

Florida Orchestra Association, Inc.
Executive Board Meeting
Wednesday – January 8, 2025
TCC 308 -5:30 pm

The meeting was called to order by President Bitters at 5:42 pm

Matt Davis read the FOA Mission Statement

Motion to approve the agenda with flexibility

Motion-Marcey Sperr Second-Alli Howard Motion-Passed

President Bitters appointed Valerie Terry as designated voting member for the all committee chairs

Board Members Present:

Dist. 1 – Maeanna Callahan	Dist 3. – Chris Miller
Dist 6. – Victoria Senko	Dist 7 – Alli Howard
Dist 8 – Lisa Coyne	Dist 9 – Abbey Duncan
Dist 10 – Micelle Eggen	Dist 11 – Norm Vagn
Dist 12 – Drew Beckner	Dist 13 – Richard Ballinger
Dist 14 – Essi Nadal	Dist 15 – Tosha Knibb
Dist 16 – Richard Yaklich	Dist 17 – Courtney Chrestensen/ab
Dist 18 – Joseph Bigler	Dist 19 – Mindy Curtis
9/10 – Katherine Ng/ab	7/8 Honors – Jennifer Erickson
7/8 AS/Mentoring Char – Marcey Sperr	11/12 – Lauren Pardee/ab
MS Honors – Jennifer Erickson	Past President/Music Committee Co-Chair – Matt Davis
9/12 Honors – Sam Felber	Finance Dir. – Tom Silliman
President – Laurie Bitters	Ex. Dir. – Cheri Sleeper
President-elect – Andrea Szarowicz	Adj. Chair – Raine Hollingsworth/ab
Ethics Chair – Raine Hollingsworth	Clinic/Conference Coordinator – Valerie Terry

Guests present - none

Motion to approve the July 2024 executive board minutes with corrections Lines 39, 40, and 53

Motion – Richard Ballinger Second – Meaenna Callahan Motion – Passed

Financial Reports

presented by Tom Silliman, Finance Director

- Profit & Loss statement and comparison to budget
- Suggested to remind membership to empty cart when paying online for Fall Conference or FMEA – reimbursements have been completed
- Balance Sheet – ahead in comparison to last year this time
- Expense voucher was explained
- Checks are being completed quickly
- Checking on All-State guitar reimbursements

47

48 **Executive Director's Report (see reports)**

- 49 • Membership numbers were reviewed
- 50 • Fall Conference loss was only airfare and lanyards
- 51 ○ There will be two keynote speakers – Creston Herron and David Pope
- 52 • Encourage membership to nominate students for Honors ensembles
- 53 • No recommendations at this time
- 54 • Note: Fall Conference dates for 2025 October 16-17
- 55

56 **President-elect Report**

- 57 • FSMA Summer Leadership Institute dates are July 13-16, 2025, Marriott Orlando
- 58 Airport Lakeside – encourage membership to apply
- 59 • Meet and greet for previous attendees will be held during FMEA conference
- 60

61 **President's Report**

- 62 • Middle School Guitar group will be added to FMEA Conference 2026. They will be
- 63 under FOA for now.
- 64 • Transportation clarification was shared regarding MS Honors orchestra being at
- 65 Westshore
- 66

67 **Past Presidents Report**

- 68 • none
- 69

70 **Adjudication Committee Report**

- 71 • No written report was submitted
- 72

73 **Conference Planning Committee**

- 74 • No written report was submitted
- 75

76 **Ethics Committee**

- 77 • No written report was submitted
- 78

79 **Music Committee**

- 80 • No requests for corrections were submitted
- 81 • To report any problems on the current list, fill out the Report Problems form, found on
- 82 the website
- 83 • Suggestions for music to be added, fill out the Music Request Form, found on the
- 84 website
- 85

86 **Mentoring Committee**

- 87 • FOA Mentor Volunteers tab is now available on the web site under Resources. You
- 88 must be a current FOA member to view. Will have Josh Bula look into that.
- 89

90

91 **State MPA Dates**

- 92 • Solo & Ensemble – March 29th – Strawberry Crest High School
- 93 • Concert – April 14-16 – Titusville High School

94
95 **Unfinished Business**

- 96 • District Chairs be sure to sign up for a time to discuss financials with Tom Silliman,
97 Andrea Szarowicz and Cheri Sleeper
98

99 **Motions to the Board:**

- 100 • None were submitted
101

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

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

- 105 • St. Petersburg HS (FBLA conflict) email received on 1/7/25 – unexcused
106 • Robert Morgan Educational Center (family emergency) email received 1/7/25 –
107 excused
108
109 • Middle School Honors ensemble issue was brought up by coordinator, Jennifer
110 Erickson, concerning a possible issue of more schools nominating students than there
111 are spots for. 70 schools nominated students for 70 spots. It is possible that there will
112 be more eligible schools than spots available. The question of expanding the size of the
113 ensemble was suggested. Valerie Terry mentioned that expanding the size of the group
114 will have to go through FMEA and she will ask. Matt Davis also mentioned the space
115 of the rehearsal hall being able to house a larger ensemble.
116

117 **Good of the Association**

- 118 • Matt Davis – Lavilla School of the Arts performing Thursday, 8:30am
119 • Kate Orlando's group is performing on Friday
120 • Elementary group performing also
121 • Tom Silliman asked for receipts for hotel, mileage printout as well as tolls
122 • Matt Davis mentioned the Thank You book that Kayla Lisa put together for folks to
123 write a message to Don. You can also email Kayla for her to write it in for you. It will
124 be available after the board meeting and also at the general membership meeting.
125 • Cheri Sleeper asked district chairs to urge their district membership to attend the
126 general membership meeting. There will be items in the by-laws to be voted on during
127 that meeting.
128

129 **Appointment of Officers**

- 130 • There are none
131

132 The meeting adjourned at 6:25pm by President Bitters
133

134 The next meeting of the executive board will be at the Lake Mary Marriot, May 16th at **8 am.**
135

136 Respectfully Submitted,

137 Cheri A. Sleeper, Executive Director

138 Florida Orchestra Association, Inc.