

Hillside Middle School

8th Grade Science

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Web Page: <http://www.bickfordscience.com>

Science, by its nature, is generally a fun and exciting class for students. Students get a chance to use all of the skills that they have developed in math, language, history, even art, multi-media and speaking skills. There is also the chance to develop logic and thinking skills and to relate what is learned to current events. It is my hope that students and parents will not only learn, but come to see the world around us in new ways.

Materials needed

Required materials for class:

spiral bound notebook **for science only**
several #2 pencils (Sharpened!)
blue or black pen a red pen or
pencil
highlighter

Suggested Materials

(to make your life easier)
Simple Calculator (+, -, x, ÷)
Metric Ruler (down to mm)
Colored pencils

Classroom Rules and Policies

- ❖ ***In our School...At Hillside all students have the right to learn in a positive and safe school environment. To this end, it is expected that all students will abide by the established standards of behavior. The standards for Citizenship grades and the School discipline policies are included in the Agenda Book.***
- ❖ ***In this classroom,.....***
 1. **Be here!** Attend school regularly. Lack of attendance will hurt your grade because you will miss activities (Labs and videos cannot be made up!)
 2. **Be on time - See School Tardy policy in school handbook and website.**
 3. Be seated when the bell rings
 4. Respect school property and the property of others. You will be held financially responsible for any school equipment that is lost or damaged due to carelessness.
 5. Follow the directions of the teachers and other staff members.
 6. Be courteous and demonstrate respect to fellow students and staff.
 7. Keep "hands off" others at all times
 8. State law prohibits any eating or drinking in lab classes, **this includes gum.**

Student Support Period (SSP)

Hillside is very excited to be introducing a Student Support Period into our class schedule Monday through Thursday from 2:20 PM until dismissal at 3:00 PM. Teachers will generally be in their classroom to provide students with assistance so that they can be successful. This may include individual question and answer time, test review, quiet study time, or an opportunity for students to make up tests or other assignments.

If students are absent, it is their responsibility to meet with their teachers during Student Support Period to get missed notes and assignments, and to make up any tests or quizzes

We are confident the Student Support Period will allow teachers to more fully serve their students' individual needs.

Student Responsibilities

Grading Policy

Grades will be determined by daily classwork, formative assessments packets and unit assessments. It is the student's responsibility to get the unit assessments finished and turned in ON TIME. **Unit assignments will be graded down by one grade (10 pts.) for each day they are late, with a minimum of 40 pts.** Point values are shown to the right. The final grade is based on the percent of total points possible.

Unit Packet Assessments	100 pts.
Unit Test	100 pts.
Daily work	10 pts.
Labs	20 pts.
Quizzes	20 pts.

90% to 100% is an A.

80% to 89% is a B.

70% to 79% is a C.

55% to 69% is a D.

Below 54% is an F.

Your grade will be available online on AERIES. You should know your grade at all times. DO NOT throw away any work. If a mistake is made on your grade your work is your proof.

Homework

Homework is assigned as a packet for each chapter. Students have 3 options for how they work on the packet.

1. **Preferred method. Google classroom.** – All work will be available online on Google classroom. Work can be submitted online with occasional worksheets that may be printed off and turned in.
2. **Work on paper.** Work may be printed off and done on paper.
3. **Work from book.** The Google classroom questions are similar to the questions in the book. I have reworded several to make some clearer and skipped some. If the student has no access to the computer they can do the questions from the book on their paper and pickup any worksheets from the classroom.

Tardy and Absence Policies

- If you are absent it is **your responsibility** to find out what you missed. (see SSP section) Tests may NOT be made up if you are marked Truant by the attendance office! (Special arrangements can be made in the case of a long term absence)
- Labs and videos cannot be made up, extra credit is available for each unit to make up any missing points by way of extra homework from the packet and/or extra credit tests available on my web site.

Additional information about this class: Please call if you have any questions or concerns. I will notify you by Email if your child has failed to turn in a homework packet. Please don't hesitate to ask any questions you may have with regards to science, I will be happy to help you locate answers to any questions I can. **I am easiest to reach by E-mail, see my address above.** Also, please feel free to visit my website often and get information about my class and the current chapter we are working on.