Lakota West Upbeat Meeting

October 22, 2026 | 6:30 p.m. | Main Campus Bandroom

Informational Meeting

Director's Report – Andy Carr

- The band delivered two strong performances at the Bands of America regional in Newark, Delaware. The evening performance showed improvement over preliminaries, reflecting progress in focus and stamina. Mr. Carr emphasized growth, audience enjoyment, and learning from other bands rather than placement alone.
- The drum majors participated in the wreath ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery. Thank you to the families and volunteers who made the trip possible.
- Both the football band and competition band will perform at Miamisburg. The football band will perform in exhibition before the first awards ceremony; the competition band will perform later in the day.
- The Fishers event used BOA judges and offered an immediate critique, providing useful feedback. Scores from different events should not be compared directly.
- One intensive week of rehearsals remains before Nashville. Trip information will be shared soon, with the hope of performing twice at the regional.
- One home football playoff game is expected, with a second possible. The marching band concert is November 10.
- Concert band is underway. District 13 Honor Band information will be released November 1, and the winter concert is planned for early December.

Business Meeting

1) Call to Order – 7:05 p.m.

- Called to order by Charity F.

2) New Member Welcome

- No new members were present.

3) Minutes Approval – Liz A.

- The September meeting minutes were approved. Motion by Molly; seconded by Rob.

4) Finance Approval – Stacey L.

- The Invitational preliminary net total was approximately $34,500. The food bill had not yet been received, so the total remains subject to adjustment.
- Income included a Kroger Community Rewards check, panorama sales, and additional donations. Calendar Raffle proceeds were applied to student trip payments; families who had paid in full should have received refunds from the travel agency.
- Food purchases have brought marching band miscellaneous expenses close to budget. The Fishers practice-field bill is still pending.
- Tow, service, and repair expenses from the Delaware truck breakdown are pending. The problem has not yet been diagnosed, and rental transportation will be used for the next two events. An engine replacement would not be pursued if required.
- A $2,000 increase to the props budget was approved, 12–0, to reimburse outstanding expenses. Fundraising has exceeded projections, and lower spending in other areas is expected to help cover the increase.
- Stacey thanked everyone who helped with props and truck loading in Delaware, especially first-time volunteers. The additional help was greatly appreciated.
- Combined checking and savings balances were just over $210,000. Monthly financials were approved by Hannah and Lindsey H.

5) Communications – Irosha/Rhadika

- Unable to attend. Thank you for the team's work promoting the band and upcoming trip on social media.

6) Tech/Website Team – Ryan

- The BoosterHub Teams add-on is being considered to support Winter Guard and simplify communication. The estimated cost is approximately $195–$200.
- A possible migration to the district website platform was discussed. Timing, access permissions, publishing approvals, and accessibility requirements need clarification. Members discussed cleaning up existing content and rebuilding selected pages rather than copying the entire site.
- Possible help from Butler Tech students was suggested, subject to district access rules. A separate guard email account in BoosterHub was also discussed for team communications.

7) Winter Guard Try It Night – Jill M.

- Try It Night drew 73 students, including approximately 12 sixth graders and 10 seventh graders, with strong interest in a junior team. Approximately 20 parents attended the information session.
- Forms were sent to parents to gather information and volunteer interest. Parent communication options and transportation needs for junior, JV, and varsity teams were discussed.
- A Winter Guard budget increase may be needed if three teams are formed. Needs will be discussed with Brittany before a proposal is brought to the next meeting.

8) Butter Braid Sale – Liz

- The sale had raised $473 as of 4:00 p.m. October 22 and continues through October 28. Pickup will be at the November 10 marching band concert, including orders placed through the Upbeat Club account.

9) Taste for Music – Liz A.

- The Chipotle fundraiser generated $112.61.
- The next fundraiser is November 17 at Freddy's at Liberty Center, 5:00–9:00 p.m. Information has been sent to the communications team.
- December is to be determined following the closure of the scheduled Panera location. Other restaurant partners and a possible Sunday pint-night fundraiser were discussed; no date was selected.

10) Amazon Wish List – Liz A.

- Trip medications are due no later than the end of the school day Monday.
- Chaperones are planning a surprise delivery of treats and small gifts to students' rooms in Nashville on November 1. Individually wrapped candy and treats will be collected at the October 29 Send-Off Show. An Amazon wish list includes treat bags and non-candy items. The link will be shared in email and on social media. Allergy needs will be accommodated.

11) Pit Crew Help for Nashville – Charity F.

- Brian requested help from adults attending Nashville who are not serving as chaperones. Interested volunteers should reach out to be added to the Nashville pit crew group.
- The NFC check-in system developed by Alex was successfully piloted on Bus 1. Expansion to all buses is planned for the next trip to simplify bus and room attendance checks.

12) New Business

- Marching Band Concert: November 10 in the Main Campus Gym. Chastity Whitacre is coordinating senior photo displays, and senior banners will be distributed that evening. Senior parents should check the BoosterHub group for information.
- Dan Kenworthy Scholarship: A $500 scholarship is available to eligible marching band seniors, including football band members. Mr. Carr will share application information. Essays will be reviewed by non-senior executive board members and three non-executive members.

13) Swing Dance and Jazz and Cakes

- Swing Dance is December 4. This is Amy Pitzer's last year, and parent volunteers are needed to help with afternoon setup and learn the process for future years. Students also assist with setup.
- Jazz and Cakes needs volunteers to solicit donations through letters, calls, and pickups. An existing contact list is available. Outreach begins well before the April event because donor deadlines vary.

14) Photography

- Panorama sales generated approximately $1,000. Another ordering round is planned for November with delivery before Christmas.

15) Solo and Ensemble

- Volunteers are needed to take over coordination previously handled by Rebecca. Recording software and licensing costs need to be addressed so volunteers do not have to purchase software themselves.
- Members noted a busy January schedule involving Solo and Ensemble, Honor Band, and Dallas Brass. Dates and ticket arrangements still need confirmation.

16) Second Trailer Wrap Proposal

- Members discussed obtaining quotes to wrap the second, white trailer before the next marching season. A preliminary estimate of $3,000–$4,000 was discussed. Any commitment will depend on the truck situation and review of quotes. Brian D. will obtain quotes from multiple vendors after November 10.

Adjournment

- The meeting closed at 7:58 p.m.

Next Meeting

November 19, 2026 | Lakota West Band Room