



Lowndes High School Georgia Bridgemen Band Booster Meeting August 23, 2015

I. President Matt Hart

Students and parents were welcomed to the August band booster meeting at 6:30 PM. He reminded the audience to see the treasurer regarding account questions and to visit the band store section to purchase current theme shirts.

II. Director's Comments: Jon Bowman

- Mr. Bowman stated he was very proud of the students at the game and field at the first game. Video footage of the first performance looks ok, and students did an excellent job of representing LHS and supporting the football team.
- Students must be respectful to chaperones. At last week's game this was a problem for some students, and they will not be allowed to participate this week or at the game. The directors have high expectations of our students and know they can behave well.
- Thank you to the chaperones, nurses, and drivers for last Friday night's long trip. The equipment drivers had an especially hard task but managed to get the equipment out for students. Mr. Bowman shared that Roswell's band was a great help to us last Friday and made our uniform change go well.
- Band fees are school-related items and must be paid. Students will not receive transcripts for graduation without all fees being paid.
- The fall contest dates are set for October 3 (Leesburg, Florida) and October 10 (Dothan, Alabama). These are not overnight trips. The contest in Dothan replaces the contest at the Citrus Bowl. Because there was a strong chance the contest would have been cancelled, it was necessary to change contests so the band would not lose the hotel deposits. The Leesburg contest is between Wildwood and Orlando.
- Band store changes are in the future. The athletic department is contemplating a renovation at the stadium to include a kitchen. The band store's space will be needed, so the band was approached about moving to a different location. This was a choice the band chose to accept. Many local high school football programs, such as those in Colquitt and Coffee County, already have nutrition programs in place. The band officers saw this as an opportunity, for the football program will purchase an air-conditioned concession trailer that can be used as the new store. This trailer can serve fans on both the visitor

and home sides when it is placed outside the stadium, and it can go to parades and events to sell merchandise. This change might not happen until later in the season or even until spring, but it will be a great opportunity for the band.

- Mrs. Paula Burgess has worked hard to get the online band store operational. This online store is much more cost-efficient and keeps the band from overspending on merchandise. Access to the store is on the website. Consider buying multiple items to keep down the cost of shipping.
- Publix partner keys are available. Publix will donate a percentage of purchases to the band each time the card is used. This only applies to Publix stores in Georgia.
- Drive One for Your School is a mandatory fundraiser for students. Many schools charge up to \$1000 for band fees, so this fundraiser is a small way students can help. Students can show they are doing their “Fair Share” to support the band program. The first driver’s fees go to support the band, and any subsequent drivers put money in your student’s account. This event is on Saturday, September 10, and test driving a vehicle is fast and easy. Langdale Ford has several vehicles ready, so the drive only takes 5-10 minutes and there is no pressure to purchase. Ford guarantees up to \$6,000 for the event, and Langdale Ford generously donates the rest of money earned. One driver per household can participate, and drivers must be 18 or older to drive.

III. President’s Comments: Matt Hart

- The July booster minutes are on the website. A motion was made by Dawnee McLendon to accept the minutes. Second motion was made by Denese Davis. Motion carried.
- Parents are reminded that students must have current fees to be in leadership positions or try out for auxiliary in the band. Many students find they are not going to graduate in April because of unpaid band fees, so the band is reminding students in advance to pay overdue fees.
- President Hart referred to several events in which volunteers are needed. These include the following:
 - 8th Grade Cookout Night- September 3
 - Homecoming Bonfire concessions- September 10
 - Drive One for Your School- September 19

The Bridgemen calendar is updated with all events into the winter months. IP events = Indoor Percussion, and WG events = Winterguard

- The band practice schedule for the fall is as follows:
 - *Mondays-3:30-5:00
 - *Tuesdays/Thursdays-3:30-6:00
 - *Wednesday practices will be added during competition weeks.

IV. Vice-President's Comments: Brian Spray

- The golf cart raffle is underway. Buy your \$5 ticket at Austin's Steakhouse or at home games on Friday nights. This year's raffle includes a Yeti cooler package from Dallas Wayne Boot Company.
- Please do not park behind the band barn. The LHS softball team needs space and your vehicle may be blocked in or in the area that is locked.

V. Final Comments: President Matt Hart

- Chick-fil-a contacted the band and thanked them for the great behavior of the students Friday night in Roswell. Almost all the Bridgemen specially thanked the catering staff for serving them after the game.
- Mr. Hart invited committee chairs to speak. Karmen Browning reminded parents that picture proofs were distributed August 14. Please see her or Mr. Bowman if you do not have your proof. Turn in orders to Mr. Bowman ASAP or order your pictures online. Mary Laura Norman spoke for the nurses and shared that many students are not hydrated at practice and are getting sick in the heat. Students need to drink days before practice begins, and they must eat something for breakfast and lunch. Also, please do not send students to band events if they are sick. It is hard on the student and on other band members.
- Mr. Hart shared the next meeting will focus on the Battle on the Border event, and parents will be able to purchase Southern Open tickets that night.
- Meeting adjourned at 7:01 PM.

Next band booster meeting: September 28 @ 6:30