

PMEA Council TTRR Semi-Annual Online Meeting  
MINUTES  
October 22, 2023

Roll Call – **Bolded = In Attendance:**

\*denotes voting member      ? = unclear of membership status

**Tina Bennett\*** TRI-M Chair

Jerry Berry? Higher Education Rep D-6 R-III  
Nate Buonviri\* Higher Education Rep D-11 R-VI  
Scott Cullen State President  
Craig Denison? Higher Education Rep D-3 R-II  
Mark Despotakis Director Public & Government Affairs  
Paul Doerksen\* Higher Education Rep D-1 R-I

**Lisa Endler\*** Mentor Program Co-Chair

David Deitz PDE Fine Arts Ed Consultant  
**Paul Fox\*** TTRR Council Chair & Retired Member Coordinator  
Jennifer Jester? Higher Education Rep D-7 R-V  
Brett Keith State President Elect  
Aaron Magaro\* FMEHS Co-Chair  
Stephanie Magaro\* FMEHS Co-Chair  
**M. Greg Martin\*** Higher Education Rep D-12 R-VI

**Kathy Melago\*** SMTE Chair

Tonya Mitchell-Spradlin? Higher Education Rep D-4 R-III  
Stacy Paparone\* Higher Education Rep D-5 R-I  
Henry Pearlberg Past State President

**Eric Plum\*** Mentor Program Co-Chair

**Alex Robbins\*** PCMEA President  
F. David Romines? Higher Education Rep D-9 R-IV  
Nicholas Roseth\* Higher Education Rep D-8 R-IV  
Phil Stattel Immediate Past State President  
Jessica Vaughan-Marra? Higher Education Rep D-1 R-I

**Ellie Vito\*** PCMEA President Elect

**Sarah Watts\*** Higher Education Rep D-4 R-III  
**Travis Weller\*** PCMEA State Advisor  
Debbie Lynn Wolfe\* Higher Education Rep D-11 R-VI  
**Abi Young** State Executive Director

Call to order 7:00 p.m. – Review agenda **(12)** – Establish quorum?

I. Council Reports/Old Business **(items printed in red below need Council action)** –

A. *Who are we?* Mission, Purpose, and Membership **(last page)** – Summer 2023 Board Report **(2)**

- Overview of TTRR, continuing members, and potential members
- TTRR report was submitted to the state board in July
- Report news for official activities of council members for January, workshops, mentoring, training, etc. PKF will report to the board

B. *Drumroll, please:* Unveiling of the PMEA Strategic Plan **(10)** – many of you helped on this!

- Strategic Plan – officially announced and voted on by board – vision, mission, objectives
- Objectives short term for two school years
- Thank you if you served on committees to develop this plan
- TTRR – member engagement is part of what we do

C. *Do you know these acronyms?* The latest “alphabet soup” of recently revised Chapter 49 guidelines:

- o Chapter 49 Competencies – PSEA Summary **(1)**
- o CR-SE Culturally-Relevant and Sustaining Education **(7a & 7b)**
- o PE Professional Ethics **(8)** and MCEE **(3)**
- o SL Structured Literacy **(9)**

- Start immediately with professional development and continuing education for practicing teachers
- TTRR has been more career training, not as much curriculum, will provide resources and suggestions when we can
- Superintendents focusing on structured literacy
- See additional documents/links for further study
- PMEA is ahead of the curve with regard to facilitating ethics-related professional development

D. NAFME Music Teacher Professional Initiative (*6 infographic & 4 executive summary; also 5*)

- These initiatives align with the objectives of TTRR

E. Proposed Council 2023-2025 major goals and projects for discussion (*13*).

**What focus and/or action plans should we propose and develop for 2023-24?**

- Strategic plan complete!
- Still working on support of collegiate funding issues, recruitment/retention of diverse music students/teachers, target every graduating PCMEA member entering PA workforce and assign PMEA mentor
- How to connect personally with graduating PCMEA members – reach out in a more intentional way, not just email
- Tina: HIPAA laws might prevent some types of personal communication or sharing of information.
- What can we do to help over the next two years? How to connect better with PCMEA?
- Feel free to follow up with PKF with any ideas – revisit at April meeting

F. Status of Higher Education & PA college music education programs

- Report from Debbie Lynn Wolf (District 11): “All fine here in District 11 – we are still planning to have our local in-service conference where my music education majors interact with our community music teachers on election day in a wonderful day of workshops.
- Cairn University will be hosting *Heartsongs* – an annual program for children (of all ages) with special needs and their families on 11/11 from 10-noon on our campus. This gives my students an opportunity to plan and present mini-music lessons and to interact with families in a variety of music activities.”
- Region III – The Region III conference is scheduled for January 2024
- Region V – District 7 had professional development day on Oct 9<sup>th</sup>; Messiah hosting music major for a day on November 20<sup>th</sup>, over 30 people registered, in person
- Region VI - District 12 having in-service on election day
- PCMEA and other orgs sponsoring breakfast for in-service teachers – pre-service teachers invited to attend for free
- West Chester has a brand new music ed curriculum, navigating challenges while phasing out the old curriculum; in the new curriculum music ed students receive hour-long studio lesson, may have to bring on adjuncts in the future
- Greg retiring in July!

G. What’s new from our departments... FMEHS, Mentoring, PCMEA, PDE, SMTE, TRI-M

- Future Music Educators symposium happening in conjunction with Erie conference
- Mentoring – Eric/Lisa zoomed with 10 students and panel of teachers discussing issues of mentorship; Lisa reached out to Megan Bruno to update information and share info about mentoring program

- PCMEA – doing well but struggling with connecting to chapters, no Region VI coordinator currently
  - Summer conference meeting – chapters don't really know what they're supposed to be doing. Alex is working on chapter officer training materials
  - Difficult to afford to go to the conference, especially for smaller schools, so PCMEA students end up not going and missing out on the state meeting there
  - Trying to improve communication
  - Ellie – some chapters don't know how to fundraise or how to seek funding – provide information/support here
  - Travis – attempting to collect officer information, but it is in progress
  - PKF – how can TTRR help with funding possibilities?
- SMTE - meeting a few times a year, looking at state requirements, looking at ways to bring more students into programs, teacher shortage is real, subs are in short supply.
  - Thinking about how to support students while in programs, looking at any way to reduce costs for membership – should be free! Costs determined by NAFME, if we want to bring a variety of people/economic diversity, need to make membership/involvement more accessible
- Tri-M - National Happy Birthday project, D3 Tri-M day brought chapters together, working on making connections and making Tri-M more vibrant, making self known/available, possible to do a state Tri-M photo at the conference?

H. We especially want to hear from our PCMEA folks – How can we help you?

Tina: “Would there be a way to have retired members sponsor a PCMEA member for the conference, or co-sponsor these kids. I would think that would be a great project for Retired teachers to help. Is that a possibility? Let's use the retired teachers more.”

Kathleen: How can we go directly to PMEA to request help without revealing financial need to home chapter?

How to connect donations directly to a student

Alex can help connect to PCMEA

Tina: Create a link for students to apply for financial assistance – enlist help from retired members

Committee: PKF, Tina, Alex, Abi – Goal: study feasibility of these funding ideas for PCMEA members

Greg: “Just a suggestion... open the “fund” up to all PMEA members as well. I think many might like to contribute to help fund needy college students attend the state convention. Almost along the lines of a Go-Fund-Me type thing.”

I. Stark/Fox Scholarships (*11*) – 3 PMEA Council TTRR recipients but no applicants for the PMEA Music for Lifelong Learning Award.  
**Must market/promote both scholarships for 2024 – How can we reach collegiate ensemble directors?**

- No applicants for the science/tech/engineering major scholarships
- Another 3 scholarships will be available next year
- Info on PMEA webpage
- Higher ed people, help spread the word

- J. **Search for guest speaker for the TTRR in-person meeting @ PMEA Conference in Erie**  
(Fox ideas: Conference keynoter Marcia Neel, Carnegie-Mellon University music education professor Susan Raponi about Culturally Relevant & Sustaining Education, or Mark D'Angelo, from the Carnegie-Mellon University Office of the Vice Provost for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion. *What are your suggestions?*)

- Deb Confredo brought forward – she will visit during her term as NAFME president, though.
- Send PKF email if you have any other ideas – consider what might be helpful to your TTRR department

II. New Business – no new business brought forward.

III. Announcements –

- PMEA Crescendo Student Conference eMOTION update (January 30, 2024):  
<https://www.pmea.net/crescendo/>
- In *The Advocate* – *The Newsletter for the Music Education Community of Western PA*:  
“What to Look for in a College for Music Education” by Dr. Kathleen Melago  
<https://www.smore.com/7a3e6-the-advocate>
- Presentation *Bookends – The Life Cycle of a Successful & Happy Music Educator* by Paul Fox  
<https://paulkfoxusc.files.wordpress.com/2023/10/bookends-full-size-slides-s101723.pdf>
- Please submit news and committee meeting minutes/notes to [paulkfox.usc@gmail.com](mailto:paulkfox.usc@gmail.com)
- **Next meeting: Thursday, April 18, 2023 at 7 a.m. (Sheraton Bayfront Erie/Convention Center)**  
**(Please plan to attend virtually if you cannot participate in the PMEA Annual Conference)**
- **Next online meeting: Sunday, October 20, 2024.**

IV. PDF Documents – Access from this link:

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1PvaV4GcKzWiwws1i4x4JbMlfGI6OaSqi?usp=share\\_link](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1PvaV4GcKzWiwws1i4x4JbMlfGI6OaSqi?usp=share_link)

1. Competencies-advisory-final (PSEA Summary)
2. Council for TTRR Board Report 071723
3. MCEE\_brochure\_2nd\_edition
4. NafME-MTPI-Blueprint-Executive-Summary
5. NafME-MTPI-Blueprint\_Full-Report\_9-27-23
6. NafME-MTPI-Infographic 2023
7. a & b (PDE Chapter 49 CR-SE) Culturally-Relevant and Sustaining Education
8. (PDE Chapter 49 PE) Professional Ethics Program Framework Guidelines
9. (PDE Chapter 49 SL) Structured Literacy Competencies Program Framework Guidelines
10. PMEA Vision Mission Objectives
11. Stark-Fox Scholarship PMEA Council TTRR Continuing Education Award 2023
12. TTRR Agenda 102223
13. TTRR Goals and Projects

Meeting Adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Watts

## Who Are We?

# PMEA Council for Teacher Training, Recruitment & Retention

## Mission:

Serving in the role of an advisory committee for the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA), the mission of the State Council for Teacher Training, Recruitment, and Retention (Council TTRR) is to discuss strategies and implement programs which support “the life cycle of a music educator.”

## Overarching Purpose:

“The planning of meaningful projects and services for the involvement of future music teachers (high school and collegiate), first-year music educators (and those in the first five years), veteran teachers, mentors, department chairs, cooperating teachers, TRI-M and PCMEA members and leaders, Higher Education teachers, SMTE, and retired members.”

## Focus Areas:

- **“Training** of pre-college, pre-service, in-service, and retired members in career development to support professionalism, career exploration, growth and change, and personal goal setting.”
- **“Recruitment** of quality and engaged candidates to college music education programs.”
- **“Retention** and engagement of urban, rural, minority, disadvantaged, and more diverse music teachers and students in the profession.”

## Members 2023-24:

Tina Bennett, TRI-M Chair  
Lisa Endler, Mentor Program Co-Chair  
David Deitz, PDE Fine Arts Ed Consultant  
Paul Fox, TTRR Chair & Retired Member Coordinator  
Aaron Magaro, FMEHS Co-Chair  
Stephanie Magaro, FMEHS Co-Chair  
Kathy Melago, SMTE Chair  
Eric Plum, Mentor Program Co-Chair  
Alex Robbins, PCMEA President  
Ellie Vito, PCMEA President Elect  
Travis Weller, PCMEA State Advisor  
Paul Doerksen, Higher Education Rep District -1 Region I

Stacy Paparone, Higher Education Rep District 5 Region I  
Jessica Vaughan-Marra? Higher Education Rep District 1 Region I  
Craig Denison? Higher Education Rep District 3 Region II  
Jerry Berry? Higher Education Rep District 6 Region III  
Tonya Mitchell-Spradlin? Higher Education Rep District 4 Region III  
Sarah Watts Higher Education Rep District 4 Region III  
F. David Romines? Higher Education Rep District 9 Region IV  
Nicholas Roseth Higher Education Rep District 8 Region IV  
Jennifer Jester? Higher Education Rep District 7 Region V  
Nate Buonviri Higher Education Rep District 11 Region VI  
M. Greg Martin Higher Education Rep District 12 Region VI  
Debbie Lynn Wolfe, Higher Education Rep District 11 Region VI

? = PMEA District PD Higher Ed Reps – Need to determine if they want to serve on Council TTRR