

Course Expectations 2016 - 2017

Welcome to Physics 8

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Welcome, we are looking forward to an exciting and interesting year of learning with you! Each of you has the ability to be successful in Physics 8. Our learning experiences will be enriched by the unique skills and qualities that you bring to the classroom. We look forward to sharing a great year of growth and success with you.

What will we study?

This is a physical science course concentrating on Physics and the Physics of Earth Science.

Our topics will include: (order may vary)

➤ Force and Motion

➤ Astronomy

➤ Work and Machines

➤ Energy and its Sources

➤ Physics of Earth Science

➤ Energy as Waves

What are the Rules?

- Be **Prompt** You are expected to be in your seat and *working* at the start of class.
- Be **Prepared** Come to class ready to learn with all the materials needed for class.
- Be **Productive** Your success depends on your effort. Your class participation is valued and expected.
- Be **Polite** Respect *all* in the classroom. Please raise your hand to ask a question, comment, or to leave your seat.
- Be **Pertinent** Stay on task. Please ask or answers questions or make comments that are on topic.

What materials do I need to bring to class everyday?

- 1 2 inch Three ring binder with 8 dividers
- Regular lined notebook paper
- Blue or Black Pen **and** sharpened #2 pencils
- Calculator
- Physics Reference Tables (a copy will be provided for you)
- Dry erase marker
- Packet of colored pencils
- Highlighter

Other Materials

- 3 X 5 index cards

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How are Grades determined?

Tests and Quizzes	Assessments (75%)	Vocabulary Terms and Definitions
		Higher level understandings of scientific relationships
		ESA word problems
Labs	Scientific Processing (20%)	Data Collection and Interpretation of Results
Homework	CL & Graded Assignments (5%)	Graded Homework

- **Final exam:** There will be a common Final Exam for all Physics 8 classes in the district.
- **Tests and quizzes:** Tests will be given at the end of the unit. Tests will be announced in advance. Quizzes are given regularly to check for understanding of the material. Quizzes may or may not be announced in advance. It is a good idea to stay current with the material.
- **Labs:** Labs are important to science and important in this class. Most of the lab work will be done in class; however some labs may require you to complete the lab report outside of class. Lab grades may be based on a lab quiz. Lab quizzes will be unannounced.
- **Homework:** Homework will be assigned to reinforce classroom learning. *It is expected that you review the day's notes and handouts daily.*
- **Dropped grades:** *Each marking period, one of each will be dropped: lowest quiz grade and lowest lab grade.*
- **Cheating or plagiarism** will result in a grade of zero. Talking during a test\quiz (until all tests\quizzes have been collected) will be considered cheating. A lab or quiz receiving a zero for cheating will not be dropped.

What if I miss class or lab?

If you are absent for any reason, it is your responsibility to make up back work and labs. You will have the NUMBER OF DAYS ABSENT as the NUMBER OF MAKE-UP DAYS for class work. For missed tests and quizzes, you will be expected to take the test or quiz on the day you return. Check with one of your science teachers before or after class whenever you are absent. Class starts on time. **Please do not interrupt once class has started.**
If a lab is missed, you are required to make up the lab within 2 weeks to receive a grade.

What about work turned in late?

As a responsible student, it is expected that you complete your assignments on time. If a lab is not turned in during class on the due date, you will be required to come in during lunch or stay after school to complete the lab.

What do I need to know about classroom and lab safety?

We will be working with equipment and chemicals. Care must be taken for a safe classroom and laboratory. Any behavior, which poses as a potential danger to you, the class, or the equipment, will result in your removal from the classroom and a call home. You are responsible for the replacement cost of anything broken. Inappropriate behavior during a lab will result in a reduction of your lab grade. Unsafe behavior during a lab will result in a lab grade of zero that will not be dropped.

What if I need extra help?

We are available for extra help during the day and after school. Please make arrangements in advance.