

August 20, 2013
Upbeat Club Meeting Notes

Jill read the notes from our May 28 meeting. Traci Stankiewicz moved to accept notes; Dawn DiLorenzo seconded.

Treasurer's report: Received quarterly Kroger card fundraising for April through June for a little over \$3000. Have been working on collecting fees and Macy's trip fees. Band camp fees are coming in pretty much on target. Macy's at 57% of total fees so a little under target; Followers packages are right on target.

Director's report:

- Excellent month – this may be one of the best years ever. Great weather for band camp.
- Off to a very good start. Kids are working hard. Is one of the farthest along for this time of the season. All students are supposed to have their music memorized now. Lots of new equipment – we received money from the district to purchase some new equipment and we were able to get some very good used equipment from Carolina Crown, a drum corp. Paid \$5900 for an \$18000 marimba.
- Pictures were taken last Friday; have not yet seen it.
- Freshman night is our first football game on September 6 and we are planning to wear summer uniform. September 14 is our first competition in Alexandria, KY.
- Thursday night rehearsals are always open to parents. The new administration does not want us playing and rehearsing during soccer games, which are Tuesday and Thursdays. As a result, we will be rehearsing on Monday nights, Wednesdays after school until 5:30, and Thursday nights at the Freshman school. Wednesday nights are ½ hour longer than in past years due to preparation for Macy's.
- If you want to purchase pictures, every student will have their individual picture in new uniform taken on September 5 and 6. We will do a composite picture this year given that we have the brand new uniforms.
- We have applied for Rose Parade; we will know if we will march in it by the end of October. Basically same price as Macy's plus airfare.
- Please know and let all your band friends know that we really need to know if students are NOT going on the trip. We need to get monies in. We have 10 alternates for competition show. We want to write the Macy's show for every student so they can march. We need to tell the drill writer now how many students to write the drill for. They do have to pass off their music. We are doing patriotic music during the parade plus Purple Majesty. We will perform Fanfare for the Common Man and Appalachian Spring (Simple Gift) in front of Macy's.
- Lock-in: Mr. Snyder asked the juniors whether they would rather 1) do the lock-in 2) not do the lock-in or 3) do an evening event. They chose to do the lock-in. Watched West Side Story, had a massive volleyball tournament, and enjoyed a lot of doughnuts.
- Mattress Sale will be September 21. We don't sell the mattresses the mattress company thinks we should be able to. The mattress lady will give cash to students who have referrals. The money will not go through Upbeat.
- Start school Thursday; We have 3 bands – red, white, and Winds.
- All State results: Had 16 kids make all state band and orchestra. We have more students from Lakota West make All State than any other school in Ohio – and have done this consistently for the last 10 years.
- New choir director, Susan Bauer is taking over from Mr. Nims. She is a past elementary music teacher
- Todd Hartman previously Lakota Jazz Director is now an assistant principal at Fairfield. He will be replaced by Alan Nordyke, who was a 22 year instructor at Liberty school.
- Next Wednesday night is Open House at Lakota West.
- No rehearsal the first day of school. Only malfunction from a perfect band camp was the miscommunication on ending time of rehearsal.
- A band parent has 5 rooms reserved at Marriott right off Times Square and is only using 2 if any one else wants some of them.
- Not sure if Ellis Island will be open or not. Will need to learn our parade lineup. 1st band in parade rehearses at 3am; later bands rehearse at 4 or 4:30am.
- Question on when we will have updated itinerary. These are not yet up. One of the restaurants in little Italy closed and we need to find another option.
- Freshman Director:

- We have 130 kids in Freshman Bands, up from 105 last year. 21 kids in Freshman Jazz Band; Mr. Chumley will be leading this group.
- Mr. Chumley worked really hard to communicate proactively with students prior to end of school last year. Freshman night show will be the Beatles. Play Twist and Shout, I Wanna Hold Your Hand, and Hey Jude. 11 days between start of school and Freshman night.
- Freshman Band Parent meeting is Tuesday, August 27 at 7pm in the LWF Auditorium; Freshman curriculum night is August 26. High School curriculum night is Wednesday, August 28.
- Thanks to Upbeat Club to Phil's fathers charity. Phil's father passed this last summer and Upbeat Club donated to a summer educational club.
- **Tag Day**
- **Bus Chaperones:**
- Busses for competition are almost full; 1st competition on September 14 at Campbell County: could be a long day as there are two performances. There are both Preliminary and Final competitions. If we make finals, we will need to feed them dinner. Meeting at light pole outside band room about ½ hour prior to departure time. Dawn to check with Tom Racic about food arrangements; likely need to give the concession stand a head's up on our numbers and that we will be staying for dinner.
- **Uniforms** are all assigned and fit. Concert fittings will need to start soon – Cindy will need help during the day concert fittings. A Sign-up Genius will go out in the next e-mail blast for these concert fitting dates.
- **McDonalds:** August 6 brought in an additional \$400. Mariam will select some additional dates. When we had students playing outside, we made the most money on tips. We have 83 \$5 McDonald's coupon books left to sell.
- Taste of Music: Right now nothing is scheduled, will get moving on this soon.
- **Macy's trip:**
- Chaperone's meeting on October 1
- Parent's meeting on October 8 so they can meet the chaperones and know who will be responsible for their kids.
- **Mattress sale** will be the 21st of September. Plan to send information out to all schools in the district.
- For Jazz 'n Cakes, for Market Street – if you receive any Kohl's \$10 cards or have Kohl's cash and don't plan to use them – please get them to Tricia and Bill Hertz. They will use them to buy basket filler on clearance. If anyone knows someone famous who would sign a guitar, please let Bill and Tricia know. Moeller likes to have them signed.
- Pit Crew: Have 34-36 volunteers signed up for pit crew and have figured out how to put all 30lbs of stuff in the 10lb bag. We are able to get everything in the truck. Pit crew meeting at Trygier's on Sunday at 6pm.
- Membership: Traci is forwarding membership information and volunteer opportunities to all the applicable committees.
- Video/DVD crew: Mark Geohegan is leading this effort this year. West Chester TV is requesting more support this year. If you are interested, please go to Upbeat Contact list and contact Mark Geohegan. Training is provided.
- Follower bus: We have added a 3rd bus. The cost of the bus is \$130/person. Bus is separate and not part of the followers package. Transportation once at New York is part of the follower's package. This is attached to your charms account.

- This year we have the Upbeat Fee/student \$185; District Fee is \$365. We have sent the list to the district of who has paid how much of the \$365. If you check charms and see \$365 credit, you will not be billed for anything from the district. If you see a \$0 credit, then you will be billed for \$365 from the district, likely around
- We have received some unsolicited donations due to the recent article in the publicity. We have also received a number of fundraising opportunities. One we are considering is an antique show: Likely March 29 (weekend after Jazz 'n Cakes). We collect admission, sell concessions. Antique show is set up by vendor. We would receive mailing list from local group that has discontinued supporting it as a fundraiser.
- Will move Tuesday, October 15 Upbeat Club meeting to the following Tuesday, October 22 at 8pm in the Lakota West Freshman Auditorium.
- Todd Hartman goodbye – Todd has left to go to Fairfield as an assistant principal and asked that his thanks and goodbyes be shared with band parents and students. Sue forwarded his note to all immediately prior to the meeting.
- Upbeat Club donated \$186,000 to the district including new uniforms. New uniforms were presented at the recent August 12, 2013 Lakota School Board meeting. Joan Powell asked that Sue thank the parents for all their efforts to make this happen. She also expressed thanks for the generosity of the community for all their donations as part of this. Helping the community understand that the new uniforms are all donated in a levy year is an important point.
- We plan to start our efforts to work Reds games in the October timeframe. Plan to try it and see how many people we can get interested.
- Mary Ann Ramhap moved to close the meeting; Dave Bubash seconded. Motion passed.