



7th Grade Advanced Science

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Conference Period: 4th Period 10:55-11:42

Tutoring Opportunities: Before School (7:45-8:15) Monday, Thursday, and Friday by appointment

Class Materials:

- Composition Notebook (no spiral notebooks), Pencils and Paper, Scissors, Colored Pencils, & Glue Stick
- Canvas
- Access to Canvas and Office365 tools is available to students through our [Single Sign-on Portal \(SSO\)](#). Students receive their SSO login during enrollment.

Course Description:

This course is designed to provide students with the advanced skills necessary to be able to use evidence to construct testable explanations and predictions of natural phenomena. While much of the focus is on organisms and the environment, the course is built on the following strands: scientific investigations and reasoning; matter and energy; force, motion, and energy; earth and space; and organisms and environment. Advanced critical thinking and problem solving will be developed with individual or group research projects presented in a competitive or public forum. This course assists in preparing students for the challenges offered by the Advanced Placement program through sustained habits necessary for success in the College Board's AP program.

Course Goals:

Students who complete this course successfully will be able to:

Students who complete this course successfully will understand the nature of science, plant and animal cells, human body systems, heredity, ecology, plant adaptations, weathering, and erosion.

Student Evaluation:

The grading system for this course is as follows:

- Grade averaged 60% Major 40% Minor
- Major grades – tests (including District Common Assessments, six weeks assessments, projects, final essays, research papers, presentations); minimum three per six weeks
- Minor grades – quizzes, daily assignments, journals; minimum four per six weeks
- A letter system (S, N, U) is used to report a student's conduct based on proper/responsive conduct and citizenship
- Per Board Policy EIA (LOCAL), "The District shall permit a student who meets the criteria detailed in the grading guidelines a reasonable opportunity to redo an assignment or retake a test for which the student received a **failing** grade. This policy applies only to initial identified major grades and does not apply to daily assignments, quizzes, six-week test, and semester final examinations. Upon reteach and retest, the new test, project, etc. recorded will be a high score of 70%.

Assignments, exams, expectations outside of the classroom:

Homework is due the next day.

Each six weeks students will be expected to complete the following in the form of homework. There will not be time given in class for these assignments:

1. Ring Word Vocabulary-10-15 words will be assigned for the six weeks. They will be given these words at the beginning of each six weeks with the due date on top. It will be due toward the end of each six weeks. An example of how to do these is located on the word handout. Students are expected to look the words up using a dictionary, the internet, or they can wait until we go over them in class. They must include a definition in their own words (not directly copied from the dictionary) and a picture. This is a major grade that is designed to reinforce important vocabulary learned throughout this year.
2. Current Science Summary- Students will look up an article and print it on any current science topic. They can do this in the library on campus or at home. The article summary must be at least 10 sentences. The summary must be in solid sentences that follow the guidelines in their journal. This will be a major grade and be due toward the end of each six weeks.
3. Projects-Throughout the year, students will be given projects as major grades. These are designed to enhance the students' knowledge of major topics.
4. Independent Reading-Some independent reading will be required outside of the Advanced classroom as needed.
5. Final ADI Reports-student will be doing ADI labs over a period of a week or more. The final lab report will be done at home.

Attendance/Tardy Policy/Make-Up Work:

Be present **every day** for class. Additionally, make sure you are **always** on time! Instructional time is bell to bell, so if you are not physically present and engaged, you are missing out on valuable learning!

When a student is absent, he or she should request the missed assignments and check the make-up folder for the work. Students have one day for each day missed plus one additional day in which to complete all make-up work. If there are special circumstances, the student should visit with me to consider arranging an extension of the due date. Any assignments given before the absence are due upon the student's return to school.

If a pre-arranged absence is required, a parent should send a note to school prior to the absence. As much as possible, assignments may be given and completed ahead of time. Any assignments given before the absence are due upon the student's return to school.

Students who are absent on the day that a test is given should be prepared to take the test upon their return to school. Make-up tests may need to be completed before or after school.

Students are required to be in their assigned seats at the beginning of class as determined by the tardy bell. The Creekview Policy will be followed when a student is tardy to class (resets each 6 weeks).

- 2nd tardy = Verbal Warning
- 3rd tardy = Parent Email
- 4th tardy = Office Referral

Each Tardy, thereafter, will be an additional office referral.

Classroom Expectations:

- Be on time, on task, and prepared to learn every day! (Determination is the key.)
- Respect the teacher, the classroom, other students, and yourself. (Be the nice kid!)
- Be responsible for your own learning. (Work hard; then play hard!)
- Clean up after yourself and your peers. (Responsibility & kindness matter!)
- Follow all lab rules & expectations.
- Keep all personal electronics off and away. (Unless we are using them for an assignment in class)
- No food, drinks or gum.
- Campus policy is that a planner and student ID is required for a restroom pass.

Preliminary Schedule of Topics, Readings, and Assignments

- 1st six weeks-Plant Adaptations, Forces in living things
- 2nd six weeks-Ecology
- 3rd six weeks-Weathering and Erosion
- 4th six weeks-Cell Theory, Plant versus Animal Cells, Organization in living organisms
- 5th six weeks-Human Body Systems
- 6th six weeks-Genetics

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity values the work of individuals regardless if it is another student's work, a researcher, or author. The pursuit of learning requires each student to be responsible for his or her academic work. Academic dishonesty is not tolerated in our schools. Academic dishonesty, includes cheating, copying the work of another student, plagiarism, and unauthorized communication between students during an examination. The determination that a student has engaged in academic dishonesty shall be based on the judgment of the classroom teacher or other supervising professional employee and considers written materials, observation, or information from students. Students found to have engaged in academic dishonesty shall be subject to disciplinary and/or academic penalties. The teacher and campus administrator shall jointly determine such action.