



**MARINE CREEK MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
**AS MUSTANGS, WE... ENTER TO GROW, ENGAGE WITH GRIT, & LEAD WITH POWER**  
**#HORSEPOWER**

8<sup>th</sup> grade On-Level Science

**Coach Chairez**

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**Conference Period:** TBD

**Tutoring Opportunities:** By Appointment.

**Class Materials:**

- Pencil
- Composition Notebook
- Positive Attitude

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:**

**408081 – Science 8:** This course is designed to provide students with the skills necessary to apply science concepts to their everyday life. Along with being able to ask questions and solve problems, students are able to collect and organize data, and draw conclusions based on their findings. While much of the focus is on earth and space science, 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. The students are encouraged to advance their critical thinking and problem-solving skills by participating in individual or group research.

**Course Goals:**

Students who complete this course successfully will be able to foster a culture of inquiry where all learners are challenged by a curriculum rich in discovery, scientific processes, and experimental design.

**Student Evaluation:**

The grading system for this course is as follows:

- Grade averaged 60% Major 40% Minor
- Major grades – tests (including District Common Assessments, projects, final essays, One-Pagers, presentations); minimum three per six weeks
- Minor grades – quizzes, daily assignments, journals; minimum four per six weeks
- Each six weeks will count as 1/6 and the semester exam will count as 1/7 of the semester grade.
- 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 and quizzes. Upon reteach and retest, the new test, project, etc. recorded will be a high score of 70%. Official grades will be in Skyward only and can be accessed by student and parent through Family Access.

**Assignments, exams, expectations outside of the classroom:**

The majority of assignments will be completed in class. Students are able to utilize their ISN as needed to study. Test corrections/Re-takes must be completed in tutorials. Tests will **not** leave the classroom.

**Attendance/Tardy Policy/Make-Up Work:**

- We will follow the district Attendance policy. (See p.29 of the [Student Handbook](#))
- Tardy Policy: Tardies 1-4 will be considered a warning. After that, you will be given consequences that increase in severity from Lunch Detention, Parent Contact, and In School Suspension as tardies increase.
- Make-Up Work: See p.77 of the Student Handbook (linked above)

**Classroom Expectations:**

Be Respectful. Be Responsible. Be Safe.

\*See relationship agreement\*

**Preliminary Schedule of Topics, Readings, and Assignments**

- Unit 1 – Matter and Energy
- Unit 2 – Chemical Formulas, Equations, & Reactions
- Unit 3 – Force, Motion & Energy
- Unit 4 – Sun, Earth, & Moon
- Unit 5 – Characteristics of the Universe
- Unit 6 – Climate Interactions
- Unit 7 – Plate Tectonics
- Unit 8 – Topographic Maps/ Satellite Images
- Unit 9 – Interdependence of Living Systems

**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.