



PMEA Council for Teacher Training, Recruitment, and Retention

“Supporting the life cycle of a music educator...” • Paul K. Fox, Chair • Page 1 of 7

Collegiate Communiqué #31 *It's Time to Rejuvenate – Summer Conference* July 2021

Greetings from the PMEA Chair of the Council for Teacher Training, Recruitment, and Retention!

Collegiate Communiqué is published 1-3 times a year and serves as a “quick-read” and “starting point” for news, perspectives, and research frequently geared to college students and higher education members.

Features in this issue:

- Register for the PMEA Summer Conference “Rejuvenate”
- “Sneak Preview” of Sessions/Strands/Keynoters/Presenters
- Marketing, Branding, Networking, & Interviewing for Employment
- Professional Bookshelf – Suggestions for Summer Reading
- *It's Time to Renew Your PMEA or PCMEA Membership*



This is *your* forum. You are invited to submit an article or announcement for a future issue:

paulkfox.usc@gmail.com. Previous issues are archived here: <https://www.pmea.net/focus-areas/pcmea/>

Register for the Summer Conference – “Rejuvenate”



First it was all about “renewal” in response to the pandemic and the painfully-slow reopening of schools – the PMEA Spring 2021 Conference! Now it’s a time to “rejuvenate” and embrace all of those other “R” words! Here comes the **PMEA Summer (Virtual) Conference!**

reawaken – rebirth – recharge – recover – recreate – refresh – repair – rest – restore – resuscitate – retool – review – revitalize – revive – revivify – rewind

The 2021 PMEA Summer Conference “Rejuvenate” will be held virtually beginning at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, July 21 and concluding on Friday, July 23 at 3:15 p.m. Most sessions will be presented live and will be recorded for attendees to view “on-demand” at a later time.

Sign-up for access to all sessions on the PMEA conference site: <https://www.pmea.net/pmea-summer-conference/>.

The registration fee is only \$20 for PCMEA members (\$50 for active members and \$10 for retirees).

“Sneak Preview” of Sessions/Strands/Keynoters/Presenters

Look forward to keynote presentations by David Wish from Little Kids Rock (Wednesday afternoon), Allyssa Jones talking about self-care and the importance of asking “why” (Thursday afternoon), and James Weaver of the National Federation of State High School Associations (Friday morning).

In addition, breakout sessions will be presented on a variety of topics including choir, classroom music, ethics, health/wellness/retirement, instrumental music (band and strings), modern band, music technology, and more!



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Proposed Summer Sessions

Wednesday, July 21, 2021

10 a.m. PMEA Update

11:15 a.m. Repair Tips, Tricks, and Sanitization Practices on Band & Orchestra Instruments

That Moved Me! Connecting with, Internalizing and Communicating Ideas and Emotions in Music

The First Five Years: Laying Your Foundation with Tips, Tricks, and Tales from the Trenches

1:00 p.m. Integrating Drum Set Studies into the Classroom

Catch the E-Train – Essential Ethics for the New Educator

It Takes a Village: Cultivating and Sustaining a Robust Booster Program

Open Forum – Instrumental Discussion

2:30 p.m. Music Education at the Speed of Music: Modern Band in Pennsylvania

Thursday, July 22, 2021

10 a.m. Yoga for Music Educators: The JOY Is in the JOURNEY

Latin Jazz: The Key Is the “Clave”

Enhancing Ensemble Tuning: How Can We Listen More Attentively to Each Other?

Air on a G Suite: Google Tools for Music Education

11:15 a.m. Retirement 101: Retiree Stories & Strategies

Marching Out of the Pandemic



(Thursday’s schedule continues on next page)



Strands

General Session

Instrumental/Modern Band

Choral

Collegiate

Instrumental/Modern Band

Collegiate

Curriculum/Assessment/Technology

Instrumental/Modern Band

Keynote

Health/Wellness/Retirement/Service

Instrumental/Modern Band

Choral

Curriculum/Assessment/Technology

Health/Wellness/Retirement/Service

Instrumental/Modern Band

Presenters

Kyle Pero

Dr. Andrew Withington

Neil Anderson

Nick Costa

Paul K. Fox

Christopher Marra

Susan Basalik

David Wish

Barbara Weikert

Marc Jacoby

Dr. Andrew Withington

John Mlynczak

Paul K. Fox

Mark Despokatis
Adam Nobile
Jeffrey Dent
Chris Snyder
Steven Nawrocki

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Proposed Summer Sessions

Thursday, July 22, 2021 *continued*

11:15 a.m. Summer 2021 – Hitting Reset: Reflection, Reimagination and Rejuvenation

Strands

Choral

Presenters

Christopher Kiver

Meaningful Assessment with Technology

Curriculum/Assessment/Technology

John Mlynczak

1:00 p.m. Digital and Blended Learning Strategies for Modern Band

Instrumental/Modern Band

Bryan Powell

Enhancing Musicianship in the Beginning Ensemble

Curriculum/Assessment/Technology

Jessica Vaughan-Marra

Amazing Chrome Extensions: Little Apps Offering Big Help!

Curriculum/Assessment/Technology

Susan Basalik

Open Forum – Discussion for Choral Educators

Choral

Tina Bennett

2:15 p.m. Keynote: Why? Just... Why?

Keynote

Allyssa Jones

Friday, July 23, 2021

10:00 a.m. Keynote: Music Copyright

Keynote

James Weaver

11:15 a.m. Using Children’s Literature as a Pathway For Music Learning

General/Classroom/Elementary

Suzanne Hall

Music Service Learning

Health/Wellness/Retirement/Service

Marci Major

PMEA Mentor Training

Eric Plum
Lisa Endler

1:00 p.m. Networking and Branding and Jobs, Oh My!

Collegiate

Paul K. Fox

Using Ukulele and Technology in Modern Band

Instrumental/Modern Band

Warren Gramm

Get Gaming with Kahoot, Quizziz, and Digital Breakouts

Curriculum/Assessment/Technology

Susan Basalik

Creativity in the Orchestra Classroom

Strings

Heather Lofdahl

2:15 p.m. General Music Sharing

General/Classroom/Elementary

Cassandra Eisenreich

I Got the Job; Now I Need Help!
Fundamentals for the Band or Choir Director
Teaching String Orchestra

General/Strings

Jessica Vaughan-Marra

Exploring the Modern Band Method

Instrumental/Modern Band

Scott Burstein

Paul K. Fox

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Marketing, Branding, Networking, and Interviewing for Employment

Attention recent graduates, Junior or Senior music education majors, and unemployed teachers: ATTEND Mr. Fox’s PMEA Summer Conference Session on Friday, July 23 at 1 p.m.

If you are looking to prepare yourself for upcoming school job screenings or to create an e-portfolio, resume, or business card, visit the following blogposts. You can practice mock interviews, record and assess your performance answering common interview questions, and “beef-up” your professional “brand!”

- “Mock Interviews – Unraveling the Puzzle of Landing a Music Teacher Job”
<https://paulfox.blog/2021/03/14/mock-interviews/>
- “The Ultimate Interview Primer” (comprehensive download)
<https://paulfoxusc.files.wordpress.com/2021/03/pcmea-interview-primer-2021.pdf>
- Popular interview questions: Can you answer most of these with a “good” set of detailed personal examples or anecdotes?
 1. Tell us something about your strengths, challenges, and goals for the future.
 2. Who had the greatest influence on you becoming a music teacher and why?
 3. What are the most important qualities of an outstanding music educator?
 4. Describe a successful lesson plan you have developed and how did you assess the learning?
 5. Give some examples of materials you would use to build a diverse repertoire.
 6. Why is it important for students to be actively engaged in the arts?
 7. How do you select soloists, leadership positions, or rank seating in your ensemble?
 8. How will you accommodate students with special needs or varied interests in your music program?
 9. How would you recruit/encourage students and “grow” interest and participation in the music program?
 10. Discuss your background in Orff, Kodaly, Gordon, Suzuki, and Dalcroze.
 11. Discuss your approach for teaching improvisation for the first time.
 12. Discuss the process you use in developing the singing voice.
 13. How do teach a group of 5th graders who are having trouble mastering dotted note values?
 14. Describe your classroom management procedures.
What elements of discipline do you demand?
 15. What personal qualities do you have that would make you an effective leader... and team member?
 16. How would you select soloists, leadership positions, or seat rankings in your ensembles?
 17. Name 3 vital emphases in your teaching. What is most important to you: *content*, *outcome*, or *process*?
 18. If offered the job, how do you see your involvement in our district (both music and non-music activities)?
 19. How would your students describe you? How would your friends and/or colleagues describe you?
- Articles on interview questions:
 - <https://paulfox.blog/2015/09/01/a-blueprint-for-success-preparing-for-the-job-interview/>
 - <https://paulfox.blog/2016/02/27/interview-questions-revisited/>
 - <https://paulfox.blog/2016/06/04/those-tricky-interview-questions/>
 - <https://paulfox.blog/2020/01/26/more-on-teacher-interviews/>
 - <https://paulfox.blog/2020/05/11/questions-for-the-3-phases-of-interviews/>
 - <https://www.indeed.com/career-advice/interviewing/teacher-interview-questions>
 - <https://youtu.be/rcmHWv-wHc>
 - <https://www.weareteachers.com/most-common-teacher-interview-questions/>
 - <https://majoringinmusic.com/music-teacher-job-interviews/>



Quality	Observed at Practice Interview	Good?	Bad?
Attitude	a. Calm appearance, steady nerves b. Enthusiasm, positive and helpful mood c. Self-confidence/poise but no arrogance d. Sincerity e. Respect f. Attributes of a team player (collaboration) g. Attributes of a leader and innovator		
Speech	h. Vocal tone and volume i. Diction and clarity j. Speed k. Expressivity l. Pacing		
Language	m. Use of professional terminology and vocabulary n. Avoidance of “weak” words (“like,” “sort of”) o. Avoidance of verbal clutter (“ahh” or “umm”)		
“On Topic”	p. Focus, relevance, avoidance of “bird walking” q. Careful listening/response to the interviewer r. Avoidance of unsubstantiated claims		
Body	s. Posture t. Eye contact u. Facial expressions, smiling v. Avoidance of fidgeting/touching face/hair		
Preparation	w. Knowledge of content x. Organization (distribution of resume/portfolio) y. Anecdotes/evidence of strengths/challenges z. Research of district and questioning interviewer		
Comments			

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- Additional resources to “unravel the puzzle” of getting a job:
 - Branding <https://paulfox.blog/2015/12/16/tips-on-personal-branding/>
 - Body language <https://paulfox.blog/2017/01/27/body-language-interviewing-for-a-job/>
 - Dress <https://paulfox.blog/2017/07/22/dress-for-success-at-teacher-interviews/>
 - e-Portfolio <https://paulfox.blog/2015/11/15/planning-the-perfect-professional-portfolio/>
 - Networking <https://paulfox.blog/2016/04/04/networking-niceties/>
 - Professional website <https://paulfox.blog/2018/01/14/the-professional-website/>
 - Résumé <https://paulfox.blog/2016/01/12/music-teacher-resumes-revisited/>
 - Story-telling <https://paulfox.blog/2015/08/02/when-it-comes-to-getting-a-job-s-is-for-successful-storytelling/>



Professional Bookshelf – Suggestions for Summer Reading

Read the entire article by Paul Fox at <https://paulfox.blog/2021/05/31/summer-reading/>
Welcome to summer break... the chance to rest, refresh, recharge, rewind, and rejuvenate! After what COVID-19 dished out to all of us, we deserve some time off! Here comes those much-anticipated trips, family visits, sleeping in, “fun in the sun,” and going dormant for at least 2-3 weeks!

However, most professional music educators never totally shut down. They seek out new enrichment opportunities by attending conferences or music reading workshops, researching new methods, and



“retooling” for the lessons ahead. We recommend these inspirational “finds” to bring with you to the beach, camp, pool, road trip, etc. The “prescription” for 2021-2022 might be to renew our understanding and “best practices” of social emotional learning and teacher health, wellness, and self-care.

Sporting “different strokes for different folks,” the “super-seven” below are must-reads! Check out several of these from the local library (or fork out a little \$\$ to order them from Barnes & Noble or Amazon):

- *Music Education and Social Emotional Learning – The Heart of Teaching Music* by Scott Edgar
- *Thrivers – The Surprising Reasons Why Some Kids Struggle and Others Shine* by Michele Borba
- *Love the Job, Lose the Stress – Successful Social and Emotional Learning in the Modern Classroom* by Lesley Moffat
- *I Love My Job But It’s Killing Me – The Teacher’s Guide to Conquering Chronic Stress and Sickness* by Lesley Moffat
- *The Burnout Cure – Learning to Love Teaching Again* by Chase Mielke
- *Navigating the Unknown in Education – New Narratives Amid COVID-19* by Sally J. Zepeda and Philip D. Lanoue
- *Encore! A Boomer’s Guide to Rocking Your Retirement* by Marilyn Myrick Watson

It’s Time to Renew Your PMEA or PCMEA Membership!



<https://www.pmea.net/membership-information/>

PMEA/NAfME Membership Rates will stay the same for the 2021-2022 membership year! Go to the link above and join or renew using the 2021-22 PMEA Membership PDF or

2021-22 PMEA/NAfME Membership Dues Information

- Full Active – \$142
- Full Active Spousal (if both spouses are PMEA active members, one can apply for membership at this rate) – \$122
- Retired – \$68
- Collegiate (Student) – \$44
- Introductory (open to 1st year teachers who were PCMEA members during the 2019-20 member term) – \$92
- PMEA Only Retired – \$31

the PCMEA 2021-22 Membership Form or online by logging in.

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