GUIDELINES FOR PHYSICAL SCIENCE

COURSE DESCRIPTION In the 8th grade our emphasis is on the physical sciences: chemistry and physics. A list of the concepts will be given out as they are presented. The first semester covers **motion, force, earth in the solar system (as it relates to physics),** and **density and buoyancy.** The second semester covers **structure of matter, the periodic table, reactions,** and **chemistry of living systems.**

CLASSWORK: Each day we will be doing some kind of class work that will range from lectures to open discussions. Each student will be aware of what will be covered for a given day because it will appear under the agenda for the day.

READING ASSIGNMENTS: Being on schedule with the reading will help you stay on track in this class. You will often be tested on the reading through a pop quiz.

HOMEWORK: Each week you will be given a homework assignment sheet. You will have homework per chapter. Homework must be turned in the following day after it is assigned. Late homework is **NOT ACCEPTED**! If you are unaware about homework for any given day, check the website at www.phyzsci.com

QUIZZES & TESTS: Quizzes will be given periodically to determine your retention of information; Chapter tests will be given at the end of every chapter. All test days will be announced, so, if you are going to be absent on a particular day, let me know, so you can take the test earlier. Test reviews are always given prior to the test. If you are ever absent during a test review, it is your responsibility to make sure that you find out what is on the upcoming test. All tests will be returned to the student, we will review the test after all students have completed taken it. Sample test questions are attached to this syllabus.

LABS: You will need a black/blue covered composition book for lab. This book will contain all the lab work that was covered within the week. Lab analysis, data tables, charts, and graphs need to be word-processed and turned in every Friday of that week. Labs will be done whenever appropriate to strengthen understanding of material presented. I expect **ALL** students to be prepared and understand the procedures before starting a lab. I expect **ALL** students to behave in a safe and cautious manner. If, I feel that at any time you are conducting yourself or the lab in an unsafe manner, which will have an effect on the class – you will be asked to discontinue the lab and further disciplinary measures will be taken.

NOTEBOOKS: You will need a single subject notebook for notes that are given during lectures. All notes can be accessed on the website at www.phyzsci.com under the fall/spring semester. If you have a tendency to not be able to keep up, you should prepare the notes ahead of time. DO NOT SIMPLY PRINT OUT NOTES FROM THE WEBSITE AND PASTE THEM IN YOUR NOTEBOOK – THIS IS UNACCEPTABLE!!!! The notebook will be collected every 4 weeks. It is your responsibility to make up any notes missed during that 4-week period before the notebook check.

approved for distribution · Wendy K. Smith > 8/30/01

WORKBOOKS: All students are given workbooks. These workbooks will serve as reinforcement to material that was discussed in lecture. Workbooks are to remain in school and all assignments will be completed in class.

MAKE-UP WORK: Most work can be made up if you are ever absent. Just see me and I will give you the normal 1 - 2 days to make up the work.

GRADING: Everything is based on a point system and the breakdown is as follows: Tests (value depends on the amount of questions), Quizzes (20 points), Class work, Homework, and Handouts (10 points per assignment), Labs -2 Types: A.) Comprehensive (20 points) and B.) Non-comprehensive (10 points), Notebook check (50 points), Projects (varies, but will always be announced at the start of a project.) You will have a comprehensive semester final. The grading scale is the common one used: 100-90% = A, 89-80% = B, 79-70% = C, 69-60% = D, 59-0% = F. Citizenship grades are based on how you participate in the class, your behavior during labs, your courtesy to other class members, your attendance, and your tardy record.

STUDENT CONDUCT Appropriate behavior will be required at all times in my class. I will not allow a student to interfere with another students learning or teaching, The class rules are as follows: 1) Be in class on time. 2) No food or drinks in class. 3) Show courtesy and respect towards everyone at all times. 4) Come prepared to class.

EXTRA HELP: Extra help is always available before school starting at 7:15 A.M. in Room 108. Always use the website (www.phyzsci.com) for additional help or clarification. Always turn in your work on time and complete. See me if you're having difficulty with the information presented. DO NOT WAIT UNTIL A TEST DAY! Read and sign all forms and be extremely careful during the labs.

I am really looking forward to working with you this year. Please read over these guidelines with your parents or guardians. Sign below indicating that both of you understand what is expected of yourself in order to be successful in this class.

Keep this handout for your own record. Remove the bottom-signed portion and return it to me.

Print Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____ Parent Signature: _____

SAMPLE TEST QUESTIONS

Multiple Choice Questions

- A change in position with respect to a reference points is: a) acceleration b) velocity c) direction d) motion

True/False Questions

- The distance an object travels in one unit of time is called acceleration.

Fill In The Blank Questions

- In science, acceleration refers to increasing speed, decreasing speed, or _____.

Problem Based Questions

- A roller coaster car rapidly picks up speed as it rolls down a slope. As it starts down the slope, its speed is 4m/s. But 3 seconds later, at the bottom of the slope, its speed is 22 m/s. What is its average acceleration? Show formula, work, and correct units for full credit.