

Question #1

Sixty one (61) Kansan string educators took this survey; 42 (69%) were KASTA members and 19 (31%) were non-members.

Question #2

Of the total participants, 39 (64%) agreed that a second orchestra should be added to the All-State Orchestra event (26 strongly agreed; 13 agreed). 13 (21%) of the participants disagreed with the proposal (9 strongly disagreed; 4 disagreed). 9 (15%) members indicated they were indifferent to the proposal.

When participants were disaggregated by membership (i.e., members and non-members), no distinct patterns emerged. Of the **non-members (n = 19)**, 7 (37%) members disagreed with the proposal, while 9 (47%) members agreed; 3 (16%) were indifferent. Neither valence (agree or disagree) received a 50% majority. Of the **members (n = 42)**, 30 (71%) members agreed with the proposal, while 6 (14%) disagreed and 6 (14%) were indifferent (see Table 1).

Table 1. Agreement x Membership

Membership	<i>Indifferent</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Strongly Agree</i>	Total
<i>No</i>	3 (5%)	4 (7%)	3 (5%)	3 (5%)	6 (10%)	19 (32%)
<i>Yes</i>	6 (10%)	5 (8%)	1 (2%)	10 (16%)	20 (32%)	42 (68%)
Total	9 (15%)	9 (15%)	4 (7%)	13 (21%)	26 (42%)	61

Note. % based on total population (N = 61)

These findings suggest that a majority of both members and non-members believed a second orchestra should be added to the All-State Orchestra event.

Question #3

Qualitative analysis identified primary arguments for and against the proposal. Those who were in support of the proposal stated that it offered more Kansan students the experience to be part of the All-State Orchestra. In doing so, the Kansas' All-State Orchestra would become more representative of Kansas musicians instead of, what some members expressed as, an "over-representation" of "one section" of Kansas.

Those against the proposal were concerned that adding a second orchestra to the All-State Orchestra would "watered down" the experience and become "less of an honor" for students. Subsequently, they were concerned that students' motivation to audition would decrease. Other teachers were concerned that beginning a second orchestra would increase teachers' already excessive workload with little to no benefit. Still others were concerned that the current level of violin playing in the state could not support a second orchestra.

These findings suggest that valid concerns still exist on both sides. Perhaps further discussion is warranted to arrive at some consensus.

Question #4

Should a second orchestra be implemented, members overwhelmingly believed that both orchestras should be comprised of 9th-grade through 12th-grade students with 43 (70.5%) of participants ranking it first in their list. Options suggesting that the orchestras be divided by grade levels (e.g., 11-12 & 9-10 or 10-12 & 9) were ranked 2nd and 3rd, with the 11-12 and 9-10th grade option in 2nd place (see Table 2).

Despite overwhelming support for the 9-12 option, one member expressed one orchestra should be for 1-4A schools and another for 5-6A school.

Table 2. Orchestra Compositions by Rank

Rank	Choice	1	2	3	Score
1st	Orch 1: 9-12th grade Orch 2: 9-12th grade	43 (70.49%)	9 (14.75%)	9 (14.75%)	2.56
2nd	Orch 1: 11-12th grade Orch 2: 9-10th grade	9 (14.75%)	29 (47.54%)	23 (37.70%)	1.77
3rd	Orch 1: 10-12th grade Orch 2: 9th grade	9 (14.75%)	23 (37.70%)	29 (47.54%)	1.67

Question #5

A slight majority (52%) of participants also believed the orchestra should be strings-only instrumentation, with 25% indifferent, and 23% supporting a full-orchestra instrumentation.

Table 3. Instrumentation Choices

Options	Total (%)
Strings-only instrumentation	32 (52.46%)
Full-orchestra instrumentation	14 (22.95%)
Indifferent	15 (24.59%)
TOTAL	61

Question #6

Regarding the format of the audition process, a merit model received the most support (43%), followed by the festival model (28%) and the golden ticket model (21%). Although the merit

format was the clear favorite, no option received a majority of 50%, indicating that this issue may still be up for further discussion.

Merit model	26 (42.62%)
Festival model	17 (27.87%)
Golden Ticket model	13 (21.31%)
Indifferent	5 (8.20%)
TOTAL	61