Physical Science Honors Syllabus

We are all-in…for every minute… every class…every student…every day!

Instructor: Ms. Aursland
Email: kaurslan@pasco.k12.fl.us
Room: 305
Text: Miller-Levine Biology by Pearson
Planning Period: 3rd (10:21 – 11:11 p.m.)
Lunch: 9:48 – 10:18 a.m.
School Telephone: (813) 346-1200

Be Responsible
Be a Problem-Solver
Be Respectful

Course Description: Physical Science offers an overview and introduction to many different areas of study through lab investigations that include the use of scientific inquiry, research, measurement, problem solving, laboratory apparatus and technologies, experimental procedures, and safety procedures as an integral part of the course, allowing students to interact directly with natural phenomena or with data collected using tools, materials, data collection techniques and models. This helps the students develop a growing understanding of the complexity and ambiguity of empirical work, as well as the skills to calibrate and troubleshoot equipment used to make observations, creating and understanding of measurement error, and skills to aggregate, interpret and present the resulting data. The areas of study include, but are not limited to, metric conversions, the scientific method, motion, energy, temperature, magnetism, waves, matter, the Periodic Table, gas laws, chemical bonds, formulas, reactions, electricity and the electromagnetic spectrum. This course is designed to prepare the students for more specific science classes that students may be required to, or elect to take in future years, such as Biology, Environmental Science, Chemistry, Physics, etc.

The Purpose: This course is to provide opportunities to encounter theories, ideas, principles, and laws of science associated with the biology. Course work will lead to an awareness of the interdependence of the science disciplines and the relevance of science to the student.

Course Outline: (The following is a tentative outline)

Quarter 1:
- *Matter & Kinetic Theory (25 days)*
- *Atomic Structure (15 days)*
- *Chemical Bonding (10 days)*

Quarter 2:
- *Chemical Bonding (cont – 5 days)*
- *Chemical Reactions/Acids, Bases, & Solutions (25 days)*
- *Radioactivity & Nuclear reactions (10 days)*

Quarter 3:
- *Motion (15 days)*
- *Force (20 days)*
- *Work, Power & Energy (10 days)*

Quarter 4
- *Work, Power & Energy (cont - 15 days)*
- *Sound & Light (15 days)*
- *Electricity (15 days)*

Grading Policy:
- ❖ 30% Formative (comprehension checks, homework, class assignments)
- ❖ 70% Summative (Chapter tests, common assessments, projects/labs)

Grading Scale:

90-100	A	90-100% demonstrates mastery
80-89	B	70-89% demonstrates proficient
70-79	C	50-69% demonstrates partial knowledge
60-69	D	0-49% demonstrates lack of mastery
0-59	F	

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING, THEN STUDENT AND PARENT INITIAL:

- ❖ Physical Science Honors is a high school course and a passing grade must be earned for credit to be awarded.
- ❖ Middle school students enrolled in high school courses must follow high school regulations as set forth by the Florida Department of Education and supported by the Pasco County Student Progression Plan.
- ❖ The grade earned in this course will be used in calculating the Class Rank Grade Point Average (GPA) as well as the state graduation GPA, which will follow the student on his/her high school academic history.
- ❖ Students are required to take the District Final/State EOC for Biology, which counts for 10% of the second semester grade/30% of the yearlong grade.
- ❖ Biology Honors is the next subsequence course in the progression for the students who successfully complete Biology Honors.

Student Initials _____ Parent Initials _____ Teacher Initials _____

Tests & Quizzes: There will be periodic tests and quizzes, which will consist of fill-in the blank, essay, multiply choice and/or true and false. The policy for retakes requires that the student complete teacher-determined tutoring, and has completed all missing assignments leading up to original assessments. Students will earn the highest grade obtained. Semester and EOC Exams are excluded from this policy.

Student Initials _____ Parent Initials _____

Class Work: Students are expected to complete class/homework assignments, and then turn them into the bin. When returned, students will keep the assessed assignments in their notebook. The notebook can be used to study for quizzes, test and end of semester county exam. ***Homework will be turned in at the beginning of each class. Classwork is expected to be completed during class.***

Student Initials _____ Parent Initials _____

Labs: ***Always obey safety rules in the lab.*** Sinks are only to be used for laboratory purposes. Students not following safety rules will be removed from the lab; they will receive a zero on the assignment. Students are responsible to cleanup their area at the end of each lab. Labs will be made up after school with prior arrangement. Student will have to request lab make-ups to teacher at least 24 hours in advance

Student Initials _____ Parent Initials _____

Late work: Late work is considered work turned in after the assignment is due. When assignments are to be turned in, they are to be turned in to the appropriate bin at the ***beginning*** of class, otherwise ***it is considered late***. Assignments are due upon their assigned due date. Late work will not be accepted after the unit test. Late work will be accepted up to one week after assigned date for 50% of the grade received.

- It is the student's responsibility to acquire any missed assignments from the *MyLearning* and/or designated area (*Calendar and files)*.
- It is the student's responsibility to get teacher directions or assignment explanations on their own time (before, after school, or during AIR time), ***not during instruction***.
- If excused, any labs/in-class projects or assessments missed will result in an alternate assignment/assessment being completed.

Student Initials _____ Parent Initials _____

Notebook: Students are required to keep an interactive notebook that contains all Cornell notes, scales, and certain assignments that aid in mastering the information. Students can and will use this to help study and prepare for the EOC. It will be a valuable asset.

Student Initials _____ Parent Initials _____

Attendance/Tardy Policy: Students are expected to follow the district-wide attendance policy. Excused absences guarantee students the right to make up assignments for full credit of what they earn within a reasonable timeframe (two days for each day missed). Students must be present in class to complete the class activities/labs, actively participate in guided instruction as well as discussion.

1st Tardy: Warning: Re-teach expectations
2nd Tardy: Lunch detention/Parent contact
3rd Tardy: After-school work detail issued
4th Tardy: Saturday detention issued
5th Tardy: Discipline Referral and Loss of passing privileges issued

Student Initials _____ Parent Initials _____

MyStudent/MyLearning: *MyStudent* is an online gradebook that parents and students should access daily to see upcoming assignments, missing work and scores on graded assignments. *MyLearning* will have the weekly agenda and the week's assignments attached to the announcement for that week under the corresponding day. If a student is quarantined, the student is required to attend class through activities posted and submitted on *MyLearning* daily.

Student Initials _____ Parent Initials _____

Electronic Policy: Electronic devices may be used only with teacher permission for academics (***GREEN***: respectful, school appropriate - listening to music. ***YELLOW***: academic use only - notes, research: ***RED***, no electronics at all. Failure to follow teacher direction has three (3) consequences:

*1st is a warning,
*2nd is you will be told to place the device in the plastic bin on the teacher lab table, and will be returned at the end of class
*3rd the student will receive an electronic referral under defiance of authority, entire class will move to red. No headphones in class unless teacher has determined that class will be on yellow or green. Do not enter class with headphones or ear buds on, do not have them dangling from ears.

Student Initials _____ Parent Initials _____

Plagiarism Policy: Plagiarism, the unacknowledged use of other writer's words or ideas, is a serious offense. Any work submitted which the student has not individually written in their own words, or is not properly and fully documented will receive a zero grade. This offense will also be referred to administration for further disciplinary review.

Academic Dishonesty: Cheating will not be tolerated. First offence will result in a zero for the assignment/assessment. The second offence will result in a referral, and student must retake the assignment or assessment. ****Academic Integrity defines you as a student. Students are expected to fully contribute to group activities. Individual assignments must be individual ideas.**

Student Initials _____ Parent Initials _____

Homework: Homework will be assigned periodically as needed and as it supports what students are learning. If there is no formal assignment, you are expected to review/rewrite your notes for a minimum of 20 minutes per day. Students are responsible for keeping up with recording homework, due dates, and quizzes/tests in their planners (please see weekly agenda board on the side of the room or on the weekly announcements in MyLearning). Check *MyStudent* and *MyLearning* for upcoming assignments to help with organization and time management. If students are unable to participate in the following day's activities due to incomplete homework, they will have to complete the incomplete homework, as well as any and all class activities missed, either during lunch, AIR time or at home.

Student Rules and Behavioral Expectations: Students are expected to follow the Pasco County Schools code of conduct as outlined in the Rushe planner on *MyLearning*. Please review the expectations with your student.

Behavior interventions are as follows for less offensive infractions (more offensive infractions will be handled by administration):

1st offense – verbal warning, reteach expectations
2nd offense – parent contact
3rd offense – lunch detention
4th offense – after-school detention (to be served on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday from 2:00 – 2:30 p.m.
5th offense – Discipline Referral

Controversial Issues (Per Board Policy – 2240):

The Board recognizes that a course of study or certain instructional materials may contain content and/or activities that some parents find objectionable. If after careful, personal review of the program lessons and/or materials, a parent indicates to the school that either the content or the activity conflicts with his/her religious beliefs or value system, the school will consider a written request for his/her child to be excused from a particular class for specified reasons. The student, however, will not be excused from participating in the course and will be provided alternate learning activities during times of such parent requested absences.

CLASSROOM Policies/Procedure

Bathroom Passes

Students will use the bathroom sign-out sheet when going to the restroom during class, and will be permitted five (5) passes per quarter (unless an emergency arises). One person at a time may utilize the restroom. *If you leave and do not sign out, that is leaving the class without permission and subject to a referral and/or possibly revoking privilege.*

Language

Students will conduct themselves as responsible and respectful citizens in class, as they would in public. Profanity, sexual overtones, and racial or prejudice comments are not acceptable, and not be used in class or on school campus.

School Property

Please respect personal property and the property of the school. Do not write on desks, tables, books or walls. Also, please put all supplies back after usage, and clean up work area. They are there for your use and convenience, and will continue to be provided if you maintain them properly.

Citizenship

Respect others' opinions, and be courteous when someone is expressing their answers, ideas or interpretations. At times, students will work in cooperative groups, and will be expected to work respectfully and productively with their classmates. Only one person at a time should be speaking, and please raise your hand if you have a question or comment. This also includes personal space and seat assignments. The classroom is a community, and it is vital that every student conduct himself or herself as a productive community member contributing in a positive manner.

Classroom Routines

Upon entering class, students will complete a daily warm-up problem. Students will also be expected to work bell to bell, and complete summaries as requested. Grooming will be done outside of the classroom. Book bags/purses are to be off tables and/or desks, as well as keeping walkways clear. Students will follow all Rushe and Pasco County School Board rules as outlined in the student planner. Earbuds are to be removed before entering the classroom. Cell phones will not be charged in class for student safety, as this is a science lab room.

Safety Procedures

Absolutely NO FOOD OR DRINK! (*This is a science room and many labs, chemicals, biological specimens etc. will be implemented within the curriculum. This is for your own safety*.). Sinks are only to be used for lab purposes unless special permission is given. A laboratory rules safety sheet will be provided. Each student must sign the lab rules and have a parent (or legal guardian) sign the lab rules sheet as well. If a student has not returned the signed sheet, he/she will not be allowed to participate in the lab. If rules are continually broken, the student may not participate in a lab experiment the rest of the semester and will either take a "0" or do an alternative assignment out of class.

All students should bring the following materials everyday:

1. Composition/Interactive Notebook
2. Index cards
3. Different colored highlighters
4. Writing utensil (pencil or pen)
5. Glue sticks (set of 4)
6. Earbuds

**NO spirals for science class

**NO hand-held pencil sharpeners for science class

Please go to http://remind101.com to join the assignment reminder text sent out by the teacher periodically.

Class Name: Physical Science Honors Rushe
Class Code: physci-21
Middle School: Charles S. Rushe Middle School

Please sign and return the syllabus to the teacher. It will be given back to the student/parent to keep.

I look forward to working with each and every one of you this year in order to prepare you for your future endeavors as a productive member of society. We will spend a little time each day preparing you to become critical thinkers, which is a skill that transcends all occupations.

Sincerely,

Ms. Aursland

STUDENTS AND PARENTS: PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN.

I have read the course syllabus, initialed where required, and understand what is required of me.

Student (print/sign name) _____

My son/daughter and I have reviewed the course syllabus, initialed where required and understand the expectations of this course.

Parent Signature _____

Parent email _____Parent Number _____

Teacher contact information:
Kim Aursland
email: kaurslan@pasco.k12.fl.us or (813) 346-1200.

Parents: Is there anything that **you would like me to know about you or your student**?

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