I. **Middle School Percussion Revisions**

When the revising our percussion auditions was taken on by this committee it was decided to do the high school first, then follow with the middle school if the new procedures were an improvement. The new percussion requirements have been popular and have made auditions move faster in high school. As a result the committee will now look at revising the middle school percussion auditions to be in line with the high school requirements. Greg Dills will be working with Dr. Eric Willie to come up with proposed changes. Dr. Willie is considering writing a middle school companion to the high school book our rudimental etudes come from, and the hope is that this can be used for the rudimental solo as well as the auxiliary percussion requirement. If not, we are going to commission him to write an etude that is in line with this HS rudimental etudes. Recommendations from the committee are as follows:

**SECTION PERCUSSION:**

1. **Rudimental Solo**- Have a rudimental solo written that uses the rudiment requirements rather than having them play them individually as they currently do
2. **Auxiliary Percussion**- Create Auxiliary percussion requirements on a 2 year rotation for Crash Cymbals and Triangle to be in line with the high school requirements

**MALLET PERCUSSION**

1. **Scales**- Will stay the same
2. **Instrument**- It is suggested that students in middle school auditions on a Xylophone at Honors Band rather than a Marimba.
3. **Solos**- One of the solos needs to be changed and the committee is taking recommendations on new solos to use.
TIMPANI- Tuning- Revise the Tuning to reflect what the high school is doing. The tuning scores come from the tuning of the solo and the sight reading rather than a separate tuning component.

II. WIND SOLOS
A discussion was had on whether or not the current solos we have need to be changed or kept. Many of our solos have not changed in almost 40 years. This is a positive in that we all already own the books and have memorized how to teach the solos.

However, we have 2 main issues to consider with the current solos:
1. We are not complying with copywrite laws. Other states including South Carolina have recently ran into issues regarding this, which have prompted changes. Each student who auditions should own a copy of the book the solo comes from and use it in the audition. This does not seem feasible.
2. Many of the solos are not in the best keys, have stylistic issues, are out of range, inconsistent in difficulty with the grade and within comparison to the other solos in the rotation.

PROPOSAL for Middle School and 9-10
In looking at how South Carolina has responded to the copywrite issue, they have moved to www.auditionsolos.com for all levels. After looking at these solos the committee was favorable to considering them for the Middle School and the 9-10 Level. It was discussed that the solos are a better “test piece” for auditions, will speed up the audition process in comparison to some of our current solos, and that having a PDF to print, post, share would be much easier and would eliminate many of the issues we have with new editions, confusion over cuts, etc. The 2 endings are very convenient for 1 being used for All District and the other for All State.

PROPOSAL FOR 11-12
In looking at the 11-12 solos at www.auditionsolos.com it was felt that the solos are likely not difficult enough for our 11-12 students. There was also the concern that they are not real music, and that many of our students need to learn the standard repertoire that we currently have at this level for college auditions. The suggestion has been made to keep the current solos we have that are in the public domain, but have our own arrangements of them made so that we can post them in PDF to our website. About half of our current solos were written before 1920 and are now in the public domain. For the ones that aren’t, the plan would be to solicit suggestions from the studio teachers at the music schools in NC of things to use in the public domain. We just need 2 solos per instrument. Once those are selected, we would then be able to have our own arrangements of those written to be posted on our website for all to use. Solos like the Mozart Horn Concertos, the Quantz and Chaminade in Flute therefore would not change. We would only change what was needed to be changed, and many of the collegiate teachers feel they could make recommendations in those instruments that are an improvement.

What do we need from the full membership?
The committee needs to know your thoughts. Basically... “YES” continue on this path and organize a proposal to be brought to the membership to vote on, or “NO” don’t waste your time leave the solos as they are.

TIMELINE: An Agenda will be developed at the Honors Band Meeting in May, a proposal will be developed at the summer meeting and sent out to districts to review. The proposal will be voted on or sent back to committee for revision at the November meeting.