

DAVID CROCKETT MIDDLE SCHOOL

8TH GRADE SCIENCE COURSE SYLLABUS 2022-2023

INSTRUCTOR /EMAIL:.

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WHAT TO LOOK FORWARD TO THIS YEAR IN SCIENCE!!!!

- **PHYSICS:** Who is Isaac Newton and what are his 3 laws?
- **CHEMISTRY:** What is that “table” that is hanging in every science classroom and what does it tell me?
- **ASTRONOMY:** What do we know about the universe today and how do we know this? What is the relationship between the earth, moon, and sun and what effects does it have on our daily lives?
- **GEOLOGY:** What forces are in action in nature? How does this affect our oceans, weather, and earth’s landforms?
- **LIVING SYSTEMS & ENVIRONMENT:** How ecosystems are interconnected and how have we altered the ecosystems of the past?

IMPORTANT DATES

Term 1 Grading Period (August 10 – October 7, 2022)

Progress Report 1 (August 10 – August 26)

Major Assessment- Science Safety (TEKS 8.1 A-B)

Progress Report 2 (August 29- September 16, 2022)

Major Assessment- Force and Motion (TEKS 8.6 A-C)

Term 1 Report (August 10 – October 7, 2022)

End of 1st Nine Weeks October 7, 2022

Term 2 Grading Period (October 11 – December 16, 2022)

Progress Report 3 (October 11 – October 28, 2022)

Major Assessment- Atomic Structure and Periodic Table (TEKS 8.5 A-C)

Progress Report 4 (November 1 – 18, 2022)

Major Assessment- Chemical Reactions (TEKS 8.5 D-E)

Term 2 Report (October 11 – December 16, 2022)

Major Assessment- Characteristics of the Universe (TEKS 8.8 A-E)

End of 2nd Nine Weeks/Semester 1 Grading Period (Aug.10-Dec.16, 2022)

Term 3 Grading Period (January 5 – March 10, 2023)

Progress Report 5 (January 5 – 25, 2023)

Progress Report 6 (January 23 – February 15, 2023)

Major Assessment- Sun, Earth and Moon Relationship (TEKS 8.7 A-C)

Term 3 Report (January 5-March 10, 2023)

Major Assessment- Earth’s Forces in Nature (TEKS 8.9 A-C)

End of 3rd Nine Weeks March 10, 2023

Term 4 Grading Period (March 20 – May 25, 2023)

Progress Report 7 (March 20– April 6, 2023)

Progress Report 8 (April 11 – 28, 2023)

Major Assessment- Weather and Ocean Systems (TEKS 8.10 A-C)

Term 4 Report (March 20 – May 25, 2023)

Major Assessment- Organisms and the Environment (TEKS 8.11 A-C)

End of 4th Nine Weeks/Semester 2 Grading Period (Jan. 5-May 25, 2023)

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MATERIALS NEEDED

2 Composition Notebooks with 100 sheets- (1 for the Fall Semester & 1 for the Spring Semester)

1 package Pencils

1 package Colored Pencils/Highlighters/Markers

1 package of Glue Sticks/Scissors

1 Hand Sanitizer

1 Clorox Wipes

1 Box of Kleenex

GENERAL GRADING GUIDELINES

A minimum of nine (9) grades will be in the gradebook each term (*see special note under Semester Grades for the exception to this rule*). Three grades must be from major assessments/projects and the other six (6) grades will come from daily assignments. Please be mindful that students may be required to submit more assignments than what will be graded to demonstrate mastery in the formative process.

Each assignment will represent student learning on identified learning progressions and will only be counted in the gradebook one time unless the assignment measures different standards.

Grades will be posted within five (5) school days of the assignment due date unless special performance is granted by the principal for projects, which will be communicated in advance.

The areas of attitude, behavior and tardiness will not influence a students' academic grade. They will influence a student's conduct grades and be reported as E (Excellent), S (Satisfactory), N (Needs Improvement), or U (Unsatisfactory). Parent contact will be made prior to reporting a conduct grade of N or U.

GRADING RUBRIC

Major Grades: 50% of the grading period average

Test (Exams), Projects

Daily Grades: 50% of the grading period average

Daily Classwork, Homework, Labs, Quizzes

Semester Grades

For High School Credit Courses Only (*Delete if not for you*)

Semester Exams are cumulative assessments and are 15% of the semester grade.

This year a final exam will not be given for this course.

However, during Term 4, four (4) major assessments will be given. The weight of the additional assessment will count as part of the 50% of the student's grading period average.

All notices of major grade assignments will be posted on Schoology and sent out in the weekly newsletter at least two weeks in advance. Students will also get notice in the classroom one week prior to the major assessment.

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RETEST POLICY

All students will have the **opportunity** to be reassessed if he/she makes a grade below 75 on any assignment that counts as a major grade. However, the opportunity may not take place during the regular instructional day, so parents will have to make arrangements to pick up their child.

In FBISD there are two options that may be used to be in compliance with the retest policy: retesting and progressive testing/cumulative testing. **For this course, students will be provided the opportunity to retest.** The retest may include items from all objectives covered on the original test or only those not mastered by the student. However, **students must attend a tutorial session or complete other approved remediation activities assigned prior to taking the retest.** The tutorial or remediation activities must take place prior to the next major assessment in the course. **Please note that the retesting must take place before the close of the term.** If your child's grade is lower on the retest, the grade will remain the same as the original grade. **The maximum score that may be earned on a retest is 75%.**

MAKE-UP WORK POLICY

A designated area in the classroom will be clear to all students to ensure they get the work missed due to an absence. It is the student's responsibility to pick up the missed work. Students will be provided at a minimum, the same number of days he/she was absent to submit the assignment. The due date of the assignment will be provided to the student. **If a**

test was scheduled before the student was absent, then the student may be required to take the test the days he/she returns to school.

LATE WORK POLICY

Students will be allowed to submit late work but no more than three days after the assignment is due. However, for each late day, the student's grade is reduced by 10 points.

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS/ROUTINES

Be Prepared for Class

Be on Time for Class

Be Respectful to Everyone

BREAKS

Students must adhere to the 10/10 rules (students may not leave the class the first or last 10 minutes of class). Please do not ask to use the restroom when instruction is being given.

CELLPHONES

I DO NOT WANT TO SEE THEM! You should not use them in class unless your teacher has given permission. You will be expected to switch off your cellphone, deposit the device in the pocket chart provided, and collect it at the end of the class period.

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BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS

Students will adhere to the Respect Agreement developed during the first week of school.

Violations of Behavior Expectations and Class Rules

Repeated violations of expectations and rules are cause for concern, as they may hinder learning. The following are in-class options in accordance with the FBISD Student Code of Conduct and the discipline policy of David Crockett Middle School. They are not necessarily successive steps in a process.

1. I will address the behavior verbally or non-verbally by reminding students of expectations/rules.
2. I will ask the student to step out into the hallway/virtual break room for a quick discussion.
3. I will call and/or email a parent and document the behavior.
4. I will call and/or email a parent and enter the behavior in Skyward as a discipline referral.

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____