

Music Advisory Committee – Meeting Summary
Held on Tuesday, May 13, 2025 at Courtyard Marriott, Columbia, MO

1 – Recommend that the “50% rule” (Music Manual 1-E-1, 4-B, and, 5-B) be changed so that a minimum of 25% of eligible student participants in Large Group events at MSHSAA Music Festivals must be high school members (grades 9 to 12), with no changes to the current evaluation and rating procedures. The “50% rule” requirement for Solo and Small Ensemble (SSE) events (Music Manual 4-D and 5-C) would remain unchanged.

*** 2 – Recommend that the rules and or restrictions disallowing schools to attend a different music festival other than one assigned (Music Manual 2-C-5) be changed to permit directors in districts with Solo and Small Ensemble Festivals that don’t routinely have enough string entries to justify the hiring of string specialists be able to petition to attend an assigned and pre-determined ~~different~~ district Solo and Small Ensemble Festival where the submitted entry will be heard and adjudicated by a string specialist. The petition must be received by email to the director of music activities and MSHSAA will make the final approval regarding the petition. ~~determination regarding which District Solo and Small Ensemble Festivals are able to serve and~~ All other rules regarding correct submission of the entry, student eligibility, and allowable supervision must be followed.

3 – Recommend that MSHSAA develop and put into place a requirement that all certified District Solo and Small Ensemble and State Large Group music adjudicators complete annual rules review and test (Music Manual Section 7). This requirement should be in place and ready to be implemented by the 2026-2027 school year. Those adjudicators that only act as MSHSAA State Music Adjudicators must attend an in-person training prior to the State Music Festival and should have completed the NFHS Music Adjudication Course.

4 – Recommend that MSHSAA develop and require an online process for requesting and approving the use of duplicated music at all MSHSAA Music Festivals (Music Manual 3-A-6). The process will allow for member school directors to submit required documentation as outlined in the current rule and allow for designated music managers to approve or deny the request. Approved requests for duplicated music will be indicated on printed adjudicator ballots. Directors will be able to use the online process to request approval for use of duplicated music until 5 days (120 hours) prior to the festival after which a director must use the approved MSHSAA Request for Duplicated Music form. Entries approved at the district level will not need additional approval unless the entry is changed between district and state music.

*** 5 – Recommend that MSHSAA (as appropriate in the current list of approved priorities for MSHSAA website development) update the current accompanist registration module in Festival Manager and require that all MSHSAA accompanists have one official profile (similar to official or adjudication profiles) with an assigned official number rather than profiles being linked and updated via an email address. Additionally, MSHSAA should simultaneously develop the ability for accompanists to mark their availability to accompany at various district festivals and MSHSAA music directors should have access to an accompanist database so that they may contact and connect with potential accompanists for their students. Student accompanists must maintain a private profile that only allows them to accompany for their specific school, but their profile could be converted upon graduation when they are no longer an active student.

6 – Recommend that the rule disallowing the use of Kevlar Heads for Snare Drum Solos or in Small Ensembles that use Snare Drum be removed (Music Manual 5-D).

7 – Recommend that the allotted performance time for Large Group Bands and Orchestras be equalized to 25 minutes for all classes (Music Manual 5-A-1). Recommended maximums for the amount of time for music to be performed will remain the same. Each performing large group ensemble will be scheduled for a 25-minute warm-up period and a 25-minute period to complete sight reading. Small Conducted Ensembles (Woodwind Choir, Brass Choir, Percussion

Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra, and Cello Choir) will be allotted a 25-minute time window but will only be allowed a maximum of 15 minutes to enter, perform, and exit the stage.

8 - Recommend that the sight-reading instructions and rules be equalized to allow clapping and counting of rhythms across all events during the instructional time period (4 minutes in vocal and 6 minutes in instrumental). Directions for vocal sight reading should be updated to read: "During both instructional time periods, after tonality has been established, the director and/or students may do anything but sing or hum their parts. You are allowed to use a verbalized counting system while clapping or patting rhythms and Kodaly hand signals or numbers."

* **Denied**
** **Tabled**
*** **Approved as Amended**
**** **No Action**
***** **All Others Approved**