



Galena Park Independent School District

Fine Arts Department

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Directors,

On behalf of the Galena Park Independent School District and our Fine Arts Department, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to the **UIL Area F Marching Band Contest** to be held on Saturday, October 21 at the GPISD athletic stadium (15025 Wallisville Rd, Houston, TX 77049). The performance schedule and contest maps will be available on the UIL Region 19 Music webpage (<https://region19uilmusic.com/area-f/>).

BUSES & EQUIPMENT TRUCKS will enter the stadium complex from **Castlegory RD** (see contest maps).

1. As you exit Beltway 8 and approach the stadium on Wallisville RD, **Castlegory RD** is the **second traffic light** after the Beltway (on the north, past Walgreens, before the YMCA).
2. Equipment trucks are asked to follow **behind** the student buses into the stadium complex.
3. GPISD parents assisting with parking will greet you after you turn off Castlegory RD onto Mustang DR.
4. You have the OPTION of unloading students & instruments (WWs, brass, battery percussion) 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* as this is closer to the *Warm-up Area* (see contest maps).
5. Sideline percussion instruments, drum major podiums and props will be unloaded in the *Bus & Equipment Truck Parking Lot* as this is closer to the *Pit Entrance* (see contest maps).
6. GPISD parent workers are scheduled to be in place by 6:45 AM to assist with parking. Please do not plan to arrive prior to 6:45 AM.
7. Cars and all other personal vehicles must enter from **Evanston LN** (third traffic light after the Beltway).

STUDENT BAND MONITORS will meet your band approximately **30 minutes** prior to your warm-up time.

1. Band monitors will assist in locating **restrooms** and **water fountains** (inside the NSSH cafeteria) prior to warm-up and lead your band to the outdoor warm-up area, field entrance, field exit and back to your buses following your performance.
2. Band monitors will provide **Ten (10) chaperone wristbands** per band to each participating head band director. Directors, staff, and parents assisting with sideline percussion, props or other equipment during your band's performance do not need a pass to enter at field level but band staff and

chaperones must have wristbands to enter the stadium free of charge as spectators following your band's performance.

3. Band monitors will mark students' hands if they will be entering the stadium following your band's performance. Please ensure that all students get their hand marked either before or after your performance (WWs, brass, battery percussion, sideline percussion, & colorguard).

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

1. Allow 15 minutes to travel from the bus & equipment parking area to the outdoor warm-up and allow ample additional time if planning a restroom stop in the NSSH cafeteria.
2. **Warm-up is 30 minutes.** This includes moving into and out of the warm-up area.
3. Travel time to the gate is 15 minutes and the announcement to take the field for pre-placement and/or warm-up will be made 5 minutes prior to your scheduled performance time.
4. Do not play while outside the warm-up area as wind and percussion instruments are audible from inside the stadium and the press box where the adjudicators are located.
5. WIRELESS DEVICES may be tested only during contest intermissions and during the 7-minute period that includes any band's 2-minute field exit and 5-minute field entrance. This includes bands in warm-up and other areas around the stadium. There will be no "restarts," "delays," or "do-overs" due to any issue related to electronics.
6. Sideline percussion will have a designated area to warm-up (in close proximity to the pit entrance) and may do so only during their official warm-up time (see contest maps).
7. The current version of the UIL *Constitution & Contest Rules* will be in effect. Please take time to carefully review all rules in preparation for this event. An online version of this document can be accessed at <http://www.uiltexas.org/policy/constitution>.
8. The UIL contest office is located on the **first level** of the press box.
9. If you choose to have a staff member or parent record a video of your marching band performance for educational purposes, you may do so from any available location in the home side seating area. Individuals may not video record from the press box as the adjudicators are on the second level video deck and the first level is enclosed.
10. The **director's meeting**, following prelims, will be inside the GPISD Athletic Department office (in the "Galena Park" south endzone).
11. Sunday, October 22 will serve as the *rain date* in case inclement weather delays or postpones the certification of the contest on Saturday, October 21.


SPECTATOR & CHAPERONE INFORMATION:

1. **Spectator parking is free.** Cars and all personal vehicles must enter from **Evanston LN** (third traffic light after the Beltway).

2. There is a **\$5 admission fee** for the UIL Area F marching contest. The admission gate is located at the northwest corner of the stadium. The admission gate will open at 8 AM.
3. **Ten (10) chaperone wristbands** per band will be provided to each participating head band director. Directors, staff, and parents assisting with sideline percussion, props or other equipment during your band's performance do not need a pass to enter at field level but band staff and chaperones must have wristbands to enter the stadium free of charge as spectators following your band's performance.
4. Bus drivers, principals and fine arts administrators will be admitted at no charge with their school district ID badge. Please have these individuals enter through the main admission gate.
5. Additional admission wristbands may be purchased online until Friday, October 20 at 9 AM. Online purchases can be made at <https://galenaparkisd.revtrak.net/> and click on *Fine Arts*. All wristbands ordered online may be picked up at the will-call table by the main admission gate.
6. It is recommended that a director, band booster officer, or parent purchase any additional passes needed and distribute them to parent-chaperones.
7. Galena Park ISD has instituted a CLEAR BAG POLICY to ensure visitor safety, along with quick and efficient entry into the GPISD stadium. This will limit the type of bags allowed to:
 - a. Clear Tote (12" x 6" x 12")
 - b. (1) Gallon clear plastic storage bag
 - c. Small purse or clutch (size not to exceed 5.5" x 8.5")
 - d. Diaper Bag (when accompanied by infant)

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mickey Winger".

Program Director for Fine Arts
Galena Park ISD