**SMTE Spring 2022 Report**

DESE Updates

* Dr. Daryl Fridley is the new DESE Director of Teacher Preparation at DESE.  He is a former education faculty and administer at SEMO.
* Memos distributed to education units are now available online via https://dese.mo.gov/dese.mo.gov/educator-quality/educator-preparation/informationsharing
* Education candidates may now substitute and alternative measure of competency for the 3.0 GPA. Candidates who earn a 230 on the Missouri Content Assessment (MoCA) – Music are eligible for certification with a GPA between 2.75 and 2.99. For reference, the required score on the MoCA is 220.

SMTE

* The preconference session was an engaging discussion on the teacher recruitment and retention. It was well attended by teachers in small schools who expressed interest in talking about the challenges and the circumstances involved in teaching in small schools.
* Proposed Action Steps on Recruitment and Retention
  + Publication of Resources on MMEA website
    - Information on Loan Forgiveness Programs for Teachers
    - Information on Work Eligibility for Retired Music Teachers
    - Listing of entry requirements for music education university degree programs
  + Increased Visibility of Tri-M and NAfME-C
    - Encourage collaboration among Tri-M and NAfME-C chapters
    - Develop mini-grant program to incentivize recruitment and retention projects by Tri-M and NAfME-C chapters
  + Mentor Training
    - Develop mentor training guidelines to distribute through MMEA districts and on MMEA website
    - Provide mentor session at January conference
  + Certification
    - Form a committee to explore the addition of a single certification option the would focus on the breadth of skills needed for teachers who teach across instrumental and vocal classes
  + Curriculum
    - Facilitate opportunities for discussion among K12 and university educators to discuss how the transitions from K12 to college and university study can be improved and barriers removed where possible.