

8th Grade High School Honors Physical Science Syllabus 2017-2018 Mrs. Kuhar

Welcome! This year, we will use scientific inquiry to explore physical sciences with topics such as atoms, compounds, matter, energy, motion, and forces. In this syllabus, you will find a lot of useful information that will help you be successful in this class. Please take the time to read it carefully and refer to it throughout the school year. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask Mrs. Kuhar. I look forward to sharing this exciting year with all of you!

Email: sarakuhar@ssas.org **Phone:** 941-330-1855, ext. 1308 (leave a voicemail)



Course Requirements:

High School Course Expectations:

- Science Fair projects will be completed at home
- Daily attendance is necessary
- Homework will be assigned 2-3 times per week, excluding before science fair due dates
- Students should maintain higher than a C average each quarter

Class Materials:

- **1 Spiral Notebook (3-subject)**
- **1 Composition Notebook** (for science fair)
- **1 Green Folder** with pockets & prongs, with loose-leaf notebook paper
- **Pencils** (at least 2, with sharpener or refills)
- All other supplies from 8th grade supply list

Textbook: *Pearson's Physical Science Concepts in Action*

- All students will receive one hard-copy of the textbook to keep at home.

Blackboard Website: All students must access Blackboard on a regular basis for class information and resources. <http://learn2.sarasota.k12.fl.us>

- **Username:** *N number*
- **Password:** *Student's lunch PIN*

Microsoft 365: All students have access to an online version of Microsoft products (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Outlook email). <http://portal.office.com>

- **Username:** *N number @ssasonline.org*
- **Password:** *Student's lunch PIN*

Expectations & Consequences:

Rules:

1. **Be Respectful** to your teacher, other students, and our classroom environment.
2. **Be Prompt** by being on time for class and following directions the first time they are given.
3. **Be prepared** to learn every day by bringing all required materials to class, and leaving excuses at the door.
4. **Be Productive** by coming to class ready to work and with a good attitude – always do your best!

Consequences:

1. The "Look" or verbal warning
2. Rules writing assignment (in class)
3. Behavior Essay with signature from parent, and Parent Notification
4. In-school morning detention
5. County Referral

If an offense, at the discretion of the teacher, is severe enough, the first two steps can be omitted resulting in the third step, if a phone call from the teacher accompanies this action of discipline. Zero-tolerance behaviors will immediately be a fifth step offense (including refusal to complete rules or behavior essay).

**** Students are not permitted to "tell" the teacher how the discipline plan should be administered.***

Tentative Topics:

1st Quarter:

- *Practice of Science
- *Properties of Matter
- *States of Matter
- *Atomic Theory

2nd Quarter:

- *Periodic Table
- *Molecules & Compounds
- *Chemical Reactions
- *Acids & Bases

3rd Quarter:

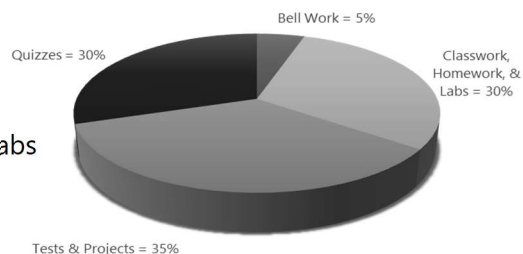
- *Motion
- *Force & Motion
- *Work & Energy
- *Thermal Energy

4th Quarter:

- *Comprehensive Review (for SSA)
- *Sound & Light
- *Electricity

Academic Information:

How am I graded?



Grading Scale:

A = 100% - 90%

B = 89% - 80%

C = 79% - 70%

D = 69% - 60%

F = 59% and below

Grading Weights:

35% - Tests/Projects

30% - Quizzes

30% - Classwork / Homework / Labs

5% - Bell Work

Assignments, Labs, & Projects: All assignments are due at the beginning of class.

- Late assignments/projects lose 10% credit each day it is late. After day 3, the highest grade possible is 50%. (Keep in mind projects are worth a test grade)
- When absent, you have the number of days absent to turn in missing work (e.g., 2 day absence = 2 days to complete work). Any assignment or project assigned before your absence must be in the day you return or you can make arrangements to turn it in early.
- It is YOUR responsibility to get any make-up work or missing work and turn it in. Check the class calendar and make-up work bin. Label any make-up work with "absent" & date.
- Most assignments can be found on Blackboard or in the extra copies folder in class.
- Any work copied from another student or **plagiarized** work will result in a zero, and possibly a detention.

Tests & Quizzes: Quizzes occur frequently to check for understanding. Tests occur at the end of the unit or at Mrs. Kuhar's discretion.

- All tests will be announced the week before in class, on Blackboard, and on team news.
- Study guides are only given for tests and are due the day before the test.
- In preparation for quizzes, students should review their notes on a regular basis to ensure their understanding of the current concepts.
- When absent, you must make up your missed quiz/test the day you return.
- **Test Correction Policy:** Students can complete a test corrections form to earn back half credit for any missed question. This option is only for tests, not for quizzes.
- **Cheating** in any form will NOT be tolerated and will result in **zero credit** and a **detention**.

Extra Credit:

- Any extra credit assignments will be offered at the teacher's discretion and cannot be requested on an individual basis by students or parents.
- Any opportunity will be discussed in class and posted on Blackboard.

Science Fair:

9/5/17

Topic Checklist due with Parent Signature

9/25/17

Phase 1: Research Plan due (Includes: Problem, Hypothesis, Variables, Bibliography, Materials & Procedures, & Signed Form)

10/17/17

Background Research paper (informative essay completed in collaboration with LA class)

10/2/17-
10/30/17

Phase 2: Experimentation (Record observations in log book)

11/6/17

Phase 3: Analysis & Conclusion due (Includes: Tables, Graphs, Results, Conclusion, & Abstract)

11/13/17

FINAL PROJECT DUE (Includes PowerPoint Presentation & Log Book)

11/30/17

SSA+S Science Fair (for selected students only)

Field trips:

12/13/17

MOSI (Museum of Science & Industry in Tampa)

TBA

Sailor Circus (spring)

8th Grade High School Honors Physical Science
Syllabus 2017-2018 ~ Mrs. Kuhar

STUDENT: I have read this syllabus and classroom discipline plan and understand it. I will honor it while in Mrs. Kuhar's class.

Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: __/__/__

PARENT/GUARDIAN: I have read this syllabus and discussed it with my child. I understand it and will support it.

Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: __/__/__

TEACHER: I will be fair and consistent in administering the discipline plan.

Signature: _____ Date: __/__/__