



NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

2025 MUSIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

May 30, 2025 -- Lincoln, Nebraska

The 2025 Nebraska School Activities Association (NSAA) Music Advisory Committee met on May 30, 2025, at the NSAA offices in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Attendees: District 1-Wes Hansmeyer, Norris, District II-Tyler Gruttemeyer, Omaha South, District II-Jeff Peabody, Columbus, District III-Chad Dean, O'Neill, District IV-Morgan Harms, Broken Bow, District V-Dale Ritter, Alma, District VI-Jacob Hoffman, Kimball, Debbie Martinez, NMEA, Angela Wright, NMEA, Clay Blackman, Taryn Retzlaff and Cindy Callaway, NSAA

The purpose of this 2025 NSAA District Music Coordinators Committee meeting was to evaluate the District Music Contests that were held April 20-25, 2025, and to plan for the 2026 contests.

NSAA Assistant Director Taryn Retzlaff called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

The following were the major items reported on and discussed:

1. Reports from each of the NSAA District Music Coordinators - Overview of District Music Contests at each site:

Each of the District Coordinators expressed their appreciation to the hosts, administrators, and staff for their efforts in organizing and hosting the 2025 district music contests. The events were successful, and **live critiques with large ensembles were again well-received.**

2. Judge Utilization and Hiring

- The committee discussed several ideas to improve the use of judges and expand the judging pool.
- Hosts site hosting multiple districts to have more judges to use in the schedule.
- Begin the judge hiring process early to secure quality judges and allow time for coordination.

3. Judge Training and Certification

- The certification process continues to be successful.
- Judge registration has been streamlined using a Google Doc registration form.
- The Points of Emphasis video and NFHS course will continue to be required and reinforced for all judges.

4. Financial Reports for each of the NSAA District Music Contest Sites.

The committee discussed various ways to meet and manage **added expenditures**. While challenges remain, overall budgets are looking better than in previous years.

5. Planning for 2026, 2027 & 2028 NSAA District Music Contests.

- The dates for 2026 will be April 20-25, 2026.
- The committee discussed ways to increase the number of registered judges and use them in multi-districts.

6. Other items discussed:

- Digital music on ipads
- Outstanding Performance Awards for large group ensembles
- Marking music for copyright.
- Shortage of accompanists
- Standardized site fees

Overall, the 2025 district music contests were a success. The feedback was positive, and continued improvements in judge utilization and training are being pursued to enhance future events.



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The next scheduled annual meeting of the NSAA District Music Advisory Committee has been set for Monday, May 29, 2026, at 9:00am at the NSAA office in Lincoln, Nebraska.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at Noon.

Taryn Retzlaff, Assistant Director, Music