

**Course: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Physical Science**

**Year: 2015-2016**

**Teacher: Mrs. Mary Beth Young**

**Room: 807**

**Text: Glenco's Introduction to Physical Science, Georgia Edition**

**Course Description:** The middle school physical science course is designed to give students the necessary skills for a smooth transition from elementary physical science standards to high school physical science standards. The purpose is to give all students an overview of common strands in physical science including, but not limited to, the nature of matter, laws of energy, matter, motion and forces, and energy transformation. This curriculum is NOT intended in any way to take the place of the high school physical science curriculum.

**Course Content:** We are using the Georgia Performance Standards this year in 8<sup>th</sup> grade science. Following are the specific standards we will use:

1. S8P1 Students will examine the scientific view of the nature of matter.
2. S8P2 Students will be familiar with the forms and transformations of energy.
3. S8P3 Students will investigate relationship between force, mass and the motion of objects.
4. S8P4 Students will explore the wave nature of sound and electromagnetic radiation.
5. S8P5 Students will recognize characteristics of gravity, electricity and magnetism as major kinds of forces acting in nature.

\*\*More information about the standards can be found on the Henry County Schools website under Learning and Leadership/Curriculum and Instruction.

**Grading:** Following is the grading format used in 8<sup>th</sup> grade science:

1. Practice (class work, homework, labs, quizzes): 25%
2. Assessments (unit tests, projects): 60%
3. Semester Exam 15%

**Grading Scale:**

A = 90-100  
B = 80-89  
C = 74-79  
D = 70-73  
F = below 70

**Homework, Classwork and Tests:**

Students should be working on science nightly. Reviewing notes and practicing science vocabulary in addition to other science assignments given is expected. Students should be writing homework assignments and test/project due dates in an agenda daily. These dates are written on the board as well as given orally. In addition, students can access assignments through Edmodo. Not all homework will be collected and graded but the expectation is that it will be completed. Quizzes will be given every Friday to check on standards mastery. Tests will be given at the end of every unit. Semester exams are in December and May.

**Late Work:**

The school wide policy for late work is as follows:

Any student turning in work past the due date will have 10 points deducted each day for up to three days. After the third day, the grade will be a zero.

**Re-assessment Protocol:**

- Students may reassess on assessments on which they receive a score less than 80%, provided that they complete the actions and steps outlined in the “Request to Retest” document.
- Students may only reassess one time per assessment.
- The highest grade a student can earn on a re-test is an 80%.

**Class Conduct:**

Students are expected to follow the rules according to the Henry County Schools and UGMS handbooks. In addition, we have team rules and class rules that students are expected to know and follow. Class rules and procedures will be discussed during the first week of class. Students who do not follow the rules will receive citations or an office referral, whichever applies to the particular situation.

**Attendance and Make Up Work:**

Students need to be in class on time every day. Students tardy to class without a pass from a teacher will receive a citation. Occasionally, a student will miss science class. Students are expected to make up all work missed when absent. It is the student’s responsibility to find out what was missed and complete it in a timely manner, according to the Student Handbook. Students should check Edmodo daily to see what was covered in class, handouts, due dates, assigned projects, rubrics, study guides, etc. I will not remind them to get their missed work

**Science Labs:**

In order for a student to participate in lab activities, a safety contract must be signed by the student and a parent. This contract will be kept in the science notebook and used for reference and review as needed. Failure to follow lab safety rules will result in a citation, removal from the lab activity and the grade on the lab will be affected.

**Science Fair Project:**

All SAGE science students will be required to complete a Science Fair project. The project will count as two major test grades. More information will be provided to the students in class.

The goal for this school year is to master the standards for 8<sup>th</sup> grade physical science. I am looking forward to working with both students and parents to achieve this goal. Please feel free to contact me at any time. It is much easier for me to respond by email. My email address is: [mbyoung@henry.k12.ga.us](mailto:mbyoung@henry.k12.ga.us). The school phone number is 678-583-8978 if you prefer to speak to me in person.

I have read and understand the requirements of Mrs. Young’s 8<sup>th</sup> grade physical science class.

Student signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

