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| First Colony Middle School header logo  **FIRST COLONY**  **MIDDLE SCHOOL** | 8th GRADE SCIENCE SYLLABUS  8th Grade Science 2024-2025  **Mrs. Regina Young, Teacher**  Room B210  [Regina.young@fortbendisd.gov](mailto:regina.young@fortbendisd.gov) |

**Welcome** to your last year of middle school. You are the leaders of the school now! Please be aware that your study habits are crucial to your success this year. This course is investigation based. Answers will never be given but explored. Albert Einstein once famously said *“I never teach my pupils, I only provide the conditions in which they can learn.”* This quote best represents the teaching style in the discipline of science 😊! I hope this handout helps you become familiar with class procedures & my expectations for a productive and effective learning experience.



**CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS:**

***\*\*\*In order to achieve our goals, we must cooperate and work together.***

1. **Class work begins as soon as you enter the room.**
2. **When the tardy bell rings, you are to be in your seat completing the Do-Now assignment.**
3. **Your Do-Now is timed and must be COMPLETED ONCE TIMER GOES OFF.**
4. **Classroom Communication is expected to remain at a voice level 1 (close to a whisper) unless presenting to the class.**
5. **You MUST bring charged district issued laptop along with charger DAILY.**
6. **Packing up supplies and walking towards the door to exit should ONLY take place AFTER instructions to pack up are given by the teacher.**
7. **Use all technology, apps, and programs appropriately by following my teacher’s directions.**
8. Interactive notebook (INB) for science will contain some assignments, resources, etc. **NOTEBOOKS ARE TO BE BROUGHT TO CLASS EVERY DAY!**
9. **Hall passes are for emergencies only;** take care of personal needs between classes**.**

* EMERGENCY: a serious, unexpected, and dangerous situation that is a safety or health risk.

1. **No Cell Phones or Headphones are permitted at any time during the school day, from 8:55 – 4:10.**

* Any phones visible, ringing, or in the pocket of pants/jackets will be taken up by the teacher even on the first offense. In addition to phone take up, consequences for cell phones in class is as follows:

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| **1st =** Parent Contact | **2nd =** Parent Contact | **3rd =** Conference with Admin & DO NOT bring to school again | **4th =** Conference with Parent & Admin & sign a device agreement contract |

**Procedures:**

1. **Dismissal-** The bell doesn't dismiss class, the teacher does. Once dismissed stand up, push chairs in, pick up trash and other belongings, and stand behind your chair.
2. **Substitute Days-** Treat Subs like guests. You should NOT be disrespectful, extra talkative, nor sit in an unassigned seat when a substitute or someone other than the teacher is present.
3. **Classroom Visitors & Intercom-** whenever someone enters the classroom, **DO NOT** speak out of turn or open the door for visitors without permission unless an administrator is at the door.
4. **Turning in Work-** Follow teacher instructions for when and where to turn in all assignments.
5. **If you finish your work early -** proceed to the next assignment. The projector in class will always display a “Done Early” box with instructions to engage in “bell to bell” learning.
6. **Supplies-** Come prepared with basic supplies including color pencils or markers. We will require color often on many assignments and projects. A few emergency sets of supplies because things happen.
   * Daily need to borrow basic supplies will result in a conference and possible parent communication.

**SIX SOCIAL SKILLS: The following behaviors are expected from you and myself to ensure your success this year and maintain a respectful classroom culture.**

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| **FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS** | **PAY ATTENTION** | **ASK PERMISSION** |
| 1. Look at the person 2. Nod your head or say okay 3. Do it right away | 1. Stop what you are doing 2. Look at the person 3. Listen | 1. Raise your hand 2. Ask the question in a nice way 3. Wait for the answer |
| **GET TEACHER’S ATTENTION** | **ACCEPT NO** | **ACCEPT FEEDBACK** |
| 1. Look at the teacher 2. Raise your hand 3. Wait quietly | 1. Look at the person 2. Listen without arguing 3. Move on | 1. Look at the person 2. Listen without talking 3. Use to improve |

**ATTENDANCE IS IMPORTANT:**

To ensure your preparation for the **Science STAAR test**, I need you present each and every day. Please see Science STAAR test units and assignment responsibilities below.

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| **Units of Study** | **Late Assignments** |
| **Fall Semester:**   * Lab Safety * Matter / Chemistry * Force and Motion * Waves / Electromagnetic Spectrum * Characteristics of the Universe   **Spring Semester:**   * Weather Systems and Climate * Typhoons & Hurricanes * Human Impact on Global Climate * Populations and Ecosystems * Cells and Adaptations | Assignments are due at the **beginning** **of the period** on the date specified or it is considered late. Late work will be accepted according to the student’s handbook policy as follows:  **1 day late** = 10-point deduction  **2 days late** = 20-point deduction  **3-5 days late** = 10 more points deducted each day  **6 days late or beyond** = A zero (0) will stand  Progress reports will be the cut off for late assignments unless there is a special circumstance communicated ***IN ADVANCE***.  Reminders for due dates of assignments will always be housed in Schoology |
| **Student Ownership** |
| ***“When students are owning their learning, they are doing more than just engaging: They are actively taking a role in leading their learning. When this happens, the teacher serves more as a guide for students to take them further.”* - National Institute for Excellence in Teaching**  **IN PREPARATION FOR HIGH SCHOOL…**   1. Actively listen to teacher directions 2. Seek and use resources ***(board, projector, sleeve @ table, etc.)*** 3. Monitor grades in Skyward at least once per week 4. Refer to directions and rubrics to be confident your work is ready to submit 5. Communicate concerns to the teacher before having your parents reach out 6. Replace complaints with asking good questions nicely! Avoid venting during class!   The **6 actions** above will prevent the following FREQUENTLY  ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs) and increase time on task:   * **Can you check over this before I turn it in?**      * **When is this due?** * **Can you tell me what I’m missing?** * **Does this have to be colored?** * **What do you want me to do next?** |
| **Tutorials** |
| **Tuesdays and Thursdays**  **8:20 am – 8:45 am**   * *Arrive with the assignment(s) that you need help with.* * *Talk with your Teacher if a special day and time needs to be arranged for a unique reason.* |

**SCHOOLOGY:**

Schoology will be a useful tool for both students and parents. On Schoology you can find…

* **Upcoming Events Calendar**- A link to a calendar that updates in real time is @ the top of the Schoology course. Includes planned test dates, weekly agendas, etc.

**à Notes à Educational videos à Activities à Lab Instructions à Reminder Posts**

**à Digital Assignments à Online Textbook à Study Guides**

\*\*\*It is important to check Schoology daily to ensure important information is not missed.

**SUPPLIES:**

1 composition notebook, pencils, highlighters, pens, 2 glue sticks, tape, color pencils

**CONCLUSION:**

We have planned a very challenging year to help you grow in school and in life; we are confident you will meet these expectations and beyond because you take pride in yourself and your future. ***Let’s have a great year!***

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***Parent or Guardian please read, sign the following, initial, and return to teacher…***

***\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*I have read and reviewed all of the expectations set forth in this syllabus and have discussed all of**

(Initial)

**them with my child.**

\_\_\_\_\_\_ **I have signed the digital safety contract located in the Science Schoology Course.**

(Initial)

**STUDENT FIRST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ STUDENT LAST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: (\_\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**