



# 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](mailto:vfranco@bisd.us)

Ms. Meave: [mmeave@bisd.us](mailto:mmeave@bisd.us)

Mrs. Manzano: [olmanzano@bisd.us](mailto:olmanzano@bisd.us)

Mr. Ramirez: [daramirez@bisd.us](mailto:daramirez@bisd.us)

**Course Description: Students will learn the following fundamentals throughout the school year:**

- I. Discipline Procedures (Band Rules)
  - a. "Sit on the Edge of the chair"
  - b. "Feet flat on the floor"
  - c. "Hold still"
- II. Foot Tap
- III. Basic Music Theory
- IV. Embouchure Techniques
- V. Breathing Techniques
- VI. Rhythm
- VII. Starting the Tone
  - a. Tone Production and Intonation
  - b. Start-Sustain-Release
  - c. Hold Still
- VIII. Instrument maintenance and band hygiene.

**Materials:** *Beginner Band* students will need the following materials:

- I. Instrument
- II. Black 1 inch 3-Ring Binder
- III. Clear Sheet Protectors (at least 20)
- IV. Mirror (preferably plastic)
- V. Combination Lock (instrument will be left in locker during the school day)
- VI. Pencil
- VII. Spiral Notebook
- VIII. Uniform for Future Performances (student provides):
  - a. Stillman Orange Polo Shirt (can be bought in the front office or ordered on our school website)
  - b. Solid Black Pants-No Black Jeans
  - c. Solid Black Dress Shoes
  - d. Solid Long Black Socks-No Ankle Length/Low Cut Socks

**Grading Policy:** *Each student's grade will be determined by the following:*

- I. Class Participation
  - a. Have all materials and instrument in working condition
  - b. Prepared to participate in each class
  - c. Student daily progress
- II. Practice-Homework
  - a. Instrument is taken home every day
  - b. Daily individual practice
- III. Skills Tests
  - a. Student's progress will be evaluated on a weekly basis
  - b. Evaluation will be based on teacher observation
  - c. Performance & Chair Tests
- IV. Beginner Band Performances:
  - a. The Holiday Concert and the Spring Concert will serve as the student's comprehensive semester exam. It will count as 1/4 of their total semester grade.

## **Virtual Instruction:**

In the event that instruction will need to be conducted virtually the student will be responsible for the following.

**ONLINE ~ Materials:** Students will need the following materials for their virtual classes:

I. Spiral Notebook

II. Pencil

III. Instrument

IV. Mirror (preferably plastic, or be able to sit in front a mirror at home for specific lessons)

V. Wire Music Stand (this is a link to see what one looks like but you may find one in several places from around \$10-15 dollars) <https://www.wwbw.com/Musicians-Gear-Folding-Music-Stand-451034-451034000001000.wwbw>

VI. Chair (we cannot sit in the bed or a bean bag for this class J)

**ONLINE ~ Grading Policy:** Each student's grade will be determined by the following:

### **I. Class Participation**

- a. Have all materials during online classes and instrument in working condition (\*once we start with instruments)
- b. Be prepared to participate in each class
- c. Student daily progress as well as making sure the student keeps up to date with their Google Classroom

### **II. Practice-Homework**

- b. Daily individual practice (\*once we start with instruments)
- c. Reviewing music theory notes and new definitions

### **III. Skills Tests**

- a. Student's progress will be evaluated by their director
- b. Evaluation will be based on director's observation
- c. Performance-based and/or written tests

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