

Welcome to Lakota West Bands!

Get Connected/Stay Connected

Charms Office Assistant – www.charmsoffice.com - the Band Office Management and Communication System

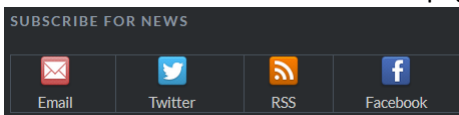
- You will soon be receiving an email from Andrew Carr, Director of Bands, with instructions on how to set up your student's account in Charms. Charms is a stand-alone office system that the Band Directors use for a variety of purposes like communication, copies of show and pregame music, inventory, and uniform part purchases. Do NOT use the calendar, use the one from our band website. It is CRITICAL for you to set up your account as soon as possible and it is YOUR responsibility to keep it accurate. Timely and important information is shared via Charms all year long for both marching and concert bands. To Log in - go to the Resources tab on the band website and go to the Charms Music Office page for directions.

Website - www.lakotawestbands.org

- Our website includes information for all Lakota West Bands including Marching, Concert, Freshman, Jazz, Colorguard and Winterguards. Tons of information including year-round calendar, resources, contact info, uniform info, honors, volunteering opportunities, photos of events, and much, much more.

Lakota West Band News via Email Blasts from Website

- It is important to also sign up for emails sent from the Directors and Upbeat Club via our website. Valuable and timely information is shared via this tool all year long. The home page of the band website shows all recent email blasts that have been sent to those that have subscribed to receive them.
- To subscribe to the Lakota West Band News via Email, go to www.lakotawestbands.org and see "Subscribe for News" at the bottom of the home page. Choose Email and follow prompts to enter your email address.



Facebook/Twitter/Instagram

- 'Like' our Facebook page and click 'see first' in your news feed. 'Follow' our Twitter and Instagram accounts
- These tools can be used as a follow up to announcements that go out through the website, a heads up on an upcoming event, or to celebrate our students, directors and band program. They should not be used as your only communication link.

Remind Text

- The purpose of this account will be to:
 - inform you of cancellations or changes due to weather or unexpected circumstances
 - give parents "We're departing now" or "We're about 15 minutes away" alerts upon return from trips or competitions
 - deliver urgent reminders like rehearsal time or location changes

Marching Band Handbook

- The 2018 Marching Handbook will be distributed at the May 30th Upbeat meeting at 7pm at the Freshman School. It will also be available online.
- Please read it and use it as a reference throughout the season.

Band Camp – At Freshman School unless noted

- **Mini Camp**
 - At Freshman School on May 29 and May 30 from 1pm-9pm
- **Music**
 - All pregame and show music can be found in Charms. Portions of each are available now, check back often.
- **Get healthy and hydrated BEFORE Band Camp**
 - Increase the water intake at least 2 days prior to camp
 - Eat a good breakfast (no milk on hot days)
- **Items to bring to EVERY rehearsal including mini camp**
 - Flip Folder and pages (buy 2, they can break)
 - Sunscreen
 - Hat
 - Sunglasses (optional)
 - Neck straps (2 for cleaning between)
 - Thick cotton socks and sturdy athletic shoes
 - Rain gear and/or large plastic bag for items brought to the field
 - Coordinates
 - 64oz Water Jug (labeled with student's name)
- **Uniforms**
 - **Uniform fitting days** will be scheduled in the evenings during band camp and takes place at the High School (not Freshman Bldg). This includes summer uniform and marching uniform.
 - Certain items are your responsibility (appx \$75-100)
 - Purchases can be made through Charms or via check at designated fitting time
 - Colorguard should check with Colorguard staff
 - More information on website and handbook

Marching Band Season

- **Sectionals**
 - Section Leaders will schedule several section rehearsals throughout the summer. Attendance is taken, and students are encouraged to attend as many as possible.
 - Start learning and memorizing pregame music over the summer.
- **Rehearsals**
 - Some are at freshman building, some at main campus. Check handbook, then **band calendar** for updates or changes once the season starts.
 - There is an **activity bus** that travels from the freshman building to the high school every day. The students **MUST** sign up to ride it each day during their lunch.
 - Remember to bring water jug and other rehearsal items to school when there is a rehearsal or sectional after school.
- **Competitions**
 - On almost every competition day, there is a rehearsal at the school prior to the band departing for the competition
 - **Remind Text** will be used for communicating expected return time for busses following a competition as well as any last-minute location updates or time changes throughout the season

- **Costs** (for any concerns, contact the director at andrew.carr@lakotaonline.com)
 - Required
 - \$200 activity fee due in full by 7/1
 - Uniform pieces noted above
 - BOA Super Regional Trip to Indianapolis, estimated \$350
 - Uniform replacement fees if lost or damaged
 - Optional
 - Spiritwear
 - Band Jackets appx \$70
 - Band Yard Signs \$25
 - Pictures from picture day before school starts
 - Tickets to competitions
 - Spending money or meal money for a couple days at camp, or at a competition

Parents

- **Lakota West Upbeat Club**
 - The Upbeat Club **raises significant funds and provide hundreds of hours of support** which enables the excellence we see on the stage and on the field. The funds for the new marching and concert uniforms, as well as our new tractor trailer and box truck, were all raised by band parents and students! Please join us in supporting our fantastic band program!
 - **Attend Upbeat Club Meetings**
 - Third Thursday of every month, tentatively at 7pm. During marching band season, they are at the freshman building in the band room. The remainder of the year they are at the main campus. You'll hear from the directors and hear about upcoming events, and get your questions answered.
 - **Upbeat Club Leader Position Openings**
 - Concert Uniforms (2), Bus Chaperones (1), Jazz 'n Cakes (2), Kroger Cards (1), Mattress Sale (1), Tag Day (2, 1 is filled), Taste For Music (1), Third Qtr Refreshments (1 to shadow), Try Band (1 to shadow), Unos Dough Raiser (2). If interested, contact communications@lakotawestbands.org.
- **Volunteering and Fundraising Participation**
 - There are a lot of fun opportunities to help support the band program, while also helping the Upbeat Club raise needed funds. All active signups are on the band website under the Volunteer & Fundraising Tab, look for Parent Volunteer Opportunities. Many are sent out through Facebook too.
 - See handout for descriptions of all the various roles our parents take on throughout the year
 - Here are some of the larger events you will hear more about in the fall:
 - Tag Day** (Saturday 8/25/18) 100% participation is appreciated
 - Unos** (Sunday afternoon/evening in Oct or Nov)
 - Solo & Ensemble Contest** (Saturday 2/9/19)
 - Jazz 'n Cakes** (Saturday 4/13/18)
 - If you want to be contacted regarding volunteer opportunities as they come up, email us at communications@lakotawestbands.org and we will add you to the list.
- **Paperwork and Final Forms**
 - Look for direction from Andrew Carr via Charms email

FAQ

Q: Do they have planned meals during camp or do we send them with a packed lunch/dinner?

A: When a meal is provided, it will be noted on the schedule. If the students are on their own, they can pack, you can bring, or send money if some run out for food.

Q: Are there extra costs during band camp

A: Each section will design and order their own section shirts. Cost is \$12-15.

Q: What happens during bad weather?

A: All rehearsals will take place as scheduled. Accommodations have been made for indoor rehearsals.

Q: Should my student bring his/her own water?

A: YES!!! All students MUST bring a full water jug with his/her name in permanent marker to EVERY rehearsal. A 64oz (half gallon) jug is highly recommended. Plenty of cool water will be provided for refilling jugs at the field.

Q: What if my student is sick?

A: Illnesses should be reported to the student's section leader prior to the start of rehearsal. (Alternates will fill your place so get back on your feet as soon as possible!)

Q: How can I reach my son/daughter during rehearsal?

A: Students take the field with cell phones off for long periods of time. In the event of a family emergency or urgent need to contact your student, please contact camp coordinator Jen Daiker @ 513 388-8424. The director(s) will be notified immediately who will have the student contact you. The same chain of contact should be used in-person, at the field.

Q: Is participation in team-building activities required?

A: Yes. Attendance will be taken.

Q: If something changes as far as time or location – where will the most up to date information be?

A: Always check the website and calendar (on the band website NOT the calendar in CHARMS) for the most up to date information. This handbook will not be updated to reflect changes once it is published.

For more information or questions, contact communications@lakotawestbands.org

www.lakotawestbands.org