Sartartia Middle School Band Course Description:

Wind Ensemble, Mrs. Julie Amos, Director

The Wind Ensemble is the premier performance group at SMS. Membership in the Wind Ensemble is by audition only and consists solely of students in the 7th and 8th grade. Students earning membership in the Wind Ensemble must demonstrate an advanced degree of proficiency on their instruments and show excellent potential for improvement. Also, the student will consistently demonstrate a positive attitude and healthy work ethic.

Wind Ensemble 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 Wind Ensemble **are required** to participate in the following activities:

FBISD Band Night Varsity FB game performance for respective feeder HS

Pep Rallies Region Band Auditions and Clinic/Concert if selected

Winter Concert Solo and Ensemble Contest

All Master Classes FBISD Pre-UIL Contest

UIL Concert and Sightreading Competitive Band Festivals in spring

Early Bird Concert in March Spring Concert

Spring Trip (not required) Recruiting performances at elementary campuses

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

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.