Minutes
Missouri Alliance for Arts Education
State Board Meeting
Capital Arts Gallery, Jefferson City, Missouri
Saturday, January 21, 2017, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Prepared by Michael Dove, Secretary

Attending: Jeff Sandquist (MAAE President), Ben Martin (MAAE Executive Director), Connie Shoemaker (MAAE Vice President), Michael Dove (MAAE Secretary), Aaron Money (MAAE Advisory Board Chair), Tom Tobias (DESE), Ron Jennings (MAAE & SLPS), Julie Hale (MAC), Daniel Hellman (SMTE), Kathy Baht (MCDA), Brad Rackers (STAM), Kyna Iman (MAAE/MCA Lobbyist), Teri Turner (MoThespians) Bob Gifford (MAAE Founder), Tina Hyde (MAEA), Alice Bloch (MDO), Cindy Kahn (MDO)

Guest: Jarrod Hendricks - Jefferson City High School Choir director

WELCOME AND INITIAL ACTIONS

Introduction of Guests

Consent Agenda (Brief Reports from organizations): See Appendix A

MDO – Alice Bloch – MDO currently has about 40 members. The board has decided to have a conference this year. They have affinity groups: dance educators, artists, art directors and higher education. The conference dates are June 9-10, 2018. The MDO board was very encouraged by the great response. They feel this is a way to tap into people’s need to respond to the current political environment. Their website is missouridance.org

MAEA – Tina Hyde – MAEA had their council meeting last Saturday. They looking for a recipient to honor for “support of the visual arts”. She mentioned that it is becoming more difficult to find someone.

MAC – Julie Hale – The grant deadline is rapidly approaching and the MAC still doesn’t know what their budget will be.

Collaborative – Julie Hale – The most important part of the collaborative is communication with DESE. There were six representatives from DESE and they were very actively involved.

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SMTE – Daniel Hellman – There will be a session on the current status of the standards next week at MMEA conference.

The Minutes of the August 26, 2017 Board Meeting were approved January 6, 2018

Treasurer’s Report:
Bruce Dickerson created a detailed treasurer’s report (See External Documents). Ben Martin presented it to the board. The Francis Family Foundation reduced this year’s grant by $5,000.00. The budget has been adjusted accordingly and the areas that are being reduced are highlighted in the treasurer’s report. Ed Grooms has volunteered to work without pay and receive a stipend for expenses. We have had a good response in individual memberships with a new program that contributes 20% of their contribution to the scholarship fund of the member organization of their choice. We have received $52,000 of our income already. Ben said we are well on our way to making budget.

Alice Bloch moved to accept the treasurer’s report. Connie Shoemaker seconded. There was unanimous approval.

Advisory Council Update:
Bob Gifford reported that Roger Kelly has resigned as chair but will remain as a member. The new chair is Aaron Money. They discussed ways to get involved in Fine Arts Day at the Capitol. They will be presenting awards. If we have any ideas on more things they can do please share with Bob and Aaron.

Legislative Report – Kyna Iman
Update on start of Session and current legislation
- The federal budget is going to cost Missouri education $200,000.00 this year.
- SB773 & HB1897 extend the arts portion of the Athletics and Entertainment tax. Call or email your senator and representative about supporting these bills and reinstating the money for the Fine Arts Academy.
- The Governor unappointed and reappointed the State Board of Education nominees. This is an interesting tactic. Appointments made during the legislative recess have only thirty days to be approved. Appointments made while the legislature is session have the entire session to receive approval. In this way the governor keeps his appointees in longer.

Arts Integration Committee – Robert Gifford
- St. Louis COCA – have an arts integration summer institute July 23-25
- Kansas City Mac – have an arts integration symposium July 23-25
We need to compile all of the arts events in the state and email to the Arts Supervisors in the various areas of the state. MAC has a task force on Arts Integration. The leader behind this is no longer on the MAC board. They are planning on funding school representatives to attend the symposiums.

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- Updated MAAE Arts Integration Committee Goals:

**Long-Term (10-15 yr.):**
All preservice elementary grade level educators and administrators are required by DESE to receive training in Arts Integration (AI) and to demonstrate competencies in AI. All current elementary grade level teachers and administrators are required to complete Professional Development (PD) in AI. (DESE certification requirements)

**Medium-Term (5 yr.):**
Develop (and place on MAAE website) an “Arts Integration User Guide for Missouri Educators” (short and longer versions) (Tom and Committee)
Define indicators of success as related to AI (Tom)
Acceptance in state of MAAE definition of AI
Active AI Professional Development programs in place in state (Ben, Ed G., Tom, Janelle)
Noticeable positive changes in arts specialists’ attitudes toward AI
Programs available in AI training for Early Childhood caregivers/teachers (Day Care Center licensure and DESE certification?)
Investigation and evaluation of AI data and programs from other states (including STEM+Arts/STEAM programs and their relationships to arts education in general)

**Short-Term (1 yr.):**
Define Arts Integration for Missouri (January 16, 2016)
Hold statewide conference/workshop on AI involving current wholly arts-integrated and partially arts-integrated schools in Missouri (March 30, and July 18, 2016)
Statewide Arts Teacher Educators Summit (May 22, 2017)
Bibliography of Arts Integration Resources on MAAE website (June 2017)
Formation of statewide Network of Arts-Integrated Schools (Tom and Julie)
Establish Arts Education Collaboratives involving area RPDCs (Tom)
Begin the process of AI data collection as related to Missouri (Tom, Julie, and Wendy)
Find out the AI needs and attitudes of teachers and administrators in Missouri (Maggie’s survey + statewide survey?)

MAAE Professional Development Program
“Open Ended” letter of resignation from Ed Grooms (Dec. 20) The motion from the Executive Board to accept his resignation was read and voted on. There was unanimous approval. Ed submitted a written report on his activities since September.

**September**
14-15 EDTA NATIONAL CONFERENCE STEAM INSTITUTE

**October**
6-7 MAEA Knobnoster
24 Fine Arts Area Coordinators
31 Professional Development workshops Wright City

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November
2 Arts Integration conference call
4 Arts Integration Conference Columbia
28 Fine Arts Area Coordinators

December
7 COCA BIZ Design Thinking (my own professional Development on my dime)

January
11-12 Missouri State Thespian Conference two workshops and manned the MAAE table

State Board of Education News – Ben Martin
Ben presented detailed information on the major upset of the State Board of Education, the firing of the Commissioner of Education, and the Governor’s actions which led to this outcome. He explained the process that is taking place at this time to replace the Commissioner and the bills that are going through the legislature to prevent this from happening in the future.

Ben discussed the current status of the Fine Arts Academy. MSU has hired a half-time person to run the academy. The current Fine Arts Academy faculty have been told they are no longer part of it. It is a reversal of the original intent. There was discussion on who owns the “name.” Currently the state is not funding the Academies.

DESE Update MSIP 6 – Tom Tobias
We are in a holding pattern. There is strong language for career and technical education. The arts have not been included in CTE because there is not a statewide recognized standard. There seems to be less strong language for the arts especially in middle school. They are weakening the 750 maximum students per teacher. It is possible they may allow districts to ignore this.

Fine Arts Standards Review (current status) – Connie Shoemaker
She believes the committee is a good group of people. They have organized themselves in discipline specific groups for expertise and vertical integration. They are looking at other states and have agreed that the National Core Arts Standards will probably form the basis for the final product. There will be another hearing on June 12, 2018 at DESE

Executive Director Report – Ben Martin - Ben prepared the following report:

1. Recent Activities of MAAE Executive Director
MAAE has been represented by Executive Director, Ben Martin, at the following since the last report:

- State Board of Education meetings. The Executive Director continued to attend, observe and report on the meetings that took place on September 19, October 31, December 1. Most of these meetings also gave the E. D. an opportunity to meet with Tom Tobias, Arts Education Director at DESE and Julie Hale, MAC Education Specialist.
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- MMEA Mentoring Conference, October 1-2, Tan Tar A—The ED displayed information on the Alliance and Missouri Arts Council and also spoke to the Group. MAAE sponsored a luncheon for the attendees.
- MSBA Conference, October 6-7, Tan Tar A—The ED staffed a booth during this conference
- MAC Council Meeting—ED attended the Council meeting in Arrow Rock in November
- Arts Integration in Education Summit, November 4, Stephens College—The ED, Professional Development Coordinator (PDC) and board member Alice Bloch attended this conference. The Alliance provided scholarships for 5 teachers/students to attend the conference.
- MCA Meeting—ED has joined phone meetings for MCA on numerous occasions.
- Kansas City Metropolitan Arts Coordinators (KCMAC)—the ED continues to attend these meetings, although recent meetings have coincided with trips to Jefferson City.
- Gifted Association of Missouri Conference, October 20-21—The ED attended and staffed a display booth. The ED conferred with GAM leadership on a variety of issues we have in common, including the Academies.
- Met with Zora Mulliagan, Commissioner of Higher Education on October 30th. The ED and the Commissioner discussed a number of arts education issues that impact higher education.
- Met with the Commissioner of Education, November 1—MCA/MAAE lobbyist Kyna Iman and the ED met with the Commissioner and senior staff about various issues in arts education. Far reaching discussion with positive outcomes. (See Appendix B) Political considerations intervened as the Commissioner was removed a month later. We are still considering what impact that has had on the items discussed that day.
- Meeting with April Barry, Education Director, Kansas City Ballet, November 27—The ED scheduled this meeting to try to broaden the reach of the Missouri Dance Organization. Excellent conversation and contacts were made with MDO immediately afterward.
- Advocacy Lecture, Missouri Baptist University, December 5th—The ED spoke with arts majors about advocacy for the Arts.
- Meeting with Tali Allen at Stages St. Louis, December 5th—The ED met with Allen about the new Jumpstart Theatre Initiative sponsored by Stages in collaboration with the Educational Theatre Association.
- First meeting of the Arts Learning Standards Work Groups, December 11—The ED attended the beginning of this meeting and welcomed the members of the work groups to the task.
- State Board of Ed. Hearing on Qualities of a new Commissioner, January 8—The ED testified on the need for a new commissioner to be open to whole child education and to value the role of arts education. Later that day, he met with members of the Learning Standards work groups to talk about the next day’s testimony.
- State Board of Ed. Hearing on the Arts Education Learning Standards, January 9—The ED attended the public hearing on the Standards and offered testimony on the process of reviewing and revising the standards.
• House Education Appropriations Committee, January 9\textsuperscript{th}—The ED joined 5 others in testifying in support of funding for the Fine Arts Academy and Scholars Academy.
• Missouri Thespians Conference, January 11-13—The ED and Professional Development Coordinator staffed a booth and offered a variety of workshops for attendees. The ED also spoke to the sponsors meeting about current issues in arts education in Missouri.
• Activities that have not yet occurred at the time of this writing.
  --MAC Arts Council’s Arts Education Collaborative, January 19—The ED and Advisory Council Chair will report to the Collaborative of activities and actions over the past 6 months.
  --Missouri Music Educators Association, January 24-27—The ED and several members of the MAAE Board will represent the Alliance at a booth and at business meetings of member organizations.
  --Powerful Learning Conference, January 28-30—The ED will attend and participate in a number of arts integration workshops.
  --Arts Learning Standards Work Groups, February 2\textsuperscript{nd}—The ED will attend the second meeting of the work groups as a resource person.

2. Member Association Support
Support for high quality professional development presenters from around the nation has been given by MAAE this winter to Missouri State Thespians, Missouri Bandmasters Association, Missouri Choral Directors Association, Missouri Chapter of the American Strings Teachers Association, and the Missouri Association of Jazz Educators. The support of Missouri Arts Council is recognized at each conference by the following graphic that is present in the Conference Program.

3. Grants and Funding
We continue to explore expanded opportunities for new funding sources. Kirby Asplund is researching other foundations and will also identify Missouri Businesses that might have an interest in supporting MAAE. Board members are encouraged to participate by utilizing contacts they have with various sources. A new membership initiative is bearing fruit as individuals can designate their member organization and a portion of their contribution is then given back to the member organizations to support their scholarship opportunities.

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4. Outreach Activities
As noted in the meetings and events in # 1, the E. D. has met with a number of individuals or groups to expand the influence of MAAE and arts education. In addition--

- Working with the Missouri School Boards Association video crew, we recorded student and teacher testimonials about the power of theatre education at the Missouri Thespian Conference. We were fortunate to also have the national CEO of the Educational Theatre Association, Julie Theobald, in attendance and she recorded a segment as well. After editing, this video will be sent to all board of education in the state and will be available on our website as well. Testimonials from previous collaborations with MSBA are currently available on our website, www.moaae.org

5. Upcoming Activities

- Missouri Citizens for the Arts “Citizens Day at the Legislature” February 7
- Missouri After School Network March 2-3
- Missouri Elementary School Principals Association March 4-6
- Arts Education Partnership State Policy Forum March 10
- Arts Advocacy Day in Washington, DC March 12-13
- Missouri Association of Community Arts Agencies March 26-27
- Missouri Art Education Association April 5-7

Ben is planning on staying as executive director until June 2019.

We need to add a grants page on MOAAE website.

FAED 18 Planning for FAED 2018 (March 27-28)

Artscards ideas: Cartoon strip of how the arts financially impact Missouri.

Performances – only three applications so far….

Logistics – 2 tech crews: Rotunda…and Gov. Garden/steps
MC for Rotunda – Brad Rackers (Ben provides script)
Registration/Welcome Table – Ben Martin

Awards – publicize awards and what is needed to apply
  - Reading committee for essays
  - Plaques and certificates

Student Lunch – arrangements
  Servers/distribution – Michael Dove
  Clean-up – Michael Dove
Show Me Arts Report – Terri Turner
Please share the information with your member organizations. The application form is on the MOAAE.ORG website.

MAAE Strategic Planning

Developing Leadership
Jeff discussed the need to recruit new leadership for MAAE. The presidents of the member organizations are continually changing and they do not always understand their role in MAAE. It was discussed that the member organizations could look for individual members that share the broader vision of MAAE. It was suggested they could become part of the leadership for MAAE instead of just representing their organizations. Kathy suggested Dee Ubel’s place at the Lake of the Ozarks for a leadership conference.

Sustainability Plan
Since the Francis Family Foundation is currently funding the majority of our budget, it would be wise to find other funding sources. Alliances in some states are funded by the state government. We could follow the model of some non-profits and hire a fund raiser to work for a period of time until financial goals are meet.

General:
Tina Hyde announced that Connie Shoemaker was awarded NAEA Western Region Educator of the Year and Secondary Educator of the Year. She will be honored in Seattle, Washington in March.

Brad Rackers reported that the “teacher advisory council” will continue to meet with the Assistant Commissioner of Education while the search for the new Commissioner of Education is ongoing.

Meeting Schedule:

June 8, 2018
August 25, 2018
Jan. 19, 2019

Arts education, like education in all the disciplines, is not a theory to be considered but a reality to be practiced!
Appendix A

Missouri Alliance for Arts Education
Consent Agenda for Jan. 20, 2018

Missouri Dance Organization – Alice Bloch
MDO had a big open house and conference planning event on Friday Jan. 12, and they had 30 people pre-registered. Ben and Tom spoke. More information will be shared at the meeting.

Missouri Thespians – Teri Turner
The Missouri Thespians just recently held their State Thespian conference last weekend in St. Louis. We had over 2,000 in attendance between students, sponsors, guest artists, colleges, and vendors. Very successful conference! The MO State Thespian Conference will be moving to Kansas City in 2019.

Missouri Bandmasters Association – Kim Pirtle
MAAE Meeting January 20, 2018
MBA Report
Kim Pirtle, President, Kpirtle@boonville.k12.mo.us

MBA @ MMEA Convention January 24-27
All-State Band Concert: Saturday 1/27 at 12:30pm
Conductor: Colonel Thomas H. Palmatier, All-State Band
Clinic: Thurs 1/25 Rm. 74-77, 4:15 - 5:00 pm; Lessons Learned - Don’t Make the Same Mistakes I Did! Presented by Col. Palmatier
Business Meeting: Friday 1/26 Rm 74-77, 4:30 - 5:15 pm

Upcoming Deadlines:
February 1, 2018
MBA members can request to change their Username for the MBA website. Request should be made through the link found on the MBA website.
March 1, 2018
Nominations due for the following:
MBA Hall of Fame
Young Band Director Grants for Summer Convention
Multiple grants (7) awarded in 2017
Butch Antal Service Award
Awarded to a non-teaching person or business for their outstanding support of MBA
Summer Convention
50th Annual MBA Summer Convention

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June 17 - 20, 2018
Pre-registration will open in early March and close June 4.
Pre-registration cost is $60 for Actives members. Includes meals for the active member, spouse, and children: 2 dinners, full brunch, 2 breakfasts, plus a luncheon for young teachers
Slate of clinicians and concerts is taking shape. List includes Paula Crid, Professor Emeritus University of Texas, Warrensburg Community Band conducted by Dr. Russ Coleman, and Thespian Hall Conservatory Band.

Board of Directors
President: Kim Pirtle, Boonville
President-Elect/ASB Coordinator: Paul Fliege, Jackson
Past-President: Denis Swope, Columbia Hickman
Board Member: Linda Huck, Farmington (retired)
Secretary/Treasurer: Kurt Bauche, Farmington (retired)

Advisory Board
Membership Chair: Doug Hoover, Parkway Central
Exhibitor Chair: Steve Litwiller, Boonville (retired)
Historian: Cindy Svehla, Liberty (retired)
MBA Calendar Coordinator: Erin Johnson, Westran
Technology Coordinator: Daniel Long, Norbourne

Future Events
Saturday, December 1, 2018-- All-State Band Auditions, Hickman HS

Kodaly/Orff Consent Report for the Missouri Alliance for Arts Education: - Michael Dove

Organization of American Kodaly Educators

Kodaly of the Ozarks Chapter
Happy New Year! Here are our Spring 2018 workshops and events for Kodaly educators:
February 10 is our Spring semester workshop, held at Orchard Hills Elementary School in Willard, MO. The workshop will run from 9:00 a.m. - noon and will feature Robin Evans! Robin Evans has a Music Education degree from Illinois Wesleyan University with an emphasis in voice and piano. Robin earned her Kodaly Certification and Masters of Music Education with a Kodaly Emphasis from Silver Lake college under the instruction of Sister Lorna Zemke, a renowned authority in the Kodaly Approach to music education. Robin enjoyed teaching elementary music in the Chicago area for 10 years, fine tuning her skills as a Kodaly Educator. She is currently home with her three young children, maintains a private piano and voice studio, and is part of the music faculty at Missouri Southern State University in Joplin, MO. Robin has lectured on Kodaly-related topics to collegiate students at Missouri Southern State University, The Francis Institute for Child and Youth Development in Kansas City, and to local mom’s groups in Joplin. We are excited for Robin with us on February 10, and we hope that you plan to join us!

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Workshop fees are: $15 for OAKE members, $5 for college students (with college ID), and $45 for non-member educators and friends. Bring a friend (or two . . . or more!) April 14 is our date for the annual KOZ Honor Choir. Our guest conductor this year is Mr. Joshua Chism. Josh earned his Level One in Kodaly last summer at Evangel University and is currently beginning an assistantship in choral conducting at the University of Missouri. Our honor choir will be held at Willard High School in Willard, MO. Finally, keep your eyes peeled for Kodaly Levels courses to be offered this summer at Missouri State University in Springfield, MO. We are excited to partner with MSU to provide this exceptional musical experience for music educators wishing to further their education in Kodaly levels! Dates for Levels courses are July 1-13. For those of you in MCDA, this won't conflict with the summer conference!

Rene Spencer, President

Kansas City Fellowship of Local Kodály Specialists Chapter
The spring workshop will be February 24, 2018 8:00 am - 12:00 pm
Title: Movement in the Elementary Classroom
Presenter: Crystal Henricks, Kodály Specialist/Levels Teacher, Chicago IL
Early Registration Workshop Fee: $10 for OAKE/KCFOLKS members and $15 for non-OAKE/KCFOLKS members.
Workshop fee at the door: $15 for OAKE/KCFOLKS members and $20 for non-OAKE/KCFOLKS members.
The Honor Choir concert was in the fall.

St. Louis Area Kodaly Educators
The spring workshop will be February 10, 2018 9:00 - 12:00
Title: Integrating Technology into Your Music Classroom
Presenter: Eryn Krobath
Workshop fee at the door: $30 for OAKE members, $45 for non-OAKE members, and free for full-time students

American Orff-Schulwerk Association

Heart of America Orff
Join us on February 3rd, 2018 for the inspiring Artie Almeida! She is the author of Mallet Madness, KidStix, and other great resources. We’ll move, play, sing, and get A TON of ideas to use in your music classes! Cambridge elementary, 109 Cambridge Rd, Belton, MO 64012 March 3, 2018: John Feierabend (author of First Steps and Conversational Solfege) See website for registration information: https://hoaorff.org/workshops/general-information/

St. Louis AOSA
Patrick Ware: Read, Dance, Make Music
March 3, 2018 | 9:00AM—1:00 PM | Carman Trails Elementary
Everyone loves a good story. Every child has a story to tell. Together we will discover the opportunity for magical music making in picture books. Appropriate and engaging for all ages;

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come play with us as we further our reading comprehension and enhance our musicality through children’s literature. Dr. Patrick Ware holds a B. A. from Westfield State College, M. S. from Radford University, and a Ph. D. from Shenandoah Conservatory of Shenandoah University. Patrick has 20 years of teaching experience in the classroom and is currently teaching at Fannie W. Fitzgerald Elementary School in Experience Prince William County Public Schools. He is also a Level 1 and Movement Instructor for Orff Levels. Patrick has presented at state and national conferences and has multiple published works including; Here’s Two – A Jazz collection for the Orff Classroom Grades 4-8 and more! STL AOSA Chapter Share (Also featuring our 1st Music Education Garage Sale!) April 7, 2018 | 8:30AM—12:00 PM | Carman Trails Elementary To wrap up our wonderful 2017-2018 Workshop Series we will have one of our members present to the chapter as well as conduct our end of your chapter meeting. This year we will be holding a Music Education Garage Sale! We are reaching out to our retired music teachers who would like to sell items at this Garage Sale. Being a member, you will have first dibs. But we are also opening this Garage Sale to the public. There will be more information on this as it gets closer. We will communicate this through our Workshops, Chapter Facebook Page, and Membership Emails. Stay tuned!

Missouri Music Educators Conference Tan Tar A Resort Osage Beach, Missouri

Wednesday, January 24
Bringing Guitar Out of the Garage and Into the Classroom!, Traci Bolton
Composing and Improvising in the Classroom: Just Do It!, Maud Hickey

Thursday, January 25
Part-Singing and Percussion, Roger Sams
I Don’t Know Anything About Popular Music! How Can I Possibly Teach It?, Maud Hickey
Integrating Orff, Kodaly, and Dalcroze Eurhythmics with Integrity, Roger Sams
What! No Xylophones!, Roger Sams

Friday, January 26
First Steps in Music: Vocal Development in the Early Years, John Feierabend
Superb solutions for Young and Developing Choirs, Mary Lynn Lightfoot
First Steps in Music: Movement Development for Pre K-Third Grade, John Feierabend
12 Steps to Music Literacy Using Conversational Solfeggi – Part 1, John Feierabend

Saturday, January 27
12 Steps to Music Literacy Using Conversational Solfeggi – Part 2, John Feierabend
Jazz it Up!, Wendy Sims
Appendix B

Annual Meeting with the Commissioner of Education
Prepared by Executive Director, Ben Martin

We (Kyna Iman and I) met with Commissioner of Education Margie Vandeven and DESE staff members Stacy Preis, Michael Harris and Blaine Heningsen on Wednesday, November 1st. I had prepared a list of talking/discussion points and for the most part we followed that in the discussion.

1. We began by talking about the Fine arts Learning Standards process. We pointed out the double listing for Connie Shoemaker, which they said would be fixed quickly. Discussion quickly turned to the importance of the work. We clarified that Tom Tobias could be invited by the work groups to be present and assist. I would also be able to attend the first meeting and greet the work group members. The first meeting will be December 11th in Jefferson City.

2. We looked over the Advocacy Agenda. On the state board of education side we had a good discussion on the real meaning of access for middle school students. I pressed the point that just having a singleton class in the schedule does not guarantee access because of schedule conflicts. They acknowledged that point and the equity problems it poses, although were not able to propose a real solution. We had a good discussion about the difficulty in getting administrators and non-arts educators to attend professional development sessions in STEAM and arts integration. The RPDC’s were discussed and the challenges they faced in the new fee-based system for supporting their operations. We did note together that there seems to be an increased discussion of arts in education in DESE and definitely on the Board. We were able to bring to their attention some of the work being done by COCA and the Nelson-Atkins/KCMAC group in KC on Arts Integration. As we talked about arts integration it became clear this is a strategy they are genuinely interested in, although they probably don’t have a real idea on how to implement it. Vandeven had just come from Teachers Advisory Council meeting and the discussion there about the mental health of students had obviously worried, I might even say, shaken her. She sees A. I. as a strategy that could help address that. The discussion on training for teachers in the field and those in preparation to join the field was acknowledged as a problem, but no solution was really discussed. There was a lively discussion about the mentoring and induction standards that DESE had adopted but seemed to have shelved. We pressed them to enforce or at least forcefully suggest that schools provide support for PD and mentoring. They seemed to worry about out-of-district mentors, while we pointed out for most arts teachers there is no one else in the building or even district who teaches the same subject—an out of district mentor may be necessary. There seemed to be agreement on that point.

3. On the legislature side, we explained the importance of the Missouri Arts Council funding and the mechanism for gathering revenue—the Non-Resident Athlete and Entertainer Tax. They were not surprised that MAC is not fully funded. In terms of fully funding the foundation formula we quickly got into the weeds as Vandeven tried to explain the way the formula works. I’m sure my eyes must have glazed over at some point as she explained how the State Adequacy

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Target was determined. Bottomline, there may need to be an increase of $100 million in order to meet the statutory requirements. No one knows where that will come from because the state revenue level has triggered some of the mechanisms that actually start to trim revenue through tax cuts. Estimates of the reduction in revenue as a result range from $100 to $200 million. We talked briefly about the Academies. The fact that MSU had put out a request for a staff member to be hired who would have management of the Fine Arts Academy as a task seemed to take them by surprise. They do not hold out much hope for any kind of funds to be appropriated. (Did everyone get Robert’s update on current efforts at MSU?) On the point of making sure any legislation that mentions STEM becomes STEAM they were quick to point out there are a number of DESE programs that are attempting to do that. The girls STEAM camps in Kansas City and St. Louis were brought up as examples. We were encouraged to contact Rene Yoesel to see if we could assist or coordinate with her on student STEAM projects.

4. I discussed the MAC proposal for 3 Arts Integration schools that would then be studied and researched. There was an odd vibe as we talked about that. They were interested, but also concerned about the logistics and the reaction of parents when their children are put into an experimental program.

5. There was a lively back and forth on the subject of workforce development. Vandeven does not apologize for steering policy in that direction although she acknowledges that doesn’t mean we ignore arts programs. We especially discussed the presentation by the Alliance for Childhood Education and their proposals for the ‘birth to work’ pipeline. There are wheels within wheels in their proposal and much more than meets the eye there. We pointed out that the arts are actually an economic driver and as they looked at the MERIC stats (MERIC is the organization that DESE uses to produce information on job needs) she noted that some of the occupations listed were not ones that people would automatically associate with study in the arts. True, we said, but study in the arts could improve the person’s chances of doing well in that occupation. The importance of the arts in imparting soft skills was discussed. I suggested we call them power skills.

6. During the State Board meeting on Tuesday, a couple of the new members had rebelled at putting the proposed MSIP 6 out for public comment. One especially indicated he did not like the resource standards that mandated certain numbers of administrators—and perhaps resource standards in general. This was very concerning to us, because the resource standards on minutes and teacher certification were one of the main protections we can point to in keeping arts courses in schools. Vandeven sought to allay our fears, noting that new board members had not yet fully grasped the nature of these standards. A work session is in the offering to be sure that they are able to fully explore the MSIP 6 document. For now, it is tabled until the December SBoE meeting.

7. One small item that met with quick and universal acceptance was using recordings of Missouri student musicians as background music while people file into the State Board of Ed. meetings and perhaps during breaks. The president of the Board would then identify the group playing,
much as he currently does with the art on the walls. In fact, within 24 hours we have been in touch with Brad Scroggs, the DESE technology director and are sending him musical recordings for the next meeting of the Board. A small but significant victory.

8. I gave them a save the date list and mentioned that I’ve encouraged our organizations to invite DESE staff and State Board members to their conferences. There were questions and no commitments but interest in some of the meetings.