

Having a Successful All-Region Audition

Your Room #: _____

Check-In Time: _____

The following information is intended to help you better prepare for your upcoming All-Region Band audition. Please refer to it often in the weeks before your scheduled audition.

Two Weeks Before the Audition

This is crunch time. Really work hard on the details of your music. Record yourself when you practice, and judge your performance to find trouble spots that need attention. Pay particular attention to articulation, tempo, and dynamics. Make each selection musical and enjoyable to the ear.

Wednesday Before the Audition

This is your last big night of practice. Really bear down on the final details that need attention. An hour or more of practice is possible on this night.

Thursday Before the Audition

Thursday needs to be a day of moderate practice. Don't overdo it, but don't take the night off, either. 30-45 minutes of practice is a good idea. Work on continuity by playing through large sections of the music. Play all of your scales at least five times each.

Friday Before the Audition

Practice lightly for about 30 minutes. Do not practice to exhaustion! Review all of your material, but don't be overly bothered by occasional mistakes. After you practice, use the checklist below to put everything together to take to your audition tomorrow. ***Put your name and school on everything you take to the audition!***

- Instrument
- Music
- Folding Stand
- Metronome
- Bottle of Water
- Book or other relaxing diversion (a coloring book is **highly** recommended!)

Get a good night's sleep (8-9 hours, if possible), so that you will be rested and ready for your audition. This is not a good night to sleep over at a friend's house. Make sure your parents know what time you need to get up and leave the house to make it on time.

Audition Day—Saturday

Wake up early enough so that you do not need to be hurried to get ready. Eat a good breakfast, but avoid eating too much. It is a good idea to have some protein (eggs, bacon, etc.) and juice as well as plenty of water. Stay away from caffeine and foods that are high in processed sugar. These will worsen your nervousness. Bananas can actually help decrease the effects of nervousness and are recommended with a protein.

After breakfast, immediately do a slow and relaxed warm-up. You may run through your audition music and scales once, but do not practice them. You need to save it for the audition. This should take about 10 minutes.

You will need to do the following for the first phase of your audition:

Plan to arrive at the school about an hour before your audition check-in time. You will be auditioning in a room with all of the other students on your instrument trying to qualify for a chair in the All-Region Band. You will be given an audition letter as you sign in at the room. Remember your audition letter, but do not share it with anyone, even after the audition.

Phase One Procedures for Woodwind and Brass Players

You will enter the room with a group of other students who are auditioning. There will be five judges behind the screen with their backs to you. Each player will go to the front of the room and perform your scales by memory in the order in which you are called. After you perform, you will return to your seat. The process will repeat itself twice more, beginning 1/3 and 2/3 of the way through the group of auditioning students, for a portion of the lyrical etude and a portion of the technical etude until all students have performed. The room will then be dismissed at once, and results will be posted a short time after all students in that room have completed their auditions. These results will indicate which students will advance to the second phase for band placement. Phase II will be the following Monday evening at Nelson MS in Frisco.

Points are broken down in the following manner for each judge:

Major scales—30 points each

Chromatic scale—40 points

Etudes—100 points each

TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS: 300 per judge

Phase One Procedures for Percussionists

You will enter the room with a group of other students who are auditioning. There will be five judges behind the screen with their backs to you. Each player will go to the front of the room and perform an excerpt of the snare etude in the order in which you are called. After you perform, you will return to your seat. The process will repeat itself beginning halfway through the group of students auditioning for the keyboard etude selection. The room will then be dismissed at once, and results will be posted a short time after all students in that room have completed their auditions. These results will indicate which students will advance to the second phase for band placement. Phase II will be the following Monday evening at Nelson MS in Frisco.

Points are broken down in the following manner for each judge:

Etudes—100 points each

TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS: 200 per judge

Phase Two Procedures for Woodwind and Brass Players

You will enter the room with a group of other students who have advanced to Phase Two. There will be five judges behind the screen with their backs to you. Each player will go to the front of the room and perform the chromatic scale by memory and the selected portion of the lyrical etude in the order that you are called. After you perform, you will return to your seat. The process will repeat itself through the technical etude until all students have performed. The room will then be dismissed at once, and results will be posted a short time later. These results will indicate band and chair placement in the All-Region Band as well as the ranking of alternates.

Points are broken down in the following manner for each judge:

Etudes—100 points each

Chromatic scale—40 points

TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS: 240 per judge

Phase Two Procedures for Percussionists

You will enter the room with a group of other students who have advanced to Phase Two. There will be five judges behind the screen with their backs to you. Each player will go to the front of the room and perform the required timpani etude (pre-tuned) in the order that you are called. After you perform, you will return to your seat. The process will repeat itself through the snare etude and finally the keyboard etude until all students have performed. The room will then be dismissed at once, and results will be posted a short time later. These results will indicate band and chair placement in the All-Region Band as well as the ranking of alternates.

Points are broken down in the following manner for each judge:

Etudes—100 points each

TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS: 300 per judge

Result Posting

Results will be emailed home following each audition phase.

It is very important that you bring a book (I recommend a coloring book with crayons) with you for this audition. Electronic devices will **not** be allowed in the room, and you will need something quiet to occupy your time. **Cell phones must be turned completely off.** You must remain quiet and polite while other students perform. You can bring a bottle of water into the audition room as well, but don't bring soft drinks or food.

Students who make the band must attend the rehearsals and performance on Friday and Saturday, November 9th and 10th. We will have music folders for these students following the auditions. Alternates will be notified if they are placed prior to the rehearsals. The clinics will be held at Frisco Pioneer Heritage Middle School and Reedy High School. The concerts will all be at Reedy High School. Clinic and concert details will be provided to all students placing in the All-Region Band immediately after the auditions.

Don't hesitate to ask any of the directors if you have questions about All-Region Band auditions.

Audition Sequence Sheet-Winds

You may take this into the room with you for your audition to help you think everything through thoroughly.

Take a deep breath.

Scale number one is Concert _____, my _____ scale.

Think your tempo in your head.

Play the first note.

Begin.

Scale number two is Concert _____, my _____ scale.

Think your tempo in your head.

Play the first note.

Begin.

Next is the Chromatic Scale

Think your tempo in your head.

Play the first note of your chromatic scale.

Begin.

Return to your seat and get your lyrical etude music ready. Use **YOUR** copy.

You will play the lyrical etude excerpt first.

Get your tempo with a silent metronome.

Think your tempo in your head.

Play the first note of the etude.

Begin.

Return to your seat and get your technical etude music ready. Use **YOUR** copy.

Play the technical etude excerpt next.

Get your tempo with a silent metronome.

Think your tempo in your head.

Play the first note of the etude.

Begin.

After you finish, return to your seat quietly. Stay positive, but don't be arrogant. Results will be emailed home the evening after the auditions.

Do not speak to the judges or other students!

Audition Sequence Sheet-Percussion

You may take this into the room with you for your audition to help you think everything through thoroughly.

Take a deep breath.

Get your snare etude music ready. Use **YOUR** copy.

Play the assigned snare etude selection first.

Think your tempo in your head.

Begin.

Return to your seat and get your keyboard etude music ready. Use **YOUR** copy.

Play the keyboard etude selection next.

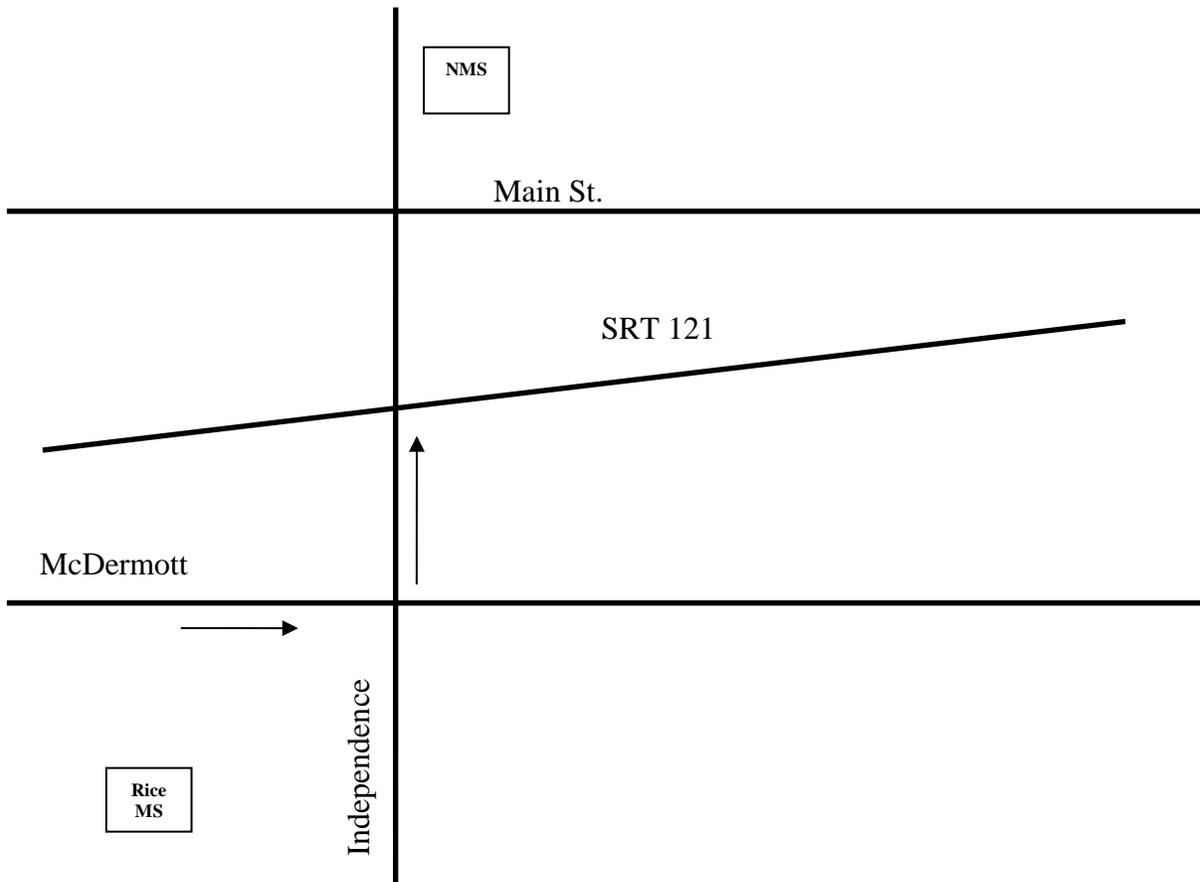
Think your tempo in your head.

Begin.

After you finish, return to your seat quietly. Stay positive, but don't be arrogant. Results will be emailed home the evening after the auditions.

Do not speak to the judges or other students!

Map to Nelson Middle School (Phase Two)



Directions

Phase 2 is at Nelson MS:

- Go north on Independence Pkwy
- About a 4 miles north of McDermott, Nelson is on your right.

Nelson Middle School
10100 Independence Pkwy
Frisco, TX 75035