



Missouri Music Educators Association

A Federated State Association of the National Association for Music Education

August 1, 2023

Memo to: Missouri School Superintendents

Fifteen years ago the Missouri Music Educators Association established a mentoring program for first year music teachers. For the past eight years MMEA has sponsored a two-day conference focused on assisting teachers in the FIRST YEARS of their careers. We offer sessions for elementary/general music, band, orchestra, and choir, plus clinics specifically tailored for the K-12 music instructor teaching in smaller school districts. Once again, MMEA is offering this nationally recognized opportunity for high quality, discipline specific professional development **FREE OF CHARGE!**

MMEA will sponsor a two-day, on-site conference at the Tan-Tar-A Conference Center on **Sunday, September 17th, and Monday, September 18th, 2023.** Teachers with 1-3 years of experience and instructors transitioning into music education later in their careers are welcome to attend. Superintendents and Principals are also welcome to attend. The conference is **FREE OF CHARGE WITH MEALS PROVIDED BY MMEA!**

Mentoring Clinic Workshop Goals and Topics will include:

1. Best practices for rehearsal/classroom management, including discipline problems and solutions.
2. Organization and administration of the music education classroom.
3. Building and maintaining a successful K-12 Music Program.
4. School budgeting and business management for the music educator.
5. Effective communication with students, administrators, parents and district patrons.
6. Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Access, and Belonging training for today's classroom.
7. Networking with successful music educators to develop resources for ideas, techniques, and literature.
8. Missouri State High School Activities Association Rules and Guidelines for Music Activities.

The MMEA Mentoring goals are to assist young teachers in the first years of their careers and provide practical solutions to problems young teachers typically experience. Nationally, there is a high dropout rate of music educators in the early stages of their careers. Studies have shown that participation in a successful mentoring program can improve teacher retention. MMEA is committed to building and retaining quality music educators in Missouri.

The first step is to contact young music educators. This is where *we* need *your* assistance. If you have a music educator with 1-3 years of experience in your district, please have them visit our website and provide us with their contact information so we can reach out. You may also register them online for the September clinic at MMEA.net. Registration will be active August 1st through September 15th, 2023. The only expense will be the cost of the hotel room at conference rates. The deadline for room reservations is August 26th and the code is **MMEM**. Feel free to share this correspondence with building level Principals, Human Resource personnel, Music Supervisors, and your Activities Directors.

On behalf of the MMEA, thank you in advance for your support of this project.

Sincerely,

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