

2025 IESA MUSIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING



Minutes and Recommendations

May 29, 2025

Virtual Meeting

The following members were present via zoom for the meeting: Jackie Litwiller (IESA Assistant Executive Director), Curtis Fischer-Oelschlager (director at Taylor Ridge Rockridge), Amy Schneider (director at Bradley Central), George Caton (director at Cuba MS), Heather Setzer (director at Marshall JHS), and Matt Hibbets (director at Bismarck Henning). Sarah Lidy (director at Maroa-Forsyth) and Mark Hughes (Principal at Monticello) were unable to attend.

The IESA Music Advisory Committee, in its meeting on May 29, 2025, makes the following recommendations to the Board of Directors in its June meeting:

Recommendation 1:

Current: Soloists and all members of ensembles or choirs who receive a Division II or III rating shall be awarded a ribbon.

Proposed: Beginning in the 2026 – 27 school year, the Division III ribbons will be eliminated.

Rationale: The number of Division III ratings is so small, the advisory recommends discontinuing them. Adjusting to the 2026-27 school year will give the ISEA one more year to use up the remaining ribbons, then the IESA will no longer order or award Division III ribbons.

MU T&C X. Awards A. Solo & Ensemble

Admin Vote 4-0

Board Action **Approved**

Recommendation 2:

Current: Music Organization – Choir Chimes Handbells

Proposed: Removal of the Choir Chimes as a category in the Music Organization Contest.

Rationale: Students who want to still participate in this can do so through the category in Solo & Ensemble it is not necessary category for Organization.

	2023			2024			2025		
	Orchestra	Choir Chimes Handbells	Show Choir	Orchestra	Choir Chimes Handbells	Show Choir	Orchestra	Choir Chimes Handbells	Show Choir
Area 1	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Area 2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Area 3	4	0	0	5	0	0	4	0	0
Area 4	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Area 5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Area 6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Area 7	N/A	N/A	N/A	2	0	1	2	0	1
Area 8	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Area 9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Area 10	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Area 11	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	4	2	1	7	1	1	6	0	1

Remove Choir Chimes Handbells as a category in Music Organization.

There were no entries in 2021 or 2022.

MU T&C III. Entry Forms and Online Forms A. Entry Fees
Admin Vote 4-0
Board Action **Approved**

D. Additional Discussion Topics

- 1) Reviewed numbers of National Anthem and Pep Band Performances.
- 2) Reviewed 2025 contest participation numbers.
- 3) Recruiting host sites – how to grow IESA Music. – reviewed survey results of those schools that withdrew.
- 4) Reviewed host sites that are already secured for 2026. Contest areas will be adjusted to represent those schools that are participating.
- 5) Discussion on the one spectator pricing.

E. Points of Emphasis – Continue to share the monthly updates.

F. Selection of Distinguished Service Award – Raquel Reid (Petersburg PORTA Junior/Senior High School)

G. Next Meeting: Thursday, May 28, 2026, at 10am. (In Person)