

Lakota West Upbeat Meeting

November 16, 2023, 6:30 p.m.

Informational Meeting:

- Director's Report – Andy Carr – Truly the best in the country. We will put a banner of unexplained and Hawaii on the wall in the band room as well. For Hawaii, the stuff they're playing is fun and hopefully they will learn some things. It can be a very moving great experience at the memorial. The weather is going to be great. The stressful part is always leading up to it. Solo and Ensemble is still up in the air. It is happening there's just some pieces that need to be figured out. The school needs to figure out how to pay the school.

- Asst. Director's Report – Colin Celek – Congrats on Marching Band it was a great season! We were interviewed by the West press today. We really accomplished some things this year that we wanted. We gave our best performance every time. Each performance was the best of the day. We were consistent on Football games. We've also been trying to go to a competition without a lot of rehearsal and they were able to do that at Obetz and West Clermont. We've also been trying to figure out playing a better second show than first and we did that this season. We scratched the itch of making it to super regionals. It's super cool to be mentioned in the same groups as places like Lincoln South Dakota. It is great for our program. The Obetz score was the highest ever scored outside the month of November. People asked where we bought our props, and they were amazed that we made them ourselves and had 3D printed parts. Scores are what they are. There's no defense, you just go out and do your best every time. We're really pleased with the season. Were super excited about going to Hawaii. We're done with rehearsals. Monday is at East unless it rains. Hurst wrote a cadence just for the trip. The kids have been playing really well. The drum line is 36 strong and looks like a college band. It should be a nice trip, non-competitive and just a lifestyle trip. It's a little scary for them since not every second is planned. That will be a departure for all of us. We do think the parade will eventually end up on YouTube. Don't watch it live. It will be at 2 AM. Special thanks to the uniform people for dealing with our uniform snafu. They came from the manufacturer about a size too small.

Concert band update- Lang Chen's piece is getting a lot of action. NPR interviewed yesterday. It's a great credit to him, and what a great job he did. It's great to have the support and players to do it. Just finished sign-ups for honor band. For the first time in years Mr. Celek is not in charge. Honor band weekend is MLK weekend. It will all be in Mason. We have 2x the number of auditions than any other school. Will be at Fairfield Creekside. Several Jr high kids are trying out also. December we will have our normal concert schedule. Freshman will be at their school and the main bands will be at Main.

- Jazz Director's Report- Aaron Todahl – Great to see everybody. Thanks for being here. I've been harassing the kids about going to audition for Jazz Honor Band. (1st weekend of January at Kings) Auditions are at Creekside (Fairfield). Lakota made up 78% of honor jazz band last year. By number of contact hours they have in Jazz, our kids are lucky. It will be a great experience. Swing dance trying to get some info out before going to Hawaii. It's going to happen really quick before we come back. The Jr. High kids are very excited about it. Ordered a bunch of stand lights so the kids can read the music this year. It will be from 6-10 on the 8th. Started earlier this year to accommodate the 8th graders coming. Hope is they will hang out and stick around for a while. It will be a fun social experience for them and drum up some business for the Freshman and main building programs.

Club Meeting:

- 1) Call to Order- 6:52
- 2) New Member Welcome-No new people this month. Thanks to everyone who came.
- 3) Minutes Approval – Stacey L. motion to approve: Jen Second Rebecca
- 4) Finance Approval – Amy- With the change over in volunteers we want to spend a little more time going over the budget. Amy and Jenny have worked hard to get this all together. All previous months are now listed on the website. Jenny spearheaded this as she has experience being the treasurer at Adena. This budget captures everything we have spent and is tracked in the correct categories. We want to start with the good things. Fundraising is going really well. We made more than budget for Tag Day, the invitational (many expenses were one time expenses) this will be a huge opportunity continuing forward. Calendar fundraiser met target and we are on track to surpass Taste of Music. Split the pot this year went well. Our volunteers working on this really put a lot of effort into it. We also had several people who gave the money they won back. We still have several other fundraisers that haven't occurred for the year but we have already exceeded the goal for the entire year. The color guard invitational could be another really good opportunity for us. We're not sure what to expect. Sponsorships does not have 2 new sponsors added. Next level Insurance reupped their Platinum sponsorship and Dave's Quality Meats has come on board as a gold level sponsor.

There are a couple of areas where we have overspent and need to adjust. For the director's fund, we put the new locks for the instrument lockers in that category. (Split between that and Marching band support). We need to increase that budget to give the money back to the directors for future conductors to come. We are also over in marching band Misc. due to the unexpected costs of moving band camp from Freshman to Main. (Field painting, signs, etc.) We need to increase the budget to \$3000 to cover those budgets to the tractor is listed in expenses, but that money will be reimbursed into the general fund from the savings account. We had some extra admin costs on the office supply line due to the purchase of the new card readers after paypal discontinued our credit card processing. We also had a bit of a snafu with taxes that were filed late, and we paid the penalty. We are trying to get that money back but we're not sure how likely that is. This would be a one time only expense.

Director \$15 to \$25

Marching band misc. \$10,000 to \$13,000

Admin office \$1,000 to \$1,500

Tax prep \$100 to \$2174.76

Motion to approve- Jay 2nd Amy. All in favor-18 all opposed- 0

Vote to approve this month's budget- Amy second Rebecca

We don't know what the treasurer position is going to go personally. Alison, last year's treasurer, has volunteered to help with the budget, even though she cannot be on executive. We think her help will get us back on track. We will have more info on the treasurer position at the next meeting. Thank you for hanging with us and your questions.

- 5) Pit Crew– Justin K./Ray B.
- 6) Marching Band/ Color Guard Uniforms – Stacey L./ Jen H. -We are working on getting everyone new Hawaii uniforms. We will have a turn in red uniform bags and show pants on Dec 8th during the Swing Dance. Please wash your pants before you return them to us. Pants should be washed in cold water and tumble dry low (or similar).
- 7) Winds Uniforms- Monica H.- nothing to report.
- 8) Hawaii Trip- Karen B./ Kristin B. – Some things came up during the chaperone meeting today that we are concerned about Monday. Our chaperones recommend sleeping on the planes. One of the shopping centers (the farthest one) is not open on Thanksgiving. They will have 2 options. The chaperones will be going with them to each shopping center. They need to have location on for the band app. Tanis may communicate in ways that we don't do things. Our kids are supposed to listen to our chaperones not what has been communicated by Tanis. The chaperones are not comfortable about singing wavers for the kids. We are trying to get soft copies from the hotel to see if we can get you to sign them in advance. The secret island will have some of the same activities, but they will be for free. Luggage tags all need to have legal name that matches your plane ticket. You will not need to report your student's absence.
- 9) Taste for Music- Ali B. – We got some checks in the mail this week. Marcos \$407, Cane's \$200 and chick Fila at \$115. Krispy Kreme fundraiser beings on Nov. 17th. It's \$15 for a dozen and we get 50% back. Purchase online and take the code they give you to any store nationwide and get that money back. Coming in the new year, Taste of Belgium possibly on the weekend, Chipotle, and Wings and Rings. Cycle bar is something to think about.
- 10) Swing Dance (12/8/23 at 6 pm) – Swing dance is Dec. 8th. Being kicked off with the 8th grade jazz bands. Have a committee of folks working on it. You'll see info in the email tomorrow with the sign-up genius for the volunteers as well as a separate sign up for food contributions. Because of covid we kind of shifted our food focus to more individual packaged food. Pre covid the food situation was much better, and we'd like to get back to that. It was not great last year. When you see that come out, please think about signing up. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door. They are already live at the website. The only people who don't need tickets are student performers. Volunteers do need to have tickets. 8th grade families are coming gratis.
- 11) Solo & Ensemble- Rebecca & Todd Y. – Is happening. That's all we have at this point. The volunteer ask will be significantly less than in the past.
- 12) Try Band- Barb W. – Try band starts in January, probably the 3rd week. We go into the 4 West elementary schools and get all of the kids in front of us trying out the instruments. Willis and the Jr. High directors will be there. The 4th day there will be an evening event, and we will need some help that night. Will need some help getting posters and door signs out. We'd love someone to take over this from Barb.
- 13) Winter Guard- Amy K. Have a varsity and JV team this year.
 - a. Pick a Day Calendar Fundraiser – almost full and we'd like to complete it.
 - b. LW Indoor Show (1/27/24)- Planning Committee. If helping out is something you are interested in, please let us know. It will be similar to the invitational but on a smaller scale as the groups are smaller than marching band. It has the potential to be a longer day though. Concessions, Vendors, Tickets, Judges Hospitality Suite, Hospitality room for directors and staff, parking logistics, building logistics, Event volunteers. If any of those groups interests you please reach out to us.

- 14) Mattress Sale- Charity – Still sorting out a date. Aiming for end of February 25th
- 15) Jazz n Cakes- Kristen M. (4/6/24) – If it is something you worked on last year and you are willing to do a same or similar role, let Amy or Kristin Marshall know. We will also be looking for more people.
- 16) Communications- Kristin B./ Barb W. – We posted info for fundraising for the band tragedy that occurred this week. If you can please contribute to that.
- 17) Tech Team – Rebecca Y. – No updates. Just chugging along doing our thing
- 18) Sponsorships – Michelle R. – We are going to try and push an end of the year giving campaign. It falls off the radar that we are a 501C3. We are a great end of the year giving option for tax purposes. Any and all donations are welcome and appreciated.
- 19) Volunteer Positions
 - a. Current Lead Openings- Mattress Sale, Try Band
- 20) New Business
 - a Eagle Project- Darin Wargacki- With Mr. Carr and Mr. Celek's help, he wants to build 4 shelves with special padding for the symphonic winds horns. Right now, they don't have a home and can get scratched up. The estimate of the cost of the project is around \$1000. He is asking for a donation to help fund the project. It's a great opportunity for anyone who needs service hours to help get those. They can get them as this is a community event. The timeline is the advisor finishes reviewing the protocol and then it will go to council for review. Once it is approved he can begin the project. You have to have it done before your 18th birthday which is Jan 20th. He's like to kickstart as soon as everyone is back from Hawaii. The work dates for the project will be on the weekends to allow people to participate. No questions. Holly motions to support the project, Amy seconds. All in favor (19) no opposed. Darrin says thank you for your support.

Next Meeting – Thurs, Jan 18th, 6:30 pm in the Lakota West Band Room