

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS****ELECTED OFFICERS**

**Jeffrey Lesser, President**  
 East Brunswick Public Schools  
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**Ryan Krewer, Treasurer**  
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**Dr. Jeffrey Kunkel, Past-President**  
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**APPOINTED MEMBERS**  
**Veeresh Popat, Region I President**  
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**Ron Heller, Region II President**  
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**Nick Rotindo, Region III President**  
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**Michael D. Russo, Webmaster**  
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**Michael Anzuini, Jersey Jazzer Editor**  
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**Dr. Diana Dohrmann, Vocal Jazz Liaison**  
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**Dr. David Demsey, Higher Ed. Liaison**  
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**Richard A. Graham, State Festival Chair**  
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## NJAJE Executive Board Meeting

## Omega Diner, North Brunswick, NJ

**Monday, June 15, 2009, 5:00 PM**

**Meeting Called to Order at: 5:20 pm by President Jeff Lesser**

**Compliments to all for a "GREAT" job and thanks for getting us through the tumultuous challenges that we faced over the past 2 years.**

### I. Secretary's Report – Mr. May

Approval of minutes

**MOTION to accept by M. Russo**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Dick graham**

**D. Demsey asked for correction of spelling of Mike Holober's name in the minutes.**

**So amended.**

**All in favor.**

### II. Treasurer's Report – Mr. Krewer

How did we do in our first "stand alone" year?

Close out and transfer of accounts

Discussion of Treasurers report and discussion of AUDIT.

**MOTION: M. Russo moves for M. Anzuini to inquire on getting advisory information regarding NJAJE Audit.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> – Dick Graham**

**Motion passes**

**Note of concern made by D. Demsey of the need for a regular yearly Audit .**

**Motion to accept the Treasurers Report by J. Haas**

**2<sup>nd</sup> – M. Russo**

**Motion passes**

### III. Webmaster's Report – Mr. Russo

*A reverse look at the past year . . .*

**Web site redesigned and renamed**

**Some New sections on the site**

**New Software makes it easier to access.**

**Discussion re; addition of Historical data which then can be added to the site.**

**Thanks to the board for reviewing the website and helping with inaccuracies.**

**R. Heller asked: can we put all the Region and All state information under one link on the home page and then have that lead to a region page with all the necessary links.**

**N. Rotindo inquired about educational links being added.**

**Note to Update the site.**

**Jeff also proposed embedding a link on our website that would send info directly into our data base.**

### III. All State and Honors Jazz Choir Auditions

All State Jazz Band – Mr. Anzuini & Mr. Lesser

**Things went smoothly 1 student successfully auditioned but declined. We are good to go for next year.**

**Is it possible for kids to go on-line similar to NJMEA? Or we could adopt something similar to All Eastern.**

Honors Jazz Choir – Dr. Dohrmann

**Well balanced group. Many guys auditioned. Group looks good. Justin Binek will conduct one more year.**

Etude status – Mr. Haas

**2010 Etudes recently sent out for chord changes to be added by the etude composers.**

**Rhythm section parts will have both solo and comping instructions included.**

**Fees for this to be \$35 and hour**

**Chords need to be put in for the 3 Trombone etudes and two saxophones.**

**V. Popat – The Jr. Sax etude #4a appears to be way to easy for the level of players.**

**J. Haas please request a revision of this etude?**

**Do we want to think about changes in improvisation expectation at the all state level.**

**This could create changes in requirements at the Region level.**

**Add "Rhythm Changes" ??? Add 2 more verses of improv to the blues solo.**

**D. Demsey suggests "Autumn Leaves" in addition to existing**

**Lets table & review for next year and re-visit this topic**

**MOTION: All State Jazz Band Improv rooms - have 3 highly qualified judges for 2 rooms.**

**2<sup>nd</sup> - V. Popat MOTION CARRIES**

#### **IV. State Jazz Festival – Mr. Graham**

Dick Graham Thanks all for there contributions and help.

Thanks to D. Dohrmann for her help and teamwork at Div. 1 Finals

Present Status and Future Plans

Cassette Tapes Discussion – Will order this summer for next Year – OK'd

Discussion Raising Entry fee to \$200 from \$175

Do we need to raise finals fee in order to break even on the state festival?

Leave it and Re-visit for next year.

Review of rule changes on the application. Finals to be on Saturday 4/24

4:30 pm report time – 5:00 pm start

T. Branker – Predictable formula for band performance repertoire.

Discussion on this topic touched on a required list, additional song requirement, formulate a list of tunes. Create a state list....

Review this topic and proceed for 2011.

Jeff Lesser tabled this discussion and asked that it be placed on the agenda for October #9 of the Application remove the “preferably” word.

Same player / same instrument revision .

Correspondence – John Asti Letter and points of concern.

Table discussion on Sound for Prelims & Finals to October meeting agenda

#### **V. Regional Reports**

##### **A. Region 3 – Mr. Rotindo**

Numbers's down for audtions – Jeff Kunkel and Brian Height conducted wonderfully.

Concert did very well. Thanks for letting him serve for the past 2 years.

Lead Trumpet – If no one auditions then the highest audition score gets the lead trumpet spot.

##### **B. Region 2 – Mr. Heller**

Peter DiCarlo & Rich Concert did very well and numbers going up.

Adam Warshafsky will be All State coordinator

David P. from E. Brunswick will be Reg. 2 Jazz band manager.

##### **All Shore Status**

No written response was received for our correspondence to All Shore.

Ron did find that a member of the All Shore Board John C) is supportive of what we do and willing to work with it.

##### **C. Region 1 – Mr. Popat**

85 applications last year to over 120 this year.

Revise Drum sets in 2 rooms. Clarify Auxiliary percussion procedures for next year.

MOTION: V.Popat moves that notification be sent out to fulfill an auxiliary position by open audition at the first rehearsal. Audition piece to be chosen by region president or All State Jazz Procedures chair.

2<sup>nd</sup> by M. Russo MOTION Carries

Julius Tolentino will take over for V. Popat at Region 1

#### **VI. Jazz Combo Festival – Mr. Lesser, Drs. Branker & Demsey**

Not much to say. T. Branker – 5 schools at Princeton U. great day and great vibe. Very positive result and Princeton looks to continue on Feb 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

D. Demsey also had 5 bands a great session. All the bands were there for everybody. “It was real” ! WPU also interested in hosting again.

Rowan festival comments from R. Heller & N. Rotindo some logistical issues made for a less than fulfilling experience (ran out of food, inconsistent communication, feed back was not quite up to expectation)

TCNJ had some issues at their festival. These will be addressed for next year.

CONSENSUS the Combo Event continues for 2010. J. Lesser will handle this.

## VII. NJMEA

ICJ – Drs. Branker & Demsey

Band played at the NJMEA conference. Crowd was lacking? Rob Middleton and Wilbur Wittemen were great. Logistics worked repertoire was challenging and varied. Band played well. Collaboration of directors was very good. Positive experience! Tony Branker agreed.

Consideration for 2010 conductors..... TBD....

Could the band get a Lobby Concert in the future? Double session?

Or suggest the ICJB as a specific session/concert.

Meeting – Mr. Lesser

Clinics – Mr. Haas

A. Branker to present a session with reference to genres and making the music feel good. The significance of rhythmic interpretation in Jazz music.

Alfred to provide Lisa DeSpain to do a vocal jazz session.

Reading Band

Provide something on articulations and interpretations???

## VIII. State Jazz Conference – Mr. Haas

Plans for 2009

Center for Arts Education (No longer NJPAC)

We may need an additional room (\$850 for the day)

Doug Beach being provided by Kendor

Michael Phillip Mossman provided by Yamaha (Afro Cuban rhythm in)

Paris Rutherford - vocal jazz presentation - provided by Hal Leonard.

Sponsored Presenters are provided Hotel & Lunch by NJAJE)

We need to increase sponsors

## IX. Jersey Jazzer – Mr. Anzuini

Fall mailing

Do we want to continue with Bulk mailing permit for this year?

We will get out the fall mailing prior to October to use our 2009 Bulk mail permit.

Spring eLetter

We did not get a spring emailing out. Yet we will send it out through website and email data base.

## X. Old Business

*A look ahead*

### X1. Membership Discussion– Mr. Lesser

Bundle or stand alone

BUNDLED MEMBERSHIP vs. other presentations.

It is agreed to keep it as a Bundle.

Electronic Form-Data Acquisition from Google Docs

Jazz Invoices to be handled by State Festival Chair or Treasurer..

Jazz Improv Magazine

JEN and MENC

We choose to stand alone for the next year and revisit this topic next year..

Membership Chair

Jeff will continue to handle membership chair.

### XI. Confirmation of Election Results – Mr. Lesser via Ballot Bin

**President – John Linder**

**V. President – J. Haas**

**Secretary – David May**

**Treasurer – M. Anzuini**

**President Elect has been offered to Jeff Kunkel for consideration.**

### XII. Focus for the Future – Mr. Lindner

Jazz Education Achievement Award – Outstanding Achievement in Jazz Education

V. Popat Nominates: Tony Branker

2<sup>nd</sup> by Ron Heller - MOTION Carries

NJMEA Strategic Planning Session Invitation to have a representative attend 8/2-3

NJEA Clinic (Ron Di Donato) - Suggestions for clinics – D. Demsey

**New Business – THANKS to J. LESSER for doing a great job through the past years.**

**For the Good of the Cause**

**Adjournment – MOTION to ADJOURN – M. Russo 2<sup>nd</sup> – D. Demsey**

**Next Meeting**

**Monday, October 12, 2009**