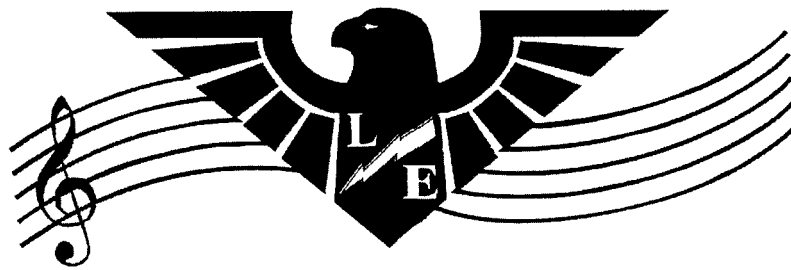


Upbeat Club
LAKOTA EAST



Lakota East Bands

Freshman Campus

Parent Handbook

2009-2010

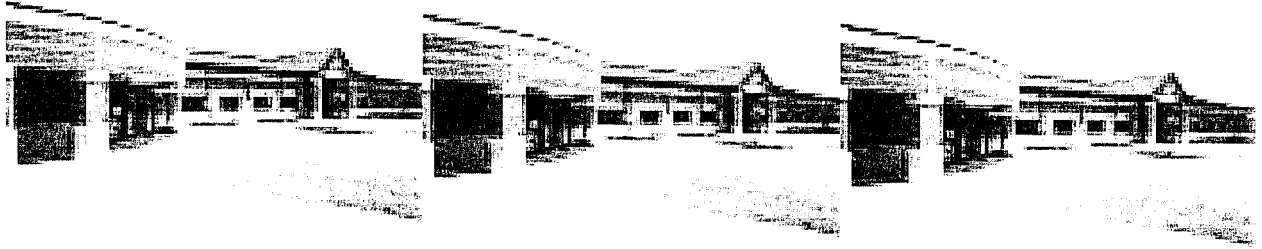
www.LakotaEastBands.org

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This handbook is intended to be a resource to Lakota East Freshman band parents by providing them with an overview of the Lakota East Freshman Band program & the Lakota East Upbeat Club.

For additional information, please visit www.lakotaeastbands.org.

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From the Podium...

Dear Parents,

Welcome to this exciting activity we call band! We are proud to offer such a great program to our students here at Lakota East. Our bands have consistently earned superior ratings at every adjudicated event in which they have performed. This is not by luck, but by hard work, dedication, on the part of the students, directors, administrators, and parents. Without one of the four, any program would fall apart.

How can you help our program? You can help by being a part of a booster committee, a fundraising activity, chaperoning at a competition or football game, or just volunteering for something you enjoy doing that will help our students' musical growth. Even if your busy schedule only permits you to attend our concerts or contests that would be a wonderful way of supporting our bands. There is no better feeling than playing for a full house!

These next few years will probably be the most memorable ones your child will have and the band will play a big part in these memories. The band is like a big happy (most of the time) family. The closest friends your son or daughter will have might be a part of the band. You as a parent can make the memories even more special by being a part of the Lakota East Upbeat Club (believe it or not, the kids still like having you around!)

Welcome to our future! We can't wait to see you at the next event!

Bill Thomas

Rob Tanis

Todd Hartman

Lakota East Band Directors, Lakota East High School, Main & Freshman Campus

Welcome!

Dear Freshman Parents,

Welcome to the new Freshman Campus and the world of high school band! This will be an exciting year for both you and your child. As your sons or daughters begin the journey into high school band, I invite you to get involved right along with them. Please read this entire handbook and check out the many opportunities in which both of you may participate.

Our band directors are looking forward to an exciting year ahead! Through their outstanding teaching and leadership, they promote and maintain programs that benefit the band students throughout their high school years and beyond.

I encourage you to check out the Lakota East Upbeat Club. The time will pass quickly & your involvement will enrich your child's band experiences, as well as yours!

Kemmie Burrets, VP Freshman Campus
Lakota East Upbeat Club

What is Upbeat?

Lakota East Upbeat Club (LEUC) is the band booster organization that supports the band programs for the Lakota East High School Main & East Freshman campus, Hopewell Junior High School, and Liberty Junior High School. We provide financial & physical support for the bands, ensembles, jazz groups, and guard programs. Upbeat exists to support our directors and their efforts to offer these programs. Together we all work together to create music programs that are among the finest in Ohio.

One of the roles of the Upbeat Club is to facilitate communications between the band program & band parents. We provide a number of ways for you to get the information you need, allowing our band directors to spend their time doing what they are great at - instructing our kids to become the best they can be!

Meetings - Please join us on the third Thursday of every month (except December) in the Lakota East Band Room, Main campus, at 7:30 pm. Get the news first hand by attending! The director's reports will keep you informed on all of the important information that never seems to make it home or out of your child's backpack.

Elections of officers are held in May. Terms run from June 1 - May 31. All parents/guardians are members of the Upbeat Club.

Website – The quickest way to get band information, updates, and contacts is via the website. Visit www.lakotaeastbands.org frequently to keep up with band happenings on the Band News Board.

Newsletter – In an effort to go green, the monthly Upbeat Newsletter is available online at www.LakotaEastBands.org. A limited number of copies will be available in the band room.

Communications: Please notify the band directors if you do not have Internet access. The main tools used for communicating band schedules, information and last minute updates are the website and email messages and an alternate method of getting information will need to be established.

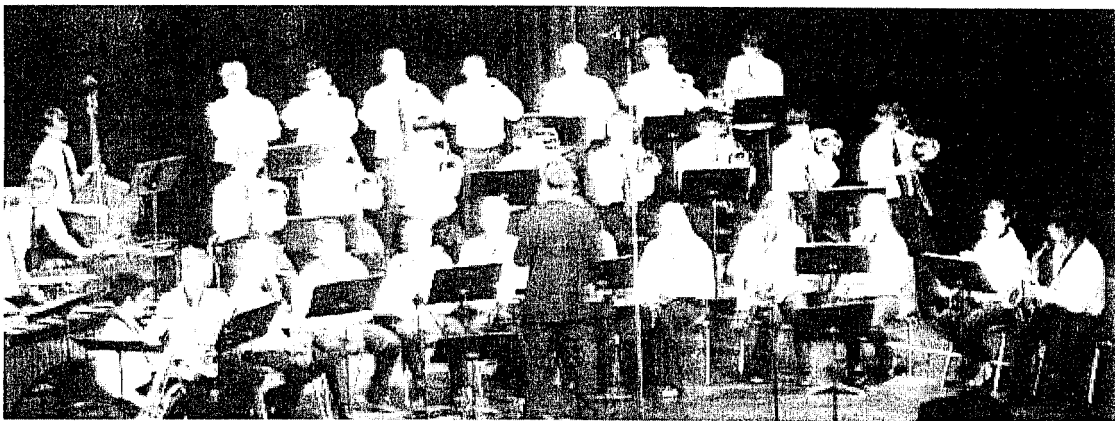


Concert Bands

The Concert Band program at the Lakota East Freshman Campus consists of two concert bands. These bands are busy for the entire school year. The full concert schedule is attached and also available on the website www.LakotaEastBands.org. Members of the volunteer Video Crew work with WCTV to provide taping of the concerts for subscribers of Warner Cable. Links can be found on the website.

Competitions and adjudicated events for the concert bands are held in the spring. Friends and family are very welcome and are encouraged to come to these performances to hear area high school bands at their very best!

The Lakota East Freshman campus concert bands perform in evening concerts in the Freshman auditorium and in the Liberty Theater on the main campus.



Jazz Bands

There are two jazz bands at the Lakota East Freshman Campus – the 12 O’Clock & 2 O’Clock Jazz Bands. The bands at both Lakota East & East Freshman campuses have rehearsals during the school day and membership in the group is determined by audition. These groups generally perform in Liberty Theatre on the Main campus and at competitions in the Winter & Spring. (See attached schedule)

Additional Ensembles



Pit Orchestra

Students have the opportunity to audition into the Pit Orchestra to play the score.

Other Ensemble Opportunities


The fine musicians at the Lakota East Freshman campus are encouraged to audition and join other musical groups to add to their musical abilities. Information may be obtained from the directors about the following ensembles: OMEA District XIII Honor Band & Jazz Ensemble, Solo & Ensemble Contest, Ohio All-State Band & Orchestra, Ohio University Honor Band, Cincinnati Symphony Youth Orchestra, Greater Miami Youth Orchestra Blue Ash Youth Symphony Orchestra, and Southwest Ohio Regional Honor Orchestra.

OMEA District Performance

The Freshman concert bands perform at the OMEA district contest in the Spring. The bands perform prepared music on stage for 3 adjudicators. This performance is open to the public. The bands will then perform music by sight reading for 1 adjudicator in private. The band's overall rating will be posted in the Concessions area.

Results from the OMEA district performance this past March: Lakota East had five concert bands perform at the Ohio Music Education Associations' district large group adjudicated event (formerly known as band contest) held at Fairfield High School. All five Lakota East Bands received the top rating of superior! This is quite a great accomplishment for our band program showing hard work and dedication to their music.

Each band performed in different OMEA classifications. OMEA classification is based on the difficulty level of the music and range from the hardest class, Class AA, to Class C. All Lakota East bands received straight Superior ratings. We are the only High School in the state of Ohio to have accomplished this. Here are the results and classification:

| Band | Rating | Class |
|--|----------|----------|
|  Symphonic Winds | Superior | Class AA |
| Symphonic Band | Superior | Class A |
| Concert Band | Superior | Class B |
| 1st Period Freshman Band | Superior | Class C |
| 2nd Period Freshman Band | Superior | Class C |

Freshman Marching Band Night

Members of the Lakota East Freshman Band get the chance to see and feel what it is like to be a member of the Marching Thunderhawks by performing with them on the field during halftime. There are 2 rehearsals after school the week of Freshman Night. Then on Freshman Night the Freshman are treated to pizza & pop before they perform. (See separate flyer for complete details)

Freshman Band Uniforms

Freshman Band members purchase the required items to wear during performances.

Concert Bands: Director will go over requirements in class - typically black pants, white shirt & tie for the gentlemen and black pants or modest skirt & white top for the ladies.

Jazz Bands: Director will go over requirements in class – typically black pants, white shirt & tie for the gentlemen and black pants or modest skirt & white top for the ladies.

Student Handbooks

All band members are issued student handbooks. Student responsibilities and the directors' expectations of the students are presented in these handbooks. Lakota East Upbeat Club membership information and volunteer forms are also included.

CHARMS

Charms is the LEUC on-line management system to help the band directors, Upbeat club, parents, and students organize contact information, work with trips, fees, fundraisers, form collection, calendars and finance. A couple of the most important aspects of charms are the ability for parents to keep track of their students "Student Account" (where students can earn money toward trips), fees associated with band participation, and as a repository of important contact information for each student.

Every Freshman band student will receive an individual student ID to access the site. Students have already received this.

To access Charms go to **www.charmsoffice.com**. At parent Student Login enter 'lakotaeastband' and click 'Enter Charms'. At the enter student ID enter your given student ID.

Everyone is encouraged to login and update the information in the Student Info link especially the email addresses. The Charms system is useful for all the Band directors and the Upbeat Club to contact parents and students with important band information.

Important Links:

OMEA: <https://www.omea-ohio2.org/Default.html>

Resources for instruments & music: <http://www.lakotaeastbands.org/links.htm>

Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra: <http://www.cincinnati pops.org/home.asp>

Cincinnati Conservatory of Music: <http://www.ccm.uc.edu/>

