



June 16, 2024

Dear Colleagues,

As we approach the conclusion of the 2023-24 school year, I extend my best wishes to each of you for a restful and rejuvenating summer break.

For NHMEA, while our events have concluded until October, the summer months are pivotal for advancing our association's initiatives. Our Executive Board is diligently working to enhance the experiences we provide to our members.

For your planning purposes, I am sharing a number of updates with you:

**Fee Adjustments:** Following several post-COVID years and thorough financial analysis, the NHMEA Executive Board has approved adjustments to our fee structure for the 2024-25 school year. These changes reflect our commitment to sustaining quality programs amidst rising costs in several areas that impact NHMEA. Detailed fee schedules can be accessed through the following links:

- [2024-25 School Participation Fees](#)
- [2024-25 Conference and Student Event Fees](#)

**School Participation Fee Process:** School districts will receive invoices via mail in early July. For those preferring electronic copies, please complete [this form](#) to receive your invoice via email. All invoices will also be available on our website after July 5. Kindly note that school participation fees are due by October 1, enabling student participation in NHMEA events.

**New Event Management System:** We are transitioning from OPUS Event to a new platform designed to streamline registration, billing, and adjudication processes. This user-friendly system eliminates the need for logging in multiple times and reflects our ongoing commitment to leveraging technology to better serve you. Your feedback on this transition is invaluable to us.

**Nursing and Medical Forms:** Beginning this academic year, NHMEA will no longer provide nurses for one-day events nor collect student medical information for those events. Schools are encouraged to plan accordingly for any students needing medical attention beyond basic first aid. Nurses will continue to be available at overnight events, with revised policies forthcoming for Jazz and Classical All-State events regarding nursing and medication distribution.



**Modern Band Festival:** NHMEA is excited to introduce our inaugural Modern Band Festival at the October Music Fest next year. We extend our gratitude to all volunteers whose efforts have made this event possible. Please visit our website for [event details](#) and direct any inquiries to [Joe Mundy](#).

**Tri-M and October Music Fest:** We are honored to announce Dr. Deb Confredo, president of NAFME, and Dr. Tim Lautzenheiser as keynote speakers for our October Music Fest. Our fall conference this year will take place at the Sheraton Nashua on Wednesday, October 16. While still in Nashua, this new location will allow NHMEA to better meet the needs of our conference attendees. We hope to see you there!

Drs. Confredo and Lautzenheiser will also engage with our Tri-M students on October 15. Please contact [Colleen Moorhouse](#) for more information. We hope to see many Tri-M chapters at this event!

In closing, I wish to express my sincere appreciation to everyone whose dedication and support contribute to the success of NHMEA events. Your commitment ensures meaningful experiences for our students and educators alike.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eric Kobb', is placed on a light gray rectangular background.

Eric Kobb  
Executive Director