a further modification in the requirements to include an extra two minutes of instruction time above NV (from 8 minutes to 9 minutes.)

RATIONALE: Sub-NV orchestras are mentioned only once in the C&CR and there are currently no criteria for Sub-NV Orchestras that have been implicitly or explicitly stated, with the lone exception being the addition of an extra minute in Sightreading. Currently, the accepted expectation is for Sub-NV groups to play with the same stage provisions and Sightreading selection as NV groups. Currently, Sub-NV orchestras are expected to prepare and perform the same stage criteria as NV groups. However, these students are often the most in need of extra support to build and refine skill development. With the current performance requirements for Sub-NV ensembles, directors are afforded no opportunity to differentiate their instruction to accommodate learning gaps that are present. Currently, Sub-NV Sightreading requirements do offer differentiation by including an additional minute for the instruction period. NV ensembles currently read two levels below the Varsity level on stage, with the same requirement for Sub-NV.

BAND DIVISION

ACTION ITEM (for vote): Submitted by the Texas Association of Jazz Educators, Alex Parker, President.

PROPOSAL: UIL create region and state jazz festivals similar to that of the UIL mariachi process, resulting in ratings at both levels, no rankings.

RATIONALE: Like mariachi music and education, jazz and jazz education has a long and strong tradition in Texas. There are many jazz programs that should be showcased and allowed the opportunity to hear bands from around the state, get feedback from experienced adjudicators, and to be able to use the festival as a motivating experience for their students. As an educator, I have seen so many students improve because of the opportunities that the UIL provides, and we believe that the UIL will do the same thing for our jazz students. I would be happy to make this proposal in person or online at any time as well.

ACTION ITEM (for vote by marching band directors only): Submitted by the Region 28 Band Division.

PROPOSAL: At each Area Marching Contest we would like UIL to consider awarding trophies and medals to the 1st, 2nd & 3rd placed groups in finals competition.

RATIONALE: Currently, all Area groups receive a participant plaque and all finalist groups receive a finalist plaque. There is nothing to recognize the 1st place group as the Area champions or the 2nd and 3rd placed groups as runner-ups. The awarding of trophies and medals will help crown an Area champion in each classification annually and will help further recognize band students across the state. The awarding of trophies and medals will also mirror what is done at the State Marching Band Championships and will help further promote the activity and recognize the best groups in each Area.

DISCUSSION ITEM (for vote): Submitted by the Region 7 Band Division.

PROPOSAL: UIL create a “Festival” Concert Track in conjunction with the annual UIL Concert and Sight-reading Evaluation to better serve the educational needs of increasingly diverse band programs across the state.

- PML performance requirements would not be utilized. Directors may choose pieces at their discretion to best showcase the ensemble.
- Instrument substitution/supplementation would be at director discretion. As such, C&CR regulations regarding instrument substitution/reinforcement would not apply.
- Concert component only, no sight-reading.
- Director may choose festival track or traditional track.

RATIONALE:

- Programs across the state have become increasingly diverse even when compared within a given classification. The current system employs a “one size” approach and places educators and students at an advantage/disadvantage based upon their location.
 - Staffing
 - Funding
 - Socioeconomic differences
- A number of programs are set up for failure simply due to classification performance requirements not aligning to their unique structural limitations (instrumentation, location, socioeconomic situation, access to instruction).
- The addition of a new “festival track” provides the opportunity for exploration, innovation, and program development with the support of the UIL.
- While rebuilding programs may currently enter as a non-varsity, they still may not be ready to progress to the full PML requirements for a given classification once they have received division one ratings at the non-varsity level.
- An evaluative process is important and paramount in a data-driven educational landscape. It is an expectation of most districts that programs attend a UIL Evaluation. Creating avenues for success promotes growth and development.

- Educator shortages and burnout continue to be a leading topic across the field of education. Potential educators are choosing to pursue other avenues due to time demands, stress, and compensation.
- As leaders, educators demonstrate and assign value through the promotion of a subject or devotion of time to a concept or cause. Our students learn through that process what is important to us.
- The goal of every music educator should be the creation of individuals who value, create, consume, and promote music as a meaningful human activity.

MARCHING BAND RULES ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT: Marching band directors are encouraged to review the [most current report](#) from the MB RAC and share any input with their representative.