



Lowndes High School Georgia Bridgemen Band Booster Meeting January 25, 2016

I. President Matt Hart

Mr. Hart welcomed all at 6:30 to the January booster meeting.

II. Director's Comments: Jon Bowman

- Concert band is in full swing, so please review the calendar students received on the first day of class this semester. Concert band students have required after-school rehearsals; 100% attendance is expected unless students have been excused for spring sports. Dates are also listed on the website.
- Symphonic and concert bands will perform at Mathis City Auditorium on March 17 at 6:30 PM. This is an early concert dates because limited dates were available at the auditorium. Wind Symphony classes will perform April 26 at VSU's Whitehead Auditorium. This is a nice venue for the concert.
- The Georgia Bandmaster Concert Festival will be March 3, 2016 in Bainbridge, Georgia. The public is invited to attend this event, and students will receive information on specific times when it is published.
- A parent meeting for rising ninth grade students will be February 4 in the LHS cafeteria. This will allow band directors to share information with students before they make their class choices for LHS, and it will allow time for questions from parents. Many LHS valedictorians were former band members, and students are able to take band and complete pathways. Directors will discuss uniforms, band camp, color guard, HOPE Scholarship requirements, the Chicago trip, and more. Also, new parents are needed to support the band and will be encouraged to participate. Rising ninth grade students who have not made band decisions for next year are encouraged to attend.
- The LHS Winter Guard is hosting a crafting fundraiser at 3:00 PM on January 31st. RSVP is needed. Please see Beth Howell or a parent of a winter guard member for details.
- Congratulations to the LHS winter guard for their performance last Saturday. The Premier West was in Tampa, Florida January 23. JV squad placed 4th in their class. Varsity placed 2nd and has been promoted to the highest scholastic class. Thank you to the parents for driving and chaperoning this long day.
- An important fundraiser this spring is the "Birdies for the Bridgemen" golf tourney at Kinderlou on May 5, 2016. Hole sponsors are needed, and students will add 50% of

profits to their band account. This is an excellent fundraiser and requires little paperwork on the part of students.

- A new website for the band will be launched in February that will be mobile-friendly. The website will include information from the middle school bands, auxiliary, and indoor percussion. Also, as hole sponsors come in for the golf tourney, Mr. Bowman will update the site for students.
- On March 21st the indoor percussion and winter guard will hold raffles to raise money for their upcoming competition in Dayton, Ohio. The raffle will be during the “Friends and Family” night held in the gym. Many great prizes such as coolers, gift certificates, golf events, and a grill will be in the raffle. Tickets are \$5.
- Seniors attending the senior trip have a payment due this Friday, January 29.
- Boston Butt tickets will be given to students next week, and the fundraiser will be on Good Friday from 4-7 PM on the visitor’s side of the stadium. Profits for each butt sale will be determined once the meat is purchased. Tickets will be \$30.
- Band camp dates are set as follows:
 - July 11-13 Leadership camp
 - July 14 Rookie camp
 - July 18-22 Pre-camp (9-5)
 - July 25-28 Band camp
- The school calendar has not been set, but parents can give feedback on the proposed calendar on the Lowndes County website. Very preliminary information about the fall football season is available; however, it looks as if one trip to Atlanta is on the schedule. The Valdosta-Lowndes game date is not yet published, but Mr. Bowman hopes to match the Drive One event to the date to encourage participation.

III. President’s Comments: Matt Hart

- Approval of December 2015 minutes was next on the agenda. Denese Davis made a motion to accept the minutes. Second motion was made by Kevin Terry. Motion carried.
- Mr. Hart shared “We Listened” as booster officers determined mandatory fundraising would not continue in 2016. Instead, fees will more accurately represent per student costs at the beginning of the season. Fundraising opportunities will still be available. Mr. Bowman added the LHS band fees are very reasonable as compared to \$1200 band fees for students at other high schools in Georgia. Also, the band will not require expensive fundraisers to sell signs or discount cards. It is not the directors or band boosters intention to leave students out of the band, so we will try to keep fees as reasonable as possible. The fees will be as follows:
 - Band Fees: \$275
 - Early Bird Option: \$250 if paid in full by Mandatory Parents Meeting on July 19th
 - School Owned Instrumental Rental Fee:
 - \$20 (No change) Due on the first day of Band Camp

- Uniform Fee-(New Marching Band Students Only)
\$75 the night of your fitting to White Weddings and \$125 Paid to the Boosters for vest, bow tie, windbreaker jacket and shoes.
- Parents and students were reminded that students must be current on band fees to try out for leadership positions, drum line, color guard, and winter guard. Names of students with delinquent accounts have already been turned in to LHS and must make payments at the front office. Transcripts will not be issued for these students. Additionally, students with discipline issues will not be eligible for end-of –year awards. Accounts are more current this year than in years past, so parents are thanked for their assistance.
- Wild Adventures is once again helping parents and eligible Georgia Bridgemen students add funds to their accounts. Sign-up sheets will available next month. See Kimberly Hart, current Wild Adventure Chairperson, for more information. The following are the concert dates the Bridgemen may be asked to provide volunteers:

4/2/16	Classic Rock
4/9/16	Country
4/16/16	Top 40
4/23/16	Christian
5/7/16	Country
5/14/16	Urban/Gospel
5/21/16	Top 40
6/4/16	Country
6/11/16	Christian
7/2/16	Country
7/9/16	Gospel/Urban
7/23/16	Country
8/6/16	Christian
- Current financial information was presented as of December 31st, 2015. The financials reflect the change to a January-December calendar.
 - Total budgeted non-trip income: \$260, 500.00 Actual: \$243, 544.49
 - Total budgeted marching band: \$84,500.00 Actual: \$57,151.61
 - Total budgeted WG/IP: \$37,000.00 Actual: \$39,947.65
 - Budgeted income vs. expense: \$700.00 Actual: \$13,390.64
- Parents are needed to chaperone and drive students to the music festival on March 3. Please check your calendar to see if you are available.

IV. Vice-President's Comments: Brian Spray

- Review information on Boston butt BBQ tickets when they are distributed next week. Tickets must be presented for pick-up. Volunteers are needed to help wrap and distribute that day.
- No comments from committee members.

V. Final Comments: President Matt Hart

- Two finance officer positions are open must be filled within thirty days of officer elections. As elections were tonight, please contact a booster officer as soon as possible if you or someone you know has a strong accounting background and would be interested. Both ladies currently serving in the positions have been very committed and worked hard.
- Committee chair positions are also available and must be appointed or re-appointed. Thank you to all who served in 2015 and made it a smooth year. Please contact a booster officer if you would like to get involved in a particular area. You would be appreciated to serve as a committee chair or help with a committee. New committee chairs need to be in place by next month.
- Two Chicago trip payments totaling \$250 have already passed, and the next payment of \$150 is due February 12. It is not too late to sign up, but previous payments must be made. Please note that payments cannot be refunded.

- Meeting adjourned at 7:03 PM.

Next band booster meeting: February 22 @ 6:30