

COURSE EXPECTATIONS ~ 8th GRADE SCIENCE
ROCKWOOD HIGH SCHOOL
MRS. THOMPSON (mthompson@rockwoodschoools.org)
2020-2021

I. Course Description: 8th Grade Science is a year-long course in which students will continue to develop the skills necessary to organize information, think critically, practice scientific processes and represent and apply data. The class consists of three major units that will cover various topics in physics (motion and energy), chemistry (chemical reactions), and environmental science (alternative energy sources).

II. Course Content Outline:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| A. Scientific problem solving | H. Understanding the atom |
| B. Describing motion | I. Elements and chemical bonds |
| C. The laws of motion | J. Chemical reactions and equations |
| D. Work and simple machines | K. Waves |
| E. Energy and energy resources | L. Sound |
| F. Foundations of Chemistry | M. Electromagnetic waves and light |
| G. States of matter | N. Classification |

III. Required Materials:

- A. Teacher supplied:
 - 1) online textbook: Integrated Science, Holt, Rinehart, and Winston (<http://my.mheducation.com>)
 - 2) Folder (to be kept in class)
- B. Writing utensils (pencils or pens)
- C. Scientific calculator (can use graphing calculator from math)

IV. Homework and Assignment Policies:

Homework will be assigned for each chapter throughout the year. On the day that the homework assignment is due, place it in the "Homework" bin on the side table at the beginning of the period. **Any assignments that are placed in the bin (or given to me) after I have started class will be considered late!** Late homework will be accepted up to one day after the due date for ½ credit. You will get credit for any work you have done, even if the assignment is incomplete! Academic detentions will be given according to handbook policy.

Online assignments will also be given (<http://my.mheducation.com>). You will only be able to complete these assignments on specific dates. After the last date and time expires the assignment will no longer be available online. **No online assignments will be accepted late!** You will be given ample time to complete the online assignments... do not wait until the last minute to complete them. If you are having internet problems at home or do not have internet at home you will have to find time during school hours to complete the assignments. Please see me before the assignment is due if you are having issues completing the homework.

V. Chromebook Policy

Chromebooks will be used on a daily basis in class. It is expected that you will bring your chromebook to class every day along with your other materials. The majority of notes, tests, quizzes, labs, and classwork will be completed on Google Classroom or utilizing your online textbook. It is in your best interest to have your chromebook charged and ready to use for class everyday. You will receive 50 points every quarter for bringing your charged chromebook to class everyday and using it responsibly. Forgetting your chromebook at home or having to charge it in class will result in the following point deductions:

- Not having chromebook (left at home or left in locker/another class) → minus 5 points
- Needing to charge chromebook during class → minus 2 points
- Off-task behavior on chromebook during class (playing games, watching videos, etc.) → minus 1 point (can lose multiple points per class period if behaviors consist)

If you lose all 50 points, you will lose your Chromebook privileges in my class for the rest of the quarter. Other disciplinary actions including, but not limited to, detention assigned and/or phone calls home will also be given for continued infractions.

VI. Grading Policy:

All quarter grades will be determined by a total points system. Total points earned will be divided by the total points possible producing a percentage grade for the 9-weeks. The grading scale is listed below. Students will receive points for classwork, homework, notebook, quizzes, tests, and projects. **Any student caught cheating/talking during a test/quiz will receive a zero on that test/quiz!!**

90-100 % A 80-89 % B 70-79% C 65-69% D 64-below F

VII. Classroom Rules and Expectations

It is expected that you...

- ❖ **Listen while the teacher is talking**
 - Talking during class instruction causes you to miss important information and creates a disruption in the classroom.
 - If this becomes a daily habit your seat will be moved away from other students and a parent conference will be requested.
- ❖ **Come to class prepared ready to learn**
 - When the bell rings you should be in your seat and ready to start class.
 - You should have all of your supplies with you, including but not limited to: Chrome book, calculator, and writing utensils.
- ❖ **Follow all the teacher's instructions**
 - Follow all the teacher's instructions on every assignment.
 - Failure to not follow all the teacher's instructions could cost you points on the assignment.
- ❖ **Always complete your own work**
 - Under no circumstances is copying another student's paper acceptable.
 - If you are copying another student's paper the following disciplinary actions will occur:
 - Both you and the person you are copying from will receive a 0 on the assignment.
 - A detention will be assigned to both you and the other student for copying.
 - Parents will be notified.
- ❖ **Be on time to class**
 - If you are late to class (body not in the classroom when the bell rings) you will be marked late.
 - You must have a written pass from a teacher to be excused for the lateness.
 - On the third, fourth, and fifth tardy you will receive a detention and your parent will be notified.
 - On the sixth late you will receive a level II disciplinary referral and a parent conference will be requested.
- ❖ **Take on responsibility for yourself**
 - If you are absent, it is your job to get the material(s) you missed outside of the classroom.
 - Be sure to keep yourself on task throughout the lessons.
- ❖ **Have your planner to leave the classroom**
- ❖ **Have your cell phone off and out of sight**
 - If the teacher sees (or hears) your cell phone it will immediately be taken and turned into the office.
 - Discipline will be handled by the office according to the rules outlined in the handbook.

Parents and the office will be notified by academic progress reports, deficiency reports, detentions or disciplinary referrals if the student does not obey school and classroom rules.

8th GRADE SCIENCE
COURSE EXPECTATIONS/CLASSROOM RULES ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Please print your name and sign below only after you have read and understood what was included in the 8th Grade Science course expectations. By signing below you are acknowledging you have received and understand the classroom rules and expectations, grading, homework, chromebook, and classwork policies! If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask. Please have your parent/guardian review and sign also.

Student Name (printed): _____ Date: _____

Student Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

ONLINE ASSIGNMENTS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Please check the appropriate line and sign below. Please have your parent/guardian review and sign also.

____ I have internet access at home. I will be able to utilize the online book and complete the online assignments at home.

Student Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

-OR-

____ I do not have internet access at home. I understand that I will either have to make arrangements with Mrs. Thompson or utilize time throughout the school day to complete the online assignments. I may also sign out a textbook when needed.

Student Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

CALCULATOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

By signing below I acknowledge that I understand that I must have a scientific calculator for science class. Please check the appropriate line regarding the type of calculator and sign. Please have your parent/guardian review and sign also.

____ I will purchase my own scientific calculator (They are \$8-\$15 at Walmart. Be sure to buy a scientific one!)

____ I will be using the graphing calculator the math department assigned to me (Algebra 1 and up)

____ I will need to sign out a scientific calculator. I understand I am responsible for the calculator and will return it at the end of the school year in working condition. If I misplace the calculator or return the calculator damaged or in non working order I understand I will owe the school for the cost of the calculator (\$9.00)

Calculator # _____

Student signature: _____

Parent/guardian signature: _____