

Lakota West Upbeat Meeting September 21st, 2023 6:30 p.m.

Informational Meeting:

- Director's Report – Andy Carr

HUGE thank you to everyone for the great success of the LW Invitational. Kids did amazing performance for not being eligible for actual competition. Really remarkable.

Excellent audience reaction.

Parents of kids who graduated 20 years ago showed up - very cool

Kudos to organizers -

Obetz - super excited for us getting to perform last in prelims. Will be by far the biggest audience of the day.

Pretty confident that we'll make finals and somewhat confident we'll place in the top 6 which means we'd perform in the second half of the finals.

It will be a long fun day.

Little warm up here gets kid in the right frame of mind

Little lunch break

Buses leaving at noon

Arrive around 2

Unload, warmup, flow just like last week

Prelim Awards - we're now AAAA, main competitors are AAA - no scores in prelims just placements. We could win AAAA but be in 3rd/4th place.

Dinner break

Cool things happening: Asked us to play the Star spangled banner to start finals (brass sextet); drum line bringing bands out for retreat which is very cool

BOA - we're competing against more comparable bands which is good for us.

Will be proud of kids no matter the outcome - awesome if we come away with 3rd championship but if not, still proud of their excellent work

Thanks to photography team for the individuals and the panoramic turned out great

Concert bands finishing up auditions, first concert in a few weeks.

- Asst. Director's Report – Colin Celek

- Jazz Director's Report- Aaron Todahl

Congratulations to the following students who were selected for the Cincinnati Youth Jazz Orchestra (CYJO):

Nikki Ardila

Fausto Espinoza

Will Jackson

Connor Koenes
Russell Preston
Ben Yoby

The Lakota West Fall Jazz Concert will take place **Tuesday, October 3, 2023, in the Lakota West Main Campus Theatre, at 8:00 PM**. The concert will include jazz bands from Lakota West Main and Freshman Campuses. The East jazz bands will have their concert at 6:00 PM before the West concert. West students are not required to attend the East concert.

- **West Main Campus jazz bands should arrive by 7:45 PM**. Please leave your cases in your band lockers (or in the Lakota West Band Room, in an out-of-the-way spot), and find your seat in the theater **after** the East concert has ended. Each band will sit as a group in the lower section of the theater. Specific locations will be discussed in class. Warm up for each group will take place in the West Band Room while the band immediately before them is performing.

Estimated Performance Times are listed below:

-
8:00-8:15 – West Freshman Jazz Ensemble
8:20-8:35 – West Jazz Lab Band
8:40-8:55 – West Jazz Ensemble
9:00-9:15 – West Jazz Orchestra
9:15 – All students assist with clean-up. Thank you!!

Dress Code for all Main Campus Jazz Bands (as outlined in the Handbook):

- All black button-down long sleeve shirt, black pants, black shoes, black socks, black belt. Ties are optional. No hats (except for special events).

After each performance, the students will exit the stage and sit as a group in the theater. We expect students to be on their best behavior as they respectfully listen to the other performing groups.

Persons with disabilities requiring special accommodations should contact the school prior to the event so necessary arrangements can be made.

We look forward to seeing you on October 3rd!

Club Meeting:

- 1) Call to Order 6:54 pm
- 2) New Member Welcome

3) President's Report- Amy K.

August meeting was about 1 month ago. All we've accomplished in that Time...

Community performance/dinner
Calendar raffle
Tag Day
Photography
Two football games and all that goes with that
Hosted 8th graders for band night
First and second taste for music
Hosted our first ever invitational competition
WOW
All since we last met

Marching season off to a pretty fantastic start.

4) August Minutes approval - Rebecca motions to approve, Jen H seconds

5) Finances: Amy K.

Been a lot of intake and outtake recently so we don't have a full report tonight but we can provide a rough overview:

Calendar: estimate to earn around \$18,000 (Budgeted \$15,000)

Tag Day: estimate to earn around \$25,000 (Budgeted \$20,000)

Invitational: estimate to earn around \$20,000 (Budgeted \$5,000)

Money going out is all marching band related.

Question: how much did it cost to feed kids 8th grade night pizza dinner (roughly \$1100 to feed ~350 people)

Recent expenditures:

- Ice refill
- Parking signs in lot
- Obetz meal

6) Calendar Fundraiser: Amy K.

Incentives - overall winning student hasn't been announced or the winning section but will announce after Obetz

THANK YOU for all your support selling the raffle

7) Tag Day Wrap Up: Amy P.

Everybody came back in the end!

Incentive during camp day - every section with 75% or more participation - the entire section got a treat. Every section except for 2 made it - they were at 73% or 71% so everyone who participated got to select a treat.

Request for over the next year - need volunteers to review routes (80) - actually drive them and report back with feedback so we can optimize (some are very spaced out, some are gated, some are peppered with no soliciting signs, etc.) Split up routes among volunteers before next year.

We covered 48 routes this year which is the most we've ever covered and there is a direct correlation to the amount of money raised - so it's clear that the more kids who participate and the more drivers we have really impact our success.

8) Invitational Wrap up: Jessica H. and Katie D.

Jessica and Katie are debriefing with team leads Friday to get notes on things that went well and things to change for next year.

- * Bob Pritchett - manned t-shirt booth most of the evening, get more large+ sizes next year - lots of requests for 2XL
- * Melinda Fuller - heard young teen band member say with so much appreciation "they made bracelets for all of our schools!" Really cool (yay Holly!)
- * Katie - leadership team was amazing. Everything.
- * Next year - put t-shirt link in directors packet to share after the event (link likely only open through 9/22)

8a) Stacy President of LW Boosters was here to thank us for to collaboration. Whatever we can do to help and support each other let's do it! (Boosters helped secure us fence space for senior banners, helped with hometown ticketing, we shared Zettle intel, really great collaboration.) Booster Bash is going bye bye in lieu of a casino night with play money (Boys & Girls Club) with reverse raffle grand prize of \$10,000. April 6, 2024 6-11pm. Would love for Upbeat to participate in that event (including some stellar items we have to offer for raffles).

9) Pit Crew: Justin K. and Ray B.

Ray: Slowing down now - everything is pretty much built.

Justin: good turnout at invitational, good turnout for Friday night, good turnout for Obetz. Bought 800 bottles of water.

- * Lauren Gates is looking for a ride up and back. Justin will put a message out for people to carpool.

10) Uniforms:

Amy P: Everybody is in uniform. Everything is fitted, hemmed, I think good. Will probably do a mid-season wash of show uniforms but not sure when.

Jen H: Guard uniforms have some tricky parts but we're making it work.

11) Winds Uniforms: Ali Boger

Closet is organized, moving onto tuxedos next week. Will be ready by October 10. No fitting night - doing it a little bit at a time. Kids will begin bringing home when done. Girls can buy or borrow pearls.

12) Bus Chaperones: Karen B.

Obetz is full, Indy is full, still have space for West Clermont. Karen is senioring out and there is quite a bit to know - not hard just stuff - if anyone would like to shadow this year who will be around for a few more let Karen know. She would gladly keep this role if she wasn't graduating.

Question: no buses for Mason?

Answer: correct. They give us parking space and we save a ton of money. Parking info will come out prior to event.

13) Spiritwear: Amy K.

Lots of choices. Rokkitwear has been very good to work with.

Jacket on website should be fixed with embroidery on back. Anyone who received jacket with blank back (Adames) please reach out to Rokkitwear about getting it fixed.

14) Taste For Music: Ali B.

Canes: \$199.50

Buffalo Wings and Rings \$285 (they also sponsored a trophy, front ensemble ate there together - maybe other sections can take advantage of these nights to grab a meal together)

Coming up: Oct 11 Marco's pizza - 747 Princeton, 50% of sales go to us

15) Communications: Kristin and Barb

Barb: Livestream for BOA is Box5 - been pushing out ads that feature West. Purchase now and get shows for all the season. WinterGuard adding 7th grade! Yay!

Kristin: 90% of questions can be answered by the calendar so help by referring people to it or to the Friday email.

Anything you want included in the Friday email should be sent to Kristin by EOD Thursday to be included.

16) Tech Team: Rebecca Y.

Hometown Ticketing went really well.

Preparing to stream the concerts. Could use one additional person to help man a camera for concerts.

17) Sponsorships: Michelle R.

We had to turn some people away when we reached our trophy quota. Now will focus on corporate sponsors.

18) Volunteer Positions: Amy K.

Mattress Sale - 11/11 tentative date, waiting to hear if we have space available as there is a basketball tournament that day. If that doesn't work it will push to January. If interested, entails coordinating a parent meeting, yard signs. Not a hard job. Let us know if you can help!

Swing Dance - 12/8

Fun event, jazz bands perform, could use a lead to work with a team.

Try Band - late January

Schedule creatively right before 6th graders pick their classes. Small team, more communicating, getting things organized, 4 days in schools (1 at each elementary) with reps from Willis Music, plus one open house evening here at West.

19) FAQ BOA Competitions

- Obetz advertising that they will be cashless including concessions etc. Make sure kids plan accordingly.
- Ticket prices at window are higher - \$47 vs. \$40 online (even if you stand at ticket window but buy online you could save \$7)
- Thank you for filling up the dessert signup so fast. Marching band is a lot about dessert apparently. Collecting Friday night at the stadium performance.
- All BOA competitions - **don't take video from the stands.** Our band can be penalized and disqualified. You will see people from other schools violating this policy but it's very important to our band and our directors that we don't violate the policy.
- Chaperones please stick around to help with dinner setup and other immediate needs upon arrival in Obetz
- Clear bags and emergency bags only permitted
- Dinner served directly after prelim awards so roughly 5:15/5:30
- Finals lineup will be posted on Facebook
- Comm will send a Remind message when we know what time the buses will be back for pickup
- Box5 pay to watch show but awards are streamed for free on YouTube

20) New Business:

We rocked our Invitational so well that we're going to host an indoor WinterGuard competition in January! Brittany and Kristen are wonderful balls of fire and have a vision for this program. They've already moved mountains and this is a piece of their dream that we'd love to support. TriState Marching Arts (Southern Ohio and NKY) - most of hosting schools are in KY so they've been looking for Ohio school to host. 1/27 at Freshman building. Indoor circuit includes Guard show in gym and also percussion/ front line teams in other area (not us). Parking, group checkin, guiding them through warmups, concession stand. It's early in the season but any teams who want to be a part of the TriState finals is required to participate in one of the 1st 3 weeks' competition, and the other 2 options are deeper into KY so that could bode well for our event. Hospitality suite, vendors, etc. If any of this sounds interesting to you let us know! We'd love your help!

Student show t-shirts should be in soon. All students will receive one.

Next meeting 10/19, 6:30 pm in Lakota West Band Room

Meeting adjourned 8:02pm