

8th Grade Physical Science Syllabus 2015-2016

Mrs. Christina Hood

Christina.hood@henry.k12.ga.us

School Phone: (770)474-5710

Stockbridge Middle School Room 825

Office Hours/Planning 12:35-1:35

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. Student in this course will be required to take a Georgia Milestones exam in the spring.

Course Content: We are using the Georgia Performance Standards this year in 8th grade science. The specific standards are available for viewing on my teacher webpage:

Course outline- Topics of study:

- *Intro: Introduction to Physical Science*
- *Unit 1: Properties of Matter*
- *Unit 2: Energy and Its Transformations*
- *Unit 3: Force and Motion*
- *Unit 4: Electricity and Magnetism*
- *Unit 5: The Nature of Waves*

Textbooks: Our textbook is Glencoe's Introduction to Physical Science, Georgia Edition. Students will not be issued textbooks, but can check them out from the classroom as needed. The replacement cost for a lost/stolen book will be \$67.50. Also

Grading: This is a yearlong course. The grade breakdown is as follows.

1. Assessment Tasks (summative assessments, performance tasks (labs), projects): 65%
2. Practice (class work, homework, formative assessments): 20%
3. Semester Exam 15% (includes December and May Finals)

Parents: Please secure an infinite campus login so that you may stay updated up to the minute on your student's performance in class.

Make-up Work: It is the student's and parent's/guardian's responsibility to make arrangements for make-up work. The number of days allowed to complete make-up work will be determined by the principal but will not exceed the number of days absent. Failure to comply with this make-up procedure will result in a grade of zero (0) being given for graded assignments missed during an excused absence. Students will not be allowed to make up graded assignments that were missed during an unexcused absence. If a student repeatedly has late, missing, or no homework completed, a telephone call or in-person conference with the parent/guardian will be arranged.

Late Policy: All assignments are required to be turned in on the due date. Assignments after the due date without a valid excuse/absence and prior arrangement between the teacher and student/parent will not be accepted.

Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT) Policy: Students are allowed to use digital devices to aid in their learning process. Throughout the year students will incorporate several diversified aspects of technology (QR codes, Remind101, Edmodo, NearPod, Evernote, etc.) Students will be allowed to and may on occasion require the use of Wi-Fi enabled devices (tablets, smartphones) in order to complete assignments. If your student does not own or is unable to obtain a device please notify the teacher so that other arrangements can be made. . These devices are only to be used in the classroom at the discretion of the teacher. Any device being used for purposes that are not educational or beneficial to the learning process will be confiscated.

Consequences for Behavioral Issues: Students will receive an action plan when their behaviors/actions are in direct conflict with the rules and procedures set forth in the classroom and school. Parents will be notified after each Action Plan. When the student has reached a combined total of four action plans behavior infractions will result in an office referral.*Please note that major discipline problems warrant immediate office referral.

Special Note: All students will be required to complete a science fair type project and/or social studies project. Each science project requires the same components such as a research paper and demonstration of the scientific method. The students will sign his/her contract-of-intent during the first six weeks.

Please feel free to contact me at any time (please allow a minimum of 24 hours for a response during school hours). It is much easier for me to respond by email.

My email address is: christina.hood@henry.k12.ga.us.

The school phone number is (770)-474-5710 if you prefer to speak to me in person.

I have read the above information.

Student signature _____ Date _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

****Please return this portion! (Not required if you complete the following)**

Please text the message @mrshood8 to phone number 81010. This will not only sign you up for Remind text/email reminders but will also serve as your acknowledgement that you have read and understand the contents of this syllabus.