



Galena Park Independent School District

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Tuesday, July 14, 2015

Directors,

On behalf of the Galena Park Independent School District and our Fine Arts Department, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you and your band for advancing to the UIL Area F Marching Contest to be held on Saturday, October 24 at the Galena Park ISD athletic stadium (15025 Wallisville RD, Houston, TX 77049).

The official performance schedule will be linked on your Region website. Maps of the GPISD athletic stadium and North Shore Senior High School are linked there and also posted at <http://www.uiforms.com/regions/19/>. Official warm-up areas will be provided inside the NSSHS gymnasiums.

Buses will enter the stadium complex at **Castlegory RD**. As you exit Beltway 8 and approach the stadium on Wallisville RD, Castlegory is the **second traffic light** from the Beltway (on the right-hand side). Please instruct your equipment trucks to follow **behind** the student buses into the stadium complex. Parking workers will greet you to assist with parking after you have turned onto Castlegory. You have the option of unloading students & instruments in the *Student Drop-off Parking Lot* before your buses and trucks move to the *Bus/Truck Parking Lot* located near the *Field Exit and Pit Entrance*. Sideline percussion instruments, drum major podiums and props should be unloaded in the *Bus/Truck Parking Lot* as it is in close proximity to the *Pit Entrance*. **Please see included maps.**

Student band monitors will meet your band in the *Student Drop-off Parking Lot* area approximately **30 minutes** prior to your scheduled warm-up time. There are restroom facilities and water fountains available inside the NSSH cafeteria (located by the warm-up gyms). Band monitors will assist you in finding the warm-up gym, field entrance gate, field exit gate and locating your buses following your performance. GPISD band staff will monitor warm-up, field entrance/exit gates and the front sideline should you have any questions during the course of the contest.

The current UIL *Constitution & Contest Rules* for this event will be in effect. Take time to carefully review all rules and any changes in preparation for this event. An online version of this document can be accessed at <http://www.uiltexas.org/policy/constitution>.

Please be reminded of the following:

1. **Do not play while outside the gymnasiums** unless using the soccer fields north of the main building for warm-up. Groups electing to warm-up on the soccer fields must do so (1) within their posted scheduled warm-up time and (2) must **leave warm-up an additional 5 minutes early to travel to the gate** so they arrive promptly. Additional warm-up / travel time is not provided for groups electing to warm-up outside on the soccer fields.
2. Do not practice or warm-up battery percussion sections outside (unless using the soccer fields) as they are audible from the stadium.
3. Mallet percussion will have a designated area to warm-up (near the pit entrance) and may do so **only when bands are not performing**. A contest official will assist in monitoring mallet percussion warm-up but it is ultimately the responsibility of each participating organization to strictly adhere to the policy of warming up **only when bands are not performing**. This is a courtesy to all bands performing and spectators alike. The UIL Executive Secretary has made the directive that front ensembles warming-up are not to be heard from the press box so as not to distract from the groups performing. **This will be strictly enforced.**
4. The contest office is located on the first level of the press box. No one is allowed in the press box except contest officials, competing band directors and school administrators. The phone number for the press box is **832.386.4351**.

Spectator parking is free and accessible from Evanston. Additional overflow parking is available across the street at North Shore Middle School and next to the stadium in the San Jacinto College North Campus Fine Arts Building (parking lot #1). The admission fee for spectators is **\$5** per person. The admission gate is located at the northwest corner of the stadium. **Ten (10) chaperone passes per band will be provided TO EACH PARTICIPATING HEAD BAND DIRECTOR. Chaperone passes will be available in the cafeteria from GPISD warm-up monitors.** Chaperones must have passes from **you** to enter free of charge. Parents that assist with equipment do not need a pass during the band's performance but will need a wristband to enter the stadium as a spectator. It is recommended that a director or band parent purchase additional passes and distribute if needed. Bus drivers will be admitted free with their school district ID badge.

No video recording will be allowed from inside the press box, on the press box video decks or within the area designated for the judges.

The grilling of food on GPISD property is strictly prohibited. No open fire grills (gas, charcoal, smoker cookers, etc.) may be used. Food may be catered in or brought on-site to feed your students but no grilling.

Best wishes to you and your students for a smooth and successful marching event. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Mickey Wininger
Coordinator of Secondary Fine Arts
Galena Park ISD