

**January 21, 2021**

**President’s Report**

**Dr. Dee Hansen**

So much has happened since our last meeting in November. You’ll notice the, inc. that has been added to our logo. Many thanks to Rick Sadlon who has been working diligently with Andrew Minor, our attorney, to take this significant step toward CAAA becoming a 501 C3. Several other important meetings and initiatives have occurred as well:

**CSDE Professional Development Webinars**

Three CSDE Webinars have been presented:

November 18, 2020—Pioneering Together: Visual/Media Arts

December 2, 2020—Designing Concept-based Arts Learning in Synchronous and/or Asynchronous Environments

January 13, 2021—Teaching Music Composition Using Technology

We are grateful to Melissa Hickey for her leadership from CSDE, bringing CMEA, CAEA, and CAAA together to create significant professional development opportunities for arts educators. Thank you as well to the outstanding presenters of these webinars. The links to all webinars are on our CAAA website.

**Conversation with John Michael Parker**

Executive Director of Arts for Learning, John Michael Parker was elected as a CT representative in November. He will be a member of the state education committee. Rick and I met with him via phone to discuss ways in which he could advocate for the arts in schools—a voice at the table. We are truly excited for John Michael and for arts education in our schools!

**Revisions to Addendum 7**

I reached out to Melissa Hickey and Irene Parisi (CSDE Chief Academic Officer) regarding requests to revise the 12X12 spacing requirements for music ensembles. They were very receptive to the suggestions and have set up a working group with Jason Bouchard, Interim CMEA President, Rick Sadlon, Angela Griffin, Leslie Imse, and Laura Newell. CSDE will draft language for Addendum 7 changes and the working group will provide feedback and perspectives. The changes will go through the normal processes in state documents and will be ready prior to school budgeting timelines.

**NAfME Policy Team**

Scott Shuler forwarded Rick’s and my names to Lynn Tuttle with NAfME as potential resources for perspectives about Commissioner Miguel Cardona. I will be meeting with the NAfME Policy Team on Friday, January 22 to begin discussion about our work with the Commissioner and what questions might be asked of him in the upcoming legislative confirmation hearings in Washington, D.C. Lynn Tuttle will also be working with arts teachers in Meriden for additional initiatives.

**Executive Director Report**

**January 21, 2020**

**Rick Sadlon**

* CAAA has submitted two sessions proposals for the CMEA virtual conference. “Everything You Wanted to Know About Becoming and Being an Arts Administrator” and “Interview Strategies for Music Educators.”
* CAAA is now officially “CAAA, Incorporated and work continues on the 501c3 application. We are in the process of revising portions of our By-Laws to better align with the requirements of the 501c3 Non-Profit application.
* We are working with PayPal to create a way to pay fees and dues on our website.
* CAS has discontinued the “Arts Student of the Month” program because of the loss of a sponsor at Fox 61, but they are looking into other ways of recognizing Arts students.
* Waterbury will be the featured district for our virtual visitation at our next meeting on February 11th at 8:30 a.m.



**CAAA CMEA Presidents Report**

**January 212021**

**CMEA Core Values and Beliefs (in development):**

***Through supporting teachers and their students, all teachers should receive the appropriate resources to help them deliver quality instruction. We believe all children should have access to a quality music education.***

**CMEA** has been asked to talk to NAfME about Cardona’s appointment, Amy will be working with NAFME.

**Voting starts tomorrow for President Elect for Eastern Division**

**Eastern Division has selected ensembles on 1/16/21.**

**PD** Weekly shared lessons on social media, Conversations with Colleagues, Webinars, Surveys old and new one about rep will be doing this every month or so and sharing info with the state members through the above platforms. PD calendar is being planned for next year, should be ready to be announced by March.

**AllState Virtual Conference:** March 27 and 28, would like to start planning an outline of sessions, we would be working with other CT music organizations as well. We could plan the AllState ensemble workshops for the same time as well and have the presenters also present at the conference. If you are interested in helping contact Melanie.

**All state** virtual BOCJ festival is being planned and will not be the same weekend as the conference.

**CMEA elections, President Elect, Northern and Southern Region Directors,** Information is out, with a February due date for candidates, any CMEA member is welcome to apply, looking to approve the slat in Feb, voting in March and April, results in May.

**CMEA Calendar** for CMEA meetings next year, Back to Tuesdays with SAC the first Tuesday, EB on the second, EC or other committees on the 3rd and PD always on the Fourth

**CMEA Equity Statement**, we are currently reviewing our equity statement and will have a version to present to membership in the coming months for review before adoption.

**CMEA Survey:** CMEA is currently Surveying CMEA members and music teachers in the state about their music programs and covid-19.

**CT State Department of Education:** I have been asked to serve on the state Covid 19 committee at the end of the month to discuss music in schools and reviewing CT guidelines.