

Warner Robins Middle School
Course Syllabus
8th Grade Physical Science 2020-2021

Teacher:	E. Dantes	edlena.dantes@hcbe.net	478-929-7832 Ext. 33409
	S. Jones	shenequia.jones@hcbe.net	478-929-7832 Ext. 33424
	T. Floyd	tony.floyd@hcbe.net	478-929-7832 Ext. 33460
	S. Ruzic	steven.ruzic@hcbe.net	478-929-7832 Ext. 33421

INTRODUCTION:

This course is designed to give students a repertoire of skills required to become scientifically literate citizens. Students will demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of scientific concepts consistent with the Georgia Standards of Excellence, understand the concepts and relationship between physical science and other science disciplines, and relate science to their everyday lives. The standards are coordinated with lab activities, demonstration/projects, foldables, directed reading and writing activities, critical thinking/problem solving skills, interactive videos, and standard-based tests.

Eighth grade is a fun and challenging year, and we are looking forward to working with all of you. Please let us know if we can assist you in any way. Together we can do this!

REQUIRED SUPPLIES:

- 5 Subject Spiral notebook
- Composition Book
- Pencils
- Crayons
- Pens
- Glue
- Colored Pencils
- Markers

PHYSICAL SCIENCE SEQUENCES:

First Semester

- ❖ Pure Substances and Mixtures
- ❖ States of Matter and Thermal Energy
- ❖ Physical and Chemical Properties of Matter
- ❖ Physical and Chemical Changes in Matter
- ❖ Characteristics of Atoms and the Periodic Table
- ❖ Conservation of Matter in Chemical Reactions
- ❖ Kinetic and Potential Energy
- ❖ Energy Transformations
- ❖ Kinetic and Potential Energy Transformations in a System
- ❖ Heat Transfer and Molecular Motion
- ❖ Magnetic, Gravitational and Electric Fields
- ❖ Conductors and Insulators

- ❖ Electric and Magnetic Forces

Second Semester

- ❖ Speed, Distance, Velocity and Acceleration
- ❖ Newton's Laws and Balanced and Unbalanced Forces
- ❖ Force, Mass and Acceleration
- ❖ Electromagnetic and Mechanical Waves
- ❖ Electromagnetic Spectrum and Energy
- ❖ Applications of the Electromagnetic Spectrum
- ❖ Behavior of Light and Sound
- ❖ Density of Media and Wave Behavior
- ❖ Wave Properties and Energy
- ❖ Application of Lenses

Models of classroom instruction will include, but will not be limited to:

1. Phenomena
2. Class discussions
3. Lecture
4. Student presentations
5. Inquiry
6. Independent research
7. Experiments/Lab activities

Major Grades: 40%

- Major class projects or tests.
- Long-term projects
- If the student is absent on the day of a scheduled test, the student will be expected to take the test on the following school day. If this is an excused absence, allowances will be made.

Second Chances

Redos/Retakes

- Opportunities to redo assessments will be allowed until the student demonstrates mastery.
- Remediation is handled during the school day, during class time.
- Remediation will focus on priority standards.
- **No Redos or Retakes on Final Exams**
- There will be **NO EXTRA CREDIT** assignments

Daily Grades: 15%

- Classwork and homework.
- All homework will be checked for completion.
- Absent students will be given three school days to make up missed work. If this is an extended absence, allowances will be made.

Minor Grades: 30%

- Labs, Quizzes, Minor Projects
- Quizzes will be treated like tests. Students will be expected to make-up missed quizzes the following day unless they have an excused absence.

Final Exams: 15%

- Final exams will be given at the end of every semester (December and May)

- Semester exams (18 weeks) will cover 2 nine weeks' worth of material.

Homework/Classwork

In regards to missing or incomplete work, students will serve academic opportunity (AO) during lunch until the missing work is completed. Failure to report to academic opportunity will result in a strike on their discipline plan. Students who do not work or refuse work during AO will receive a failing grade for the assignment.

Academic Opportunity is defined as a working lunch in which the students are seated at assigned tables to complete assignments.

**** Middle school students will be graded on a semester system, receiving a report card after winter break and at the end of the school year. They will receive progress reports at 6 and 12 weeks. Student grades WILL NOT reset every nine weeks so it is imperative that students complete all work in a timely manner. Failure to do so could result in poor performance in the classroom. We want the best for your student! Please do not hesitate to contact any of us if you have a question!

School Webpage

Homework and class assignments can be accessed through the school webpage. Go to wrms.hcbe.net. Once on the school webpage, hover the mouse over Welcome. Then scroll down and click school staff. Once you have clicked school staff, you will see a list of teacher names. Find your teachers name (S. Jones, Dantes, Ruzic or T. Floyd). You will see a calendar with assignment due dates, tests, or any other important information that you need to know.

Remind

Remind is a free text messaging app that helps teachers, students, and parents communicate quickly and efficiently. With **Remind**, you can send text messages straight to any phone, including flip phones. Reminders are sent out about homework, tests, paperwork or any other important information for students and parents. Remind is also a great way for you to communicate with me. Private messages can be sent back and forth when it comes to questions about homework, student performance or any other questions pertaining to school. It is highly recommended to sign up for **Remind** if available with your teacher. Directions will be sent home at the beginning of the school year.

8th Grade Physical Science Syllabus
Mr. Floyd, Mrs. Dantes, Mrs. S. Jones, Mr. Ruzic
2020-2021

Please sign this page saying that you have read and understood this syllabus. I also understand that Remind is available for direct communication with Mr. Floyd. This portion of the syllabus will be turned in for a grade and retained for Mr. Floyd's records. The first three pages of the syllabus will be placed in the student's first nine week's notebook.

(Parent Name Printed)

(Student Name Printed)

(Parent signature)

(Student signature)

Date_____