

Lakota West Upbeat Meeting

August 20, 2026 | 6:30 p.m. | Choir Room

Informational Meeting

Director's Report – Andy Carr

- Concert bands are averaging about 60 students each; jazz bands are underway.
- Football Band has dealt with significant rain. The halftime show will be scaled back; pregame is ready. Friday rehearsal begins at 3:30 p.m. on the grass for stand tunes.
- El Caporal is donating the difference from the \$2,000 dinner budget.
- Competition Band is making good progress despite the weather.
- Picture Night is Monday. Students will rehearse in uniform, with the group panoramic photo at 8:00 p.m.
- The first Wednesday after-school rehearsal went well; students successfully used activity buses.
- The Preview Show was moved indoors because of weather.
- Trip update: registration is underway and an itinerary/basic schedule is expected soon. Washington, D.C. will primarily be sightseeing; the competition/performance is in Delaware. Staff is also working on an opportunity for students to see or meet with a military band in D.C.

Asst. Director's Report – Colin Celek

- No additional report recorded.

Jazz Director's Report – Aaron Todahl

- Mr. Todahl sent an email update. The jazz calendar was shared with students and uploaded to Canvas, ParentSquare, and the West Bands calendar. The first jazz concert is September 29 at 7:00 p.m. in the Main Campus Theater.

Business Meeting

1) Call to Order – 6:54 p.m.

2) New Member Welcome – Charity

3) Minutes Approval – Liz A.

- Motion by Amanda G. and Jenn F.

4) Finance Approval/Budget Approval – Stacey L.

- Mics: approximately \$600 for clarinet microphones – Approved 21–0.
- Leadership Retreat: \$500 budget increase – Approved 21–0.
- Props: \$2,100 budget increase – Approved 21–0.
- Ian's Eagle Scout Project: \$464.85 from the Shed Maintenance Fund for jazz room tuba shelving – Approved 21–0.

5) Communications – Irosha/Rhadika

- Friday emails have been successful. A shared weekly email-prep Google Doc was provided for additions.

6) Tech/Website Team – Ryan

- BoosterHub is up and running and replaces Remind. Members should register and download the app for communication, expenses, volunteering, etc.

7) Sponsorships – Charity

- Major sponsors renewed. Sponsors mentioned included Allstate, Dave's Quality Meats, West Chester Academy, and the Eckman Family.
- El Caporal will receive a shout-out and tax form.

8) Calendar Raffle – Amy/Charity

- Current total: \$6,680. Only three students had turned in paper tickets as of the meeting; additional paper tickets will be accepted at Tag Day.
- Sales are lower than last year. Approximately \$4,850 is paid out before the final-day "cash out."

9) Tag Day – Amy P.

- Tag Day is Saturday and is the band's largest fundraiser; the band keeps 100% of donations.
- More drivers and students are needed. The goal is 55 groups, requiring about 15 additional drivers.
- Only about half of students were signed up. Parents are asked to be flexible about driving students other than their own child.
- A senior group will walk and perform at the Farmers Market. Members are encouraged to share Upbeat Club posts in neighborhood groups.
- Blair M. is shadowing and will take over next year.

10) Pit Crew – Brian D./Richard

- Thankful for the budget increase.

11) Invitational – Katie/Jessica

- Committee met last week; volunteer sign-ups are coming soon. Still deciding between SignUpGenius and BoosterHub.
- Mason and East are attending; 14–15 bands are expected. Football and Competition bands will both perform.
- The schedule will be created the week before the event.
- Trophies are being made; Brandon, parent of an 8th grader is volunteered to make the trophies.
- Several vendors will attend and donate a portion of proceeds back to the band.

12) New Business

- Trophy Sponsors: 33 sponsorships are needed; 16 are currently committed. Use the donation page and note that the payment is for a trophy. Email president@lakotawestbands.org after donating. Some PayPal/Venmo payments may need to be confirmed with Stacey and Charity.
- Spirit wear information (Pit Crew, Motherpluckers, show shirts, etc.) will be included in the Friday email. Students will receive a Competition show shirt.
- Taste of Music/Dine to Donate: Raising Cane's, August 25, 2:00–9:00 p.m., Tylersville location.
- Thanks to Rob and the photography/uniform team for senior photos and stadium banners. Emma C. assisted with the design. Panoramic photos will be sold through BoosterHub.
- Yard signs are available for pickup tonight or Friday near tailgating.
- Competition Trip Information: Rooming and chaperone details (including waitlists and final room assignments/costs) will be finalized after the hard deadline on Wednesday. There is a strict rule that chaperones may not enter student rooms and students may not enter chaperone rooms; any exceptions, such as a student staying with a parent, must be approved by the directors. A chaperone meeting will be held closer to the trip to go over expectations and logistics.

Next Meeting

September 17, 2026 | West Band Room