**Skyline High School**

**Physical Science**

**Instructor:** Kristin Daku

**Room:** 522

**Email:** [dakukris@d91.k12.id.us](mailto:dakukris@d91.k12.id.us)

**Text:** Interactions in Physical Science by Its About Time, © 2009.

**Course Description:**

9th Grade Physical Science provides students with a full year of information about physical laws and theories that explain the relationship between matter and energy. The course will also examine the relationship between science, technology, and the environment. The first half of the course will introduce students to Physics, the second to Chemistry. Labs and inquiry based instruction will be strongly emphasized. Students will also be required to complete special projects throughout the year.

**Class rules:**

* Follow directions & Safety Rules.
* Be in class and seated when the bell rings.
* Be respectful to yourself and others.
* No cell phones in class without permission.
* Stay on task. Do not visit with groups other than your own during lab activities.
* Treat all lab equipment with care. **Students may be responsible for the cost of replacing materials damaged through misuse or negligence.**
* Help your group clean up at the end of class.
* No rowdy behavior in the lab/classroom.

**Supplies:**

Our supplies listed below will be used as we build our lab notebooks. Each student will be asked to supply the following and bring it to class each day.

* Two single subject spiral notebook (durable with inside file pocket)–one needed for the first two trimesters and one for the third trimester.
* Colored pencils or crayons- small set, pre-sharpened
* Metric ruler- for use in measuring and as a straight edge.
* Transparent tape and dispenser (we do not use glue sticks but do go through a lot of tape). Please stock up and have your student keep extra tape in their locker.
* Pencils and pens
* Scientific calculator (same one as used for math)
* Pencil case or small bag to keep the supplies above organized and easy to transport to class each day.

**Note: It is very important that each student has their own supplies, everyday. Sharing supplies causes class disruptions during instruction and slows the progress of the class. If you need help purchasing supplies please see me.**

**Lab Notebooks:**

Each student will be creating a lab notebook. This notebook will be formatted in a very specific way. I will model how to set up each activity in the notebook. Students will work together in groups with each student being responsible for their own notebook, data collection, and conclusions.

We will be using a single subject spiral notebook as our lab notebook. We will use one for our study of physics, and a second notebook for chemistry. Since these notebooks need to last for an extended period of time, and will be used daily, students will need to treat them with care. If a lab notebook is lost the student will need to recreate the assignments since the last grading date.

**Late notebooks** will lose 20 percent of the grade value for each day it is late. After 5 days late notebooks will not be accepted. Notebooks are always due on the day of a test.

**Grading:**

The official district grading system will be used to assign final grades. The grading system and approximate assignment values are as follows:

90-100% A- to A+ **Lab Notebooks = 50%**

80-89% B- to B+ **Tests and quizzes = 50%**

70-79% C- to C+

60-69% D- to D+

< 60% F

Exam and notebook grades will be entered after each exam. Students will be provided with a notebook rubric for each grading period. It will tell them exactly what they need to have completed and what pages each item is on in the notebook. Grades can be accessed at anytime by parents and students via Power School**. Please contact the office about obtaining usernames and passwords for PowerSchool.**

**\***Remember I don’t assign grades, you earn them\*

**Absences:**

Students with verified absences will have two days for each day missed to make up labs, class work, and tests.Students that are absent for a lab will be given a copy of the lab to review, will acquire data from a group member, and will then complete the lab write-up on their own. **This is not the same thing as copying another student’s lab. Use their raw data to complete the lab yourself.**

I am always available to both students and parents to discuss grades or other matters. Please feel free to contact me at the school (525-7770) or via email at: [dakukris@d91.k12.id.us](mailto:dakukris@d91.k12.id.us)