Lakota West Upbeat Meeting

May 18, 2023 6:30 p.m.

Informational Meeting:

• Director’s Report – Andy Carr- It’s the spring so it’s nonstop everyday doing something different The kids did great at their concerts. We’re getting things ready for graduation tomorrow. Kids are recording for all state. The majority of kids do not need to come to main for their exam time as they’re exempt due to playing in grad band or recording for all state. Grad band sounds great. Should sound good at graduation. Admin borrowed the box truck and were really happy with it and then it broke down on the way back. It is already fixed. Was a really easy fix of the air line. Marching band is happening. We’re getting ready for that. It’s starting to look pretty cool. Guard uniforms and props look good. The freshman bands played through the music and that was fun. It’s shaping up to be great as always. Some shows exceed expectations, and some don’t turn out how you want but we think it will be good. (Photo shared of flags, uniforms, props). We’ve got lots of things going on every night. Met with next years symphonic winds kids after school today. Numbers for marching band are really great. The current number is 247 which is the biggest we’ve had since Celek has been there. One of the reasons we do minicamp is to solidify the number a bit, so we do expect a bit of a drop. About 15 more signed up than this time last year. We were expecting the guard to be smaller, but we have some new staffing direction, who did an excellent job this year. The kids who are all sophomores this year are doing a great job leading the kids. They accepted 55 guard members for the fall. That is a bit more than we were anticipating. We’re really proud of the staff and kids involved in that and getting to a positive place so quickly. Had some good meetings with the design and guard staff about how we can be coordinating better. The point of the judges’ comments are how to get the show to a better place more quickly. How do the parts, elements fit together. If we can work better on this, and building a team that works really well, it will be even better. The positive vibes are in the water. It’s a great starting place for us. One of the owners of FJM drove the guard costume down to us himself.

Thanks for everything you do and have done and for those of you changing roles or leaving roles we couldn’t do it without all of your support. We couldn’t do it without you. The kids appreciate you even if they don’t always know what you do. It lets them focus on what they need to. We punch way outside of our class level compared to other schools our size and that is due to all of the support from all of you. No matter what it is that you are involved in it helps our kids and our program.

Lot of kids getting a lot of great experiences. They make a home of this and it’s where they make friends and learn who they are. It makes them better people and gives them a sense of pride in what they’re doing.

• Asst. Director’s Report – Colin Celek- see above

• Jazz Director’s Report- Aaron Todahl- We had a great spring jazz concert. The kids played really well. Orchestra especially. Encouraging a lot of the kids to audition for all state jazz. In terms of contact hours these kids have more hours of jazz in one year than most kids have 7-12. Not many schools have a jazz program like ours. That all state jazz groups really should be a majority of Lakota kids. Three jazz bands again next year. Our numbers continue to grow. 55 last year and 62 next year. It’s a big jump for some ensembles and gives us more options of what we want to do. The ridge jazz army will be coming up the following year.

Charlie Best-Just want to come and thank everyone here for the support he’s gotten from everyone. Not just financially and physically but he’s glad he got the chance to come in and leave his mark because the band family and community has done so much for him and his family. He really appreciates it and is glad to have been a part of it. Thank you everyone so much.

Upbeat Club Meeting:

1) Call to Order- 7:01

2) New Member Welcome- No new members this time. It’s May thanks for those that are here.

3) Minutes Approval – Stacey L.- Justin / Kristin

4) Finance Approval – Allison N.- We’ve got lots of big things to talk about

a. 2023-24 Budget Vote- On the budget that is sitting here you can see where we were as of 5/7. (2nd to last column on the right) We met about 3 weeks ago to go over where expenses are for next year. Ask questions and we will vote later. For our income we tried to keep it with what we know and are fairly certain we can reach those numbers. For sponsorship we went for who we know are going to be our platinum sponsors. We are hoping that number does increase as we have someone for that position next year. Tag day we put in an estimate of what we think we can make. The invitational we went with a lower estimate as it depends on the day and we have no real experience. $5000 is low on a good day but high on a bad day. We trended down on the calendar raffle since we saw that it was a little less than last year. Spirit wear went up a little. We’re budgeting in line with what we did 2 years ago. We just had an exceptional year this year. Concert band other went down as there was no OMEA trip planned. Marching band MISC. We increased it to 10 as we have more expenses we anticipate covering. Everything else is pretty similar to last year. We increased jazz band support as we got a donation tied to jazz band. Scholarships/awards are basically the same based on expenses. Other expenses we just increased a bit due to inflation increases. Initially we were not planning on spending any money on the Hawaii trip, so we budgeted $0. We were asked to sponsor the Pearl harbor dinner with East. East is covering $7000, and we are covering $7000 as well. The Burgess’ donation is going to fund this as that is what the ideally wanted some of their donation to go towards. We are budgeting an additional $3000 just in case any other surprise trip expenses come up. We need to vote on this as it stands. One item that is not on here is Carr and Celek have been discussing purchasing another cab. What we would like to do is take some of the $46,000 in income this year and vote to spend up to $30,000 for a use cab for the second trailer. We think it will be about $25,000 but we want to have a little buffer. After the purchase, the district will maintain the cost of the truck. It would be a break even with rental costs over 5 years. Alison would like to have someone make a motion to move $30,000 in income from the field maintenance into the truck fund. Additionally, the lift we have is in a state of disrepair. It will cost $4500 to fix and we have $1500 left in Misc. marching expenses, but we will need to increase this to cover the cost.

Motion to approve the budget Ali/Holly

Vote: All in favor 12 all opposed 0

Motion to pay $30,00 to the truck fund and increase the marching band misc. by $3000 to cover the lift repair Holly/Sarah

Vote: All in Favor: 12 All opposed 0

Motion to accept the financial report Justin/Ray

5) Pit Crew- Ray B./ Justin K.- We have 1 more workday for the end of the year. Saturday after next and then we’re taking all summer off, and we’ll get going again in July. Planning on building one more prop and stripping down the rest of the moons. Way ahead of schedule. Reusing the moons is a positive because they have them for practice. This will keep them in props and practicing.

6) Uniforms

a. Concert- Katie S.- She found her replacement, and everything needs to get back to the dry cleaners. The dresses are mostly clean. Just a few things trickling in.

b. Marching/Guard- Stacey L./Jen H. INSERT HERE We got a lot of guard members. It’s exciting and we’re looking forward to it. Most kids were measured for uniforms and we’ll grab the remaining kids at band camp. The order went in for next year’s show shirts, wrap, and some extra show pants. Reminder we’ll need a lot of help on uniform fitting nights at band camp.

7) Band Camp- Shannon B.- Lots of planning, get ready to sign up. Expect the sign-up genius around the first of July. Nothing needed for minicamp.

a. Mini Camp Parent Picnic- Sat, May 27th 6-7:30pm- Please put it on your calendars. We hope to get rookie families out so that they can get a feel for things and ask their questions and feel connected.

8) Tag Day- 8/26- Amy P.- Just put the date on your calendar. This is an all hands on deck event

9) LW Invitational- 9/16- Katie D. & Jessica H.- Just getting started so not much to share. They walked the grounds with the directors and are getting their plans and ducks in a row. There will be lots of volunteer hours. If you are interested in getting involved at all, please let them know. There are currently 9 bands signed up.

10) Hawaii Trip- Kristin B.- There’s nothing new to add. Flight and followers’ packages were shared. Kids will not be put into flights until the last possible minute. It will be late summer/September. Everything we know you know.

11) Communications- Kristin B./ Barb W.- We’ll do one more email tomorrow and we’ll take the summer off from emails until band camp starts back up in the summer. Do not expect emails in June. Enjoy the down time. We can put committee meetings on the upbeat calendar if you want them to.

12) Tech/Website Team – Rebecca & Todd Y.- The only thing is to ask for a few volunteers to update a video, more of a picture montage. Need some helpers to go through all of the pictures and pull out some good ones. The idea is that the video would be useful for everything tag day, try band, preshow YouTube, stuff etc. Anytime we might want to showcase the band. They get outdated fast. Something that will go across all of the band things marching, concert, jazz, etc. It would be going through and picking out 25-75 pictures from the flicker albums. We already have a parent willing to put the video together.

13) Volunteer Positions

a. Lead Position Openings for 2023-24- Added a couple of events that are done more by committee. (Jazz n cakes and invitational where you can take a smaller chunk and work with others) If you’re stepping into a new role look for an email from Rebecca in a little bit to get your email set up.

b. Get Connected for 2023-24

14) Thank you- This is a great room of people to say thank you to. It’s been a wonderful year and it’s a great point of reflection of everything that has been accomplished. The funds that have come in and the number of volunteers to make that happen is so amazing. It’s so wonderful to see the dedication and the coming back and taking on more and bringing new ideas and energy. This band community is a better place because of all of you. The welcoming environment and the exactment and the love of this band and the directors is so wonderful. Thank you for such a tremendous year. Thanks especially to the directors for all of the time and energy you put into our kids. Thanks for the exec team that does so much behind the scenes, and they are there for everything and every event and planning and detail and love that goes into everything is tremendous. We have 1 senioring out and 1 junioring out that we especially wanted to say thank you to (Allison and Jen B). Words will come late but from all of us in this room we want to thank you for all that you have done.

15) New Business- None

Meeting adjourned 7:47

Next Meeting- Thurs, Aug 17th, 6:30 pm, Lakota West Freshman Band Room