



## Lowndes High School Georgia Bridgemen Band Booster Meeting September 28, 2015

### I. President Matt Hart

Mr. Hart welcomed parents and students to the September band booster meeting at 6:30 PM. Many items were on the agenda, so he shared he would start right away. Parents were reminded to purchase Southern Open tickets before leaving tonight.

### II. Director's Comments: Jon Bowman

- We had a tremendous day at Langdale Ford's Drive One for Your School fundraiser, and nearly 600 individuals participated. Thank you to all volunteers who worked at the tables, cooked, or helped serve refreshments. Langdale Ford participates in this national event and receives \$6,000 from Ford. They cover any remaining money raised by the bands, and it is a huge undertaking for them. Please thank Steve Everett, Mark Howell, and the Langdale Ford staff for hosting this event.
- These next two weeks are very busy, and it starts with the Southern Open. It might rain tomorrow night, but we are hoping it will hold off as long as possible. Valdosta will make the call at the last minute if they have to cancel the event. Students will practice until 4:30, eat dinner in the cafeteria, and then will change and load buses for Valdosta High School's stadium. Students need to have every item of their uniforms. The estimated departure time is 6:15, and students will return to LHS at 8:45. As with any Valdosta game or event, there are no check-outs. Please be on time to pick up your student.
- Saturday, October 3 is the Central Florida Marching Arts Invitational in Leesburg, Florida. He wishes we could participate in the Honeybee Parade, but the band is limited in which competitions they can enter without interfering with open football weeks. The buses depart at 9:15 AM, and students will return around 2:30 AM. Students will have a prelim performance at 4:00, and finals will be between 7:30-9:45. Students need \$7 for dinner, and the boosters will provide lunch and a snack between prelims and finals. Admission for parents is \$10; twenty-two bands are in the total competition, and LHS will compete against seven in its class. Please come and support the band. Students received a detailed itinerary last week, and it is also posted on the band website. If students are checking out after the competition, they do not have to bring \$7 for dinner. Please let Mr. Bowman know if your student is checking out so he will not order a meal.
- Our next competition, the Southern Showcase Contest, is October 10 in Dothan, Alabama. More details will come, but prepare for a 1:30 PM departure from LHS. Students will need money for dinner. Performance time will probably be between 8:30-9:30 PM, and buses should return to LHS around 3:00 AM. Please remember that Dothan is on Central Standard Time and adjust accordingly.

- It will be a tough next three weeks, but students are working hard. Today's practice was great, and students have come a long way in cleaning the show in the past few weeks. The cooler weather is helping.

### **III. President's Comments: Matt Hart**

- Approval of August 2015 minutes. A motion was made by Jennifer McNeil to accept the minutes. Second motion was made by Dawnee McLendon. Motion carried.
  - The treasurer's report was submitted for review. This report has been submitted to the school board and audited this year. Items noted include:

- Budgeted band fees: \$85,000 Actual: \$47,895.74
- Budgeting fundraising: \$78,000 Actual: \$42,834.51
- Total Marching Band :\$84,500 Actual: \$41,931.33

- Please remember Band fees are school-related items and must be paid. Students will not receive transcripts or graduate without all fees being paid. Additionally, students cannot try out for leadership positions, color guard, or dance line if they have outstanding fees. Students with financial or discipline issues will not be considered for year- end awards. The band currently has \$17, 000 in outstanding band fees.

- Battle on the Border chairperson Kelly McGeehan spoke. All parents are needed to help with the upcoming Battle on the Border on October 17. Please click on the link on the band website to sign up to help or go to the sign-up sheets on the tables. ATV's, trailers, and food donations for the hospitality room are also needed. A crew will need to set up starting at 7:30 AM that morning. Fifteen bands are currently scheduled to come, but more may sign up this week. President Matt Hart discussed the importance of this event as the most important fundraiser the band has all season.
  - Other upcoming Bridgemen events include:
    - October 26: Next booster meeting/2016 trip interest meeting  
For 8<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> grade band students
    - November 5: Senior Dinner

#### **IV. Vice-President's Comments: Brian Spray**

- Thank you to all who helped at the homecoming concession event. This was a tremendous night for the Bridgemen. The concession sales paid for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade cook-out and band meal prior to the bonfire; additionally, the band made \$600 in profit.
  - The meal students will eat prior to the Southern Open will be prepared by Bubba Jack's Crab Shack. Please thank this restaurant for their help.
  - Sponsors are needed to provide/purchase cups for the Battle on the Border. The band will be selling fountain drinks instead of bottles this year in order to make a higher profit margin. Please see Matt Hart or Brian Spray if your company can help.

**V. Final Comments: President Matt Hart/ Jon Bowman**

- Next, committee chairs were invited to speak. Karmen Browning reminded parents that pictures from senior night are posted on the website. Parents can download pictures at any time. Karmen has done a wonderful job of posting pictures of all band students throughout the season.
- Mr. Bowman announced the 2016 trip to the McDonald's Thanksgiving Parade in Chicago is planned for Sunday, November 21<sup>st</sup> to Friday, November 25<sup>th</sup>. The city is very clean, and students will stay at the Sheraton. They will enjoy a show, dinner cruise, and see some of the sights. The band is still working on the itinerary to make the trip as affordable as possible. More about the trip will be discussed at the October 26 band meeting.
- Mr. Hart ended with a reminder that discount cards, theme shirts, and other Bridgemen items are for sale after the meeting.
- Meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM.

**Next band booster meeting: October 26 @ 6:30**