

## Lakota West Upbeat Meeting

January 18, 2024, 6:30 p.m.

### Informational Meeting:

- Director's Report – Andy Carr- Thanks for coming. We'll get the meeting started. A lot of exciting things have happened since we left met. Hawaii was a lot of fun; thanks to everyone especially the chaperones that made that possible. The two performance things turned out to be two of the best things. The parade was really well attended and super cool walking down the lit-up street. Way better than the West Chester parade. The Rose parade is also packed but it's 7.5 miles and that's a little long and hot. The more meaningful part was the performance at Pearl Harbor. It was pretty chaotic but it all came together. The kids got a lot of meaning out of it and the kids laid the wreath at the memorial. The staff does a great job informing the kids about the memorial. We also got a flag that had been raised on the anniversary of the date when they signed the treaty. It's not hung up yet but it will be along with the picture of the kids standing there. It's a very reverent place. It was fantastic. It was a good balance. The kids did a nice job. Very happy with how it went.

Hopefully everyone had a nice holiday break. We got started with honor band right away. We routinely get the most kids into the honor band every year. What I really like about that is the kids enjoy being around each other and work hard to make those spots. Half of the jazz band was West. They played wonderfully. The high school concert bands went well. The concerts were all fantastic. We had 78 kids between both weekends. The next honor band thing coming up is the all state bands. We have 7 kids that will be doing that in Columbus as the state convention. It has students around the state of Ohio. There are hundreds of applicants for each instrument. It is more intensive since they stay on site in a hotel, but it's a great experience.

Our next major all band event is solo and ensemble. It is coming together pretty well. We decided to host just our own this year. This is allowing us to keep the good from OMEA and excise the bad. Including doing it on Mon/Tues instead of Saturday. It will be a little easier on everyone. There's so many talented judges in the area that are willing to come in and do it. We got it down to just large rooms for performances. All of the kids will stay for all of the performances. They will have an audience, and it's a good experience for the kids to listen to each other. We are also going to be providing recording to everyone. These will be great for the kids to be able to listen back to them or submit them for other auditions. All of the feedback previously came back on barely legible sheets. Our set up gives each kid 15 minutes; the judge will make a few comments on the computer and then run a clinic with them. This will provide all of the kids with valuable feedback that is more collaborative. All of the judges are already full. Parents are welcome to record it and take pictures vs the OMEA rules that don't allow any of that. We'll learn a few things from this year to improve on next year. There's a google drive that has all the info including the schedules. More info will be sent out as we get closer. Should be nice.

Thank you for the educational consultant band director that the Upbeat Club paid for. He is great and gave us a bunch of resources. It was really nice and he interacted with the kids all day. We had a really nice time, and we were really happy we had the chance to do that.

When Solo and Ensemble is over, we will be hyper focused on competition season. The main campus bands are going to go over to Mason and do the Music for All Festival. It's an incredible event. They bring in the best conductors and educators in the country. After the kids play one of the judges comes with them and does a clinic with them afterwards. The kids get to hear some really great performances. Schedule has not come out yet, but they will be there ~3 hours. Usually symphonic band in the morning, concert in the middle, and symphonic at the end.

Great marching band season. We're really happy with how the season went.

Winter guard is off to a great start and is hosting a show a week from Saturday. We need lots of volunteers for that. Similar to what we do in the fall but inside and with less instruments. There are a couple of percussion ensembles. They're having a great season, and the guard staff is doing a great job. Thanks to all of the parents so that these kids can have these great experiences. Extra shout out to the communications team for being so on top of things and always sharing with the community all the good things were doing.

Spectrum News is running a piece on Lang Chen all day on Friday. They did an interview and got some footage of the band. Big congratulations to Lang for that and getting some amazing publicity out there.

- Asst. Director's Report – Colin Celek
- Jazz Director's Report- Aaron Todahl

#### Special Meeting:

- Review, nominate, and vote new officer for vacant executive board position.

Special meeting. Our treasurer resigned for personal reasons due to the time commitment. In the time that was coming to fruition, Jenni stepped in and sort of kept everything going. Now that we are into the new year, we would like to have the exec board filled with all 5 people. We would like to have a nomination to formally move Jenni to treasurer. Amy P Nominated. Paper ballots were handed out. 15 votes for Jenni. No votes for anyone else.

To fill Jenni's vacant Freshman VP Katie Dixon was nominated by Amy P. Paper ballots handed out, 14 votes for Katie. No votes for anyone else.

#### Club Meeting:

- 1) Call to Order- Meeting called to order at 7:06
- 2) New Member Welcome- No new faces but great to see all the familiar faces
- 3) Minutes Approval – Stacey L.- Motion to approve: AJ motion, Jen second
- 4) Finance Approval- Balance sheet and financial updates. Just over \$74,000 in the checking account. We are right around where we were last year. We have a lot of areas where we overachieved and we

still have several fundraisers coming up. Not sure what to expect for the Color guard invitational but that will hopefully be a good opportunity. Motion to approve- Jen 2<sup>nd</sup> Rebecca

5) Swing Dance Wrap Up- Jenni K.- It was a great night. We brought back a lot of our food from pre-covid years and that was very popular. Thanks to Katie for putting that together. Some of the junior high kids and parents were flabbergasted. It didn't feel like having the jr. high there took away from the event. We made about \$2200. There was a great team of helpers this year, but we are looking for someone to coordinate the event next year. It's not hard to do as things are pretty much all planned and just needs someone to organize.

6) Try Band (Week of 1/22)- Barb W.- Try band starts Monday. The last few years we started going into the schools and it has made a huge difference. The jr. high directors run this and go into the elementary schools and Wilson music covers the instrument pieces that helps them decide what to play. We have yard signs, and we have posters. The open house is here next week and then they can try real instruments. It's done a lot of good for the numbers. May needs some students to show kids how to play instruments. It is 6-8:30 on Thursday. May need a couple of parent helpers with a device to sign people in.

7) Winter Guard- There's a varsity and a JV group this year. The show is really cool and coming along.

a. TMA LW Indoor Show (1/27/24)- Amy K. Hopefully you've seen some info going around with this. We do need some food donations and lots of help. It's inside and will be a slower trickle instead of mega groups all at once. It spreads things out a little bit. Who knew the Freshman building could be so useful. They will be warming up in the Creekside gym. We are using every corner of that complex together. Everything from the day comes to the upbeat budget. They've been working so hard, and our groups will actually get to compete. If you've never seen an indoor show, it's really great and different. It's a very positive thing. There are opportunities for student volunteer hours as well.

8) Solo & Ensemble (1/29 and 1/30/24)- Rebecca & Todd Y.- Working through the details. Most of it is going to be background prep stuff. We'll need a very small number of volunteers. 4 on Monday and 6 on Tuesday. Somebody who plays the judge's assistant. Maybe a little more crowd management than it used to be. Making sure the door stays closed, people aren't loud, there's enough stands, etc. Parents will have the schedule and they can come and go. Few woodwind solos on Monday as well as Brass and Percussion. Tuesday is Woodwinds.

9) Mattress Sale- Charity- Finally have a date of Feb 25<sup>th</sup>. 10-4. That is a Sunday. Don't need a ton of volunteers but if a couple of the kids want to stand out on the street in the mattress costume that would be great. We will have a parent pep rally at next month's upbeat meeting. We get \$5 for every adult that shows up. If we can get 100 people, we get \$1000. Bring your friends, grandparents etc. It is live on Facebook from the mattress company. Please share on your social media. That is really the best way to help us sell mattresses.

10) Jazz n Cakes- Kristen M. (4/6/24)- We are getting everything organized for this year. We had great turnout. Next meeting is Feb 1<sup>st</sup> 6:15 here. Any ideas for donations, silent auctions, more volunteers etc. with younger kids as we have a lot of parents senioring out this year. We have donations flyers with tax donation information. We have lots of Joe Burow Signed items for this year. Our kitchen crew is

really good but may have some scheduling conflicts so we could use some extra hands there for planning purposes.

11) Taste for Music- Ali B.- Krispy Kreme is still going and continuing on until Valentine's Day. \$7.50 goes back to the band for every dozen sold.

a. Chipotle (1/23/24, 4-8pm, Beckett Ridge) Not the one by the high school

b. Taste of Belgium- (2/9/24, 8am-9pm, RSVP- must have 20 by 2/6, Liberty Center) This is a Friday!! We need to have people RSVP in order to have the event. Must have 20 people register or it will get cancelled.

c. Wings & Rings (3/5/24, 5-8pm, Beckett Ridge)

12) Communications- Kristin B./ Barb W.- Summer school registration opens next week if your kids need to open up slots for various bands. Calendar changed again. April 8<sup>th</sup> was added to the calendar as a day off for the eclipse.

13) Tech Team – Rebecca Y.- Nothing new. If there's stuff that needs to be updated on the website please let them know.

14) Sponsorships – Michelle R.- We've had several expire and renew so that is really great. Michelle is plugging away at finding new ones. If you have any ideas, please reach out to her.

15) Volunteer Opportunities- Thank you for all you do

a. Indoor Show- Volunteer/ Donate

b. Jazz n Cakes- Kitchen Lead

16) New Business

Karen- If anyone looks at summer symposium in Indiana it is awesome. They have a marching and color guard track. Our Drum majors go every year, and it is an amazing experience. It is expensive but worth it and then they get to march with Carolina Crown at the end.

Also looking to fill someone to take over the bus chaperone lead from last year. Ideally, we should also have a navigator on bus one. The end of the year is coming quick, but Karen would like to have some time to talk through it with someone before the year ends.

Barb- East is doing a community show on January 31<sup>st</sup>.

Meeting adjourned 7:54

Next Meeting – Thurs, Feb 15th, 6:30 pm in the Lakota West Band Room