

Lakota West Upbeat Meeting October 19, 2023, 6:30 p.m.

#### Informational Meeting:

- Director's Report – Andy Carr-Thanks for coming. We are going to be doing senior night for marching band on Monday. Email to come out tonight for anyone who is a senior with announcing things. General plan is practice 6-6:45 in parking lot (senior night activities only) seniors will then be dismissed to change. No shakos for seniors. They will then get into uniform and do pics in the auditorium from 6:45-7:45. Everyone else will get field ready and then they will change into uniforms to be completed by 7:45. Then we will start performance pregame etc at 8:00. After seniors walk through with parents, parents will return to the stands and band will do a run through of the show. After that they will be dismissed. They will be wearing show uniforms. There is a very slight possibility that we may not have the stadium. We will know for sure in a couple of hours.

We had an incredible fall concert. Kids did wonderfully. The reason the marching band is so good is because the concert band is so good. One feeds the other and vice versa. There are not a lot of schools in Ohio that even do a concert band this time of year. We really appreciate all of the levels of commitment that we have. One of the things that is great here is that we do have separate concert and marching bands. There are approx. 100 kids who are in concert but not in marching band. We have a ton of kids that are music all the time and doing yearlong honor bands and then we have the kids who just enjoy playing in school during the day. Concert band takes the biggest steps forward and they played great at the fall concert. Just because they're younger you can see the change better. The finite detail is in there for whether symphonic winds is great or incredible.

This week and all of the stress is going on planning for Indianapolis. The weather has not cooperated with us whenever we have something important to do. The kids have worked through it and they are in a pretty good place because they have worked hard. To be able to keep doing the detail is the hardest bit. That may not be enough to get them in the finals for Saturday. It's harder than getting into semi for grand nats. Other than about 4 bands from Texas and a couple from Oklahoma, the same really good bands are at the super regional and grand nats. They make a big deal about coming to both. So that makes it tough to get in. We don't compete with them and that's not a goal of ours. There's 7 of them that are in this and then there's the next 24 bands that are in our same "weight class". They only take 14 total so those 24 are fighting for 7 spots. So we're at a maybe, and that's possible. If you are waiting to see the band at finals, this is not a good plan. If you're only going to come once come to prelims. That's the only guarantee we have. This whole thing is very elite and the best bands in the country. If we do get to play, that will be a cool opportunity and it will be a crazy long day. The general look of the day is we leave crazy early in the morning. Then we perform as soon as we leave, we'll head to Arsenal Tech we'll clean up and change. We're doing the heavier meal first because the whole evening is up in the air depending on if we get in and what draw we got. We'll be having Bucca di Beppo and then we may practice on the field. Drum majors will go back for awards and the kids will take a nap at the school. We will do box 5 stream for the awards. We will win no trophies or captions. If we are in and draw an early time we will go directly to the stadium. If we get in and go later, we will eat and then head to the stadium. The kids will then get dropped off at the stadium to go watch finals. If that happens the busses will go to the transfer lot down the street. If we are just watching, we will not stay for awards and may leave before the last band goes on. If everything goes our way, we are going to be 2 hours later.

Love what we have accomplished this year. They've had great attitudes and it's been a lot of fun. I'm really proud of what they've done. We're going to West Clermont next. Showing up on the busses and doing the show. No practice or anything else. It's not something we traditionally do but we think it will be good practice for them. We're not as good on fast turnarounds. This also gives a little more time back to families. Then we go to mid states championships over at Mason. The kids will drive themselves again. It saves a lot of money and a lot of time. We'll likely get second as we won't beat Mason. They are going to do a full retreat this time. Sometimes it can feel a little underwhelming. That's the end of marching band proper. Hawaii has music already picked out. We're going to finish up the season and then switch focus. We'll probably march around the track. It should be really loud. There's a lot of percussionists. (About 30). The smallest group is guard at 30 and then about 250 musicians. Should look cool and be a lot of fun! That will be amazing. We'll start looking at it in a little bit. One more home football game. Maybe 2 depending on how the football team does. Solo and ensemble info to come out soon once details are finalized, but it will not be on a Saturday.

- Asst. Director's Report – Colin Celek -Not Present
- Jazz Director's Report- Aaron Todahl- Not Present

#### Club Meeting:

1) Call to Order- 7:06

2) New Member Welcome

3) Minutes Approval – Stacey L. Motion Jen/Monica

4) Finance Approval – Heather C.-

5) Pit Crew– Justin K./Ray B. – They bought enough bottled water for 4 times at Indy. Performances, lunch, and dinner. We'll load trucks and vehicles tomorrow. Props look great. Got a good shout out at Mason. We have 27 volunteers for this weekend. It's going to be busy.

6) Marching Band/ Color Guard Uniforms – Stacey L./ Jen H.- Thank you so much to all of the parents who took uniforms home to wash over Fall Break. They are all clean and ready to go for Indy. Hawaii uniforms have been ordered. We will be doing marching uniforms for the first playoff game next week. (assuming it all works out and is a home game. Likely)

7) Winds Uniforms- Monica H.- There's a couple that need adjustments, but otherwise it's all done.

8) Bus Chaperones – Karen B. – For Indy you should have received 2 emails and a group me if you are chaperoning. Tickets will be provided. Upbeat will need help with lunch at school. There are no stops currently planned we will try and figure out where we can stop for a bathroom break. We have 1 spot remaining at West Clermont. Thanks for everyone who has volunteered this year. Just as an FYI we've only gone to Indy as an overnight and having been paying for the coach busses. The difference between taking coach busses and school busses was \$10,000 which is why we are taking school busses. (Total of \$18000 vs \$8000). Red bags are going on the box truck which will give the kids a little more space.

9) Hawaii Trip- Karen B./ Kristin B.

a. Parent Info Meeting, 11/9 at 6:30 pm in the Main Campus band room

Chaperone meeting has also been scheduled and you should have received 2 emails as well as a band app invitation. There has been a question about late meds (i.e., restricted) check with your doctor to see if there's a way to get an emergency route for those medications. Start now there's usually hoops jumping through. There are nurses going with us who will be administering medications. The last day to turn in meds in Nov10th at 3:30 no exceptions. Because this is a school trip the kids stay with the group, and they will not be able to go off with their families. For anyone who is going be prepared to be tired from the jet lag.

10) Swing Dance (12/8/23 at 6 pm) The cafeteria is set up for a fun dance with jazz music and decorations. Lots of pretty lights. We're looking for someone to be the lead on it. It's not a huge undertaking and there's already a lot of details in place. Ideally a parent with a Freshman or Sophomore in Jazz bands. There was a lot of organizing last year so the décor is ready to go. We will be meeting with Mr. T next Thursday 3:45 to discuss details. Even if a few people want to tackle it together.

11) Winter Guard- Amy K. – Going full speed ahead. Kristen and Brittney work with the guard in both marching band and indoor. They are so full of ideas and energy and life. They are really taking the program to a new level. We're trying hard to support them in that as they do fall under the band program. The info night was last week. Guard has been opened up to 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders as well. It gives them a bit of a head start in practice.

a. Fundraiser- Will be some kind of general fundraiser.

b. LW Indoor Show (1/27/24)- WE will be hosting our own show. The circuit is Southern Ohio and N KY. It will be one of the only shows in Ohio so we think it will be a good opportunity. This school is not really set up to host it due to the sunken gym, but we have a great plan to host it at the Freshman building. We will need lots of people to be on the committee. It will have a lot of the same pieces and parts as the marching band invitational. Please let us know if you'd be interested in working on any piece of that.

Last year the guard relied on parent volunteers to get everywhere they needed to go and last year they had people back out at the last minute. We discussed increasing their budget to help provide bussing for their local competitions. We would like to increase the budget by \$2500 to help cover their transportation costs.

Motion to approve Ali/Amy P All in favor 26 no opposed

12) Spirit Wear– Heather C.- There's been a lot of questions about a piece of spirit wear for Hawaii. WE have been in communication with East. WE have several designs. Ones that they have worked on, and one Emma Celek has done for us. They will go into the Rokkitwear store. AS soon as it is for sale it will go up on our social media. We are going to run through each groups respective design stores. There will be T-shirts and Sweatshirts. Look for it in the next week or so. The spirit shop shirts will be different from the ones coming from the travel agency. There's been a lot of questions about the jacket, but they are doing them correctly. They will replace the graphics at some point.

13) Taste for Music- Ali B. – We had the Marcos pizza fundraiser this last week. We had 20 families participate and they made \$407. There will be other opportunities for you to participate in restaurants that may be close. Next one is Oct 24<sup>th</sup> at Chick Fila and Nov 14<sup>th</sup> at Wings and Rings. Krispy Kreme is

coming back again so more details coming next month. \$15/dozen and we get 50% back. All online good for all Krispy Kreme around the country. We've made almost \$900 so far this year.

14) Communications- Kristin B./ Barb W. – Please let us know if there's anything you need to go out in the email blast.

Per Laura: Huge shout out to the communications team for keeping us so up to date and get us all of the information. You guys are awesome.

15) Tech Team – Rebecca Y. – First concert under the belt and only a small little tech difficulty. We will try to stream senior night up until the point of the show.

16) Sponsorships – Michelle R. – Just thinking if we could put something out about sponsorships. We're in the last quarter of the year and people might start to be looking to donate.

17) Volunteer Positions

a. Current Lead Openings- Mattress Sale (really just juggling logistics) Will likely be in February, Swing Dance (See above), Try Band(Feb)- A bit of coordinating and handling the info night here at West,

18) New Business Marching Band Stadium Night- Parent Tailgate, 10/20 Join us tomorrow for spirit decorating

Meeting adjourned- 7:56

Next Meeting – Thurs, Nov 16<sup>th</sup> 6:30 pm in the Lakota West Band Room