**Sartartia Middle School**

**Cheerleader and Mascot Tryout Information**

**2013-2014**

Your child has expressed an interest in trying out for a position on the 2013-2014 cheerleading squad. There are many requirements that must be met and specific guidelines that need to be followed prior to becoming a cheerleader. To hold the position of an SMS cheerleader is a tremendous responsibility and privilege. If chosen, your child will be placed in role of great leadership. She will be expected to represent Sartartia Middle School with the highest honor and integrity.

**Students interested in trying out MUST first meet the following requirements: these are FBISD rules, not mine.**

1. Candidates will follow the no pass/no play requirements set forth by the Texas Legislature and UIL regulations. A student must pass all classes for the nine weeks prior to tryouts (grading period ending 03/22/13) and must not be failing any class on the grade check to be completed the week of tryouts (4/8-12/2013).

2. Candidates may not have received more than two failing nine weeks grades during the current school year, through the third nine weeks grade report. Students may not try out if they have a current failing grade or “incomplete” in any course.

3. Student conduct in and out of the classroom must be commendable. **An accumulation of two (2) or more “Unsatisfactory” or “Needs Improvements’’ during the current school year will cause a student to be ineligible for tryouts.**

If chosen as a Sartartia cheerleader, a student must maintain these requirements. He/she must also maintain a satisfactory discipline record.

1. Dismissal from the squad will be determined using the attached Code of Conduct/Demerit policy and the nine-week grades earned in all subjects. Under current regulations, a student must pass all classes during a nine week period to be eligible for extra-curricular activities for the following three weeks grading period.

**TRYOUTS-** All eligible candidates will individually perform a cheer, jumps, and a dance before a panel of qualified judges. The cheer, jumps, and the dance will be chosen by the sponsor and taught by the 8th grade outgoing cheerleaders during the cheerleader clinic, prior to tryouts.

**At Tryouts on 4/12**

**Candidates will wear:**white or black t-shirt (no writing) or SMS PE shirt tucked in.

 black or gray shorts (no writing ) or SMS PE shorts

 white shoes/white socks

 hair back/no jewelry

**Clinic**: There will be a 4-day clinic (April 8-April 11). The outgoing 8th grade cheerleaders will teach the new candidates the jumps, cheer, and dance to be performed in front of the judges on April 12, 2013. Parents are responsible for picking up their child **promptly at 5:15PM each day**. The 4 day cheer clinic will begin promptly at 4:05PM each day in the big gym. Girls should wear sneakers, t-shirt and shorts, hair pulled back, and not wear jewelry during the 4 days of the Clinic. No food is allowed in the gym. Girls should change in restroom, not locker room. The locker room is off limits after school, because there are no coaches on duty to supervise.

**Dates & Times:** Mandatory Parent Meeting – your daughter will not be allowed to try out if a parent/guardian or other adult family representative does not attend and sign in on the “Sign-In Sheet.”

Monday – April 8th, 5:15-5:45 PM (SMS Health Classroom-near the gyms. Parents may enter through the gym.)

Clinic & Mock Tryout April 8th - April 11th 4:00-5:15 (SMS Gym)

Tryouts **Mandatory**: Friday, April 12th 4:00-5:30?? (SMS Gym)

Camp **Mandatory**: August 8, 9, 10 8:45 AM-5 PM SMS

Pre-Camp Practices Mandatory August 6, 7 1:00-4:00PM SMS

**TRYOUTS AND CLINICS ARE CLOSED TO FAMILY, FRIENDS, ETC. ONLY CANDIDATES, OUTGOING 8TH GRADE CHEERLEADERS, AND THE SPONSORS ARE ALLOWED IN THE GYMS, or hallway next to the gym. NO EXCEPTIONS FOR ANYONE AT ANYTIME.**

**Physicals:** Each candidate must have a physical on file **with the sponsor** (so if you have a current one from athletics, get it from the coaches and turn it in with your packet to the front office or Ms. Saenz) before they will be allowed to attend the clinic. If you don’t have one, you have to get one by 4PM, April 5th.

Each candidate needs the following **before** attending clinic. All forms that must be turned in by April 5th at 4PM are attached to this form. Your child will not be allowed to participate in the Tryout Clinic if these forms are not all turned in by 4PM on April 5th. They can be placed in Mrs. Lundstrom’s box at the front office, Ms. Saenz’s box in the front office or turned in before or after school to Ms. Saenz (Room 438). She will be helping me collect paperwork while I’m out on maternity leave.

Check list for paperwork:

 \_\_\_\_\_\_Tryout application

 \_\_\_\_\_\_Completed FBISD emergency information form

 \_\_\_\_\_\_Current physical–Must be completed by the doctor’s office not by the parent. If you have one on file with the PE coaches, please ask them to give you a copy to submit with your packet. It is the candidate’s responsibility to make sure the physical is turned in with the packet.

 \_\_\_\_\_\_Last page of Grades, Conduct, Discipline/Demerit Policy-signed by parent and student

 \_\_\_\_\_\_Three Teacher Recommendation forms – teachers will return this to me. Student only needs to select three teachers to recommend her and write their names on her application

**Cost Estimate: Please read carefully. Please take into consideration the ability to pay these costs by the deadlines below, before allowing your daughter to try out. If your child makes the team and then has to drop out because of inability to pay, the next child line to make the squad has also lost her chance to participate.** The cost of participating in cheer at SMS will be approximately $500.00. \* These amounts may vary depending on the current cost, availability, tax, and shipping costs. I have worked very hard to make this notoriously expensive sport more affordable. If your child makes the squad, you will have the option of using a school purchased shell and skirt, which must be returned at the end of the year, **or purchasing your own for an additional $75.** \*\*\*A rough explanation of costs is below:

**Camp**: $145 (3 day camp at SMS – August 8-10th from 8:45-5:00PM) Camp is mandatory and is **not** an overnight camp. **Do not try out if you can’t come to camp on all three days and the pre-camp practices. Missing camp results in enough demerits to begin the school year with a suspension from the squad. See demerit sheet.**

**Camp Clothes**: Approximately **$70** -2 shorts, 2- custom T-shirts which will also serve as spirit shirts to be worn throughout the year at school on game days.

**Customized Team warm-ups : Approximately $80**

**Accessories (custom tackle twill for uniform, bloomers, bra, hair bows, cheer bag, rain jackets, poms)**: Approximately **$160**

**Megaphones w/SMS design $30**

**Shipping: $15**

**Dues:** We will not have dues this year. Because I host the NCA cheer camp here at our school, NCA pays us a few dollars per participant to support our program. We still have money from last year to cover any supplies we might need. Also, the school district and state has become so strict about what type of food we can serve the kids on school grounds and requires all kinds of paperwork that now must go along with it, that I will no longer be able to provide dinner for the girls before games. Most of the dues money was used for these pre-game meals. Sorry, I know we all enjoyed the food and fellowship during that time, but it’s just too time consuming to process all the paperwork for myself (and school secretary) to keep doing. Parents can still bring food for the girls if you wish.

**If your daughter makes the squad, your first payment of $250 ($287.50 if purchasing personal uniform to keep) will be due on Friday, April 19th. The final payment of $250 ($287.50 if purchasing personal uniform to keep) will be due on Friday, May 31st. All $500 must be paid before I can release any clothing or accessories to your child. If $500 is not paid before August 1st, your child will not be allowed to attend camp. Failure to attend camp will result in enough demerits to warrant a three-week suspension from the squad when school starts. Please don’t try out if you can’t attend camp on these days.**

**Captains: Captains will be selected the same day as tryouts. All candidates are eligible to try out for captain. Girls who want be captain will be asked 3 questions by the judges before she exits the gym. The captain candidates with the top two overall scores will be selected as captain and co-captain, regardless of grade level. Trying out for captain does not put a candidate at an advantage or disadvantage for making the squad. The questions which may be asked of the captains candidates are attached for the girls to make preparations to answer the questions ahead of time.**

**When will we find out? We will post the names of the girls who made the team, captains, and mascot on** [**http://smscheer.weebly.com**](http://smscheer.weebly.com/%20%5C%20_blank) This should be completed by 7PM.

Tryout Interview Questions- If you are trying out for captain, be prepared to answer these questions. You will be asked three of them, but will not know which ones ahead of time.

**Why are you trying out for cheerleader captain?**

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**Name two ways to get students interested in attending games.**

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**What would you do if a member of your squad had a very bad attitude?**

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**What three characteristics do you feel are most important for a leader to possess?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Do you feel cheerleaders are an important part of the athletic program? Why? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**How can cheerleaders best represent their school and the student body? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**What is something that the cheerleaders did last year that you feel was effective?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**How can you get teachers and administrators involved with school spirit at games and at school? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Why should a cheerleader be responsible for maintaining good grades and good behavior in the classroom? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**