

Lakota West Upbeat Meeting

April 25, 2024, 6:30 p.m.

Informational Meeting:

- Director's Report – Andy Carr- Pancake breakfast happened. Massive thank you to everyone that made that happen. Ben Brown stopped in to say how great it was. The kids are learning about service and there's all these layers of things that the kids are learning and doing. The kids actually enjoy serving. It is interesting how that turns out. It was a lovely atmosphere. It's crowded without being overwhelming. They went and saw winter guard perform at WGI. Made it with a minute and a half to spare. They had a great performance. It was really cool. They had a great season. Advanced to semis. First time for our school since 2016. Huge accomplishment for them. Great to see the growth of that program. The musical just finished. That was really fun. Really cool thing because its super collaborative. It involves the whole performing arts wing. All these people come together to collaborate and make it happen. All of our students who performed did great the on stage performers did great as well as the theater tech people. It's always a great show. Coming up on the final run of concerts and things. The last main campus concert is coming up. It's the Pops concert. Featuring a lot of movie music and the highlight senior concertos. Then senior awards night. Then we are playing at graduation. We don't know about what we are doing for graduation next year. Don't ask. The concert and symphonic band comes together to play for graduation. The symphonic winds kids who aren't seniors will work on all state music. There aren't many left after the seniors leave. Those are the main things coming up that aren't jazz. Percussion ensemble concert is Tuesday the 30th. Night before is the dress rehearsal. They do really cool stuff. Last Freshman concert is the 14th. Mini camp is the 3 days after memorial day this year. That will be here at Main for the first time. No rookies for Memorial Day parade.
- Pit crew has been busy getting things ready for marching band. They are infinitely talented and patient.
- Asst. Director's Report – Colin Celek
- Jazz Director's Report- Aaron Todahl- Huge thank you to everyone that helped out with jazz n cakes. By far one of my favorite events that we do. It requires a lot of intense planning and so many business and vendors and volunteers. You see it all working and it's really cool. The junior highs come and they love it and they get to see what the program looks like here. The kids were super helpful getting set up and our custodial staff crushed it again for us. They help us out a lot. The kids that have a lot of apprehension about serving have such a good time the next year they serve the whole day. One more concert left here at West May 6th. This time it will be just the West bands not a combo. This concert is going to be really cool because there are French Horns. The jazz orchestra is playing a piece featuring French Horns. He's been super impressed with it. The French horns were given the music a month ago and they came back from Spring break and the first time they put all of the pieces together was this Tuesday and they played the whole thing and it was great. The level of professionalism the kid had and how prepared they were and had worked out was really amazing. They put it together on two rehearsals. It is so impressive. They are quick learners and are ready to just jump in and try it. It will be a celebration of the year. Just finished up auditions for Jazz groups. Three groups next year. 76 kids signed up. Just a few years ago when he first got here it was only 24. There will be some drops and adds but its continuing to grow and that really exciting. The head of jazz studies at CCM is coming to see all of the Jazz groups at East and West and will bring a group of students out. He will talk a bit about what UC has to offer, audition processes and what it's like to be a music major. He hasn't been out since 2019 so it will be cool to have him back in and visiting.

Business Meeting:

- 1) Call to Order 6:50
- 2) New Member Welcome to the new members.
- 3) Minutes Approval – Stacey L. AJ/Kristen
- 4) Finance Approval- Jenni K.- Posted online Things that have changed from last month- new bronze sponsor by a band family. Check from Kroger, a couple of checks from Jazz n Cakes that puts us over \$13,000, More money from Taste of Music. Received a check from Cincinnati Brass band that was unexpected. Pit Crew has spent some of its prop money since we didn't spend much from last season. Also doing some shed repairs and improvements. Also some expenses from truck repairs. Paid the Ohio non-profit registration. We are going to transfer \$1000 into the scholarship fund that rewards 2 seniors a \$500 scholarship each. Approve Amy/Ray
- 5) Winter Guard- Jen H.- A great season. Varsity made semis. It was a very emotional show. Fall guard try outs were Monday/Tuesday. 35 showed up, 5 eight graders who were on JV are coming back. Great season looking forward to the fall.
- 6) Pit Crew- Ray B.- Had two builds so far. Xs are disassembled. Kept what was useful and got rid of the rest. We have all of the hardware for the wheels and the stage hardware. Last build was a lot of metal working. Made really good progress. Two more builds the 4th and the 18th. Then June is vacation time. Shed had a lot of work. Made a lot of room and added some storage. Put a solar battery system so that we can see after football games and flashing to put on the bottom to stop the water incursion. We will likely also need to add gutters at some point. We've got a really good jump on things, and we'll have props at band camp. A little bit ahead of last year.
- 7) Uniforms
 - a. Marching- Stacey L.- We will be measuring in class for uniforms.
 - b. Concert- Monica H.- Please turn in your winds uniform after the concert.
- 8) Jazz n Cakes Wrap Up- Kristen M.- Thanks to everyone that volunteered and the directors. Served 850 meals. There is a debrief on May 2nd at 7:00 to plan for next year. 100 more meals than last year.
- 9) Taste for Music- Ali B.
 - a. Previous Events Update- \$140 from Red Robin
 - b. Chuy's (5/21/24)- All day event
 - c. Chick-fil-A (6/18/24)- VOA Mobile App Fundraiser. Make sure you order thorough the app.
 - d. Nothing Bundt cake is interested in partnering with us for a fundraiser.
- 10) Band Camp- Shannon B.- Getting contracts approved. Meeting again next week.
- 11) Communications- Kristin B./ Barb W.- Super fun time of the year as we onboard new families. Please see the website and the calendar. The weekly emails will continue and follow us on social media.
- 12) Tech/Website Team – Rebecca Y.
- 13) Sponsorships – Michelle R.
- 14) Volunteer Opportunities
 - a. Exec Vote- 2024-25 _ all unanimous. 13 for 0 against.
 - i. President-Charity Feagley

- ii. VP student Experiences- Katie Dixon
- iii. VP Events- Amy Pitzer
- iv. VP Communications- Kristin Bramblett
- v. Treasurer- Jenni Kershaw
- vi. Secretary- Stacey Loberg

b. Lead Position Openings for 2024-25- See sheet on the website

15) New Business

- a. Uniform Labels Fundraiser- Cute personalized message in the kids uniforms. Similar to DCI. It will roll out at Mini camp and go through the beginning of the season. They will be stitched into the show shirts. Cost \$25.
- b. Karen is senioring out and we will need someone to be the yellow bus trip chaperone coordinator. She has made a great cheat sheet list with tips and tricks. There will be 3 yellow bus trips next year. Let us know if you are interested. Mostly coordinating people, navigation and communication. Could be a pair of people. She will be available for questions.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15

Next Meeting – Thurs, May 23, 6:30 pm in the Lakota West Band Room