**8th Grade Advanced Physical Science Syllabus 2013-2014**

Haynes Bridge Middle School

(770) 740-7030

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| **Teacher :** Sandra S. Bennett |  Textbook: Physical Science Holt Science & Technology |
| **Email Address:** bennetts@fultonschools.org**Teacher Website:** http://ssbennett.weebly.com/ |  Replacement Cost: $70.75 |
| Holt Online Holt Learning Website: [**www.hrw.com**](http://www.hrw.com); Students will be given a user name and password by the teacher.  |

**Course Overview:**

Physical Science provides students the opportunity to learn about lab safety, the use of reference materials and the application of process skills. Students gain an understanding of the properties of matter, atomic theory, periodic law, energy, heat energy, forces and motion, machines and work, sound, electromagnetic waves, static electricity, electrical circuits and magnetism**.**

## **Course Content**

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| --- | --- |
| First Semester:  | Second Semester: |
| * Characteristics of Science and Safety
* Characteristics of Matter (Chemistry)
* Motion
* Begin Force and Gravity
 | * Complete Force and Gravity
* Work and Machines
* Energy
* Waves
* Electromagnetism
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Middle school TAG classes are advanced content courses directly aligned to the Georgia Performance Standards. The TAG curriculum is differentiated in order to make it rigorous and challenging for gifted learners. Additionally, it incorporates the following TAG standards and elements: developing advanced communication skills, advanced research skills, problem solving, thinking creatively, and using higher order critical thinking skills. To help meet this end, various projects and enrichment activities will be utilized during the year.

**Teacher/Academic Behavioral Expectations:**

* Students are expected to be prepared for class with all necessary materials.
* Students should be polite and considerate of others.
* Students should complete all assignments in a timely manner.
* Students are expected to abide by the honor code. Academic dishonesty (cheating, plagiarism) will result in an immediate office referral.
* Each student is expected to adhere to the behavior expectations as outlined in the student agenda pages 5-7.

### Extra Help

Help sessions are available most mornings (except Tuesdays) from 7:50 – 8:30 a.m., or after school with an appointment made in advance. Students may come to working lunch with me any day so long as I do not have a meeting.

**Graduation Coach and Counselor**

The Graduation Coach’s primary responsibility is to work with all students to encourage academic success. Dr. Pagnotti offers a variety of academic programs that can help students achieve. These programs (Working Lunch, Friday Finish, Feed Your Mind) have been extremely successful in providing support to all students. The Guidance Counselors are available to assist with any academic and social needs you may encounter during the school year.

**Make-up Policy:** It is the student’s responsibility to contact the teacher for make-up work due to an excused absence. All students are expected to make up any missing assignment due to an absence in a timely manner. See page 3 in the student agenda for the specific guidelines.

**Tardy Policy**

Tardy is defined school-wide as not being inside the classroom when the final bell rings. When the final bell rings to be in class, teachers are not to allow students into the room. Tardy students are to report immediately to the ISS supervisor in room 22. Once there, the student’s tardy will be recorded and consequences will be assigned based upon the progressive consequence scale. Students will be given a tardy pass that details their consequence and informs the teacher what time the student left the tardy room. **Students who arrive to the tardy room later than the five minute window will be sent to the office for cutting class.**

**Use of Student Planner (Agenda)**

Students are given one agenda at the beginning of the year and are expected to use the student agenda as an organizational tool as well as a hall pass. See page 13 in the student agenda for the specific guidelines.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Evaluations of Student’s progress:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  Tests/ Major Projects Labs Classwork and Quizzes Homework Semester Exam | 35%25%20%10%10% |
|  |  |

 | **Fulton County Schools Grading Scale*** 90 – 100 A
* 80 – 89 B
* 70 – 79 C
* 69 and below F
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**Suggested Materials and Supplies:**

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| --- | --- |
| * Composition Notebook
* Flash Drive
* Index Cards (lined)

  | * Science Fair Materials
* Calculator (for later units)
* Colored Markers
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**Parent-Teacher Communication:**

* Conferences may be scheduled anytime by appointment.
* Home Access will allow frequent access to student’s progress.
* Parents will receive a grade report approximately every four and a half weeks.
* Use of agenda by the student. Parents are encouraged to check the student’s agenda each day.
* Parents may email or phone the teacher.

**Provision for Improving Grades**

1. Opportunities designed to allow students to recover from a low or failing cumulative grade will be allowed when all work required to date has been completed and the student has demonstrated a legitimate effort to meet all course requirements including attendance.
2. Teachers will determine when and how students with extenuating circumstances may improve their grades.\*

 \*Fulton County Board of Education, Procedure IHA, page 4

**Parent/Guardian Conferencing**

Conferences may be requested by the teacher or parent. Conference times to choose from are M-TH 7:50 a.m. – 8:20 a.m. or Monday, Wednesdays or Fridays between 10:00 and 11:15 am.

Please detach and return this page. Thanks!

I have received and read a copy of the Advanced Physical Science syllabus.

Student’s Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please return this signed page to Mrs. Bennett, Room 92.

 *Thank you!*