



Dear AP Environmental Science Parent/Guardian,

I am delighted to be your child's teacher for the 2019-2020 school year for AP Environmental Science. I am excited about this upcoming year and our journey through AP Environmental Science together.

AP Environmental Science is organized around several major unifying themes that cut across many topics. The goal of the course is to provide students with the opportunity to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems both natural and man-made, to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems and to examine alternative solutions to resolve or prevent them.

During the first 6 weeks we will be covering the following topics:

- Intro into AP Environmental Science
- Biomes
- Biodiversity
- Biogeochemical Cycles
- Energy and Succession

While this course can be challenging, we aim to make it as interesting and interactive as possible by using learner inquiry-based activities and projects, Canvas, on-line book sources and real-world applications of the targeted topics. Students will learn critical thinking skills, safe scientific practices, how to plan and implement scientific design and how to communicate their findings.

Students are expected to complete and turn in homework on time via Canvas, myhrw.com, or as otherwise instructed. Students are encouraged to participate, ask questions and be involved in the learning processes in the classroom. Being academically successful in AP Environmental Science requires both attendance and participation in class. Please encourage your child to be active and responsible in keeping up with their work and checking Skyward for grades. Please see the tutorial schedule on the school website.

I am looking forward to the school year and to be working with your child. Together we can make this a successful year by working together as a team and positively supporting our learners in the classroom.

Sincerely,

EMS ISD AP Environmental Science Team