

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Audition Date: FRI or SAT Time: \_\_\_\_\_

DESERT VISTA HS BAND DEPARTMENT  
**All-State Audition Check List**

**Before:**

1. Get plenty of sleep the night before
2. Have a great breakfast
3. Give yourself time to get ready
4. Have a slow and relaxed warm up at home.
5. Dress for success (As if for a job interview- which it is!)
6. Do not 'practice' on the day of. Mental run-throughs & chunk reviews are better.

**Things to remember before I leave home:**

- I have a **Student/Photo ID** for registration
- I have my own All-State etudes.
- [Winds: I have my instrument(s)]
- [Perc: snare sticks, timpani mallets, and xylo mallets (and tuner?)]
- ...I have extra reeds, valve oil, tuner, etc

**Arrival time:** 45 min before your time

**Where:** Gilbert HS (different site this year!)  
(1101 E Elliot Rd, Gilbert, AZ 85234)

**Room Number:** \_\_\_\_\_ (get it at registration)

**When you arrive:**

1. Check in immediately **You will need your Student ID card.**
  - a. Check-in is the Auditorium lobby area.
2. Find your room before you find the warm up area.
3. **Hold on to your score sheet(s).** Do not set this down!!
4. Have a slow and relaxed re-warm-up (don't overdo it!)
  - a. Breathing exercises
  - b. Brass- Mouthpiece buzzing
  - c. Long (low) tones. Long tone scales. Take your time. Medium volume.
  - d. Scales ("All-State" pattern)
  - e. Touch on the Etudes. Do not practice! If anything, hit some spots half tempo. You ARE ready - last minute practice never helps!
  - f. TUNE!
5. Arrive at your room at least 10 minutes early. (Don't play in the hall- just relax)

\*For Reference: (cell #'s)

(Mr. Morales: 602.751.0409; Dr. Wedington-Clark: 480.343.5750; Mr. Thye: 480.254.0554)

**In the Audition:** (Need etudes sheet, score sheet, and Photo ID)

1. Observe the room you're playing in. What color is the carpet? Is it big or small? What is decorating the walls? What do the acoustics feel like?
2. Trumpet/Trombone players: do not point your instrument directly at the judge.
3. Winds: Ask the **monitor** if you may play some notes. Be confident when you play!
4. You will be asked to play 3 scales (usually chromatic and 2 majors). Play the scales in YOUR key, not concert pitch. Take a few deep breaths in and out-concentrate on the SOUND of your scales.
5. You will then be asked to perform your etudes. Take a deep breath in and out-concentrate on your sound and style. Don't play careful... be confident!! **Hear your tempo before you start.** Wait each time until the judge asks you to start.
  - a. BRASS – empty your water key(s) between etudes!
6. Lastly- Sight Reading! Everyone loves this one. ☺ Mentally figure out the hardest rhythms first, and sing/finger through the hard spots. Look at the key sig., time sig., and accidentals. Once you start, do your best not to stop- maintain a consistent (realistic) tempo. The point is to read the music accurately, not necessarily fast.
  - a. (Trombones/Bassoons – be ready for Tenor Clef!)
7. Thank the judge.

**After:**

1. Do NOT go around disappointed or negative. Hold your head up. No one will be perfect. Also, remember you are representing your school and your band in your words and actions.
2. Pack up your instrument. (Tubas/Bari Sax: Keep until Monday.)
3. *Results:*
  - a. Results will be posted Sunday(?) on: [www.thunderband.org](http://www.thunderband.org)
    - i. (I am sorry... I have to wait until AMEA officially releases the results... could be Monday...)

**Miscellaneous:**

- a. Be prepared for change in the moment.
- b. Nerves: there are many philosophies to get rid of pre-performance anxiety ranging from eating bananas to yoga. It is a personal choice. Being alone or talking with a close friend helps. I have always preferred staying perfectly still for a while, listening to my heart beat, and breathing through my nose and out my mouth.
- c. **Do not listen** to other performers. Keep your mind focused and not distracted with comparisons.
- d. When it is your turn to perform- get confident quickly. At this point, the quiet reserved will not work. Counteract your nerves with a confident aggressive demeanor. Be a performer; **don't be careful/timid** or worried about the "what if's." BE CONFIDENT
- e. **Have Fun! I am proud of you!!**

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