

# SCIENCE GUIDELINES

## SCIENCE GUIDELINES

Ms. Yovich

### I. MATERIALS NEEDED EVERYDAY FOR CLASS

- a. Chromebook (fully charged for the day)
- b. Three-ring binder (**ISN**) (A *Parent Notification Form* will be issued if the ISN is not brought to class daily)
- c. Blue/black pen, red pen, and a pencil

Also, graph paper is needed at times for students to complete assignments.

### II. CODE OF CONDUCT

- a. I will be prepared to begin class immediately and “Ready to Learn” – “Ready to Succeed”
- b. I know I must:
  - i. Be prepared.
  - ii. Have Chromebook and ISN ready.
  - iii. Have proper heading on all papers.
  - iv. Have assignments out on my desk.
  - v. Begin Science Warm-Ups immediately.
  - vi. I will sit in my assigned seat at all times.
  - vii. During class discussions and lectures, I will always be quiet and attentive.
  - viii. I will not chew gum or candy during class.
  - ix. I will follow all laboratory safety guidelines.
  - x. I will not throw anything in class.

### III. HOMEWORK

- a. Some Science homework should be completed every night.
  - i. Students may read ahead and take notes as they read.
  - ii. Students should read over daily notes, make flash cards and study scientific & academic vocabulary words a few nights a week.
  - iii. Many long-range assignments will be given.
    1. These include: experiments, research papers, graphs, scientific drawings, science projects, lab sheets.
    2. Students will be given from two days to a week to complete these assignments.
- b. Many assignments (homework, labs, worksheets, notes, tests, quizzes, and science starters) will kept in order neatly in the **ISN**. The **ISN** will be graded periodically.
- c. **All long-range and formal papers will also be graded for neatness, spelling and grammar.**
- d. A student should **ALWAYS** take notes or make concept maps when given a reading assignment.
  - i. These notes should be neat and organized.
    1. A graphic organizer or color may be used as an organizational tool in the **ISN**.
    2. These should be placed in the **ISN**.
- e. Each student is responsible for handing in homework assignments.
  - i. Assignments that are not kept in the **ISN** should be placed in the grade appropriate basket kept on the counter at the back of Room 201.
  - ii. Students who miss class because of BAND or other activities must also make sure that their assignments are handed in on time. Assignments missed because of BAND or activities **WILL LOSE 10 points if turned in the next day.**
- f. Homework Grades

- i. Some homework will be pass/fail.
  - 1. However, long-range assignments will count as a test grade.
  - 2. Most homework will be graded.
  - 3. Some homework will be just checked in and/or stickered.
- ii. A student will be given a *Parent Notification Form* for **any** missing assignment.
- iii. Late papers lose 10 points from their final grade.
- iv. Students will be given **1 week after the due date to make-up missing assignments. These late assignments will also lose points.**
- v. Notes from parents explaining why the assignment could not be completed on time and when it will be completed are ALWAYS accepted.
- vi. Missing Homework will have a grade of **ZERO** in PowerSchool until its completion.

#### IV. ISN (Interactive Science Notebook)

- a. Each student is expected to keep an Interactive Science Notebook or **ISN**.
- b. Most notes and worksheets will be 3-hole punched and placed in the **ISN**.
- c. Other written homework, including vocabulary and most Science Starters will be turned in through Google Classroom.
- d. The **ISN** contains almost all of the student's work and **MUST** be brought to class **EVERYDAY**.
- e. The purpose of the ISN is:
  - i. To help the students organize their notes
  - ii. To help the students study for tests by allowing them to keep all materials together
  - iii. To make it easier for the students to keep their homework and important data in one place
  - iv. To give student a place to record grades and to see strengths, weaknesses, and progress
  - v. To be used as a journal, a place for students to record and organize their thinking about science
  - vi. To allow parents to see what the student is doing in Science by checking through the **ISN**
- f. The **ISN** will be graded periodically. At this time, the student will:
  - i. Use the teacher-made Table of Contents to arrange assignments using page numbers and add dates for all the work in the **ISN**.
  - ii. Arrange the **ISN** according to the teacher's written and oral directions
  - iii. Complete a self-evaluation sheet and have the sheet signed by a parent and/or guardian
  - iv. Also, self-grade the **ISN** and have a parent sign off on this assignment confirming that all work has been included neatly and in the correct order and section of the **ISN**.
  - v. When the **ISN** is graded, it will be considered a Test grade and allotted more points.
  - vi. Also, at the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> Trimester, there will be an **ISN** test for grades 7 & 8. Students will use their **ISN** to complete the test.

#### V. SCIENCE STARTERS

- a. A Science Starter activity will be on the board or screen at the start of most class sessions.
  - i. Science Starters are a preview of what we will be doing or a review of a previous class.
  - ii. Students may use their **ISN** or Chromebook to obtain the answers.

- iii. Most Starters will be reviewed in class and given points or stickered. Some Starters will be graded and recorded.
- b. Students who are absent will not have to make-up the Starters activities, but it may help them to do it. **Starters that are graded and/or stickered MUST be completed.**
- c. Students who do not complete or do not place the Starter sheet in their **ISN** will lose points.
  - i. No late Starters will be accepted except if the student was absent.
  - ii. Student will not be given a chance to make-up lost Starter activities.

#### VI. PREPARATION GRADE

- a. At the start of each Trimester, every student will receive 100 preparation points.
  - i. Anytime a student comes to class unprepared, 10 of these points will be deducted.
  - ii. Points will also be lost if the **ISN**, Chromebook, or other supplies are missing.

#### VII. EXTRA CREDIT

- a. Students are offered an opportunity daily to receive extra credit by completing the "Daily Science Trivia" question presented each day.
- b. Students lose this opportunity by:
  - i. Losing their green answer sheet (cannot receive a new one)
  - ii. Having a grade below a 'C+'

#### VIII. TRIMESTER GRADES

- a. Quizzes, classwork, Starters and homework:
  - i. No grade will be dropped.
  - ii. Some lab assignments and scientific drawings will fall into the TEST category.
  - iii. All grades of "D" or "F" **MUST** be signed by a parent and returned the next day.
  - iv. Parents should be able to view this grade on *PowerSchool*. Please let me know if you cannot view it.
  - v. Students should always be prepared for a surprise quiz.
    - 1. Quizzes may be dictated.
    - 2. They may be given after every homework assignment.
    - 3. During the quiz, students need only write the answers, not complete sentences.
    - 4. Spelling usually will not be graded on a quiz.
    - 5. The student may use the **ISN** during the quiz (Therefore, students who take good notes when reading their science assignments should do well on quizzes).
- b. Tests
  - i. Tests will be based on notes, labs, handouts, and on-line test assignments.
  - ii. Student will **NOT** be allowed to use their notes on a text test.
  - iii. Spelling will sometimes be considered when tests are grades. This will be announced in advance.
  - iv. Student will receive about a one-week notice before a test.
  - v. Grades of "D" or "F" must be signed by a parent and returned the next day. *Be sure to look for this grade on PowerSchool a few days after the test.*
- c. Labs and/or Graphs and Charts
  - i. Most lab activities that are written up will be included in the test category when Trimester grade are averaged.
  - ii. Most graphs and charts will also be included in this category. Grades of "D" or "F" on a lab, graph, or chart must be signed by a parent and returned the next day. **PLEASE ALLOW ABOUT A WEEK FOR THESE GRADES TO**

**APPEAR ON POWERSCHOOL.** I won't return these papers until the assignment has been completed by all.

- iii. Spelling and correct grammar will **ALWAYS** become part of the grade for these assignments.

**d. SEVENTH GRADE SCIENCE FAIR PROJECT**

- i. All seventh graders must participate in the Science Fair.
- ii. There will be at least one Science Fair Assignment due each month from September to February.
- iii. Point Value for each Science Fair assignment will be the same as a test grade and will be included in the Test Category when trimester grades are averaged.
- iv. Students will receive a grade of "zero" for all Science Fair assignments for 1<sup>st</sup> Trimester if their Science Fair Contract is not signed by a parent or guardian and handed in on time.

**v. The Science Fair will be held on Friday evening, JANUARY 26, 2017. ALL SEVENTH GRADERS ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND.** Anyone who does not attend the Science Fair judging will lose 30 points from the Project.

**IX. HOW TO DETERMINE AVERAGE GRADES FOR EACH TRIMESTER**

- a. All classwork, Starters, and Participation Grades will be averaged together in one category (Classwork).
- b. Homework assignments will be averaged together (Homework).
- c. Tests, Labs, Study Skill Assignments, Graphs and Charts, **ISN**, and Science Project assignments will be averaged together (Tests).
- d. The assignments are color-coded on PowerSchool. Test grades are in RED. Homework is BLUE, and Classwork is GREEN.

**X. ABSENCE**

- a. It is the student's responsibility to:
  - i. Get assignments and notes
  - ii. Make-up assignments after he/she returns to school
  - iii. Make-up missed tests and quizzes
- b. A student who is absent must come in **after school to pick up any assignments or notes** that were missed. **Please stop by after school if you need an explanation for a missed assignment.**
- c. Missing assignments may be found in the proper grade level crate in Room 201.
- d. The student will be given one day to make-up any missed work for every day that they are out of school (Saturday and Sunday count as make-up days).
  - i. Long illnesses will be given special consideration.
  - ii. Tests and quizzes should be made up as soon as possible.
- e. **Make-up tests and/or quizzes will be given before school at 8:00 A.M.** Each student must make an appointment with Ms. Yovich to take a test before school.
- f. If the student is in the building, but not in class and not marked absent:
  - i. He/she is responsible to get work in on time.
  - ii. He/she will not be allowed to make-up work.
  - iii. He/she is responsible to find out about all assignments.
    - 1. Assignments are written on the white board above the sink in Rm. 201.
    - 2. Worksheets may be obtained from Ms. Yovich in Rm. 201.
- g. Band, Council, Choir, or Field Trips are not counted as absences.
- h. If a student is suspended from class, they will receive a grade of zero for any work completed during this time.

- i. Please refer to the IJP Handbook for more specific information about suspensions.

## XI. LAB RULES

- a. Lab work will be done in class.
  - i. Enough class time will be given to complete each assignment.
  - ii. If the student cannot finish during class time because of absence or other activities, the student will be allowed to complete the assignment after school at a prearranged time, OR Ms. Yovich will give the student the data for the lab. The student may complete the lab report or be assigned a non-lab makeup assignment.
- b. During Lab:
  - i. Students must remain seated or at their lab station at all times.
  - ii. Students must follow directions carefully to avoid misuse of supplies and/or accidents.
  - iii. Students must clean up Lab tables and return equipment to the proper location.
  - iv. Excessive noise, pranks, misusing equipment and supplies **IS NEVER** allowed.
  - v. Any equipment misused or broken must be replaced or paid for.
- c. Materials needed for Lab will be considered as any other homework assignment.
  - i. A *Parent Notification Form* will be issued if materials are not brought to class.
  - ii. This will be considered a missing assignment.
- d. Removal from Lab
  - i. Anyone who does not follow Lab Rules will not be allowed to work in the Lab.
  - ii. The student will write a lab report on the Lab topic.
  - iii. The length of the report will depend on the length of the Lab activity.
  - iv. The report will follow formal research paper rules.
  - v. The report will be graded instead of the lab.

### SCIENCE GRADING SCALE

A+	100	C+	82 to 84
A	96 to 99	C	79 to 81
A-	93 to 95	C-	77 to 78
B+	90 to 92	D+	75 to 76
B	87 to 89	D	72 to 74
B-	85 to 86	D-	69-71
		F	68 and below

These science guidelines may be amended at any time.

