Atascocita High School Band "Pride of the Eagles" 13300 Will Clayton Parkway Humble, Texas 77346

Larry Ward, Director

Russell Caston, Assistant

University Interscholastic League Region 19 UIL Music High School Band Concert/Sight-Reading Contest April 17, 2014

Dear Directors,

Atascocita High School welcomes you to our campus for the 2014 North Zone UIL Band Concert and Sight-Reading Contest to be held on Thursday, April 17th. Enclosed in this packet you will find:

- 1) Map to Atascocita High School
- 2) Map of Atascocita High School and Contest Layout (to put on website)
- 3) Schedule of performance times (on website)

Our school is located on the corner of Will Clayton Parkway, and West Lake Houston Parkway. Buses will need to enter on the West Lake Houston side of the campus. At that particular entrance there is a small wooden sign that reads "Atascocita High School" at the corner of the driveway to the back of our school. The buses will enter the campus here and follow the covered walkway to the back door of the stage, which is an overhead-type door, which should be clearly visible. This is where your equipment will need to be unloaded. After unloading, the buses should park in the "Gold House" Parking lot indicated on the map. Your buses can remain parked in this location until after participation in the contest has been completed.

The students may enter AHS through the glass doors to the Athletic Hallway which is on the same side of the building where you will unload your equipment. They may then proceed to the open area by the front doors of the auditorium. This is also where restrooms can be found and the same location where your students will need to gather prior to being led to the warm-up room. Because of traffic flow and potential noise, please instruct your students <u>not</u> to enter the Fine Arts Wing doors where the contest is actually taking place.

Upon arrival, each director should check in at the contest office located in the medium ensemble room near the Band and Orchestra Rooms. Remember to have all of your numbered judge's scores, and be sure to write your school's name on the front of each score. **DON'T FORGET YOUR FORM #1.**

A student monitor will meet your group to lead you through the contest process. Please leave your cases on the buses as there will be no place provided to leave cases unattended in the building. Even though restrooms are available for changing purposes, we strongly urge you to have your students already dressed in their concert attire when they arrive on our campus. However, if it is absolutely necessary for your students to change into their concert attire upon arrival, we will have your buses placed in temporary parking along-side the curb of the exit lane prior to being moved in the Gold House Parking Lot. Your students may then place their school clothes back onto the buses after changing. Please do not allow them to leave any clothes in the restrooms because AHS will be in session during this time.

There will be a sufficient number of chairs and stands for each group in the Warm-up, Stage and Sight-reading areas. A Peterson tuner and McAdams metronome/tuner will be available in the warm-up room.

Equipment furnished on stage:

1) Bass Drum

5) Piano (concert grand)

2) Five Timpani

6) 3-8" risers and 3-16" risers (we do not own 24" risers)

3) Chimes

7) Wenger Acoustical Shells

4) Xylophone

NOTE: The piano is a concert grand, so plan your stage set-up with this in mind

Equipment needed for Sight-reading:

Level IV

5A Non – Varsity: Snare Drum/Bass Drum

Bells

Crash Cymbals/Suspended Cymbals

Timpani

Level VI

5A Varsity: Timpani

Snare Drum/Bass Drum

Crash Cymbals

Bells Triangle Wood Block

NOTE: We will <u>not</u> furnish mallets, sticks, cymbals, snare drums, orchestra bells or any other accessories.

We will do our best to keep this contest on schedule, so please be prepared to enter warm-up on time and plan to leave the warm-up room 5 minutes early. We will have a stage crew to set up your band but we suggest that you have another director available to fine-tune your set-up. Please instruct your percussion section to set up for their performance. If your stage set-up changes from the original version that you sent, please fax a new one to Ben and to us as soon as possible. This would include any last minute changes.

The warm-up room will be located in the Orchestra Room (room 1324). We request that the door to this room and the practice rooms remain closed at all times. After you finish your concert performance, you will be taken to the band hall for sight-reading. Please note the route you will follow during the contest. The ratings will be available in the contest office. Drinks and snacks will be available at the concession stand in the area where you will unload your equipment.

Doors to the auditorium will be closed during each performance, and will only be opened between performances. The administration of Atascocita High School wants all contest directors to remember that classes will be in session at AHS, and contest participants do not need to be allowed to explore any part of AHS. Please keep your kids together as a group, monitor their behavior and insist that they remain as quite as possible at all times. Students must remain quite in the Fine Arts area before you enter warm-up. Please do not allow students to enter the warm-up room or performance area until you move your group to these locations.

Work with your transportation department and insist that your group not be dropped off at a time that is earlier than necessary, and also insist that they not pick your students up at a time that is later than necessary. The Atascocita Directors will work diligently in order to run a smooth contest for everyone. It should not be their responsibility to monitor the behavior of students who are not under direct supervision of their own band director.

VERY IMPORTANT: If your performance is between 8-9 a.m. or 2:30-3:30 p.m., please allow at least 30 minutes extra time at the time that you depart from your school. Traffic in front of our school is always difficult during these peak traffic times. If possible, you may consider arriving a little early to get properly unloaded and acclimated to the contest layout.

Entrance to Atascocita High School is from West Lake Houston Parkway. The entrance to the Fine Arts area is as the back of the school. There is an auditorium access (for percussion equipment) from the sidewalk near the band hall entrance.

Remember that bus parking during the day will be in the Gold House Parking Lot that was actually under construction at this time last year. Bands that perform after school hours may be able to park in the Staff Parking Lot which is located outside the back door of the Band Hall. This will become even more accessible as the teachers leave our campus for the day. Since this Contest is on Friday, we feel that teachers and staff will leave fairly quickly.

Finally, it is our desire to do everything that we can in order to make UIL Contest at Atascocita High School to be as pleasant as possible. We also want to wish each of you the best of luck during your performances. If we can assist you in any way, please don't hesitate to call our office.

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