

NYS Council of Administrators of Music Education

Dr. Joel Ratner, President



NYSCAME Action Plan: NYS Budget Crises

Draft #1

Generated by the membership at the December 5, 2008 meeting in Rochester, NY

Urgent Advocacy Items:

- Review, copy and generate the petition at Winter Concerts. Send completed petitions to Joe Sugar or Kevin Bayen.
- Speak about the budget challenges at your concerts. Keep your comments brief and directed toward sharing concerns with legislators.
- Set up meetings for January (or earlier) with your legislators in their local offices. Consider collaboration with neighboring districts and bringing parents with you.
- Write to your legislators as a tax payer and community member. Our voices are very strong as voters.
- Encourage vendors and local business owners to place ads in newspapers advocating arts education.

Pro-Active Items for Continued Advocacy:

- Have the budget issue announced at All-County and Area All-State Concerts. Generate the petitions at these events.
- Step up district communication and publicity of Music Department activities and events. Share community collaborations and service projects.
- Communicate the budget challenges with your booster organization and PTA.
- Advertise upcoming events and other publicity items on the back page of concert programs and other publications.
- Publicize the accomplishments of your music department alumni.
- Continue communication and collaboration with central administration as the budget challenges continue to unfold and develop.