



**Lakota East Upbeat Club Meeting
Tuesday, November 18, 2025 / 7:30 p.m.
Lakota East High School Media Room**

Elected Officers present: Jessica Pike, Christie Wethington, Tina Wright, Dawn Ritzu, Jess Scribner, Mary Kuhlman, Jim Clary

Called to order: 7:31 by Jessica Pike

Director Reports:

Mr. Rob Tanis – Director of Bands, Lakota East High School

- Gift of Music is Dec. 12th and 13th
- Superintendent will attend the Gift of Music
- LAST CALL for extra tickets will be sent out
- Pep band signups are posted on Canvas
 - Must perform three total for a grade
 - 1st three games are December 5th, 16th, and 19th

Mr. Andrew Desmond - Assistant Band Director, Lakota East High School

- Honor Band Auditions Dec. 6th
- Freshman Concert Dec 10th

Aaron Todahl – Jazz Band Director

- Not present but wanted to share
- Over the past two weeks, we have had members of the jazz faculty from Northern Kentucky University (NKU) and the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music (CCM) in class to work with the jazz bands. They played for the students, worked on improvisation techniques, and heard the students play as well. The students enjoyed working with them!
- The Lakota East Winter Jazz Festival will take place on Thursday, December 4th from 6:30-9:00pm in the East Main Campus Theatre. This concert will feature all of the Lakota East jazz bands including performances by the Hopewell Jr. and Liberty Jr. 8th Grade Jazz Ensembles. Listed below are the performance times for the evening:
 - 6:30-6:45 - Hopewell Junior 8th Grade Jazz Band
 - 6:50-7:05 - Liberty Junior 8th Grade Jazz Band
 - 7:10-7:25 - East Freshman Jazz Ensemble
 - 7:30-7:45 - East Jazz Lab Band
 - 7:50-8:05 - East Jazz Ensemble

- 8:10-8:30 - Eastside Jazz Orchestra
- Honor Jazz band auditions will take place on Saturday, December 6th at Creekside Middle School in Fairfield.
- Lastly, all three main campus bands are excited to be performing for the Gift of Music concerts on December 12th and 13th. As we have had in the past, there will be jazz combos made up of members from Eastside Jazz Orchestra to play before each concert.

Mrs. Maggie Whaley – Band Director, Liberty Junior School

- Not present, no updates

Mrs. Kat Eroskey-Mitchell – Band Director, Hopewell Junior School

- Not present, no updates

Secretary Report: *Jim Clary*

- The last four meeting minutes can be found on the band website under the Upbeat Club tab.
- Motion to approve the October 28 Upbeat Club Meeting Minutes: motion by Aimee Donnellon /seconded by Dave Payne**Approved**

Vice-President of Ways and Means: *Dawn Ritzu*

- Looking for someone to shadow and take over this role
- Cake Roll Fundraiser
 - Total sold \$7200 with about 30% participating
 - Pickup November 24th
- Next fundraiser is Butterbraids/Cookie Dough in February
- Gift of Music - Looking for volunteers to help with candy grams during show breaks
- Working to secure Poinsettias for Gift of Music
- Craft Show Fundraiser made budget at \$5200

Co-Vice Presidents of Student Activities: *Jess Scribner and Mary Kuhlman*

- Seventh grade side by sides in January
- Gift of Music dinner
 - Still coming up with ideas for meal for students
 - Looking for volunteers and dessert donations

Treasurer Report: *Tina Wright*

- October Treasurer Report – scan QR code below for October report



- Our balance at the end of October was \$159,458, down \$544 from beginning of year
- Skyline Dine and Donate was \$138

Committee Chair Reports

Sonya Clary and Tracy Keenan - Marching Band Uniforms

- Thank you to all who helped wash uniforms before and after our Orlando and Indy competitions

Alexandra Ince - Concert Band Uniforms

- Looking for someone to shadow this position through my last year to take over

Jim Keenan and Jim Clary - Pit Crew

- Working on repairing the prop trailer

Jess Scribner - Spirit

- Spiritwear store is open now and will be until November 30th. Order deliveries will be by December 18th.

Nicole Weinrich - Dine and Donate

- Looking for someone to take over this role now and into the upcoming band calendar year.
- Link your Kroger card if possible to Lakota East bands
- Upcoming Dine and Donate events
 - o December 8th – Chipotle 25% proceeds

Maggie Panyko - Website

- New updated pictures and has an idea for a resources page

Amy Coons / Rachelle Foster - Tag Day

- We had a successful Tag Day - Earned \$47,000

Christa Sexton and Aimee Donnellon - Chaperones/Travel

- Thank you to all that volunteered and helped with all the trips and events for the kids

Christa Hobe - Photo committee

- Composites and extra prints ordered will be available at end of concert season

President Report: Jessica Pike and Christie Wethington

- Orlando Fuel Surcharge was \$7995 and thankfully was mostly offset by the Cake Roll fundraiser
- Next Upbeat Club meeting is in January

Meeting adjourned:

Motion to adjourn by Aimee Donnellon/seconded by Amy Coons**Approved**

Please see the Google Calendar on the Lakota East Bands website www.lakotaeastbands.org for the latest information and follow us @lakotaeastbands

The next Lakota East Upbeat Club Meeting will be Tuesday January 20, 2026 at 7:30pm. Thank you so much for your continued support of the Lakota East Band Program and the Lakota East Upbeat Club.