

Physics		Full Year
Location	Room #208	
Instructor	Mr. Chess	
Planning Period	8th per Phone: (724) 662 -5104	Parent Teacher Conferences may be scheduled before school from 7:45 to 8:00 or during the planning period.
Email	bchess@mercerc.k12.pa.us	
Class Website	None	
Prerequisites	Academic Chemistry and Precalculus are recommended.	
Description	Physics is the most fundamental science in that it attempts to explain how the universe works. Concepts such as forces, matter, energy, space and time will be studied and applied to the motion of particles and groups of particles. We will explore electricity and magnetism and the interactions between these phenomena. Modern physics will also be introduced in the forms of relativity and quantum physics. Throughout the course, problem solving will be emphasized and math skills will be exercised. Labs will be incorporated in order to clarify concepts and to teach data collection and analysis techniques.	
Texts Used	Physics, 5th ed. (Giancoli)	
Homework Policy and Philosophy	There will be regularly assigned homework in this class. For many students, the most difficult part of physics is in applying the concepts to solve real-world problems. The best way to improve in this area is through practice. Homework will not always be collected and graded; however, failure to complete homework assignments will almost certainly result in poor test scores.	Homework Philosophy "The application of homework within almost every learning activity is a valuable means of reinforcement and evaluation. It is the teacher's role to define such assignments and the responsibility of the students to complete them on time. Parents must also assume their responsibility in regard to student homework; therefore, proper communication between the home and the school are vital in establishing assignments, which can significantly contribute to the overall educational process."
Grading	Your grade in physics will be determined by your performance in the following areas: (percentages are approximate) 96.5 A+ 92.5 A 89.5 A- 86.5 B+ 82.5 B 79.5 B- 76.5 C+ 72.5 C 69.5 C- 66.5 D+ 62.5 D Tests: 40% Homework: 40% Labs: 20% Late work will be penalized at a rate of 10% per day up to 5 days. Work that is more than 5 days late will not be accepted and will result in a zero.	Academic Integrity "Students caught cheating, plagiarizing, copying homework and/or test, quizzes, and using a paper from the Internet will be given a "o" (zero) on that assignment. In addition, their name will be reported to the office and filed in the event of future violations. Repeated violation could result in removal from class and a non-passing grade." When a student is in jeopardy of failing, a progress report will be sent home. This will occur during the 3rd and 6th

59.5 D- Below F		weeks in junior high block classes, and any time after the 4th week in other classes.
<u>Click here to open the Mercer GPA Calculator.</u>		
Classroom Rules	<p>My classroom rules are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Come to class prepared (homework, notebook, pencil, etc) 2. Contribute to a positive learning environment (ask questions, volunteer, etc) 3. Be respectful of others (classmates, teacher) 	<p style="text-align: center;">Make-Up Work</p> <p>"Students on a pre-approved trip of more than one day will be expected to makeup any work minimally on the second full day upon the student's return up to a maximum of five days. Students are required to get all missed work prior to pre-approved absence.</p> <p>For one day or one period - school related absence (athletics/academic games, etc) - it is the student's responsibility to make up the work upon their return to the classroom. It is recommended that they see the teacher ahead of time to determine what they will miss while they are gone."</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">Late to Class</p> <p>"A student who is late to class will be given a verbal warning on the first offense. Additional offenses will result in a discipline referral to the office."</p>
Required Materials	3-ring notebook, pencil, scientific calculator (not necessarily graphing)	
Additional Help	Students needing additional help should see me as soon as problems occur in order to schedule a time to meet.	

OUTLINE OF MATERIAL COVERED IN THIS CLASS		
Time	Material Covered During Time Period	Notes
Unit 1	Kinematics	
Unit 2	Forces	
Unit 3	Work and Energy	
Unit 4	Linear Momentum	
Unit 5	Rotational Motion	
Unit 6	Statics	

Unit 7	Periodic Motion/Sound	
Unit 8	Thermodynamics	
Unit 9	Electrostatics	
Unit 10	DC Circuits	
Unit 11	AC Circuits/Magnetism	
Unit 12	Electromagnetic Waves	
Unit 13	Modern Physics	