



**9th Grade Physical Science
Skyline High School
Mrs. Chiu- Room 113
chiumeli@d91.k12.id.us**

Introduction:

Welcome to a new school year! This class will provide students with a full year of information about physical laws and theories that explain the relationship between matter and energy. I am very excited about the curriculum we will be using for this class. Learning will be inquiry based, meaning the students will get the opportunity to learn science more as scientists do, with a focus on student constructed learning as opposed to teacher-transmitted information.

Classroom Goals:

My goals are:

- To offer classroom opportunities to help students increase their scientific knowledge, skill, and experiences.
- To supply learning situations in which **all students** can be successful and which encourage individual development of their potential, regardless of ability.
- To make students aware of the opportunities in science and technology and their importance in our society.

Students are expected to master essential State and Common Core Standards (available on the District # 91 web page).

Student Responsibilities/Teacher Expectations:

- 1) Be in class and seated when the bell rings
- 2) Be Respectful to yourself and others.
- 3) Be Honest. Do your own work.
- 4) Follow directions and Safety Rules
- 5) Treat all lab equipment with care

***The school code of conduct can be found in your planner on pages 7-20. Please review these pages as they will be enforced (see page 18 in your planner). Violations of classroom or lab rules will result in disciplinary action. Classroom consequences include: moving seat, a phone call home, 30 minutes after school detention, and office referrals. As much of our class is lab based, students will be receiving a daily participation grade based on promptness, preparedness, and group participation. Participation grades will be entered into the grade book on a weekly basis.

Students that damage lab equipment may be asked to cover the cost of replacement.

Supplies:

Your student will need the following supplies to build their lab notebook. With funding being tight each student will be asked to supply the following and **bring it to class each day**.

- Two single subject spiral notebook (durable with inside file pocket)—one needed for the first two trimesters and one for the third trimester.
- Colored pencils or crayons- small set, pre-sharpened
- Small pencil sharpener
- Metric ruler- for use in measuring and as a straight edge.
- Transparent tape and dispenser (we do not use glue sticks but do go through a lot of tape). Please stock up and have your student keep extra tape in their locker.
- Scissors
- Pencils and pens

- Scientific calculator (same one as used for math). **Student will NOT be able to use calculator on phone, iPod, etc. They must have an actual calculator.**
- Pencil case or small bag to keep the supplies above organized and easy to transport to class each day.
- A box of Kleenex (to share with class over the course of the year)

Note: It is very important that each student has their own supplies, everyday. Sharing supplies causes class disruptions during instruction and slows the progress of the class. If you need help purchasing supplies please see me.

Lab Notebooks:

Each Student will be creating a lab notebook. This notebook will be formatted in a very specific way. I will model how to set up each activity. Students will work together in groups for class activities, but each student is responsible for their own notebook, data collection, and conclusions.

We will be using a spiral notebook as our lab notebook. Each student will need 2 notebooks over the course of the year. Since these notebooks need to last an entire semester and will be used daily, students will need to treat them with care. If a lab notebook is lost the student will need to recreate the assignments to date. The lab notebook is 50 percent of the final grade. It is very important that students engage in what is going on during lab activities since most exam questions will ask that they apply concepts similar to those explored during lab activities.

Students are responsible to make up their work after an absence. Student will have access to missed assignments by checking with my sample notebook or a classmate's. Absent students should consult with a classmate about the lab if there are questions (at an appropriate time). Any further questions should be directed to me before or after school or during advisory.

Students that are absent for a lab will be directed to check out a textbook from the library or access the text online and get the data from a group member to complete the lab write-up. **This is not the same thing as copying another student's lab. Use their data to do the lab yourself.**

Grades:

The official district grading system will be used. The grading system and approximate assignment values are as follows:

90-100%	A- to A+	Lab Notebooks = 50%
80-89%	B- to B+	Tests and quizzes = 50%
70-79%	C- to C+	
60-69%	D- to D+	
< 60%	F	

Grades can be accessed at anytime by parents and students via Power School. **Please contact the office about obtaining usernames and passwords for powerschool.**

Exam grades and notebook grades will be entered after each exam. Students will be provided with notebook rubric for each grading period. It will tell them exactly what they need to have completed and what pages each item is on in the notebook. The notebook is graded on completion, participation, and effort.

Course Resources:

Our textbook is **Interactions in Physical Science** by Its About Time, © 2009. Students will not be checked out a text for the year, as we only have a classroom set. There are extra books that will be available in the library that can be checked out. The full text is also available online. The site also includes other web resources from the publisher including practice tests and can be accessed at:

<http://www.its-about-time.com/student> user name: **sciencestars** password: **sciencrules**.

We also have a class website: www.grizzphysicalscience.weebly.com.

I am always available to both students and parents to discuss grades or other matters. Please feel free to contact me at the school (208-525-7770) or via email at: chiumeli@d91.k12.id.us.

Parents/Guardians:

Please fill out, sign, and return this portion of the syllabus. This way I know that both you and your student have complete understanding of what is expected from him/her this school year in science class. If you have any questions or concerns throughout the school year, please do not hesitate to call me at the school or to e-mail me.

**Thank you,
Mrs. Chiu**

Students Name _____

E-mail address you can be contacted at: _____

Is email a good way to get a hold of you? (Circle One) Yes No

Phone number you can be contacted at: _____

Do you have any comments or concerns about the class or upcoming school year?

Students: If you have special needs or consideration, which I must know about, it is your responsibility to inform me so alternative arrangements can be made. This includes learning disorders, blind spots, vision and hearing problems, health issues, including stress disorders, ADD/ADHD, or any other issue that might influence your learning. If you do not tell me, I cannot help you.

Student Signature: (I have read and understand the physical science syllabus)

Parent signature: (I have reviewed the physical science syllabus)
