

LAHS JAZZ BAND BOOSTER CLUB MEETING
September 23, 2008

A meeting agenda, rosters, a flyer for the Taste 4 Los Al, and student account statements were distributed. Marla Welsh, our Booster Club President, welcomed the families.

Election of Officers: The first order of business was to elect the Booster Club Board. The following were the nominations:

President: Marla Welsh

Vice President: Deborah Hiltzik

Treasurer: John McCallum

Secretary: Melanie Blumenthal

A motion was made to elect the above officers, the vote was unanimous, and the motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: John McCallum provided copies of the budget. This had expenditures from 2005-2006, 2006-2007, last year's budget, and the proposed budget for 2008-2009. Most of the budget items remain unchanged from last year. The transportation fees will increase. Last year the cost was \$3750 and this year it will be about \$6000 to provide bus service for the students and instruments. Each semester there will be \$150 for student dues and \$60 for transportation. We should come out even for the year, without making a profit or having financial losses; leaving a balance of approx 16,000 in the account. If you have questions, you can contact John (562) 596-1962 or Jbmccallum@verizon.net.

Question: Is \$210 per semester the expected total amount that each student will pay?

Answer: No, this does not include the cost of the Reno trip.

Question: Instead of paying for buses to take the students to festivals, could we rent a truck for the instruments and have each parent be responsible for transporting their own child?

Answer: No, there are advantages for the students to travel together-camaraderie and fun on the bus, and also there are liability issues.

Question: Would hiring a private bus be cheaper than using the buses through the district?

Answer: No, Mr. Rush spoke to some of the sports teams, and it was actually more expensive to hire private buses.

Question: Why does Jazz II have a transportation fee for the first semester when they are not taking any trips?

Answer: The cost of transportation was split into two payments to make it easier to afford.

The motion to approve the budget was unanimously approved.

Uniforms: Deborah Hiltzik reported that the students will primarily wear black, (shoes, socks, pants, T-shirts, belts). Jazz I will continue to wear the electric blue dress shirt over their black T-shirts. If your student is new to Jazz I, or needs a new shirt, she asked that you sign up on the sheet that was passed around and include your child's shirt size. Students will get the same beautiful, wrinkle-free fitted shirt from Sears that was used last year. The cost is \$36 per shirt. Jazz II will change this year from wearing black to wearing a red dress shirt over their black T-shirt. Lisa Chatter found shirts available in men's and women's sizes for approx. \$25. You can go to rlpuniform.com to find see the shirts and how they size them. (The letters are R, L, and P). Please email Deborah with your child's shirt size if you did not provide the information to her already, Dhiltzik@adelphia.net. Mr. Rush would like to have black Jazz band T-shirts made, but he no longer has a T-shirt connection.

Question: Is the cost of this shirt included in the dues?

Answer: No, this is a separate charge. We will have many fundraising opportunities; include selling tickets to Taste 4 Los Al, ticket sales for the annual Class Notes Concert, and working at Bingo. (You can earn five dollars an hour toward your child's dues by working on Thursday nights as a volunteer at Bingo.)

Taste 4 Los Al: This is the band's first fundraiser. LAHS Jazz Band Booster Club will receive \$25 per ticket sold and your student will receive *all \$25* as a credit to their account. Tickets cost \$45 each. Please have your orders and checks in to Marla by 10/2/08. Marla is our Booster Club President, (562) 430-4924 or [Big Beaver@msn.com](mailto:Big_Beaver@msn.com). The Taste for Los Al is Saturday, October 18th from 6-10pm. Due to wine and beer being served; no one under 21 is admitted. There is a lot to eat and drink, and a silent auction. Our booster club will not be donating items for the Silent Auction this year.

Class Notes: This is our big fundraiser. A professional band joins our students on stage at the High School. There are two shows, one with the Middle School Jazz Bands, and one with the two High School Jazz Bands. We are encouraged to sell tickets to this great show. Forty percent of your ticket sales will go into your student's own account. The rest goes into the general account to help pay for instruments, music, sectional coaching and competition fees. It is an amazing experience for our students. This year will feature Wayne Bergeron's band. It

will be held March 7th, 2009. We will be given flyers before Thanksgiving so we can start thinking about who can come to this wonderful show.

Jazz Festival Report: Lori Butcher is the Chaperone Chairperson for Jazz I and Cathy Yaz is the Chaperone Chairperson for Jazz II. A sign up sheet was available to volunteer as a chaperone for the different festivals. We are in need of truck drivers. Please sign up if you can drive a truck.

Reno Report: Lisa Chattler reported that this four day trip is the last weekend in April. We will be staying at The Grand Sierra Hotel again. Most hotels are sold out for this weekend because there are several special events being held. Lisa booked twenty extra rooms at the Grand Sierra Hotel, ten for families of High School students, 6 for McAuliffe families, and 4 for Oak families. Any rooms not taken by January first will be open to families from any schools. If you are interested in a room at the Grand Sierra, contact Lisa ASAP-(562) 430-6280 or Chattler@verizon.net. Lisa also booked rooms for families to stay at the Holiday Inn, only four miles from the Grand Sierra. There are shuttle buses available, so you don't have to rent a car. **Rooms at the Holiday Inn are \$69 per night. If you are interested you will call the Holiday Inn directly. The number is (775) 786-5151, extension 3003. You must tell them you are with the Los Alamitos High School Jazz Band.** These are available on a first come, first served basis. It is optional for families to go to Reno.

The cost of the trip will increase this year. The bus fee went up \$700 to \$10,810 and the student's rooms will be \$159 per night. This is the same price that the hotel normally charged last year, but Lisa had obtained a special \$119 room discount that is not available this year. We don't have the actual cost for the trip yet, but an estimate is approximately \$360 per student NOT including food. We provide our son or daughter money to buy his/her own food and for his/her entertainment; (there is an arcade in the hotel).

Chaperones for this trip have all been arranged. They will not be sharing rooms with the students. They will be taking two hour shifts in the hallway outside student rooms from 11pm-3am.

Music Director's Notes: Mr. Rush stated that it's going to be a great year☺! This year he has an assistant, so Mr. Rush is relaxed. The assistant is young, energetic and helpful.

If you go to the High School website and click under teachers you can access Mr. Rush's website. (Under the teacher section, you will click J. Rush.) There is an updated calendar and information. You can also go to the Jazz Band website, www.geocities.com/l_alamitos.

Jazz II is playing Boogiemens, a great Tom Kubis chart, and A Big Band Christmas 2. For the Holiday concert each band will play one or two songs, they will play an additional chart or two at the Festivals. Jazz one is playing a Chuck Owen piece called Tarwathi and the Gordon Goodwin piece Get In Line.

Professional Musicians will be providing sectional coaching to the students. Wayne Nelson, the retired band director, is serving as a mentor to the band and the official district music substitute teacher.

The projected Schedule for Festivals is below—note that the All-District Band Night is Monday, March 2nd, and not the 10th as written on the handout. The All-District Orchestra Night is Tuesday, March 3rd.

December 16, 2008.....	Winter Concert
February 2009.....	Disneyland
March 2, 2009.....	All District Band Night
March 7.....	Class Notes Concert
March 14.....	Esperanza Jazz Festival
March 21.....	Irvine Jazz Festival
April 3-4.....	Fullerton College Jazz Festival
April 23-25.....	Reno Jazz Festival
May 9.....	San Clemente Jazz Festival
May 16.....	Brea-Olinda Jazz Festival
June 2.....	Spring Concert
June 2009.....	Band Banquet

There is a new website for Jazz Festivals 2008-2009. The California Alliance for Jazz has a lot of great information, cajazz.org. ***Mr. Rush asks that we please do NOT call or email the directors listed on the website. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Rush directly.***

Jazz I will perform two 45 minute sets at Steamers Jazz Café in Fullerton. Friends of Jazz, a non-profit group give a \$4-500 donation to the program. The group provides scholarship money to outstanding student performers. Last year, three students received scholarship money. Mr. Rush would like to schedule this during a non-festival day.

The Fullerton College Jazz Festival is the first weekend of spring break. **Mr. Rush needs to know ASAP if your student is unavailable for this, or any performance, JRush@losal.org, or call (562) 799-4780 ext 519.** Please do what you can to make sure your student attends all performances. The band relies on each student.

On Sunday, October 12th, there is a request to have a small group of our Jazz musicians play at the Los Al museum. This is a 20 minute gig, and the museum will provide a donation to the program.

Combo groups are small groups of three to nine students. They are placed together by skill level and are student-run groups. They work together, under the supervision of Mr. Rush, and work on improvisation skills. Please encourage your child to sign up for these.

It's going to be a great year☺!

Respectfully submitted, Melanie Blumenthal, secretary

Addendum:

Lisa Chatterer emailed more information regarding chaperones. Chaperones must have TB clearance. If a chaperone got a TB test last year, they don't need another one—the district requires a new one every four years. Middle school chaperone forms will be transferred to the High School where they will remain in a file in the activities office. Chaperones should submit their forms to the chaperone coordinators. Rick and Melanie Blumenthal MDs will offer free TB testing to anyone that needs it for Chaperone clearance. Please call their office, 562) 594-8853, to make an appointment.