



**Lakota East Upbeat Club Meeting
Tuesday, February 17, 2026 / 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: 7:30 by Jessica Pike

Director Reports:

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

- Frank Troyka visited east and worked with the kids on 2-17
- Congratulations to Kaitlyn Smith for being the Concerto winner
- Pep band last day is Friday February 20th

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

- Winter concert is February 26 at Main Campus
 - The schedule went out on Canvas last week and through Parent Square
- Winter Freshman concert is March 5th in the Freshman building at 7pm
- Saturday, March 7th
 - Main campus bands are playing at Mason MFA campus, schedule is on Canvas
- March 13-14 District 13 at Fairfield High School
 - Symphonic Band and Symphonic Winds will perform Friday March 13
 - Both Freshman bands will perform Saturday March 14
- March 22 – Symphonic Winds is playing a combined concert with the Cincinnati Wind Band and Southeast Missouri State University at 6pm in Music Hall
 - This is a ticketed event, information on tickets were sent to parents
 - Students will be bussed to Music Hall, and will need to find their own transportation home
- Marching Band registration is currently open
 - Leadership interviews will be happening soon
 - Band participation Fees will remain \$300, Additional fees will remain for trips and other marching equipment
 - Indy overnight for Grand Nationals to finish the season
 - New member meeting is February 23

Aaron Todahl – Jazz Band Director

- Not present, message posted at bottom of meeting minutes and presented by Jim Clary

Mrs. Maggie Whaley – Band Director, Liberty Junior School

- Not present, would like everyone reminded of the winter concert on February 25th

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

- Not present, would like to remind everyone about the winter concert on March 5th

Mr Ethan Davis - Colorguard / Winterguard Instructor Lakota East High School

- Varsity Winterguard will be performing at WGI Indy competition Feb 21 weekend
- The competition can also be viewed on a streaming site called Flowmarch
- Thank you to all the volunteers for coming out to spruce up the white block props on the 15th

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 January 20th Upbeat Club Meeting Minutes: motion by Christa Sexton /seconded by Christa Hobe.....**Approved**

Vice President of Ways and Means: *Dawn Ritzu*

- Looking for someone to shadow so they can take over the role next band season.
- Jazz Fest - Looking for Raffle baskets and donations
- Corporate Sponsors are being contacted about upcoming season to see interests

Treasurer Report: *Tina Wright*

- January report, see QR code below



- The current cash amount is \$200,772.00
- Recent transactions:
 - Swing Dance Instructor payments and items for the dance
 - Small purchases for Winter Guard JV and Varsity teams
- Dine and Donate at Chipotle brought in \$100

Committee Chair Reports

Marching Band Uniforms – Sonya Clary

- 3 dates have been scheduled to remove alterations from uniforms, a signup genius is in the Band App for those who would like to help (students and parents welcome)
- New signup genius is out for the Swing dance which will be held at the Freshman building on February 27th, Setup will start at 3pm, don't forget to bring a donation for Reach out Lakota

Christa Sexton – Butter Braids/ Cookie Dough/ Coffee sale

- Start Date: Monday February 09
- End Date: Monday February 23
- Submit Order Date: Friday March 6
- Delivery Date: Monday March 16
- Cake Roll fall fundraiser will start Oct. 19 and end Nov 2nd Delivery Nov 23

(Vacant)- Dine and Donate

- Looking for someone to take over this important fundraising opportunity

Jess Scribner - Spirit Wear/Senior Picnic

- There will be a spirit wear store opened before Marching band show reveal
 - o Please send ideas to Jess tonight before the meeting ends about any merchandise you would like to see in the store
 - o Looking for kid designs for Jazzfest shirts
 - o 4th of July shirts are going to be in the works again this year
- Senior Picnic will likely be in May, more details TBA

Mike Rutherford - Jazz Fest

- Saturday May 9th, more information will be shared next month

Christa Hobe - Photos

- Please share Winterguard photos
- A photo booth will be setup at the swing dance

Gail Nadzam - Winterguard/Colorguard

- No updates to add from Ethan's update

President Report: Jessica Pike and Christie Wethington

- Jeff Durham Scholarship application available on the website now and due April 1
- 2 new LEUC Senior Scholarships
 - o Open to all senior band and guard members
 - o Applications will be on the website soon and due April 15
 - o 2 \$1000 scholarships available
- Open Executive Board Positions for 2026/27 - VP Ways and Means & Co-VP Student Activities
 - o Nominations are now being accepted. All nomination forms are due by Tuesday March 17th. If more than one nomination is received for a position, an election will take place at the April meeting
 - o All positions are open, please submit a nomination form if interested
- Barb Bossu Award nominees are due by March 13 - Banquet will be April 22
- Update to PTSO senior scholarships. Applications are available now on the PTSO website and are due February 20th. Please encourage your seniors to apply.
- Questions

Meeting adjourned:

Motion to adjourn by Christa Sexton/seconded by Dave Payne**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 March 17, 2026 at 7:30pm. Thank you so much for your continued support of the Lakota East Band Program and the Lakota East Upbeat Club.

Jazz Band Updates

Aaron Todahl

I will be unable to attend tonight's meeting, but here are some notes:

The Swing Dance has been rescheduled to Friday, 2/27 from 7-10pm at the Freshman Campus! All performance times are the same. We are in need of some volunteers to help make this event a success. Please consider volunteering your time for this fun event at the link below:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0448AEA828ABFD0-54448148-lakota#/>

Eastside Jazz Orchestra and East Jazz Ensemble will be performing at the Beaver Creek Weekend of Jazz Festival on Saturday, 2/28. This festival is always a great experience and one that the students always enjoy. They will perform, have a clinic with one of the clinicians, and receive audio and written feedback from the clinicians. Here are the report and performance times:

Eastside: Report at 7:55am, Perform at 8:50am
Jazz Ensemble: Report at 9:35, Perform at 10:30am

The East Jazz Lab Band will be performing a concert on Tuesday, 3/10 at 8pm in the Lakota East MC Theatre. These students will also participate in a clinic after their performance with Cincinnati jazz educator and Lakota alum Eric Lechliter! For this concert, the audience is invited to stay and watch the clinic as well to see what this experience typically looks like. The clinic will wrap up at 9pm and students will be dismissed after clean-up.

The Eastside Jazz Orchestra will be performing as the opening act for the Cincinnati Contemporary Jazz Orchestra (CCJO) on Thursday, 3/26 at 7pm. This is a great opportunity for our students to perform a "real world" gig as well as hear a performance from the best jazz musicians in Cincinnati. Performing students do not need a ticket, but the CCJO asks all parents to purchase a ticket for the performance. I would recommend buying these sooner rather than later as they tend to sell out. Here's the ticket link:

<https://cincinnaticontemporaryjazzorchestra.thundertix.com/events/251593>

Thanks!

Aaron Todahl
Director of Jazz Bands
Lakota East/Lakota West High Schools