

Dear Region 9 Choir Directors,

We are looking forward to hosting you at Willis High School for the JHMS UIL Choir Concert and Sightreading Evaluation!

We have made every attempt to make your UIL experience enjoyable; however, just a reminder that this contest venue is a high school and school business will continue throughout the UIL Contest.

Please take some time to familiarize yourself with the following information. In addition, at the end of this email, there is a list of food establishments that are close by. I have included the location link for you.

### ARRIVAL

The School address is 1201 F.M. 830 just off of I45. Bus drop off is at the main lot for the Performing Arts Center. The best way to get to the PAC is to pass the school, turn left onto rt.75 and take the 3rd left into the parking area (See Photo).



Please park on the downhill side of the cones towards Turner elementary school as busses for WISD will use the uphill side (See photo).



The constables will move cars at dismissal time if they are in the wrong area.

During the contest, no groups will cross paths and every reasonable measure will be made to have large distances between all personnel involved. The rooms being used are very large and can have multiple doors open between groups.

Upon arrival, Directors should check-in at the UIL Contest office in the ticket booth just inside the lobby doors for the PAC. You will need to drop off judge's music and your Form 1.

Your students will need to wait for you on the bus, on the patio in front of the PAC or in the PAC lobby. Please remember that concerts are happening throughout the day so keeping your group quiet is important to that process.

There are restrooms in the lobby; however, students should arrive in concert attire, as there is not a facility to change clothes.

A WHS helper will meet you in the lobby 5 minutes before your Warm Up time.

### WARM-UP AREA

The warm-up area is our Black Box theatre space. This room is next to the PAC. There will be 1 upright piano and 8, 4-step risers. You will have approximately 17 minutes in the warm-up room. We will exit the room with the director's back/right person.

*As with any black box, there are surrounding curtains thus the sound will be dry. (In addition, please alert us prior to coming if your performance calls for 2 pianos and we will make that available in the warm-up room).*

### CONCERT

The Concert area will be on the Stage in the PAC. There will be 8, 4-step risers. There will be a 7'2" Boston P.E. II grand piano on stage and a Knabe baby grand available backstage if a second is required. We will have an announcer and students available for stage set up. We will exit the stage with the director's top/right person.

*The sound on stage is reminiscent of the centrum without as much decay. We will be using a Diva Concert Shell with limited draperies. Students will be able to hear themselves and you will be able to hear the choir easily.*

### SIGHTREADING

The sight-reading area is in the dance room. We have standing risers in this room. There are four levels.

There will be a Yamaha keyboard with weighted keys in the Sight-reading room. You will have a timekeeper in the room. We will have a digital time display which will be on a side monitor allowing you to monitor your time as well.

### PARKING and DROP OFF/PICK UP

All UIL parking is in the PAC parking area described above.

### STUDENT SUPERVISION

Please provide appropriate supervision for your students as they will not be permitted to wander through or around the building. If you have any extenuating circumstances or concerns, please let me know.

### ANNOUNCING RESULTS

Out of respect for all choirs, when it is time to inform your choir of their ratings, the bus lot or the grassy/tree lined areas between WHS and Turner elementary would be appropriate. The facade of the PAC makes for a nice photo.

## BELLS

The bells will be disabled in the PAC performance area and the dance room (SR). The warm up area will still have bells but no announcements will be made during the day.

We look forward to hosting you and we will do everything that we can to make your experience wonderful! Let us know if you have questions or need anything.

Sincerely,

Ken Labonski

Laurelyn Korfhage

-Cici's Pizza

6 miles, 9 min

<https://www.cicis.com/locations/tx-conroe-1134-w-dallas-st>

-Love Travel Plaza (Wendy's, Subway and convenience store in one spot)

3 miles, 8min

<https://www.loves.com/locations/468>

-Many Chains (McDonalds, Chick-Fil-A, Burger King, Jack in the Box, Subway, WhataBurger, Panda Express, etc.) 2.5 miles, 7min {McDonalds has a bus lot and is next to Chick-fil-A}

<https://www.google.com/maps/search/Restaurants/@30.4218203,-95.4931174,17.25z>

-I45 from Conroe to Willis has every imaginable suburban place. I45 is usually open and not congested. The shopping center at I45 and 105 in Conroe has Chipotle, Five Guys, Schlotzsky's and Chick-Fil-A within walking distance from a bus.