



DESERT VISTA HIGH SCHOOL

A Campus of the Tempe Union High School District

16440 S. 32nd St.

Phoenix, Arizona 85048

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Mike Deignan, Principal

Welcome to the **Desert Vista HS “Thunder in the Hills” Marching Invitational**. The Desert Vista Band Boosters, students, and staff are excited to host this event. We sincerely hope that your organization finds this festival to be rewarding and educational for your students and staff. Please do not hesitate to contact our band booster organizing chair or myself with any questions, concerns, or comments so that we may provide a quality experience for all involved.

Contact Information:

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TITH Chair – DV Band Boosters

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Directions to Desert Vista High School

Band Buses/Equipment Trucks [map](#)

1. Navigate to the San Tan AZ-202 West (southern loop of the 202)
(From Phoenix on I-10, this is the southernmost exit before continuing to Casa Grande/Tucson.)
2. Continue west on San Tan AZ-202
3. Take exit 57 toward S 32nd St.
4. Turn right onto 32nd St.
5. The school will be on your left.
6. Take your **FIRST left (west) at Liberty Lane** (crosswalk intersection).
7. You will then turn right into the bus turn-around area at the south end of the campus.
8. Buses will drop off students and then will be directed to move into the LDS Church parking lot just northwest of the stadium to park. (Division 1 buses will remain in the bus turn around area)
9. Equipment vehicles will line up along the curb in the bus turn-around area, but WILL NOT be parked here (with the exception of Division 1). They may remain in the turn-around until instruments are unloaded. They will then be directed to move into the LDS Church parking lot just northwest of the stadium (same as the buses). Equipment trucks will remain in the church lot for loading following your show.

Please thank your boosters and drivers for their patience and understanding. We have made this plan for the bus and truck parking arrangements based on prior feedback, to make this easier.

Please see attached maps for the flow of the event.

Spectator Parking [map](#)

1. Navigate to the San Tan AZ-202 West (southern loop of the 202)
(From Phoenix on I-10, this is the southernmost exit before continuing to Casa Grande/Tucson.)
2. Continue west on San Tan AZ-202
3. Take exit 57 toward S 32nd St.
4. Turn right onto 32nd St.
5. The school will be on your left.
6. Turn **left (west) at Frye on the north side of the school** to access the large stadium parking lot, and enter the lot via the west side entrance toward the stadium. The front parking lot off of 32nd St and south of Fry will be available as overflow parking.
7. Please understand that our parking lots have one-way entrances and exits.

Access to the Bus Lot

At check-in, you will be asked how many buses you have so that a sign can be placed in each bus window – this will help us, and your students, locate your bus(es). **If your band needs to change out of uniform, store instruments on buses, etc., please keep the garment bags/hangers with your buses or equipment trucks so that you can change at the LDS church lot.** (Please avoid the main concession area restrooms for changing!) We realize situations may arise during the event that may require access to your bus(es). You will be directed to exactly where your bus(es) are parked.

Arrival Procedure

- Upon arrival, each Band Director will receive a packet. Inside your packet you will find a number of wristbands for your approved Pit parents/bus chaperones needed for stadium entry. All Directors and their staff should already have their ABODA badges for the event.
- If your band needs to change into uniform, they may do so on the buses or in the restrooms out at the practice fields (warm up zone). I cannot allow them to use the stadium restrooms as they are too small to house a band changing and for spectators to use at the same time.
- **We are unable to allow personal vehicles into the ‘bus turn-around’ unloading area.** Please have all staff & parent helpers park personal vehicles in the front lot off of 32nd St.
- There will be one Video Pass in each Director’s Packet. The ‘zone’ for video recording will be on the top level of the stands, just north (Side 2) of the Press Box.

Warm-up

Bands will be allowed to warm-up in the approved areas (see map) starting at any time before your performance. **Please be respectful of other groups when choosing a warm-up spot, and always face south/away from the stadium/away from the mountains.** (We have had some judges' concerns regarding 'sound bleed' issues in the past.)

Be aware of the time you are to report to the starting gate. Allow for 10 minutes to move to the stadium. (Note: Pit report time is earlier than the winds/drums/guard!)

Please be aware of the 'no play zones' on the map. If you'd like to use the tennis courts for visual warm-ups or for color guard, please feel free. (No metronomes/speakers/tempo blocks!) There can be no playing on those tennis courts as the sound bleeds into the stadium.

All students must be supervised by staff/chaperones at all times.

- **WINDS** - You may have sound warm-ups using the practice fields (SW corner of campus). Always face south (away from the stadium/away from the mountains). Thank you for your help with this!
- **BATTERY** - You may only warm-up along the far east edge of the campus, in the front parking lot along 32nd St. (Please stay on the sidewalks.)
- **GUARD** - Please use the tennis courts for your warm-up. (No loud music or long rangers in this zone.) You may also use alternate locations as long as it is not in a main path of travel or in a parking lot.
- **FRONT ENSEMBLE** - The courtyard is reserved for you. *Please minimize your electronics and cymbal volumes out of respect to other groups.*
- **'FULL ENSEMBLE'** - If you choose, you may meet as an entire group in the practice field area or in the courtyard. Face south! **[*If using the practice field area, please minimize the 'Full Ensemble' (winds & all percussion) time to a max of 15 min. Please also minimize your electronics and cymbal volumes. Thank you for your help with this.]**

Once you leave the warm-up zone, there will be no more playing until your performance time. Please use stick or rim clicks, instead of taps, when moving towards the field.

Motorized Vehicles

These will only be allowed on the track, but not allowed on the field. You must unhitch equipment and pull onto the turf field. Your vehicle will be inspected for leaks and if it is deemed unsafe for our track, you will not be permitted to continue past the entry gate.

Performance Procedure

Each band is limited to a 15 minute performance time. This includes your field entrance, on-field warm up, field show, and field exit. Each band will enter from the south (Side 1/Side A), and will face east towards the Home side press box. There will be a southwest gate to enter the back sideline track area for the Winds and Battery. Front Ensemble equipment will enter using the southeast gate, entering the front sideline track area. The Guard may choose to enter from the front or back sideline.

- The field is turf, with only H.S. hashes.
- There will be power provided at the 50 yard line track area.

According to the ABODA Handbook: You may pre-stage your band on the track, but do not go further than the outer edge of the end zone (goal posts). Once the previous band exits the field area, you may move out, staying on the outer perimeter of the 'field proper'*. Do not enter the field proper until the announcer says: "The next band to perform is..."

('Field proper' = the football field, bordered by the front and back sidelines and the two goal lines ('0' yard lines))*

After 3 minutes (12 minutes remaining), the announcer will ask if the judges are ready. Then, they will ask if the drum majors are ready. After the drum major's salute, the announcer will say, "You may begin your performance". (If the judges are not ready, time will be stopped until the judges are ready and the clock will resume again.) The performance field must be completely clear at the conclusion of the 15 minutes. 'Completely clear' includes all band members, staff, parents, and equipment getting outside the field proper, and beyond the Side 2 goal line.

Departure from Stadium Procedure (Post Performance)

Following the performance, bands and equipment will exit the northeast, (Side 2/Side B) front sideline corner of the stadium. All band members, and pit helpers will turn left on Frye Rd. and head to the equipment truck parking lot at the LDS church.

Please see the enclosed map for the flow of the festival.

Re-entry and Band Seating

If your band wishes to change out of uniform, they need to use the restrooms at the winds warm up area/southwest practice fields, or change near the trucks/on the buses (LDS church lot). I am sorry, I cannot allow them to use the stadium restrooms for changing. The stadium restrooms are small and for regular spectator/performer use only.

Your band will re-enter from the northeast gate on the 'home' side (right where you exited the field following your show). Please stay to the right, as bands may be exiting the field.

Performing members ARE allowed to sit in the outer sections of the Home stands. (If the outer sections fill up, we may have to ask your band to sit in the Away Stands.)

Admission Prices

Please note: Only cash or check are accepted as payment for admissions. (No credit/debit cards.) There will be an ATM option available.

General Admission - **\$10.00**

Children 5 and under - free

NAfME & AIA card holders - free

Programs \$2.00

Concessions

The concession stand area will have a nice selection of food, drinks and snacks available. Cash and charge/debit cards are accepted. There will also be food from other vendors. Performers are welcome to purchase food if you allow time for that.

No outside food or drink (besides bottled water) will be allowed in the stadium.

There will be 2021 “Thunder in the Hills” event t-shirts available for purchase.

Rankings

Per the ABODA Handbook, this competition will use the approved numeric scoring sheets, and the results will be read off in reverse numerical order. This format will be awarding one caption award for every category (Music Performance, Visual Performance, General Effect, Percussion and Auxiliary) in each division. A numeric score will be announced based off of the total score. A full numerical recap sheet will be available following the show for each director.

Award Ceremonies

There will be one award ceremony at the end of Division I performances.

Note: Only drum majors and guard captains will be allowed on the field to accept awards for your band. Please send your drum majors/captains to the north end of the track 30 min prior to awards.

Judges' Comments will be shared with you via ‘Competition Suite’ (directly from ABODA).

Critique

There will be a critique following the show at the Director’s Hospitality Tent located at the North end zone.

Exiting the Show Site (following the Awards Ceremony)

Following the conclusion of the Awards Ceremony Division II, III, and IV please exit the stands to the north (to the left when sitting in the Away stands), traveling around the track to the northeast stadium exit. Your buses will be parked at the LDS church immediately northwest of the stadium.

Division I bands please exit the stands to the south (to the right when sitting in the Away stands), traveling around the track towards the southeast stadium exit. Your buses will be parked in the bus turn around area (where your band was dropped off). We will help you get across campus to your vehicles.

Once again – thank you for your patience throughout the day’s process!!

If there are any questions or anything that we can do to make your experience better, please don’t hesitate to contact us!!

Josh Thye



Director of Bands

Desert Vista High School

Host, “Thunder in the Hills” Marching Invitational