

Concert Band MPA Committee Minutes

Saturday, April 27, 2024

UNC-Greensboro, 9:30am

CONCERT BAND MPA SIGHT READING

The committee discussed the current UIL sight reading rubrics (the 2022 revision) and compared the current standards to the standards of the prior level. In response to the easier UIL standards in which our current sight-reading music is constructed, the committee voted to move forward with a discussion of aligning the level of sight-reading to the level of music the band performs on stage. For example, a band performing in Grade 3 on stage would read UIL Level 3 in the sight-reading room. The committee voted unanimously to move forward with this discussion, and committee members will take this back to districts in spring and fall meetings and a formal vote will be made at the committee's November business meeting, and a recommendation will be made to the board for final approval.

The committee also agreed to begin looking for other options for sight-reading pieces and report back at our next meeting. We will begin with researching the options FJH has available.

FLEX BAND

No changes were made to flex arrangements.

DIVERSE COMPOSER IDENTIFICATION ON MPA LIST

A column of "additional information" has been added to the official NCBA Concert Band MPA list in an effort to identify information about the various composers represented on the list.

POLICY AND PROCEDURE CHANGES AND CLARIFICATIONS:

- **3C. When a school has more than one band, students may participate in multiple ensembles, but the total number of students performing on the same instrument in more than one ensemble must not exceed five (5) students.** For the purposes of calculating duplicate personnel, if a student performs on different instruments listed separately for All-State Honor Band auditions in multiple ensembles, they would not count as duplicates.
- **3E. Any band which performs music not on the North Carolina Bandmasters Association approved list for the year will receive comments from judges but will be officially disqualified and not receive a rating.**
- **7C. Each band must prepare a march of the director's choice and two compositions (or one composition if it is on the Grade VI list and considered a**

Masterwork) from the Official North Carolina Bandmasters Association Concert Band MPA Music List. Bands must choose pieces from the same grade level or from two adjacent grade levels. **All three pieces will be adjudicated and considered for the final rating.**

- 8A: Sight-reading will be required of all bands in Grades II–VI. **Grade 1 bands will not sight-read.** The sight-reading score will be included in the overall rating for all participating bands unless the band is performing for comments only. Bands will read one concert selection. One sight-reading judge will be used; the judge will make taped comments and use the sight-reading form.
- 8B. Bands and directors will have time to look at the music. **Directors will be allowed to look at the score as soon as the judge begins reading the script. Students will have time to look over the music according to the grade level of music.** The times are Grades II, III, and IV - five minutes; Grade V - six minutes; Grade VI - seven minutes. During that time, they may clap rhythms, sing parts, count out loud, and finger instruments, but they may not play their instruments. Each band may play a brief warm-up scale at the conclusion of the preparation period.
- 8C. During the actual performance, directors may call out rehearsal letters or numbers and verbal cues (e.g. “more trumpets” or “tubas watch”) but may not sing parts or rhythms while the band is playing. Only one director may work with the band in the sight-reading room, **and only directors whose names appear on the event registration form may be present in the room during the sight-reading preparation and performance time. Exceptions to this (medical purposes, etc.) are up to the discretion of the event chair.** The time limit in the sight-reading room will correspond with the given amount for the concert performance.

ADDITIONAL PROPOSALS / ACTION ITEMS:

- A committee member will reach out to Excelcia and make the request to add Eb clarinet and strong bass to each of the UIL sight-reading levels.

Submitted 4/28/2024 by: Chris White, NCBA MPA Committee Chair