



CHARLES STILLMAN MIDDLE SCHOOL

2977 W. Tandy Rd. Brownsville, TX 78520 Tel. (956) 698-1000 Fax (956) 350-3235

"If you believe it, you can achieve it"

Eduardo Martinez Jr. – Principal

Elizabeth Garcia – Asst. Principal Irving Martinez – Asst. Principal Leticia Rodriguez-Bohn – Dean of Instruction

2021-2022 Stillman Middle School Band Syllabus

Band Directors:

Mr. Franco: Head Band Director - Low Brass Instructor

Ms. Meave: Asst. Band Director- Percussion Instructor

Mrs. Manzano: Asst. Band Director – Woodwind Instructor

Mr. Ramirez: Asst. Band Director - High Brass Instructor

Band Hall Phone: (956) 698-1014

Band Director E-Mails :

Mr. Franco: vfranco@bisd.us

Ms. Meave: mmeave@bisd.us

Mrs. Manzano: olmanzano@bisd.us

Mr. Ramirez: daramirez@bisd.us

Course Description: ALL members of the Stillman Longhorn Band are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful and dignified manner at all times and make a positive contribution to the success of this band program.

Band Instruments: ALL band members are expected to have their own band instrument. There are certain cases where students are using school-owned instruments (such as tuba, oboe, French horn, etc.). In this case students are responsible for the care of that instrument and should have signed a contract saying they are responsible for that instrument while in their possession.

Classroom Procedures & Behavior: Enter the band hall with a positive attitude! Get your instrument and other required materials, sit down and set up quietly and carefully. Respect the instructors, the classroom, and your peers. Students are responsible for maintaining their practice area, instrument maintenance, and practicing safe band hygiene.

Instruments, Music & Homework: ALL band members are required to take their instruments and music home on a daily basis. Band members are required to bring their instruments and music to school every day. Your child should be practicing an average of 30-45 minutes daily. This is their homework for our class. Beginner band students should average around 15-25 minutes in their first semester.

Grading Policy: There will be several grades for every six weeks. Grades will be based on the instrument & music going home on a daily basis and students having the necessary supplies required for rehearsal. This includes reeds, valve oil, drumsticks, etc. Students will be expected to perform at a level that is comparable to the overall ability of the group that they have been assigned to. As far as test grades, students will be graded on performance-based exams. Honors, Symphonic & Concert Band members will be tested during their class and/or sectional time.

Sectionals: Band members will be expected to attend a weekly sectional. Sectionals are afterschool rehearsals that focus on specific instrument study. Each instrument group will meet once a week for a 45 minute-1 hour sectional. Instruction will focus on particular instrumental techniques and skills. Sectionals are required and tests will be given during this instruction period. Circumstances beyond parent/student control are inevitable. Students are required to make up sectionals on a different day of the same week in order to maintain a passing grade.

Performances: ALL band performances are required. Failure to attend performances will affect grade, future band placement, and participation in celebration festivities. Again, circumstances beyond parent/student control are inevitable. A written note, e-mail, or phone call are expected before or the following day of a performance in order to give your child an opportunity to fulfill their expectations in one manner or another.

***REMINDER:** The Holiday Concert in December & the Spring Concert in May will serve as a comprehensive semester exam and will count as 1/4 of the total semester grade.

Virtual Instruction

In the event that instruction will be conducted virtually the student will be responsible for the following:

ONLINE Classroom Procedures & Behavior: Find a suitable, quiet place to work – Try to log in a few minutes before the scheduled class time – Be respectful – Listen actively – Participate often – Do not have music, video games, loud noises in the background and try not to be distracted by things in our virtual class – Keep your microphone muted unless you are contributing to the lesson.

ONLINE Instruments, Music & Homework: ALL band members are required to have their instruments and music on the days you log-in to your virtual band class. Your child should be practicing an average of 30-45 minutes daily. This is their homework for our class. Beginner band students should average around 15-25 minutes daily in their first semester.

ONLINE Grading Policy: There will be several grades for every six weeks. Grades will be based on participation and having the proper materials during online classes as well as making sure the student keeps up to date with their Google Classroom. Students will be expected to perform at a level to the best of their ability. As far as test grades, students will be graded on performance-based and/or written exams.

(Due to the nature of the class it is imperative that we ensure visual and audio capabilities are available and functioning at all times.)