

Lakota West Upbeat Meeting

March 20, 2025, 6:30 p.m.

Informational Meeting:

- Director's Report – Andy Carr – Thanks for coming. Lots and lots of band.

Just finished up with district contest. First time in many years we've taken all 5 bands. They were great and received great comments from the judges. The judges' comments, pdfs, and recordings were all provided. It's great for the kids to hear comments from anywhere else. Love playing at Fairfield, they have a great size stage for us. Thanks to the Fairfield crew for all of the hard work they provide for us. Musical is getting going. It is in 2 weeks Apr 3-6th. It will be amazing. Read a bit about it before you come. The band kids are on stage, and you can see them all of the time. Those kids are amazing, and they just have done such a good job prepping for it and are working with the performers so much sooner and everything is going so well. It's really exciting and a great show. We're getting ready for end of the year concerts. Main campus bands is May 1st. We tend to try to get it in a little earlier because of the seniors' schedules. At that concert all of the bands play some pop/movie music. Symphonic band and Concert Band non seniors will combine, and they will play at graduation. They will practice that music until the end of the year. Graduation is the Friday after the last day of school. The freshman concert is on May 11th. We have sent out the schedules for concert band auditions. That's coming up right after the jazz auditions. Drum major auditions are the day before spring break. Every year the kids that come out for drum majors are always great kids and all of them would be good at the job and it's so hard to decide. That is part of the reason we put it on that day so they have some time to be upset and get a break. Just because they weren't chosen to be drum majors doesn't mean they're not a pivotal person in our band. We are prepping all of the music now to get organized and out to the kids. Looking forward to Jazz N Cakes. Great news is our MSBA show has more bands signed up than anywhere else in the circuit. There are still many months left for bands to sign up. If we get more, we may end up splitting the awards just due to the length of the day. It will be a really fun night and a great fundraiser. East is signed up so we should have a good crowd with their parents coming. Alter will be there and they're a good band to see. Kings and West Clermont will be there too. There will be a lot of opportunities and a lot of challenges with the new band next year so it will be great to see how it all goes. It will be interesting to see if the kids who don't make competitive bands will stick around for a year of football band and then come back out to competitive band. We couldn't get to all of these amazing experiences and results without everyone being involved

- Asst. Director's Report – Colin Celek- Freshman did a great job. Haven't been to a contest in 8 years. Lots of comments that say wait there's only Freshman in this band. Concerto auditions just happened. We'll have a trumpet concerto by Katie Koziel and a saxophone concerto from Evan Kershaw. That will be a lot of fun. Try band is really paying off and we're starting to see the results. 150 is a full time teacher. 826 jr high kids in Jr. High Bands. At the high school level West Freshman 160, West main 178. Between both sides of the district 1600 kids. This is about a third more than 5 years ago. 287 signed up for marching band next year. Shared next year's West uniform. We got the opener music

today so now we can move along to percussion writing and drill writing. Very exciting stuff.

- Jazz Director's Report- Aaron Todahl – All of the kids got a festival experience.

No scores for these but they get a 30minute clinic, comments sheets, and tapes. It's always nice when they get the same feedback from the judges as they do from us. Jazz Orchestra played at the regional Ellington festival. Had a great time at CCM with such a nice performance hall. Those kids played great and they had a wonderful clinic with their clinician. Had a couple of kids that were recognized for incredible soloists. Got some feedback from the students and it was mixed between the kids that preferred the Beaver creek vs the Ellington. Due to the linear nature the kids may get both experiences, Beaver creek as a sophomore/junior and then Ellington as a Junior/Senior. The spring concert is a bit different than the other as we transition from swing to other styles including each group playing a contemporary big band piece. It forces them to use all of the skills they have learned throughout the year. The contemporary big band is all stuff that is written really recently so it's cool to see the transition and common threads with older pieces. Concert in April. Auditions for next year's jazz bands are next week starting at 3:30 and will last 45-60minutes. Jazz N Cakes is Saturday April 5th. Trying to push the kids to sign up to volunteer. Kids are doing great, and the bands are sounding awesome.

Business Meeting:

1) Call to Order 7:08

2) New Member Welcome – Welcome

3) Minutes Approval – Stacey L. – Jan approval of updated minutes Bob/AJ Feb Kristen/Rebecca

4) Finance Approval- Jenni K. – Couple of things to point out. Not really many more planned expenses for the year and we still have a bigger fundraiser. The winter guard costs will go back down in the budget since we got trip payments back. We are making a large initial investment in uniforms with the switch this upcoming year. This will be an additional \$4-5000 expense but the cleaning fee for last year's uniforms was \$3200 so that will be an offset and over the long haul that will save us a lot of money and effort. Motion to approve Bob/Anita

5) Jazz and Cakes- Kristen M. – We need a lot of volunteers needs. The food is ordered and we adjusted our set up to accommodate the musical. We have 40 raffle baskets made, and we have 15 vendors set up.

6) Taste for Music- Ali B. – Setup a fundraiser with Red Robin coming up (2) all day thing and one is on a Friday night. They are March 28th and April 22nd. The last one is Wings in Rings and may and we made \$200 for the last one.

7) Communications- Kristin B./ Barb W. Next year's marching band exists in final forms. You should have received an email telling you that you have been added to the list. Parent square is also a thing that maybe is an option. East is going to work on the parent square for band next year to trial it out for the year. Google doc will stay as the running list of all things.

8) Tech/Website Team – Rebecca Y.

9) Sponsorships – Michelle R.

10) Executive Board Nominations-Charity F

Nominations:

President- Charity F

VP student experiences- Katie D

VP Events- Amy P

Secretary- Amanda G

Treasury- Stacey L

Communications- Radihka, Irosha P

11) New Business

A. Open Lead Positions- Lots open if anyone is interested.

b. We are going to be out of space for all of the new uniforms with all of the additional kids. We are proposing getting a new storage trailer to house all of the uniforms. We could get it for \$11,000. Would be a double decker and we could set it up so the kids could walk in grab their uniform and leave. It's 2 feet longer than the instrument trailer and could be an instrument back up trailer if it is ever needed.

Motion to approve \$11900 for new trailer- AJ/Todd. Vote- 13 Opposed-0

Next Meeting – Thurs, April 10, 2025, 6:30PM, Main Campus Band Room