

Florida Orchestra Association, Inc.
Executive Board Meeting
Wednesday – January 14, 2026
TCC 307 -5:30PM

The meeting was called to order by President Szarowicz at 5:41PM.

Justin Swaim read the FOA Mission Statement.

Motion to approve the agenda with flexibility

Motion – Sperr

2nd – Senko

Motion – Passed

President Szarowicz appointed Kayla Lisa as the designated voting member for all committee chairs.

Board Members Present:

Dist. 1 – Meaenna Callahan

Dist. 6/Music Comm. Co-Chair – Victoria Senko

Dist. 8 – Lisa Coyne

Dist. 10 – Michelle Eggen

Dist. 12 representative/AS Aud. Chair – Matt Davis

Dist. 14 – Jeff Adkins

Dist. 16 – Tosha Knibb

Dist. 18 – Joseph Bigler

9/10 AS – Katherine Ng/ab

7/8 AS/Mentoring Chair – Marcey Sperr

MS Honors – Jennifer Erickson

9/12 Honors – Sam Felber

President – Andrea Szarowicz

President-elect – Lauren Pardee

Clinic/Conference Coord. – Valerie Terry

Dist. 3. representative – Hannah Jordan

Dist. 7/Ethics Chair – Justin Swaim

Dist. 9 – Jacob King

Dist. 11 – Daniel Shafer

Dist. 13 – absent

Dist. 15 – Tosha Knibb

Dist. 17 – Yelena Dumais

Dist. 19 – Mindy Curtis

7/8 Honors – Jennifer Erickson

11/12 AS/Music Co-Chair – Steven Bossert

Past President – Laurie Bitters

Finance Dir. – Tom Silliman

Ex. Dir. – Cheri Sleeper

Collegiate/Adj. Co-Chair – Kasia Bugaj

Awards Chair – Kayla Lisa

Guests present – Dr. Harry “Skip” Pardee, FMEA President

- Dr. Pardee spoke briefly thanking the board members. He spoke to the theme of the conference and the power of each individual teacher. Dr. Pardee also shared that there would be data collection regarding future participation with NAFME.

Approval of Standing representatives – Dist. 12 representative, Matt Davis and Dist. 3 representative, Hannah Jordan.

Motion – Callahan

2nd – Felber

Motion – Passed

Motion to approve the July 2024 executive board minutes with corrections Lines 14, 27, 36, 63, 64, 79, 89, 104, 107, 109, 112, 114, 115, 121, 124, 126, 128, 135, 136, 139.

Motion – Callahan

2nd – Jordan

Motion – Passed

Financial Reports

presented by Tom Silliman, Finance Director

- Mr. Silliman went through his reports that were included in the executive board packet.

- Audit is finished.
- Sign up for a time on Thursday, January 15 for district chair financial reviews in room 421 at the Marriott.

Executive Director's Report

- Membership numbers were reviewed.
- State MPA adjudication panels are set and included in the executive board packet.
- Fall Conference dates for 2026, October 15-16, 2026. Keynote speaker will be Bruce Walker, Columbia Basin College.

President-elect Report

- FSMA Summer Leadership Institute dates are July 12-15, 2026, Marriott Orlando Airport Lakeside – encourage membership to apply.
- Teach Music Florida Coalition
- FOA Executive Committee session will be on Friday, January 16 regarding getting involved in FOA Leadership.

President Report

- Thank you to all board members for all that you do.
- Any thoughts or ideas concerning the relationship with NAFME, share with President Szarowicz.
- Please complete the survey emailed out regarding Fall Conference 2026.

Past Presidents Report

- Handbook committee is still working on making the handbook easier to read.

Committee Reports – Committee reports submitted were included in the executive board packet.

- Awards committee chair, Kayla Lisa, thanked the committee for their work and announced that awards would be given at the general membership meeting, Thursday, January 15 at 5:15PM
- Ethics committee chair, Justin Swaim, pointed out the committee report, procedures and reporting form. There was important discussion regarding the report and documents.
- All-state music committee co-chair, Matt Davis, shared that there would be new audition music for the coming year.
- MPA committee will present motions for discussion during new business.

Unfinished Business - None

New Business

Committee Motions

- Ethics committee moves that the documents in the executive board packet be approved for future use. A lot of discussion and questions were brought to the committee chair and the executive board asked the committee to go back and work more on the documents.
- MPA committee presented two motions regarding State Concert MPA.

Motion #1- *The Board separate the format of State Concert Music Performance Assessment into two locations starting in the 2026-2027 school year. This change of format will last two years. A review session will be conducted by the Music Performance Assessment Committee after the first year. At the end of the trial period, the Music Performance Assessment Committee will report findings to the FOA Executive Board before long-term changes are made.*

Motion – Passed

Motion #2 – *That the Board approve restructuring the State Concert Music Performance Assessment (MPA) format from the current practice of an individual stage performance evaluated by here adjudicators followed by a clinician-led session, to a performance-block format, evaluated by three adjudicators in which ensembles perform in scheduled blocks and shall observe other ensembles' performances within their assigned block. The clinician-led session will be discontinued.*

Motion was withdrawn by the MPA committee for further work on the motion.

District Motions

- District 10 asked about the motion to the handbook committee regarding the verbiage regarding each adjudicator needs an original score. This still needs to be discussed by the handbook committee. It should be presented by the handbook committee at the May board meeting.

Roll Call vote for absences from All-State groups after the withdrawal deadline

(Reminder of the consequences were discussed: 1st time unexcused-school is on probation; 2nd time school cannot have students in all-state. This can be found in the handbook, page 7, VII)

- Randall MS (NCDC speech and debate conflict) email received on 12/4/25 - excused
- Gulliver Prep (bike accident and left wrist injury) email received on 1/14/26 – excused
- District 1 (parent cardiac problems for the father) email received on 1/14/26 – excused

Good of the Association

- Reminder to vote for elections. Voting closes at midnight, 1/14/26
- Kayla Lisa, reminder for guitar teachers that there are events available for them and their students
- Don't forget about the Dr. Phillips High School Premiere Orchestra performance for the President's concert.
- Mindy Curtis reminded the board membership about her jazz bass session on Saturday, 1/7 at 8AM.

Appointment of Officers – None

Adjournment – Motion – Lisa

2nd – Bossert

Motion – Passed

Adjourned at 6:40PM by President Szarowicz.

The next meeting of the executive board will be at the Lake Mary Marriott, May 15 2026. Time TBA

Respectfully Submitted,

Cheri A. Sleeper, Executive Director

Florida Orchestra Association, Inc.