



Saturday, August 27, 2016

Pre-Parade

Parent volunteers are to arrive at the school no later than 6:30 a.m. Parents will assist students with uniforms and help load last minute equipment. Bus will depart Mountain Vista at 6:45 a.m. Parent volunteers will drive themselves to Pueblo (carpooling encouraged).

The meeting point in Pueblo is on the attached map. The driver of the U-Haul will caravan with the bus so they end up at the same location. Parent volunteers will need to find parking as available then find the band at the staging area.

Hydration is extremely important! A jug filled with water will be available for the students before the parade starts. Spray bottles and misters will be available to keep the kids cool. Coolers with cold water bottles will be waiting for them at the end of the parade, along with a snack. These will be kept in the U-Haul to be distributed after the parade.

Parade Route

Volunteers are responsible for making sure the kids stay hydrated. Parents will flank the band, 3-4 on each side (front, middle, back). Each parent will be responsible for a section of the band. Each parent will have a squeeze water bottle that allows water to be squirted into the mouths of the kids. Keep a watchful eye on the kids and make sure they do not overheat. Offer water **between songs** and do not let a student say no more than once. They do not know they are overheating! If the weather is hot, ask the kids if they would like to be misted on their necks or faces as well. A second set of water bottles will be pulled in a wagon at the back of the band. When your bottle is empty, quickly get a replacement and resume your position. Parents not walking alongside the band will pull the wagon and refill bottles.

Drummers play throughout the entire parade so may be harder to water. Please be aware of their cadences and other play times and do your best to offer water during a "down" time in their part.

Volunteers are responsible for making sure the students avoid obstacles (i.e. horse droppings) in the parade route. Watch for these, place yourself in front of the obstacle, and the students will go around you.

Remember – the parade is a competition for the band. Parents continually wandering through the band lines are a distraction. Water the kids quickly, do not interfere with their performance, and stay in flank position when not providing water. There will be several times when the band is being judged and parents in the line may distract the kids and affect their scores. Be mindful of keeping them safe, but stay out of the way as much as possible.

Post parade, volunteers will help load instruments onto the U-Haul and provide water bottles and snacks to the kids.

Fairgrounds

All volunteers will proceed to the fairgrounds. The U-Haul will caravan with the bus so equipment stays with the band. Parent volunteers will need to park individually and meet up with the band at the bus unloading zone.

Upon determining the stage performance times, everyone will be dismissed to have lunch on their own. At the pre-determined time, students and volunteers will meet back at the bus to dress for the stage performance. The U-Haul should be allowed to enter the fairgrounds for equipment unloading. Volunteers will unload equipment and help transport it to the stage. Keep the hydration going! Post performance, students will return to the bus with their uniforms, and equipment will be returned to the U-Haul. Everyone will be dismissed into the park. Students will return to the stage at the designated time for awards presentations. Drum majors and captains will need to be in full uniform for awards, so be sure to allow enough time to change before the presentations. After awards are presented, students return to the bus for the trip home.

Volunteers will meet back at the school to unload instruments and help students put away uniforms.