



Lowndes High School Georgia Bridgemen Band Booster Meeting July 14, 2015

I. Welcome from Booster President Matt Hart at 6:00 PM.

President Matt Hart welcomed students and parents to the July band booster and mandatory parent meeting.

II. Director's Comments: Jon Bowman

Mr. Bowman began by introducing the 2015 band staff and adjunct staff for band camp. This included directors Robert Maynard, Dr. Jeff Grant, Matt Deal, Phil Mika, Alan Drew, and Jacob Fortner. Also helping the band are staff members Jordan Arnett, Aaron Lockyear, Rob Ivey, Allen Shive, Kelly Ross, Sarah Merriman, Kathleen Ewing, and Andy Snow. All are working very hard to make these two weeks successful.

- Students earn spots on the band field for their playing ability, marching skills, effort at rehearsals, and work ethics. No student, regardless of class, is guaranteed a spot on the field. Band fees are also a requirement, and parents have been aware of these fees since the April meeting. Over \$40,000 was overdue to missing band payments last May. Students could not receive final transcripts until their band fees, which are classified as school-related items, were paid, so this caused stress for the students and directors. The band does the best to keep payments low, but they are necessary to get the show on the field.
- Students will be placed in spots this week, but these decisions are not final. Alternates will shadow students and can earn spots on the field. Students have had the opener music since April, and their playing and marching will help determine which student earns a spot. All students will be involved in pre-game and play in the stands. No student is turned away from playing.
- Contest dates are firm for October 3 and October 10. Please make sure your student can be present for both. October 3 is a SAT date, but the directors will do their best to accommodate those students. The band calendar is on the website, but do not leave without asking Mr. Bowman any questions about dates.
- Please make sure you pick up your children on time. Parents and staff stayed over 2 ½ hours waiting for late parents after events last year. Students must be picked up within 45 minutes

- of the end of a home or away game. Students who are not picked up on time will be unable to participate in the next band event.
- Uniforms were ordered in April. If your student has NOT ordered a uniform, he or she must go to White Weddings tomorrow. Vests and ties are ready for pick-up tonight. Flip folders are also due at the latest by Monday, and they are available at Toads and Teacups.
 - Health forms were due last spring; if your student has not turned his/her form in to the nurse, it is due ASAP. Also, students using a school-owned instrument owe \$20 for rental fees. Please make checks out to LHS.
 - Students should wear proper clothes and shoes to band camp. Only tennis shoes are allowed.
 - All students will pay \$20 to their bus chaperones prior to the Roswell game. This money will cover their dinner for the night and drinks/snacks for the season.
 - Picture day is this Friday, July 17 starting at 7:30. Students need to be dressed and have instruments in hand at the stadium. Please be on time. Do not be concerned about shoes; just wear black socks. Freshmen will be fitted for shoes that day, and the socks will be fine for the picture. No jackets will be worn in the group picture.
 - Friday, July 24 is the band dance, and this is a night for students to relax and blow off some steam from band camp. Only current students may attend, and students will be supervised in the cafeteria. Please send snacks/2 liter drinks.

III. President's Comments: Matt Hart

- The June booster minutes are on the website. Please refer to them and previous minutes if you miss a meeting. The Facebook feed is also on the website.
- Please see treasurers Laurie Abney and Teresa Paulo tonight if you need to pay band fees. If you have not been receiving email statements or band newsletters, see them and get your address corrected.
- Payments for senior ads were due last month. Please see the treasurers ASAP if fees are due.
- President Hart referred to the summer dates on the Bridgemen calendar. He requested parents attend the next booster meeting on August 24. Other important dates include the following:
 - *Drive One for Your School event on September 19
 - *Senior Recognition Night on Sept. 18
 - *Southern Open on Sept. 29.

- Discount cards are ready and are a great fundraiser for students; more information will follow about them in the meeting.
- Please send snacks and/or a two-liter soda for the band camp next Friday.
- 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

- Please do not park near the band or the curb near the high school. These areas are very congested.
- Paula Burgess is in charge of discount cards and is ready tonight to distribute them. Each card students sell adds \$5 to their account.
- The band will be raffling a custom-designed golf cart with a Yeti cooler this season. Tickets are \$5 and go on sale this week. The cart will be raffled at the Winnersville football game this fall.

V. Final Comments: President Matt Hart

- Mr. Hart invited committee chairs to speak. All chairs are listed on the website if parents need to contact them.
- Pictures chair Karmen Browning reminded students to be fully dressed and on time at the stadium for pictures on Friday. Students can pay in that day or online for the pictures. Forms are available tonight.
- Chaperone chair Tania Gordon-Murdaugh informed parents of the chaperone meeting this Thursday at 6:30. Parents need to bring their completed and notarized form to the meeting if they have not turned it in already.
- Band store chair Paula Burgess will have items for sale at the stadium during home games. Tote bags are available now and are \$20. Please place your order by Thursday.
- Paul Garland spoke for the nurses and reminded parents to make sure students have turned in completed medical forms. Students do NOT need to turn in a new form if they submitted one for the DC/NY trip last spring.

- President Hart reminded parents to sign up for text alerts (text @fc3a9 to 229-269-4256) for marching band information and to see treasurers or committee chairs if they had questions.
- Meeting adjourned at 6:38 PM.

Next band booster meeting: August 24 @ 6:30