Sartartia Middle School Band Course Description:

Symphonic Band, Mr. Edward Odeh, Director

The Symphonic Band is the intermediate performance group at SMS. Membership in the Symphonic Band is by audition only and consists primarily of students in the 7th and 8th grade. Students are well-rounded in the fundamental playing requirements and are expected to advance rapidly. Also, the students will consistently demonstrate a positive attitude and healthy work ethic.

Symphonic Band members will have a required section rehearsal before or after school once a week that will count for a **double daily grade per district policy**. Rehearsals held outside of school hours ALSO count as a double daily grade.

Members of the Symphonic Band are expected to participate in the following activities:

FBISD Band Night Varsity FB game performance for respective feeder HS

Winter Concert Solo and Ensemble

Master Classes Early Bird Concert in March

FBISD Pre-UIL Contest UIL Concert and Sightreading

Competitive Band Festivals in spring Spring Concert

\*\*other specifically scheduled events should they arise\*\*

\*\*students are also highly encouraged but not required to participate in the Region Band Auditions and Clinic/Concert if selected\*\*

Performing organizations are often required to perform outside of regular school hours. You will be notified of all functions well in advance (see preliminary calendar at back of handbook), and as a member of the band, all students are expected to attend all band activities. ***Absences can be excused only under special circumstances, and only if notification is given in writing prior to the event for consideration. Excusing a student from an event is up to the director’s discretion.***  Emergencies will happen. In these instances, consideration will be given on a case-by-case basis. Every performance will count for double major grades per district policy.

The Texas Education Agency considers all on-campus band activities of a curricular nature that take place outside the school day as an integral part of a high quality instructional program. The “No Pass/No Play” ruling does not apply to co-curricular activities that help determine your grade. Performances are an integral part of meeting the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for this course, so attendance is mandatory. **All co-curricular performances count for a double major grade per district policy!**

**Course Content and Focus:**

Students will continue with advanced method-oriented studies in a balanced-instrumentation environment, with emphasis on tone production, embouchure, intonation, balance, blend, breath support, fingerings, hand position, posture, scales, rhythm and counting, and musical terminology. The focus of this class is development of musical and social skills for students with 1-2 years previous band experience.